

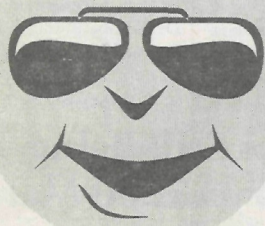
South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 2, NO. 37

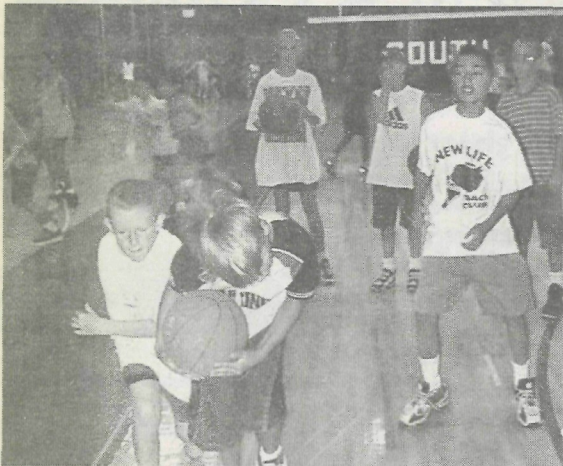
50 CENTS

JULY 23, 1999

Summer Fun!



South Plainfield beats the heat
with summer programs



South Plainfield kids are keeping themselves busy this summer by participating in the many programs available through the Recreation Department. Last week over 137 boys and girls attended the Recreation-sponsored basketball camp held at the high school. At the Community Pool, swimming lessons are held each day and every Friday kids from the Recreation Summer Fun Program swim at the Community Pool. Tiger Day Camp held Christmas in July last week, which included a visit by Santa Claus.



PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Thanks For The Warm Welcome

We all want to thank everyone who has stopped by to wish us luck at our new location. Many visitors have stopped in to welcome us to South Plainfield.

It's great to get such warm welcome. I hope every business that moves into town is made to feel as welcome as we have.

We are planning to have an open house some time next month so you can meet the people who work each week to make this paper so great. It will probably coincide with the second anniversary of *The South Plainfield Observer*. Its hard to believe that we have been publishing for two years.

The only request we have is to visit us on Mondays, Thursdays or Fridays. We are very busy creating this paper on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, so we don't have much time to chat. Also, during the summer months we will be closing at noon on Fridays to enjoy the weekend.

Thanks again for all your good wishes!

Don't forget to extend the same greetings to our advertisers. They want to hear that their ads are being read by our readers.

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:

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:

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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The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

We look forward to hearing from all of you and encourage you to send in your stories and photos. The *South Plainfield Observer* is your paper. Please let us know what you would like to see in it.

To get an article published in South Plainfield Observer:

1. Type (double spaced) the article you wish published.
2. Mail, fax or drop it at: Editorial Department
South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or drop it in the box at Mohr's Flowers on Plainfield Ave. or Twice Is Nice, Front St. or fax us at (908) 668-8819 or e-mail us on the web page at sposerver.com. Include your name, address, telephone number.

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In My Opinion

Letters

Dear Editor:

This is a letter to let parents know just how much the SPJBC is "there for the kids."

My son has played both regular season and all-star baseball for the last six years. He chose not to play Pony baseball at the complex this year because he was on the high school freshman team. We received a call from the coach asking if my son would like to play on the traveling All-Star team for South Plainfield and my son said yes. After a week or so of asking "can he play, even though he did not play regular season," we were told, yes he could. At this time we bought him a shirt, pants and spikes, at our expense and he played his first game in South Plainfield. The following day the coach was told by the Board that they changed their minds and he could not play. The big question is Why?

1. Was it because he is not a member of the complex? (No, he is a member).

2. Was it because the bi-laws and rules say you had to play regular season? (No, there are no bi-laws or rules stating this).

3. Was it because maybe another boy won't play if my son does? (No, because everyone on the team gets to play).

Now, since the complex is "there for the kids," why did we have to tell our son he could not play? Next season I'm sure there will be rule changes and I want to make all the parents understand that when they say "they are there for the kids," it is simply not true. The kids are at the mercy of the board and their unfair decisions.

THANK YOU,
HEATHER STAATS

Dear Editor:

I would like to take this time to thank all the businesses in South Plainfield and Piscataway for allowing the members of the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop the opportunity of canning in front of their businesses. We were very successful in our fund raising weekend which included a car wash.

I would also like to thank all of the members of the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop and the committee for their efforts in making this one of the best fund raising years ever.

Thank You!

