

JUL 16 1999

South Plainfield Observer

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50 CENTS

JULY 16, 1999

Labor Day Committee Working Hard On Parade

The theme of this year's Labor Day Parade is "South Plainfield is Marching into the Millennium." Parade committee members are planning lots of activities and special events for the Labor Day Parade. The committee has been meeting on a regular basis for the past few months. A great deal of work goes into the planning of the parade every year. Parade committee members work hard to coordinate every aspect of activities for the day. These volunteers do this work on their own time and are not paid.

This year's activities will start with a 5K run and a 1.5 mile Fitness Walk before the parade, sponsored by the Alliance for Substance Awareness and the Ricochet Racquet Club. This year the entire family can participate for one fee and the first 100 who sign-up will receive a free tee-shirt.

The Department of Recreation is planning contests and games for young and old alike in Veterans Park at the completion of the parade. A pie eating contest, a huge success at last year's parade, will be repeated, as well as a watermelon eating contest. Pony rides will be available all afternoon. There will

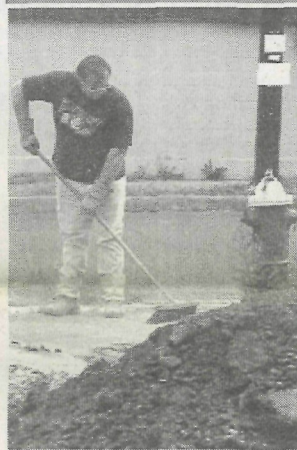
be a largest tomato and zucchini contest. So get out the Miracle Grow and plan to bring the best specimen from your garden. An afternoon concert from 1-3 p.m. at Veterans Park by the band 'Back Splash' is another added attraction.

The Environmental Commission will sponsor a walk on the Veterans Park Nature Trail in the afternoon. The Historical Society plans to hold their annual quilt raffle.

The band 'Sound Investment' will be playing at Spring Lake Park from 6-8:30 p.m. followed by a fireworks display at dusk. This year the fireworks display will be synchronized to music.

If your organization or group would like to enter a float in this year's parade, contact Jan La Jeunesse at 561-4416. Also if any non-profit organization wishes to have a concession stand in Veterans' Park during the parade festivities, contact Ms. Darlene Pinto, at 214 Hopkinson St., So. Plainfield.

The *Observer* will keep updating readers as details become available. For the latest information on the parade or if you have any questions, just log on to the Borough's webpage at southplainfieldnj.com.



Photos by Chris Abbott

Renovations Started on Future Dare Building

By Patricia Abbott

DARE police officers, Joe Papa and Alan Lamonda, are looking to the future! What they envision is the future of the Community Policing Office. The office will be home to the two officers in the Community Policing Unit. This unit handles Crime Prevention, DARE and all quality of life issues. Officers Lamonda and Papa are specially trained in innovative solutions to all of these problems. Papa described the Community Policing Unit as a "back to the beat" cop mentality. He explained that people are more concerned with quality of life issues than crime because most people may never be affected by crime. He said, "This office is a place that you can come in and speak to a police officer face-to-face and work on solutions to problems. But make no mistake, we are not soft on crime. This unit will organize saturation patrols to problem areas, alter our work schedules and do whatever it takes to make it our community safer."

In order to start building the new office, the officers had to back up and do a bit of tearing down first. They spent three days gutting the inside of the building which will house the new office. The building, a former Empire gas station, sits on the corner of New Market Ave. and Hamilton Blvd.

The next step was the outside demolition work. Not even last week's heat wave could deter progress. In the 100 plus degree heat the work continued. On Monday July 12, Papa and Lamonda could be found manning brooms both inside and outside the building, while two others removed debris and concrete from the front of the lot.

They hope to have the building completed by the end of the summer. The new roof has already been completed with J. Penyak Roofing donating the labor for the roof. Officer Papa noted that a number of people should be thanked for their generous and vital donations.

Bob Yurgel assisted with the contracting and labor and the Road Department employees helped with outside demolition work and the removal of concrete. Pinto Brothers provided a dumpster for disposal of the debris. J&L Plumbing & Heating has been working on the plumbing and have generously donated all the materials and fixtures to build a handicapped accessible bathroom. Edison Heating & Cooling will donate the equipment and labor to install heat and air conditioning. Jafco Building Supply recently dropped off their donation, sheetrock, spackle and tape for the interior work. Power Solutions is donating all the electrical work for the building and Marino Steel will provide all the steel studs and framing. Ninety percent of the work is being donated, but progress may be slowed by money problems. Still needed are glass doors, windows and stucco finish for the front of the building.

There is a lot of work to be done in the coming weeks and Alan Lamonda and Joe Papa say they are up to the challenge.

"We are working without a budget and it's a little tough, but we'll see that it gets finished. When you're working hard, it's hard to see the light at the end of the tunnel. It makes you feel good to know that you have the support of the people and businesses in town. This is community policing at its finest, our community and police working together for a better town. It doesn't get any better than this and everybody wins," said Joe Papa.

BUDGET HEARINGS

Budget hearings will be taking place next week at Borough Hall.

July 19 hearings are for police, sewer and engineering; July 21 are for health, clerk, welfare and July 22 are for administration, tax collection, finance and miscellaneous. Hearings start at 6:30 p.m. and should be completed by 9:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

South Plainfield 16 & Under Girls Traveling Softball Team Wins No. Edison Tournament

The 4th of July weekend was an excruciatingly hot weekend, but what better a time to play five games of softball. That's exactly what the South Plainfield 16 and Under Girls Traveling Softball Team did. On Saturday July 3, the girls played their first game against a tough Flemington team.

The game ended with a 6-6 tie, even after going extra innings.

However, this only proved to spark the girls to win the days following games. Their next game was against a team from Abington, Pa. They were not about to let this one go extra innings and were able to beat

Abington 12-5.

The last game of the day was against Scotch Plains-Fanwood. The team romped them in only five innings with a score of 25-1.

With Saturday's record, the South Plainfield Girls were the top-seed team of the tournament in Sunday's placement. The semi-final, held on Sunday morning, saw the girls play Scotch Plains-Fanwood again. This time the Scotch Plains-Fanwood team came with a whole new mind-set. The first inning they scored two runs and held that lead until the end of the third inning, when South Plainfield scored three runs.

South Plainfield was able to hold them to only one more run while scoring a total of four more runs in the fourth and fifth innings, winning the game by a score of 7-3.

In the tournament's final game, South Plainfield played Flemington, the team they had tied the day before. The South Plainfield girls came out swinging! The first inning they scored four runs and held Flemington to only one run scored in the sixth inning. South Plainfield scored runs in both the second and fifth innings, taking the tournament title with a 6-1 win.

—Submitted by Debra Bishop



Pictured are the team members: bottom row: Head Coach Scot Bishop, Danielle Schweers, Shannon Bishop, Kimberly Bishop, Bat Girl Tiffany Roth; second row: Kerri Howells, Janet Golon, Christine Strani, Assistant Coach Kevin Schweers; third row: Kelly Ritchey, Kim Kulick, Cathy Nguyen, Statistician Rich Ritchey and back row: Heather Roth and Mindy Kovacsy.

In My Opinion

Letters

To the Editor:

In regards to the June letter that was written by Mrs. Rayho, concerning Marching Band being a requirement of the Performance Band curriculum at the High School. Mrs. Rayho stated that if a student does not participate in Marching Band their grade is automatically reduced. What she failed to mention was that when she met with Mr. LaFreniere and Mr. Tweed, (HS Band Director), options were presented to her. The options offered would have allowed her child to participate in Performance Band without a grade reduction and would have provided her child with in school scheduled lessons and all the opportunities to perform at every concert during the school year.

One of her concerns was that because of the commitment required for Marching Band, students would not have the opportunity to participate in other school related activities. Marching Band practices three out of five days. The majority of the Marching Band members are involved in a multitude of other after school activities from sports to Honor Society to outside jobs.

Just ask any graduating senior that was a part of the Marching Band Program. They have all learned time management, an important skill needed to be successful in college. Yes, Marching Band is a tremendous commitment, however, the season only goes from September until the middle of November (two and a

half months) and then its over for the year. Students also earn a varsity letter for participating in Marching Band. For some students this may be the only opportunity they have to earn a letter. Other clubs and organizations in the high school require a full school year commitment without the benefit of earning a varsity letter. The commitment to Marching Band provides students with valuable life lessons such as dedication, responsibility, leadership skills, and teamwork. It also provides the students with the opportunity to perform all over the state and in other states as well. What better way to showcase all our talented high school musicians than to have them perform in Scranton, Pennsylvania at the Atlantic Coast Championships in front of thousands of people. What other club or organization could or does provide this opportunity?

Another concern was that Marching Band would interfere with family obligations and commitments. Its hard to believe that any student would have family commitments every weekend for three months and what about a parents commitment to support their child in a worthwhile activity. What better way to have quality time with your child and to show your support then to come and watch them perform at football games and competitions. The Marching Band Program is one of the few high school programs that promotes family involvement and actively goes out and encourages parental involvement. The majority of the parents that have students in Marching Band would take exception to the fact that a handful of parents, that have not experienced the program, want to make a curriculum change due to family commitments.

Our band parents are the ones who are committed to their children and have found that by getting involved they actually get to spend more quality time with their children during Marching Band season then they do the rest of the year. Mrs. Rayho states that it is not their intention to hurt the Marching Band Program but in reality a curriculum change could cut the program in half. The Marching Band is the most visible group in the high school. How sad it would be to see only 30 students leading the Labor Day Parade, performing at football games or competitions and representing our school when they travel to different states.

Mrs. Rayho also mentions that there will be some talented students who will not continue their music into high school and yes this is unfortunate. However, this was their choice and not because they were not given the opportunity. Compromises have been suggested and rejected by them. Remember life is about choices and we can't always have everything, we have to learn to choose. Maybe now is the time to teach our children about making responsible choices

CAROL PROVAIRE,
PRESIDENT
S.P.H. S. MUSIC BOOSTERS

Dear Editor,

We would like to thank all of the people who helped make our pet show a success. We held a pet

show for our Girl Scout Silver Award on June 5. We would like to express our deepest thanks to: Maggie Shock, Sue Whitman, Sister Irene Gormley, Sister Salvatore Barbarotta, Gina Zarra, Marian Dietrick, Donna Paterek, Christina DeMatos, Peggy Koury, Nancy Regan, Debby DeDolce, Angella Pribella, Cindy Bosse, McAuley Hall Health Care Center, Freihofer's Bakery Outlet, South Plainfield Public Works and Thera Pet.

We couldn't have done it without you. Thanks again.

SINCERELY,
ALLISON KRAVETSKY,
DANIELLE SCHWEERS AND
MICHELLE PATEREK OF GIRL
SCOUT TROOP 259

Senator DiFrancesco Tells Us Who Counts

The July 1st Senate legislative calendar posted by Senate President DiFrancesco excluded Bill S-60 on developers' impact fees, but included Bill A-744/S-724 which in effect prohibits school districts from privatizing services. Clearly here was an opportunity with Bill S-60 for him to give taxpayers some relief from developers who come into a community and build many units of apartments, condominiums and homes which result in an increase in school enrollment that will require bond referendums for new additions to schools. By not posting Bill S-60, he denied the taxpayers the right to see how our State Senators would vote, e.g., for the taxpayer or the developers. The *News Tribune* recently reported that Senator Schluter, the courageous sponsor of the bill, was promised by Senate President DiFrancesco that the bill would be posted for a vote, but it was not. It becomes obvious that the Senate President puts his personal ambitions and interest of the developers before the taxpayers. In South Plainfield we face the construction of more than 800 units of housing of various types. Can you imagine the impact on our schools? Yet the developers, who use our established school system to market and sell their units, do not contribute one cent. Bill S-60 would have provided some relief. The bill passed the Assembly and the Senate President had the chance to post it for a vote since January—but he didn't. ... We as a School Board and as individuals have sent taxes in support of S-60. All the telephone calls, letters and even editorials in the *News Tribune*, *Courier News* and *Trenton Times* were to no avail. Whose side do you think Senate President DiFrancesco is on—you the taxpayer or that of the developers? What do you think has more influence—commu-

nications from taxpayers or the influence of organized developers?

Senate President DiFrancesco would not post S-60, the developers impact fees, but he did post A-744/S-724 which in effect would prohibit privatization of school services. There were letters, editorials in many papers, telephone calls by individual board members in opposition to the bill, but to no avail. Again the organized power of the NJEA prevailed and you the taxpayer lost.

Senate President DiFrancesco aspires to be governor. He frequently expresses his concern about property taxes, but take a look at what he does. He fails to post S-60 for a vote on developer impact fees, but does post a vote to prohibit and discourage privatization of school services. This decision to privatize should be a local school district decision and not crippled by legislation. Senator you can't have it both ways and taxpayers should know that their voices, letters, telephone calls and newspaper editorials do not have the same impact as the influence of interest groups!

The taxpayers in South Plainfield will face substantial increases in school enrollment and yet developers will not contribute a single dollar to the impact. At a Planning Board meeting to approve 252 units on Durham Avenue, the developer was asked to make a contribution toward increased school cost. The answer was no. That is why we need legislation. Senator DiFrancesco—you have abandoned us. There is something wrong with a system that permits one individual to have the power to decide what legislation comes to a vote.

As a service to taxpayers, the press should publish the list of those Senators who voted YES on A-744/S-724 the anti-privatization bill. They should also publish the names of Assembly members who supported A-744, all of whom are up for reelection. Remember don't cast your vote on what legislators' say, but look at how they vote!

Some of the Senators who voted YES to in effect prohibit privatization were Senators Bassano, Bennett, Ciesla, DiFrancesco, Lesniak, Littell, Matheussen, O'Connor, Sinagra, Singer and Vitale.

Individual taxpayers should become more involved in the legislative process. If legislators are going to favor powerful interest groups, it will be very difficult or impossible to control property taxes. If legislators' pass bills that cost money or negatively impact on revenues then the principle of State Mandate - State Pay should apply.

FRANK A. MIKORSKI,
BOE MEMBER

IMPORTANT BOROUGH MEETING NOTES

Board of Education Meetings 1999/2000

The following dates have been scheduled for Committee of the Whole and Regular Meetings of the South Plainfield Board of Education. All meetings are to be held on Tuesdays at 8 p.m. in the Board Conference Room of the Administration Building, Cromwell Place, unless otherwise designated.

Committee of the Whole Meetings 1999

1999: August 17, September 14, October 12, November 9, December 14

2000: January 11, February 8, March 7, April 4

Regular Monthly Meetings

1999: August 24, September 21, October 19, November 16, December 21

2000: January 18, February 15, March 14, April 11, 2000

Zoning Board of Adjustment 1999 Meeting Dates

First, third and fifth Tuesday of the month as follows:

July 20, August 3, August 17, August 30
September 21, October 5, October 19
Nov. 4 (Thursday), November 16,
November 30, December 7, December 21

Site-Plan Sub-Committee Meeting Dates: Fourth Thursday of the month as follows:

July 22, August 26, September 23, October 28

Planning Board 1999 Meeting Dates

Second and fourth Tuesday of the month as follows:

July 27, August 10, November 9, November 23
August 24, September 14, December 14, December 28
September 28, October 26

All meetings of the Governing Body are held in accordance with New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (NJSA 10:4-6 et seq) in the Council Chambers at 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, New Jersey.

Logon to southplainfieldnj.com for the latest meeting agenda.

South Plainfield Observer

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Community BRIEFS

Police Officers Receive Training on New Defibrillators



Last week the South Plainfield Police Department conducted A.E.D. (Automatic Electronic Defibrillator) training class for its police officers. The four hour training class, known as American Heart Association's Heart-saver, teaches officers one-man CPR and how to properly use the A.E.D.

This class is taught in addition to the normal C.P.R. classes which each officer receives every year. Officers are currently carrying the new A.E.D. units in their

patrol car. Each unit costs approximately \$3,500.

The Borough was able to purchase three units with donations received from Degussa, Halls Fast Motor Freight, United Steel Deck and Statewide Environmental Services.

Statistics show that when the heart first stops beating, 50% of the time it is in VF which is only treatable by using the A.E.D. Every minute that passes before the A.E.D. can be used decreases the chances of survival.

Parents Ask BOE to Reconsider Band Curriculum Requirements

Several parents of graduating Middle School students are asking the Board of Education to take a look at the band curriculum requirements at the high school. These parents say that their children will not be able to meet the band requirements, maintain good grades and participate in other after school clubs and groups.

Kathleen DiMeglio explained that her daughter Denise, who plays flute, wants to join other clubs and the performance band requirements will restrict her

from doing so. Performance band requires attendance at all band rehearsals and games. The band rehearses Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays. If they do not participate they can only receive a C grade. She said to an honor student, who received a music award from the Board of Education last month, a C grade is not acceptable.

Carol Probarie, president of the South Plainfield Music Boosters, took exception to the change in curriculum. She said that the marching band only goes from

September to mid November, which is the end of the first marking period. She also said that many students in the past have participated in band have managed to still do extracurricular activities and maintain their grades.

Board President Doris Haley invited all parents to the next meeting of the BOE Curriculum Committee. The committee plans to meet and discuss the curriculum requirements. The meeting is to be held in July at a date to be announced.

101st Airborne Veterans Hold Picnic

By Patricia Abbott

Last Saturday the 101st Airborne Division Association/ cn. Anthony C. McAuliffe NY-NJ chapter held their annual picnic to honor the memory of the 101st Airborne's first landing in Vietnam. The event, held at the American Legion on Oak Tree Rd., began with a flag ceremony in honor of the 101st Airborne members. Those in attendance were not just Vietnam Vets or members of 101st Airborne but veterans from all branches of the service as far back as World War I. A photo session with the vets produced a large group for the Vietnam photo, three for the Korean War, a large group of WW II vets and two vets who fought in WWI.

There is a sense of closeness, of brotherhood that is actually visible amongst these veterans. A strong bond of brotherhood borne of their times under fire, often in different places and in different wars. An amazing bond that spans generations and defies description for the uninitiated.

Typical of the military fraternity, their camaraderie leads them to talk to outsiders about their buddies' exploits, their buddies' medals, rather than their own. For example, a question to one member about his background led to a description of Pete DeVries awards including a Silver Star, a Purple Heart and the Distinguished Service Cross, the second highest military honor bestowed. He was also honored by three foreign countries, he is one of the most highly decorated veterans in New Jersey. Pete fought in World War II, Korea and in Vietnam. In Vietnam he was a Sergeant Major with the Special Forces, a



World War II Veteran from the 101st Airborne.

Green Beret. He joined the service at age 17 after a cousin had been killed at Pearl Harbor. In a book called *A Mile in Their Shoes*, Conversations with Veterans of World War II by Aaron Elson the interview with Pete DeVries is

concluded with a simple question to Pete. "Why is it that you don't tell war stories?" Pete's reply, "Because I don't believe in it. Too many men lost their lives and they're the ones that you should tell stories about."

Borough News

Council News

■ Tracy Lazar was appointed Assistant Recreational Leader-Aquatic at the Community Pool.