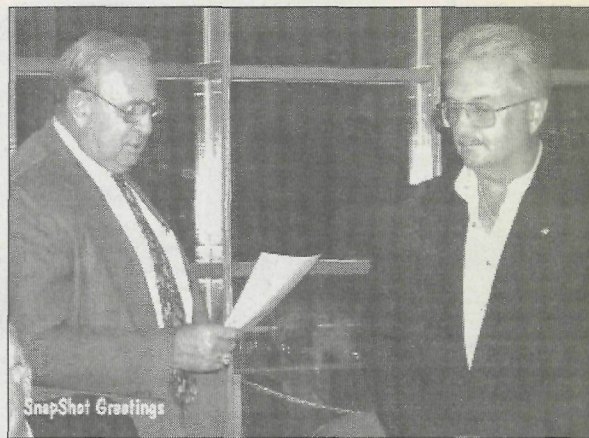
VERY TRULY YOURS,
LISA A. BICZI, FUND RAISING
CHAIRPERSON, SOUTH
PLAINFIELD SUMMER DRAMA
WORKSHOP

Recycling Center & Yard Waste Site

The regular summer hours for the South Plainfield Recycling Center and the Yard Waste Site on Kenneth Ave. are: Recycling Center-Tuesdays and Fridays 1-8 p.m., Saturdays 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

Yard Waste Site-Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays 1-8 p.m., Saturdays 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

For updates, call the Recycling Hotline at (908) 226-7620.



Michael Cortese is sworn in as the 1999 UNICO President.

U.N.I.C.O. Elects 1999 Officers

By Roxanne Cortese

UNICO held their election of new officer's dinner for the 1999 year last month. Newly elected officers for 1999 were: President-Michael Cortese, First Vice President-Richard Grillo, Second Vice President-Rick McNally, Treas-

urer-Frank P. Licato Sr., Recording Secretary-Roxanne Cortese, Corresponding Secretary-Carol Bednar, Sergeant at Arms-Louis DeFillipo, Expansion Director-Renato Birbin, Chaplain-Father Joseph Barbone, Chapter Counsel-Caroline M. Formica.

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.

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.

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.

Summer Drama Seeks Volunteers

South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop is seeking volunteers for Stage Crew for their 1999 production of *The Music Man*. Volunteers must be available from July 26 through August 8. High school and up please. Parents are welcome as well. For more information call 908-756-8011 or leave a message.

Grand Opening!

July 22nd, 23rd, 24th & 25th

Register to Win!!

1 of 3 \$200 Shopping Sprees!
Thomas Wooden Play Ensemble! (10/25/99)

20% Off Storewide!

Events:

The Famous
Andy the Clown
Saturday 10:30-1:30
Sunday 12:00-3:00

Wimzie
(from *Wimzie's House*)
Friday 12:00-3:00
Sunday 3:00-5:00

Winnie The Pooh
Saturday 2:00-5:00

Learning Express

Toys That Capture Imaginations

Oak Park Commons • 911D Oak Tree Rd.
South Plainfield, NJ 07080 (908) 822-9007
Store Hours: Mon-Sat 9:00-8:00 Sunday 9:00-6:00

Community BRIEFS

Court Refuses to Hear Board of Education Appeal

Last week the State Supreme Court refused to hear an appeal by the South Plainfield Board of Education on a lawsuit brought by the teachers union. The lawsuit has been in the courts for over four years. The decision by the Supreme Court was unanimous. The dispute was started when several teachers were hired by the district but not compensated for their prior teaching experience.

The case will now go to an arbitrator, who will decide on how many teachers will be compensated and how much back pay they will be awarded.

During the disposition of this case, members of the teachers union have been asking the BOE for an up-to-date legal fees incurred thus far. The Board has agreed to release the legal fees in the next few weeks.

Pool Passes Now Available

Community Pool pass books will be available starting on July 26 and can be used starting August 1. The new passes are an effort by the pool to allow its members to bring more visitors to the Community Pool.

The 10-pass books can be purchased for \$50 by pool members and can be used for all guests. They will only be good for this

season and only one book per member is allowed.

Members have complained that guest fees are too high this year. Fees for out-of-town guests are \$8 weekdays and \$10 weekends while residents pay \$10 weekdays and \$12 weekends. Members have complained that they would like to bring more guests, but the high fees have restricted them.

Borough News

Council Notes

■ Timothy Morgan has been appointed to the Land Management Advisory Committee as an Alternate I member.

■ Shannon D'Abrio was hired as a life guard at the Community Pool.

■ Helen Oschanski has been hired as a seasonal employee to cover during vacation in the Health Department.

■ Richard Frumfore was hired as a Junior Counselor II in the Recreation Department until August 13.

■ A matching grant in the amount of \$5,000 for Cornerstone Architectural has been approved under the South Plainfield Facade Improvement Program.

■ The next regular meeting of the Borough Council will be held on August 19. The agenda meeting will be held on August 16. The council will only meet once in August.

Board of Adjustment

■ Ingersoll Rand's application for a use variance was granted with waivers. They plan to build a 20,732 square foot building for the service and sale of rental equipment on McKinley Ave. Some of the conditions for approval are: no repairs to be performed outdoors, testing of equipment must be done in the rear of the property, no leasing on the second floor to outside parties, equipment will be stored in a collapsed position and improvement to the landscape buffer along the south side of the property.