■ The grace period for payment of the 1999 third quarter taxes has been extended until August 20.

■ Judy Wang has been employed as Assistant Tennis Instructor at the Recreation Department.

■ The Community Pool has hired Sarah Blessing as a lifeguard and Fred Oberker as second diving coach.

■ Work on the intersection of Durham and New Durham Aves. has slowed down due to the discovery of a shallow gas line. Workers are waiting while the gas company moves the line.

■ Phase II of the Downtown Revitalization Project will begin later this month. The Phase II section includes Front Street from South Plainfield Ave. to the railroad tracks and the intersection of Front St. and Oak Tree Ave.

■ Ray Petronko is working on parking problems at Pitt Street Park. Ponytail softball games are played there and the only parking available is on the streets surrounding the park. He would like to make the unused basketball court a parking area.

■ Residents can pick up a monthly calendar from the Health Department in Borough Hall. It lists the monthly schedule of services from the Middlesex County Health Department along with where these services are available.

Local Girl Scouts Hold Pet Show to Earn Silver Badge



Girl Scouts from Troop 259 hold a dog show at McAulley Hall Health Care Center.

Girl Scouts Allison Kravetsky, Danielle Schweers and Michelle Paterek of Girl Scout Troop 259, held a pet show to complete their Silver award project. It was held on June 5 at McAulley Hall Health Care Center in Watchung to the pleasure of the nursing home residents.

There were 11 pets including

eight dogs, one fish, one cat and even one rat! The best pet of the day was awarded to Buddy the rat. There were other awards presented such as best dressed, best tail wagging and competition on an obstacle course. The pet show was an overall success and it was enjoyed by all, especially the nursing home residents.

OAK TREE FARMS

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Land of Lakes White/Yellow American Cheese \$2.99 lb.	New Jersey Large Tomatoes 79¢ lb.		Seedless Grapes 99¢ lb.
	Center Cut Pork Chops \$2.49 lb.	80/20 - 3 lbs. or more Chop Meat \$1.59 lb.	
Boar's Head Bologna \$2.99 lb.	Broccoli Each head 89¢	Golden Ripe Apricots 99¢ lb.	New Jersey Fresh String Beans 69¢ lb.

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AROUND TOWN

EVENTS

American Legion To Hold Picnic

The American Legion located on Oak Tree Ave. will hold their annual picnic on this Saturday from noon to 6 p.m.

Proceeds will be used to benefit their scholarship fund. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the day.

St. Stephen Church to Host Benefit Recital

St. Stephen Lutheran Church on Park Avenue will host a benefit piano recital by Rev. Richard A. Mathisen on Thursday, July 29 at 7:15 p.m.

The program will consist of a solo performance of Bach, Beethoven, Bartok, Chopin and Liszt.

All proceeds will benefit the Kosovo Relief through Lutheran World Relief. The suggested donation is \$7. Refreshments will be served.

Rev. Richard Mathisen has been playing the piano since he was seven years old. He studied with Klaus Goetze of Cambridge and Jan Gorbaty of Forest Hills, NY. While still in high school at the Phillips Exeter Academy, he played the Schumann Piano Concerto with the academy orchestra. Since then he has presented a number of solo piano recitals.

Rev. Mathisen is pastor of St. Lake's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Dunellen. For further information, contact St. Stephen Lutheran Church at 908-757-4474.

Sacred Heart Still Accepting Registrations

Sacred Heart School registration for kindergarten through grade 7 is still going on. Only a few seats are available in grades one through three and five through seven. Seats are available in grade four and kindergarten.

Requirements at registration are a health certificate, birth certificate, baptismal certificate, social security number, most recent report card and a recommendation from principal and home-room teacher. Kindergarten students must be five years old on or before October 1, 1999. First

graders must be six years old on or before October 1, 1999.

Sacred Heart School admits students of any creed, race, sex and nationality or ethnic origin. For more information, call 756-0632, 756-0631 or 756-0633.

SPHS Tigers to Host Fifth Annual Open

The South Plainfield Golf Association has announced plans to sponsor the South Plainfield Open on Wednesday, Aug. 11, at Bunker Hill Golf Course. This is the fifth annual golf outing held for the benefit of the South Plainfield High School Golf Team. The entry fee of \$75 includes green fees, cart, prizes, food and beverages. There will be prizes for both men and women. All proceeds go to support the activities of the High School Golf Team. Registration deadline is July 25. Tee times are assigned on a first come basis. For more information and tee times contact Coach Mike Kayka at 908-753-6578. To become a corporate sponsor or to donate prizes, call Dick DeAndrea 908-755-1700.

Trip to Radio City Christmas Show

The Recreation Department is planning a trip to the Radio City Christmas Show on Dec. 9. The tickets are \$50 per person. Purchase tickets at the PAL Building located on Maple Ave.

Single Parents Group to Meet

A newly formed Single Parents of Central New Jersey group will meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month, 7:30-10:30 p.m. For information, call Sandra 732-283-1250 or e-mail snlprntnj@aol.com.

Polish National Home Flea Market

Polish National Home is seeking vendors for a June through November flea market to be held every Sunday at 312 New Market Ave. They are currently seeking vendors. Starting date to be announced. Call 908-668-9442.

Ladies' Auxiliary Plans Fashion Show

The South Plainfield Rescue Squad Ladies' Auxiliary is completing arrangements for their annual "Fashion Show" Brunch to be held on Sunday, October 24, at the Polish National Home on New Market Ave. Doors open at 12 noon. Women's and misses fashions will be presented by BJ's Dressing Room in Scotch Plains, the Answer Store in Menlo Park, and children's fashions will be coordinated by Fashion Bug.

The event will include the traditional Holiday Basket Raffle, plus many more exciting raffle prizes and door prizes. Ticket are \$27 and may be purchased by calling 908-754-8275 or from any auxiliary member.

Tickets will not be sold at the door. Proceeds from this annual fund raiser help the S.P. Rescue Squad defray the numerous expenses involved in their dedication to the people of South Plainfield.

Tourette Syndrome Meeting

The next meeting Association Family Support Group will be held on Sept. 14 from 7-9 p.m. - at JFK Hospital, 65 James Street, Edison, in the Neuroscience Institute Department.

The other meeting this year will be held on Nov. 9. For more information call Debbie, 732-283-1439 or www.tsanj.org.

Business Association Cancels Meetings

The South Plainfield Business Association will not be meeting during July and August.

Their next scheduled meeting is Thursday, Sept. 16. A meeting notice, including the meeting topic of discussion and a guest speaker will be sent to members.

Submit your events to **Around Town**, at the South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or fax to (908) 668-8819.

Summer Drama Workshop Announces Cast for *The Music Man*



The South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop proudly announces the cast for their 1999 production, *The Music Man* by Meridith Wilson. The program is currently celebrating their 27th season. With barely three weeks rehearsal under their belts the show is already showing the promise of a hit. Production/ Stage Manager Kristin Pfeifer said, "The rehearsals are going well and we are right on schedule everything looks good. The kids are working hard. They are a really talented group!"

THE MUSIC MAN cast is as follows:

Harold Hill	Jose' Pineda
Marian Paroo	Kristen Ciariello
Mrs. Paroo	Nicole Scavone
Marcellus	Vinnie DeNizio
Major Shinn	Joseph LaJuenesse
Eulalie Shinn	Beth Gold
Zaneeta Shinn	Laura Walters
Gracie Shinn	Jaime Morris
Winthrop Paroo	Vincent Carubia
Amaryllis	Jackie Muglia
Tommy Djilas	not yet cast
Charlie Cowell	Greg Publik

BOARD OF ED MEMBERS/QUARTET

Jacey Squires	Candace Helfand
Ewart Dunlop	Kurt Adams
Oliver Hix	Leo Campos
Olin Britt	Steve Ambielli

Wives and pick-a-little ladies

Maud Dunlop	Lenora Zerbian
Ethel Toffelmier	Patty Reach
Mrs. Squires	Emma Fulton
Edna Britt	Allison Provare
Fannie Locke	Jenna DeoSantos
Madam Widow	Cassie Bosse
Constable Locke	Jordan Lynch
Train Conductor	Chris Imbrosciano
Conductor of the audience	Danny Sierzega
Girl singing "America the Beautiful"	Shauniqua Cisson
Young Girl	Gina Severini
Man #1	Brian Publik
Man #2	Joey Stasio
Winthrop's best friend	Steve Tietjen
Amaryllis' best friends	Brittany Denizio & Kristen Nietzer
Salesman #1	Christopher Abbott
Salesman #2	Jenn Gold
Salesman #3	Fernando Sandoval II
Salesman #4	Eric Reiner
Salesman #5	Alex Tierney
Newspaper #1	Abbie Falato
Newspaper #2	Brian Publik
Newspaper #3	Chelsea Falato

The ensemble includes; Nicole Aiello, Lindsay Ardis, Jinelle Arki, Ellen Bradley, Dana Butrico, Kristie Butrico, Nicole Carlson, Angela Catalano, Jody Chepulis, Dana Chepulis, Pam Cianfrocca, Joel Cortese, Stacey Diana, Andrea Doell, Tammy Dombrowski, Melanie Foscolo, Katie Fasolo, Breanne Fore, Kristy Glavasich, Nicole Gutierrez, Eva Humber, Katherine Kaczka, Antonia Katsantonis, Veronica Konya, Sarah Kulihin, Kristina Latonio, Jacob Levine, Amy Leso, Charlyn Magar, Ashley Martin, Marianne McBride, Shakira Mitchell, Alicia Montanaro, Katie Mott, Jessica Musolino, Chris Nguyen, Jesse Nietzer, Mary Otowski, Lauren Perry, Shannen Rivers, Todd Rivers, John Roesch, Nicole Sacci, Jessica Schwartz, Alisha Stasenka, Carly Stoeckel, Nicole Sutherland, Kelly Thomas, Danielle Tonkin, Stephanie Troia, Erik Vesper, Jessaka Whitsitt.

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From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

We've got some big news from the South Plainfield Library today, so let's get right to it.

First, here's an important announcement. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, we'll be making adjustments to our computer system. As a result, our circulation, catalog and possibly, our Internet terminals will be out of commission. This includes our Elvis, our Virtual Librarian; this won't include our Comcast Internet terminal. We'll have a back-up system in place, which will enable us to check books out. Unfortunately, that's all; we won't be able to check things in, process reserves, renew items or other special features. Sorry about this; we'll try to get things back to normal as quickly as we can. (This also extends to our recent problems with our air conditioning system; we're working on fixing it ASAP.)

Now, on to our children's programs. First, we've got a returning favorite: Game Gang. On the next two Mondays (July 19 and 26) from 11 a.m.-12 noon, kids ages four and over can play one of the board games set up in our Children's Room, or they can bring in one of their own. Also on Monday, we'll have our Summer Reading craft program, for children ages six and over, at 6:30 p.m. (Oh, and if you've haven't signed up for the Summer Reading Club, don't worry; there's still time to register. You can get details at the main desk or in the Children's Room.) Following that, we've got our regular schedule of storytime programs for children ages three and over. They're held on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and

Thursday at 1:15 p.m. For more information, give us a call at (908) 754-7885 and check with Children's Librarian Linda Hansen.

Here's late word on a special program. On Tuesday at 7 p.m., the library will host a financial seminar put on by Morgan, Stanley/Dean Whitter. Registration is required.

And here's early word on another special program. We know a lot of kids read about the Babysitter's Club, but how would they like to babysit for real? We can show you how. The library, in association with the local and county health departments, is sponsoring a free baby-sitting course. It'll be held across the way in Borough Hall on three mornings (Aug. 16, 17 and 19) from 10 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Those who participate will learn about basic first aid, police and fire safety and other useful topics. Those who attend all three sessions will get a certificate. You have to register in advance for this; you can sign up at our main desk or over the phone. (We can't guarantee someone will write a book about you, but it'll still be useful.)

Finally, we'd like to repeat an advisory. A while back, we asked patrons not to try to fiddle around with our Internet terminals. By that, we mean altering programming, changing the screen layout, etc. It seems some people are ignoring that advice. Understand this, if we find that a terminal has been damaged due to such unauthorized adjustments, the person or persons responsible will be barred from using our terminals and be held liable. We don't mind people using our computers; just don't fool with them, OK?

That's all for now. See you next time.

Scholarship

Randy Kuhn Awarded \$55,000 Scholarship from St. Peter's

Randolph Francis Kuhn, a graduate of the South Plainfield High School Class of 1999, has been awarded a four-year scholarship valued at \$55,000 to attend St. Peter's College. Randy is the son of Harry and Dominique Kuhn. St. Peter's College was founded in 1872 in Jersey City and is the only Jesuit institution of higher learning in the State of New Jersey.

To qualify for the scholarship, Randy submitted a pictorial essay depicting several cultural and

historical landmarks throughout Middlesex County. The award was granted to Randy based on originality, creativity and the scope of his essay.

The landmarks presented in his essay were the sole remaining Colonial Governor's Residence in Perth Amboy, homes built in the seventeenth and eighteenth century in South Plainfield, the birthplace of Joyce Kilmer in New Brunswick, the one room school house in Old Bridge where the campaign for the daily recitation

of the pledge of allegiance was inaugurated, the Thomas Alva Edison Tower in Edison and the Stagecoach Inn at the train station in Jamesburg where Abraham Lincoln stayed in 1860.

Additionally, he qualified for this scholarship package based upon his scholastic aptitude test scores and his enrolling as a resident student. Randy, a fifteen-year resident of the borough, is considering taking a course in pre-law course.

Sandra Reedy Receives \$1,000 Scholarship from Suburban Woman's Club

Sandra Reedy, a South Plainfield High School graduate was awarded a scholarship by the Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield.

The \$1,000 scholarship was presented to her at the Awards Assembly held in June at the South Plainfield High School, by Mrs. Mary Ann Iannitto, club president. Beverly Montwid was Education person.

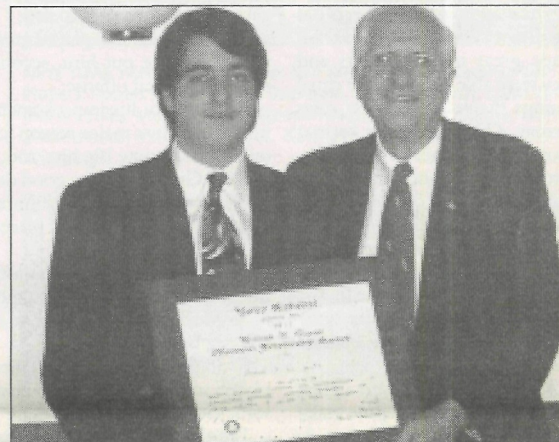
Ms. Reedy was active in various clubs and organizations and the recipient of numerous other awards. She will be attending Westminster College in Princeton as a Music Major.

Suburban Woman's Club also sponsored a South Plainfield High School junior to attend Douglass College in New Brunswick for Career Girl Institute seminars held June 21-24. Miss Jan Nguyen was chosen as a delegate.

Miss Nguyen participated in crafters and workshops. She heard

speakers on career choices and related topics. She will report on these activities at the Suburban

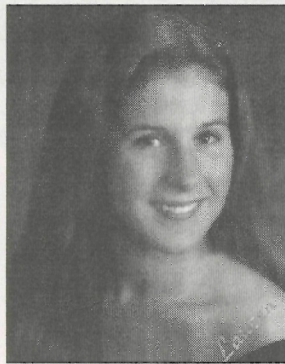
Woman's September 2 meeting at the American Legion Hall in South Plainfield.



At the UNICO Officers Dinner, Daniel LaSpada was presented with the UNICO National Scholarship Award in the amount of \$4,000 by Board of Director Joe Cappuccio. Earlier this year Daniel was also the recipient of the local UNICO Scholarship Award.

Dean's List

Lauren K. McGrath Named to Dean's List at College of New Jersey



Lauren K. McGrath

Lauren K. McGrath, daughter of Peter J. and Linda McGrath of Elizabethtown Court, has been named to the Dean's List at the College of New Jersey, Ewing, for the Fall 1998 and Spring 1999 semesters. Lauren, a Junior Education of the Deaf and Hearing Impaired Major, works part-time on campus and is also a charter member of the TCNJ Dance Team.

This summer, Lauren is working part-time for a South Plainfield company and is a counselor

at our local Recreation Summer Camp. She is also attending sign language classes at the Marie D. Kiatzenbach State School for the Deaf in Trenton. Lauren has also volunteered to serve as a personal counselor for a special needs child at a North Jersey residential summer camp.

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Thanks to the NJ Recreation & Parks Association, South Plainfield Recreation Department is offering tickets to amusement parks at a great discount. Call the Recreation Department at 908-226-7713 for more information.

1999 Ticket Prices

Amusement Park Ticket	Gate Price	Our Price
6 Flags, Great Adventure (Combination)	\$40.30	\$27.00
6 Flags, Great Adventure (Theme Park Only)	\$37.00	\$25.00
Dorney Park/Wildwater Kingdom (Early Season)	\$22.00	\$19.00
Dorney Park/Wildwater Kingdom	\$28.00	\$22.00
Sesame Place	\$27.95	\$28.50
Hershey Park (Adult)	\$29.95	\$25.50
Hershey Park (Junior)	\$16.95	\$18.00
Mtn. Creek Adult	\$29.00	\$23.00
Mtn. Creek Junior	\$15.00	\$13.00

Tickets may be purchased at the Recreation Office located in the PAT. Building.

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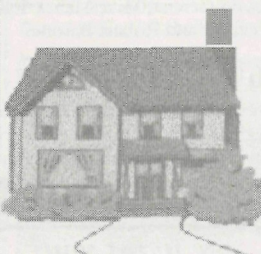
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SPORTS

Atlanta Braves Take B League Championship

The South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club B League Atlanta Braves, coached by John Stallone and Bill Lake, won the All-Season Championship game to finish the season with a 15-2 record. Pitching for the Braves were Garrett Lake and Mike Stallone.

Mariners Win A-League World Series Championship

Led by the bats of Ryan Kenny and Chris Bakazan, The Mariners, defeated the Diamond Backs in two consecutive games, to win the 1999 South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club Small Fry A League Championship.

Season Notes: All our players did a great job, every kid on the team made great improvements and they were able to play fairly equal innings thanks to the new rules format. (The new rules format allows the manager to freely substitute players in and out every inning.) Each player on the team did special things to help us along the way. We kept on winning. It was always close, but someone always stepped up to bail us out. In fact the kids started to sing the song "Staying Alive" after each inning.

Mariners players were:

Adam Bianchi: played a great first base and gave us some really key hits;

Brandon Kane: played third, first and outfield and gave us great patching in pressure spots;

Brain Murtaugh: made great plays at second and in the outfield, also had some really big hits;

Chris Bakazan: played short

stop, led the team in all offensive stats and played all positions well;

Connor O'Brien: great hitter and fielder, had a lot of big game hits;

Dan Bayak: great pitching, was instrumental in our playoff games, some timely hits also;

James Charneco: played great where ever we put him, second on team in total offense;

Joe Agrillo: his improvement in defense was a major reason for our success, some big hits, too;

Nick Grego: gave us good defense at any position, best bunter on the team, several well placed hits;

Ryan Kenny: in my opinion, the best catcher and base runner in league, led the team in homers and big hits;

Ryan Taylor: our ace pitcher, played solid center field, also had some clutch hits.

Thanks to all the parents for their great support and help with this team. Also a thank you to Mr. Walden, Mr. Kenny, Mr. Grego and Mr. Agrillo for their assistance in coaching. Special thanks to team mother Mrs. Pat Bayak.

Submitted by Tony Bakazan

Suburban Baseball League Results

South Plainfield's 13-year-old Suburban League team knocked off a strong Cranford team 7-6 to highlight this week's action. David Gerena went the distance giving the Tigers seven solid innings on the mound. Chris Czaplinski had a perfect day at the plate going 2 for 2 with two walks. Jon Bugey belted out three hits, driving in two runs and scoring twice. Matt Milano and Kyle Kazimir had key RBI singles to contribute to the Tigers' strong offensive showing.

The Tigers fell short against Montclair as the visitors scored three runs in the top of the sixth, to break a 10-10 tie and secure a hard fought 13-10 win. Czaplinski and Bugey continued their hot hitting going three-for-

four and two-for-three respectively. Steve Turris stroked a long double to left to drive in South Plainfield's final run of the day. Michael Alvarez, Eddie Kania, Billy Weaver, and Kyle Kazimir all singled to help the Tigers' cause.

This week's final game saw South Plainfield lose a heart-breaker to West Orange 10-9. Starter Eddie Kania pitched well, shutting out West Orange and allowing no hits over the first three innings. Defensive lapses by the Tigers gave West Orange six runs in the fourth inning and put South Plainfield in a hole too deep to overcome. Steve Turris led the offense with two hits. Contributing one hit each were David Gerena, Mike Maher, Kyle Kazimir and Robert Barone.

Recreation Offers Youth Soccer Program

A youth soccer program open to all South Plainfield residents ages 6-13 as of October 1, 1999 is forming. The fee \$25 is per participant. The program will run evenings and Saturdays, September through November.

Register at the Recreation office, on Maple Ave. Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Registrations will be taken from June 19 to August 13. The Recreation office will also be open from 6-8 p.m. on the first and third Monday of every month. To register bring a copy of the participant's birth certificate (if required) and proof of residency.

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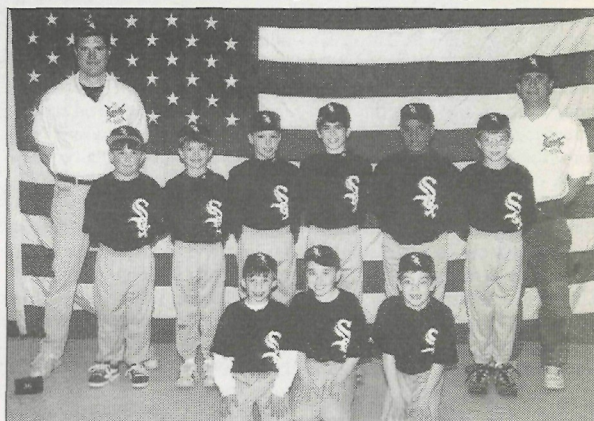
Respond to South Plainfield Observer at 908-668-0010.

Junior Baseball Small Fry C League

CHICAGO WHITE SOX

Coaches: Dominic Pappa and Danny White

Players: Chris De Oliveira, Daniel Flynn, Nick Giannakis, Chris Lesniak, Quintin Lightner, Joseph Mennuti, Dominic Pappa, Kyle Quail, Robert Stilo, Scott Suleski, Erik White and Aaron Wright.



LOS ANGELES DODGERS

Coaches: Jeff Marcaux and Tony Pompilio

Players: Thomas Aimone, Jimmy Cox, Timothy Lester, Jonathan Marcoux, Daniel Nastarowicz, Timmy Oppelt, Pio Pennisi, Daniel Pompilio, Jeffrey Pryor, Omari Scott, Ryan Smith and Nick Vallone.



DETROIT TIGERS

Coaches: Kurt Ullom and Jeff Sieder

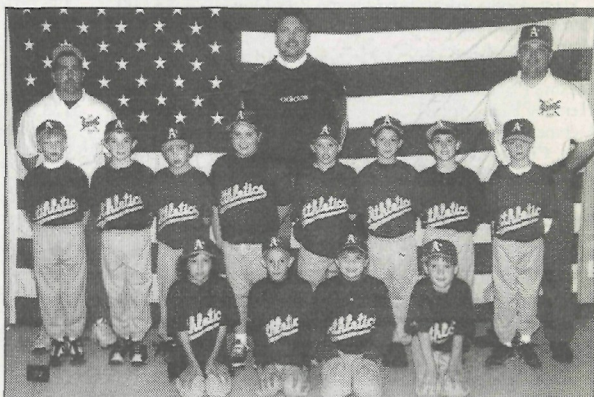
Players: Douglas Avery, David Brainard, Michael Brainard, Alan Kasmer, Jeff Licato, John Mills, Matthew Praul, Matthew Seider, Theodore Skwiat, Chris Stoeckel and Brandon Ullom.



OAKLAND ATHLETICS

Coaches: Pat Kelly and Jim Petriello

Players: Dennis Cerami, Justin Ditmars, Brian Erhardt, Tim Gaughan, Garrett Kelly, Alexa Kunch, Danny Maitstick, Kyle McMahon, Lyndsey Murtagh, Jordan Petriello, Rocco Petriello and Nicholas Vetuschi.



NEW YORK METS

Coaches: Greg Hoffman and Lenny Padula

Players: Corey Benson, Kyle Buck, Jonathan Conroy, Taylor Curtis, Bobby Harrington, Robert Hoffman, James Howard, Jaclyn Kukuch, Stanley Mitchell, Vincent Padula, Daniel Phillips and Frank Stefanelli.



SPORTS

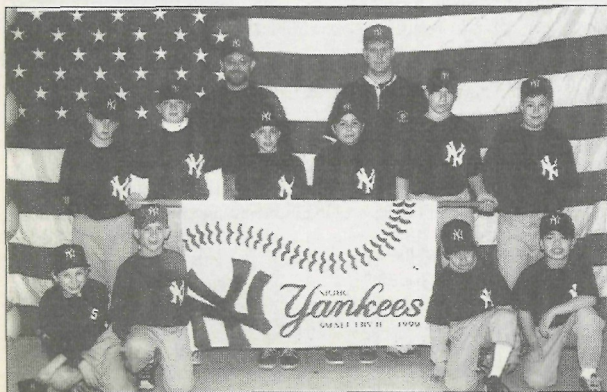
Junior Baseball Small Fry B League



ARIZONA DIAMOND BACKS

Coaches: *Charlie Decker
and Guy Moretti*

Players: Amit Chandler, Kyle Czarnik, Charles Decker III, Nicholas Desimone, Nicholas Haupt, John Holt, Josiah Korando, Alan Maglaque, Taylor Mandel, Anthony Moretti, Anthony Pelle and Gregory Yefko.



NEW YORK YANKEES

Coach: *Kyle Lykes*

Players: Nick Kratz, Matthew Krupit, Richard Le, Kyle Lykes, Michael Madalone, Walter Menna, Andrew Roibal, A.J. Romano, Lacey Santone, Michael Troia, Joseph Turrise, Frank Vedutis.



NEW YORK METS

Coaches: *Ace Richard
and Rob Hunt*

Players: Troy Benson, Kevin Bolivar, Ryan Bovee, David Cook, Stephen Dvorak, Vincent Genova, Bryan Hunt, Andy Keraga, Nicole Miglis, Michael Piazza, Stephen Richard and Bryan Wagner.



CHICAGO WHITE SOX

Coaches: *Bill DeNitzio
and Jim Petriello*

Players: Louis Caruso, Jeffrey Cianfrocca, Michael Ciccarelli, James Conroy, Joseph DeNitzio, Matthew Doell, Robert Gentile, Brandon Madalone, Samuel Martin, Ryan O'Shea, Anthony Petriello and Joseph Scarpitto.



SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS

Coaches: *Tim Crilly and
Roger Lendach*

Players: Nicholas Baldasarre, Steven Breslau, Justin Carpema, Kevin Crilly, Ryan Curtis, Matt D'Alessandro, Kyle Lendach, Mark Mackintosh, Anthony Niemczyk, Peter Schirripa, Brian Sheldon and Tommy Smith.

Junior Baseball Pony A League



NEW YORK YANKEES—Coaches: *Ken Wieczorek and George Veinott*. Players: Robert Bradley, Jared Burnham, John Glavasich, Keith Kinley, Martin Lillis, Michael Lillis, Steven Maione, Robert Matos, Michael Sikanowicz, Philip Veinott, Kenneth Wieczorek and Michael Wieczorek.



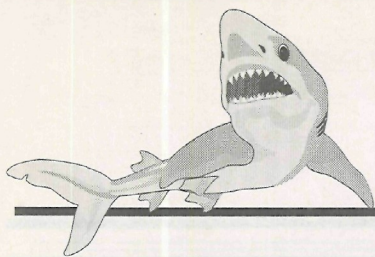
NEW YORK METS—Coaches: *Jim Cassidy and John Butrico*. Players: Juan Aguilar, Chris Bubnick, Michael Butrico, Sean Cassidy, Chris Catalfamo, Joseph Cerami, M. Chrysanthopoulos, Joe DeAndrea, Michael Glowacki, Chris Hewitt, Stephen Janiszak and Nicholas Sacco.



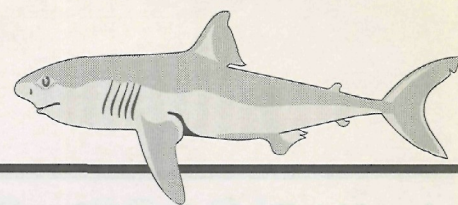
SEATTLE MARINERS—Coaches: *Roger Vroom and Wayne Bizup*. Players: Stephen Allara, Matthew Bizup, Michael Boyle, Ted Donnelly, Frank Gaspari, Nicholas Green, Ryan Harty, Jed Lush, Eugene Moretti, Daniel Pollin, Mitchell Skolnick and Ryan Vroom.



TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS—Coach: *Joe Cupido*. Players: Chris Bumback, Thomas Cupido, Gary Curcio, Thomas Daly, Eric Ferraris, William Humber, Danny Melick, Anthony Nappe, Ryan Szybel, Philip Thomas, Anthony Vitelli and John Yuill.



SPORTS



Tiger Sharks Win Two-in-a-Row!

The South Plainfield Tiger Sharks is a swim team which competes and practices at the South Plainfield Recreation Community Pool.

The Tiger Sharks are primarily from South Plainfield but some members come from neighboring towns.

They joined the team because of the great reputation of their coaches and success of their team.

The team swims in the NJ Swimming and Diving Conference which is comprised of 32 swim clubs in Central Jersey.

The season opened in early June with practices. The First dual meet was held on Saturday, June 26.

The Tiger Sharks lost their season opener to Round Top Swim Club in Warren by a close score of 136-139. Highlights from the meet were:

Diane Romano First—Girls 9-10, 100 IM
Allison Harty Second—Girls 9-10, 100 IM
Matt Ledet Third—Boys 9-10, 100 Freestyle
Natalie Jones Second—Girls 11-12, 100 IM
Nina Byard Third—Girls 11-12, 100 IM
Calvin John Smiley ... Second—Boys 11-12, 100 Freestyle
Billy Moates Third—Boys 11-12, 100 Freestyle
Jen Banas First—Girls 15-18, 200 IM
Shannon Dabrio Second—Girls 15-18, 200 IM
Josh Dec Third—Boys 15-18 200, Freestyle
Danielle Atcachunas ... Second—Girls 8 and under, 25 Fly
Drew LeDet First—Boys 8 and under, 25 Breaststroke
Becky Keller Third—Girls 9-10, 50 Fly
Phillip Luzny Second—Boys 9-10, 50 Breast
Natalie Jones First—Girls 11-12, 50 Fly
Kate Kaczka Second—Girls 11-12, 50 Fly
Chris Reed Second—Boys 11-12, 50 Breast
Lauren Reed First—Girls 13-14, 100 Fly
Nathalie Londono Third—Girls 13-14, 100 Fly
Tim Keller Third—Boys 13-14, 100 Breast
Jen Banas First—Girls 15-18, 100 Fly
Sarah Blessing Second—Girls 15-18, 100 Fly
Mike Tudor Third—Boys 15-18, 100 Breast
Talya Gunasekara Second—Girls 8 and under, 25 Freestyle
Drew LeDet First—Boys 8 and under, 25 Backstroke
Becky Keller First—Girls 9-10, 50 Freestyle
Allison Harty Second—Girls 9-10, 50 freestyle
Matt LeDet First—Boys 9-10, 50 Backstroke
Matt Moates Second—Boys 9-10, 50 Backstroke
Kate Kaczka First—Girls 11-12, 50 Freestyle
Nina Byard Second—Girls 11-12, 50 Freestyle
CalvinJohn Smiley First—Boys 11-12, 50 Backstroke
Lauren Reed First—Girls 13-14, 100 Freestyle
Lauren Kaczka Third—Girls 13-14, 100 Freestyle
Tim Keller Third—Boys 13-14, 100 Backstroke
Shannon Dabrio First—Girls 13-14, 100 Freestyle
Sarah Blessing Third—Girls 13-14, 100 Freestyle

The Tiger Sharks claimed a decisive victory over long-time rival Crystal Springs of East Brunswick by a score of 159-115 on Wednesday, June 30. Highlights from the meet were:

Phillip Luzny First—Boys 10 and under, 100 IM
Allison Harty Third—Girls 10 and under, 100 freestyle
Calvin John Smiley First—Boys 11-12, 100 IM
Chris Reed Third—Boys 11-12, 100 IM
Kate Kaczka First—Girls 11-12, 100 Freestyle
Natalie Jones Second—Girls 11-12, 100 Freestyle
Nina Byard Third—Girls 11-12, 100 Freestyle
Charlie Rowe First—Boys 13-18, 200 IM
Jon Bostick Second—Boys 13-18, 200 IM
Jen Banas First—Girls 13-18 200, Freestyle
Sarah Blessing Second—Girls 13-18 200, Freestyle
Drew LeDet First—Boys 8 and under, 25 Fly
Talya Gunasekara ... Second—Girls 8 and under, 25 Breast
Matt LeDet First—Boys 9-10, 50 Fly
Becky Keller Second—Girls 9-10, 50 Breaststroke
Allison Harty Third—Girls 9-10, 50 Breaststroke
Devin Gunasekara Second—Boys 11-12, 50 Fly
Chris Reed Third—Boys 11-12 50, Fly
Natalie Jones First—Girls 11-12 50, Breast
Stefanie Miller Second—Girls 11-12, 50 Breast
Lauren Reed First—Girls 13-14, 100 Breaststroke
Nathalie Londono Second—Girls 13-14, 100 Breaststroke
Charlie Rowe First—Boys 15-18, 100 Fly
Shannon Dabrio First—Girls 15-18, 100 Breaststroke
Sarah Blessing Second—Girls 15-18, 100 Breaststroke
Drew LeDet First—Boys 8 and under, 25 Freestyle
Talya Gunasekara Second—Girls 8 and under, 25 Back
Matt LeDet First—Boys 9-10, 50 Free
Julia Dougherty Second—Girls 9-10, 50 Backstroke
CalvinJohn Smiley First—Boys 11-12, 50 Freestyle
Billy Moates Third—Boys 11-12, 50 Freestyle
Kate Kaczka First—Girls 11-12, 50 Backstroke
Nina Byard Third—Girls 11-12, 50 Backstroke
Lauren Reed First—Girls 13-14, 100 Backstroke
Lauren Kaczka Third—Girls 13-14, 100 Backstroke
Jon Bostick First—Boys 15-18, 100 Freestyle
Jen Banas First—Girls 15-18, 100 Backstroke
Shannon Dabrio ... Second—Girls 15-18, 100 Backstroke

The Tiger Sharks also won a decisive victory over Frog Hollow on Saturday, July 3 by a score of 132-116. The highlights of the Frog Hollow meet were:

Diane Romano Second—Girls 10 and under, 100 IM
Allison Harty Third—Girls 10 and under, 100 IM
Matt LeDet First—Boys 10 and under, 100 Freestyle
Matt Moates Second—Boys 10 and under, 100 Freestyle
Natalie Jones First—Girls 11-12, 100 IM
Nina Byard Third—Girls 11-12, 100 IM
Calvin John Smiley First—Boys 11-12, 100 Freestyle
Billy Moates Second—Boys 11-12, 100 Freestyle
Jen Bana Second—Girls 13-18, 200 IM
Shannon Dabrio Third—Girls 13-18, 200 IM
Jon Bostick First—Boys 13-18, 200 Freestyle
Josh Dec Second—Boys 13-18, 200 Freestyle
Talya Gunasekara Second—Girls 8 and under, 25 Butterfly
Michael Boyle First in Boys 8 and under, 25 Breaststroke
Megan Boyle Second—Girls 9-10, 50 Fly
Becky Keller Third—Girls 9-10, 50 Fly
Natalie Jones First—Girls 11-12, 50 Fly
Kate Kaczka Second—Girls 11-12, 50 Fly
Chris Reed First—Boys 11-12, 50 Breaststroke
Devin Gunasekara Second—Boys 11-12, 50 Breaststroke
Lauren Reed First—Girls 13-14, 100 Butterfly
Nathalie Londono Third—Girls 13-14, 100 Butterfly
Sarah Blessing Second—Girls 13-14, 100 Butterfly
Josh Dec Second—Boys 15-18, 100 Breaststroke
Talya Gunasekara Third—Girls 8 and under, 25 Freestyle
Drew Ledet First—Boys 8 and under, 25 Backstroke
Michael Boyle Second—Boys 8 and under, 25 Backstroke
Megan Boyle Second—Girls 9-10, 50 Freestyle
Becky Keller Third—Girls 9-10, 50 Freestyle
Matt LeDet Second—Boys 9-10, 50 Backstroke
Kate Kaczka First—Girls 11-12, 50 Freestyle
CalvinJohn Smiley First—Boys 11-12, 50 Backstroke
Billy Moates Second—Boys 11-12, 50 Backstroke
Lauren Reed First—Girls 13-14, 100 Freestyle
Allison Banas Third—Girls 13-14, 100 Freestyle
Jen Banas Third—Girls 15-18, 100 Freestyle
Jon Bostick Second in Boys age 15-18, 100 Backstroke

Submitted by Lynn Reed

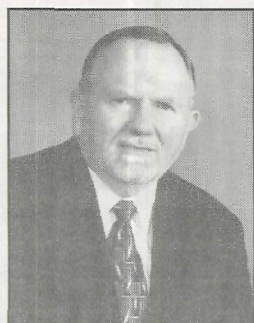
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SPHS to Host Softball Clinic

The South Plainfield High School Athletic Department will host the Championship Softball Clinic from August 2 to August 6 for ages 9-18. The clinic will be directed by Bound Brook Head Coach Steve Kania. Kania, a resident of South Plainfield, has led Bound Brook to numerous county and state titles during his tenure as coach.

South Plainfield Assistant Coach Laurie Matticola, a former high school pitching standout, will assist along with other outstanding high school coaches.

The program will run daily from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Slap hitting and pitching instruction will be featured. For details call 732-271-2851 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. After 3:30 p.m., call 908-755-0679.

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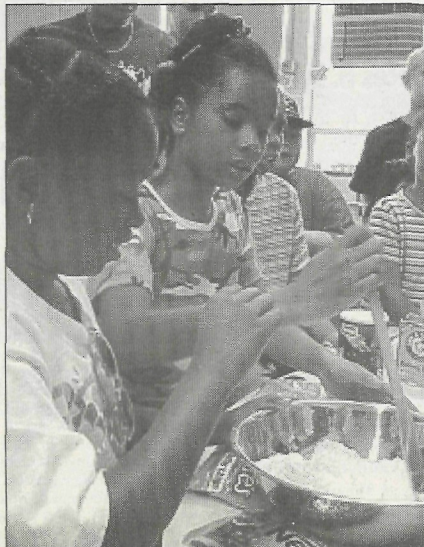
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Kids at Tiger Day Camp are Busy Doing Creative Things

The Tiger Day Camp children are spending their summer being creative and having lots of fun. They made a collage of swimmers on one of the walls in the Administration Building, where the kids meet. The campers also made cookies last week.

Photos by Pattie Abbott



Labor Day Parade Nominations....

Nominations Still Being Taken for Honorary Grand Marshal

The South Plainfield Public Celebrations Committee is still accepting nominations for Honorary Grand Marshal for the 42nd Annual Labor Day Parade. The Labor Day Parade will take place on Monday, September 6.

If you know of any individuals

who you feel has contributed outstanding service to the community, send a letter to the Celebrations Committee describing why you think this person should be considered for Grand Marshal.

When writing, include the candidate's name, address, telephone

number and list of accomplishments.

Send nominations to: The Public Celebrations Committee, c/o Joe Scrudato, 535 Elsie Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or email: jascrudato@ms.att.com.

Know of Any Long-Time Residents?

This year's parade theme is "South Plainfield Marches into the Millennium." To celebrate South Plainfield's incorporation in 1926, the parade committee would like our oldest South Plainfield residents to lead the annual parade.

The parade committee has received the names of some long-time residents but they are still accepting names.

If you know of anyone who has lived in South Plainfield for an extended time, please contact the parade committee at the address below.

Send in names of the oldest residents you know of to: The Public Celebrations Committee, c/o Joe Scrudato, 535 Elsie Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or email: jascrudato@ms.att.com.

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INTERACTIVE COMPUTER CORNER

I just read the **By Briggs Longbothum**

result of the NEC Research Institute (Princeton, NJ) study of the Internet (actually it was a study of the World Wide Web or Web or the "WWW" part of it all). This study was published in the Journal "NATURE," and showed some pretty significant and interesting findings. (Numbers are compared to a similar study done in 1997). The study estimates that there are about 800 million webpages on the web now compared to about 320 million only two years ago. That includes about 180 images or pictures. Also, despite the clamorous do-gooder cries about the prevalence of pornography on the web, only about 1.5% of the web's content could be identified as such. Just not that big a deal compared to your typical magazine rack, soft-porn included. (Jeez, go filter your water for goodness sake and be thankful that the other 98.5% is available to you!). Seems to me that it would be wiser for leaders, parents, and teachers to practice and preach better morals and ethics than it would be to build bigger and better blinders for that miniscule 1.5%!

If you combined the total web access of the top eleven search engines, the best you could do is find only about 42% of the stuff on the web. The rest is out there, you just can't find it with the current help available. That figure is down somewhat from more than 50% two years ago. This is not good! It has to do with how search engines "index" web content. As for now, the web is growing faster than the search engines can keep up with it. (This bears strongly on how search engines work which is another topic for another time). Of those search engines, Northern Light was found to be the most comprehensively indexed of the them all, although it had about 22% of its database links broken. AltaVista and Snap were next best search engines found by the study. Never

mind about MSN, Infoseek, Google, Yahoo, and Lycos

(despite the im-

mense popularity of the latter two).

TIP: Visit www.SearchEngine-Watch.com for lots of very pertinent information on search engines and how they work. If you know the gooey guts behind one or two good engines, then you have a distinct edge. They're not all the same, and the kind of search you want to do is also important. For you web authors, you really need to know this stuff if you want your pages to be found.

In a nutshell, the Web is incredibly huge and getting more so. While publishing to the web is easier and faster, it's also getting harder to find! Sounds sort of like Fermi's Paradox (If anyone knows what that is, you win a prize, and No! I didn't make it up).

I would hope that while our recent SPHS graduates are enjoying their Summer, they and others are making time to hone their skills at the computer keyboard and Internet. It's become the best source of help for just about everything. In our next column, I'd like to take a closer look at search engines. How about some feedback from you about using the Internet for finding things. What are your favorite tricks of the search? C U next time. -Briggs Longbothum, Ed.

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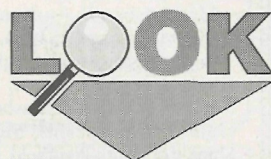
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Obituaries

Michael Romanski, 91

Michael Romanski died on Thursday, July 8, at the Broward Nursing Center in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

He was born in Jersey City and was a former 52 year resident of South Plainfield and a former 31 year resident of Piscataway before moving to Ft. Lauderdale two years ago.

Mr. Romanski was the produce manager for Shop Rite in Dunellen for 10 years before retiring in 1972.

He was a member of Our Lady Czestochowa R.C. Church in South Plainfield and a member of the Holy Name Society. He served as a sexton at the church for many years.

He served in the US Army during WW II and was a former member of the American Legion Chaumont Post 243 in South Plainfield. He was a member of the Retail Store Employees Union Local 1292 in Clifton.

His wife, Katherine Kata Romanski, died in 1972.

He is survived by a brother, Stephen Romanski, of Deland, Fla. and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at James W. Conroy Funeral Home.

Robert Morneault, 67

Robert Morneault died on Wednesday, July 7, in his home.

Born in Millinocket, Maine, he had resided in Mt. Bethel before moving to North Plainfield 25 years ago.

He had been employed as a bank messenger for Valley National Bank of North Plainfield for six years before his retirement in 1996. Previously he had been employed as a bank messenger for First National Bank Central Jersey (Now Fleet Bank) of Bridgewater for 14 years.

Mr. Morneault had served in the United States Army during

the Korean Conflict and was a former member of the VFW Post # 5479 of Dunellen.

Surviving are his wife, Maralina A.; three stepdaughters, Barbara Brayley of Tonawanda, N.Y., Harriett Panfil of Naples, Fla. and Janice Vogel of South Plainfield; a stepson, James Gorman, Jr. of Bound Brook; a sister, Arlene Levasseur of Millinocket, Maine; two brothers, Edward and Amic Morneault of Millinocket, Maine.

Also surviving are 13 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Private funeral arrangements were under the direction of the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Memorial contributions in his memory may be made to the JFK Haven Hospice: c/o JFK Medical Center, 65 James St. Edison, N.J. 08818.

Wassiliy Guro, 98

Wassiliy Guro died on Thursday, July 8, at the Edison Estates Nursing Center in Edison.

He was born in Russia and came to the United States in 1954, settling in South Plainfield where he resided for the last 45 years.

Mr. Guro was a line worker for Revlon in Edison for 25 years before retiring in 1978.

His wife, Mary Guro, died in 1974.

He is survived by his wife, Yekaterina Stamm Guro; a son Igor Guro of Okemos, Mich. and a grandson Gregory Guro.

Funeral services were held at James W. Conroy Funeral Home.

Patricia Pozarycki, 47

Patricia Pozarycki died on Sunday, July 4, in Saddle Brook.

Born in Pecksville, Pa., she had resided in Nutley and Plainfield before moving to South Plainfield in 1979.

Mrs. Pozarycki was presently

employed in the collections department for Bell Atlantic of Cranford.

Mrs. Pozarycki was a member of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield.

Her two brothers, Michael and Charles, have predeceased her.

Surviving are her husband, Walter R. Pozarycki; three daughters, Melanie Joy, Sarah Ann and Kristin Lee Pozarycki, all of South Plainfield; her parents, Michael and Josephine Chrusciel of Nutley; two brothers, Joseph Chrusciel of Wayne and Thomas Chrusciel of Neptune. Also surviving are two nieces and one nephew.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Frances B. Sylvester, 79

Frances B. Sylvester of South Plainfield, died on Saturday, July 10, at the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

She was born in Elizabeth and has resided in South Plainfield for the past 73 years.

Miss Sylvester was a receptionist for Lockheed Electronics Corporation in Watchung for 25 years before retiring in 1985. She was a member and served on the Board of Directors of the Lockheed Stardusters Club.

She was a member of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield.

She is survived by two nephews, Philip and John Yanuzzi; two nieces, Joanne Fritz and Frances Sills.

Funeral services were held at James W. Conroy Funeral Home.

Anna (Shinkle) Kolenski, 79

Anna (Shinkle) Kolenski died on Saturday, July 11, at home.

Born in Minersville, Pa. she had resided South Plainfield for 20 years, Upper Black Eddy, Pa. and Kitnersville, Pa. before moving to Bernardsville one year ago.

Mrs. Kolenski was a Home-maker.

Her husband, Anthony R. Kolenski, Sr., died in 1984.

Surviving are two daughters, Charlotte Musick of New Mexico and Sandra Busbey of California; three sons, Michael Shinkle of South Plainfield, Mark Shinkle of Bernardsville and Charles Shinkle of Westfield, Mass.; a stepdaughter, Joanne Erwin of Jamesburg, a stepson, Anthony R. Kolenski, Jr. of Scotch Plains.

Also surviving are three sisters; one brother, 14 grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

Private funeral services were handled by McCriskin Home For Funerals.



This gargoyle sits in front of a house on Sampton Ave. He changes costumes with each holiday. Last week he was all dressed up for the Fourth of July.

By Cyrus n Moon

Weekly Horoscope 7/16-7/22

ARIES - 3/21-4/19 You are the first sign in the Zodiac. This means new beginnings. Some traits you may have are energetic, active and open to change, impulsive. Mars is your ruling planet, ancient god of war. Your color is red like that of fire. Birthstone is the diamond. There you go lady Aries. A city to visit how about England. Key word: I AM! The Ram Goes headfirst into situations so ease up as these may get out of hand sometimes. **TAURUS - 4/20-5/20** Your most favorite trait as seen in the eyes of others is dependability. Your ruling planet is Venus the Roman goddess of beauty and the arts. You may be quiet but make no mistake the Bull is strong and can be fierce. Lucky day, Friday. Birthstone is the emerald. Tree to plant: how about a cypress or apple. Pale blue is always a nice color to wear. For a country, may I suggest Cyprus? Key word "Balance".

GEMINI - 5/21 -6/20 The sign of communication. Quick witted full of ideas; one who wants to play all the parts actor, director, producer and stagehand. Mercury rules over this sign: Ancient messenger of the gods which also rules communication and travel. Birthstone is the agate. A cool city for you to check out would be San Francisco. Wear your seat belt in the car. People of this sign are prone to injury while traveling.

CANCER - 6/21 -7/22 The Moon is your ruler here, as a satellite around the earth it moves and waxes a strong magnetic force in your life. And need I say it 'emotions'. Some of your nice traits are sympathy and being receptive. You also can be shrewd but be careful it does not backfire on you. The pearl is your stone and can change bad fortune into good. And a nice country for you to travel is Scotland. Your colors sea green and silver.

LEO - 7/23 -8/22 Your loyalty is without question. You control your own domain no matter how small or large. While others will accept second best, you will not. And why no; the SUN is your ruler the center of the solar system. Other words to describe you are powerful, creative and generous. Well don't you know there is a down side? Don't draw people into confrontations, you are not always right and you can also be the target of slander. Your birthstone is the lovely ruby. And your place to visit Hollywood, where else?

VIRGO - 8/23-9/22 Never put off anything that can be done today instead of tomorrow; that is the code for this other Mercury ruler. The Virgin, who is the symbol for this sign, represents purity, modesty and service to your fellow human being. Since Virgo rules the nervous system in the body, you can be prone to illness caused by stress and tension. So do things to lighten the load. A trip to Greece would be nice and Paris on the way home. Sapphire is your stone. Your lucky numbers 5 and 3.

LIBRA - 9/23-10/22 Libra's are easy to like. You make anyone you come in contact with comfortable. Venus is your planet ruler here the goddess of love and beauty. Your symbol is the Scales showing you are a person of balance and justice. Your stone, the Opal, can bring financial success. A visit to Charleston in the U.S. or to Japan will bring adventure. Be careful though not to anger or disappoint them you love. Friday is your day. **SCORPIO - 10/23-11/21** Intense, persistent, imaginative and emotional are some of your qualities. Your planet ruler Pluto is the ancient god of the nether world and the dead. This represents the beginnings and end phases in our life. You have a sixth sense that works for you. You are clever with money and know how to cul-

minate wealth. Do not use your secretive-ness and jealousy to hurt others. Your stone is Topaz it brings serenity of the mind. The color to go with is burgundy. And numbers 2 and 4. **SAGITTARIUS - 11/22-12/21** You are ruled by the planet of fortune. You always seem to be in the right place at the right time. Jupiter, which I am speaking of, was the most important Roman God of all. He ruled the heavens. Some traits you may show are ambition, energetic and freedom lover. Turquoise is your stone, it can help you attract love. If I were you, I would visit Acapulco and Spain. Plant an oak tree in the yard. Your strong feelings about freedom can make people jealous and possessive.

CAPRICORN - 12/22-1/19 Ambition that seems to be the goal for most Goats, who is a sure-footed animal. You have a motivating structure for success in the areas of money, status and authority. Saturn is your ruling planet, which governs limitations, obstacles, and discipline. Your lucky day is Saturday, along with numbers 2 and 8 being lucky for you. The stone that helps you attract true love and high esteem is the Garnet. Secrets in your past can be used against. A city to visit is Boston, a country, Mexico.

AQUARIUS - 1/20-2/18 Off on your own path; this is a trait for your sign. Unorthodox and original are a couple of others. After all you're ruling planet is Uranus the ancient Greek Sky God, first ruler of the Universe. The planet represents change and the unexpected. Your symbol is the Water Bearer who represents the giving of life or representing life. Your stone is the Amethyst and it brings the gift of prescience. A city you should visit is Buenos Aires. Be careful of unusual situations. Electric blue.


PISCES - 2/19-3/20 You are ruled by Neptune, ancient God of the Sea. This installs the illusion, glamour and mystery of this sign. Your symbol is two fish tied together in opposite directions. This signifies hidden depths, shifting emotional currents. Aquamarine is your stone, which can bring serenity of the mind. You should visit Portugal and the city of Dublin. Be careful not to let drugs and alcohol be your down fall. Pisces end the circle of the signs and is believed to be a link to the spirit world. With your imagination you make wonderful poets. Your day is Fridays.

INFO - well this is just the tip of the iceberg of how we perceive ourselves. There are so many formulations that make up ones character that I can write till my fingers fall off. Remember "TIME, PLACE and DATE" will map out your own individual personality. There are many books on the subject to be read and in the future, I will be available to map out individual horoscopes. Any questions can be forwarded to the Observer. So have fun with what you read. Be aware of what's going on so you can use a better thought process in the situations that you all encounter in your lives.

Quote: We are all one seeking our own individuality

WE WANT YOUR NEWS!!

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POLICE REPORT

• A Daniel St. resident reported an AM/FM cassette deck, a wallet and cash stolen from her car while it was parked in her driveway. The vehicle was found unlocked but the victim was certain it was locked the night before.

• John Cestone, manager of Drug Fair on South Plainfield Ave. followed a customer out of the store after the theft alarm sounded. After confronting the her, the suspect turned over a bag of stolen merchandise. The manager assumed the suspect would follow him back into the store but instead she ran across Front St. The manager lost the suspect behind Sherbans Diner. A search of the area was negative.

• Regal Theater located on Corporate Blvd. reported a smoke bomb had been lit as patrons exited theater Number 10. There were no injuries. The fire department checked the area and found a small smoke bomb. There are no suspects.

• A Terrace Ave. resident reported being harassed by a man who had purchased a motorcycle from him two months prior. The suspect, only known as Wayne or Amed had called

the victim's home and appeared at his place of employment. The suspect also left the vehicle in the victim's driveway.

• A North Plainfield resident, reported he found his car covered with baby powder while it had been parked at a friend's house on Sussex St. The victim suspects an ex-girlfriend who has a relative in the vicinity.

• A Scalera St. resident reported that a credit card in her name had been used to pay for a pornographic internet site for approximately a year. She stated that she did not order nor want the pornography and had not noticed the charge because she had not reviewed the bills carefully. The credit card company told her to notify the police. The card was deactivated.

• A W. Crescent Parkway resi-

dent reported two juveniles blocked his path as he rode his bike in Spring Lake Park and attempted to grab his bike. The victim was able to pull the bike back and he left the park.

• A Maple Ave. resident reported a bike stolen from her locked porch. A hole had been cut in the screen just below the handle and lock. No other items were taken.

• Spring Lake Florist on Sampton Ave. reported that the rear door of the store had been forced open and cash register pried open. Thirty dollars in cash was removed from the drawer. Nothing else was removed. The suspects walked through a field or climbed a fence to gain access to the back of the store. There are no witnesses or suspects.

Garage Sale

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Rescue Squad "WET DOWN"

Photos and Story by Patricia Abbott

Last Saturday, the South Plainfield Rescue Squad christened their new vehicle with a "Wet Down". The term is normally used in conjunction with a new fire department vehicle, but Captain Peter McGrath noted that "Wet Down" was the name of choice for the long awaited celebration. The day was a means of celebrating the long awaited vehicle and introducing it to the community and neighboring rescue squads.

The new rescue vehicle was christened in a ceremony that included Mayor Dan Gallagher and Council members. Pastor Mingle offered a brief blessing and the mayor presented Captain McGrath with the keys to the truck. A plaque was presented to Fire Chief Joe Abbruscze for his ongoing support of the Rescue Squad. The traditional bottle of champagne was on hand but instead of breaking it over the truck a more subtle and realistic means prevailed. Upon opening the bottle the contents were splashed over the hood of the truck while the audience applauded the christening.

The event was attended by rescue squads from throughout the area. The South Plainfield Fire Dept. was among first to arrive and were probably the most appropriately dressed for the day. Fun and water flowed from all afternoon.

McGrath estimated that 400-500 people attended the event. The hungry group went through approximately 700 hamburgers and 500 hot dogs. Wet Down tee shirts were sold, as well as mugs for beer. The only thing flowing more than fun, food, soda and beer was the water. "Wet Down" was truly a most appropriate name for the celebration.