Planning Board

■ Rich Sanzalone received preliminary approval for a four house subdivision on the corner of the corner of Hamilton Blvd. and Lexington Ave. The subdivision will include three new single family homes and a house presently on the property. The builder will install sidewalks on Lexington Ave. and the road will be improved.



Summer Drama Workshop members try to attract customers at a recent fundraising car wash.

Summer Drama Workshop Unveils Website

The South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop announced this week that its website is up and offering information about this year's production of Meredith Willson's "The Music Man."

The website (www.monmouth.com/~spsdw) offers information about the cast, staff and the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop, along with ticket prices and other information.

Photos of rehearsals will soon be available on the site.

This year's show opens August 5 and has three evening performances at 7 p.m. and a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, August 8.

Seven Recognized as 1998-1999 Governor's Teacher Award Recipients

Seven teachers were recently distinguished by their selection as award winners in the 1998-1999 Governor's Teacher Recognition Program. These seven South Plainfield teachers were individually recognized at the June Board of Education meeting, where each received a framed commendation from the Board of Education.

Award recipients pictured above are left to right: Andrea E. Allen, Roosevelt School; Annmarie K. Nelson, Middle School; Janice C. Urciuoli, John E.



July 22, 1999
Happy 10th
Birthday Taylor



Love, Mom, Dad, Troy
and Kasey

Kennedy School; Dr. Lillian A. DeSimon, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Tara A. Olvany, High School; Rita Stuewe, Franklin School; Gail P. Merlo, Grant School. Not pictured is John E. Yartz, John E. Riley School.

The South Plainfield honorees joined other award recipients at a convocation and luncheon held at The East Brunswick Chateau where they were awarded certi-

icates by the Middlesex County Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Mary Jean Guidette.

Selection as the single honoree from each school in the district is of special significance, because these teachers were nominated by their colleagues in their respective schools. A committee of administrators, teachers, parents and community members made the final selection of award winners from the field of nominees.

OAK TREE FARMS

136 South Plainfield Ave. South Plainfield, NJ

Sale Starts Friday, July 23 Ends Thursday, July 29 (While Supplies Last)

Store Hours:

Mon-Sat. 9-6

Sunday 8-3

We Accept

Food Stamps

(908) 755-3663

Boar's Head White/Yellow American Cheese \$2.99 lb.	Our Own Homemade Italian Sausage \$1.99 lb.	NJ Extra Large Eggs 89¢ doz. With coupon	2% Milk \$2.49 gallon With coupon
Boar's Head Turkey \$5.99 lb.	Boneless As Is, per lb. Chicken Breast \$2.49	Country Style Pork, per lb. Spare Ribs \$1.99	New Jersey Fresh Green Peppers Extra Large 59¢ lb.
Thumann's Ham \$5.99 lb.	Try Our Homemade Fresh Mozzarella \$4.49 lb.		New Jersey Fresh String Beans 59¢ lb.
Boar's Head Genoa Salami \$5.99 lb.	Choice Top Round London Broil \$2.99 lb.	Choice Eye Round \$2.99 lb.	New Jersey Fresh Tomatoes 79¢ lb.
	Our Own Homemade Roast Beef \$5.99 lb.	Broccoli Large head 89¢ hd.	

Summer Classes Are In Session!

www.cecunj.com

Got A Computer? Learn what it can do!

Enroll This Week For A 20% Discount!

Call us TODAY to reserve your seat!

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COMPUTER EDUCATION CENTER

AROUND TOWN

EVENTS

Fresh Ideas Craft Workshop Planned

For those who enjoy crafts and are interested in learning how to make their own arrangement, a Fresh Ideas Workshop will be held on Wednesday, July 28 at 5:00 p.m.

The workshop teach you how to create a rose heart wreath and also how to dry it. The cost is \$20 per person. Call (908) 822-1040 to make arrangements to join the workshop at 1-800 FLOWERS located in Oak Tree Commons.

Connected Hearts (CHATS) Meeting

Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support (CHATS) will meet 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. on Monday, July 26, at Watchung Ave. Presbyterian Church, 170 Watchung Ave., North Plainfield entitled, "Post Reunion Reflections of a Birthmother." Alison Ward will discuss the reasons she searched and found her daughter who was only 14, her relationship with Holly's adoptive parents, the interaction between Holly and her half-brother and why she thinks the relationship had trouble. She will make some suggestions of what she would do differently. Open sharing of adoption-related stories and light refreshments. Call Alyce at (732) 227-0607 for information.

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.

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.

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 Kavka at 908-753-6578. To become a corporate sponsor or to donate prizes, call Dick DeAndrea 908-755-1700.

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.

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 snglprntnj@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.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

So, what's been going on at the South Plainfield Library? I'm glad you asked that (you *did* ask it, didn't you?):

We'll start off with this week's roster of children's programs. First up, on Monday from 11 a.m.-12 noon, we've got "Game Gang," where kids can play one of our board games or bring in one of their own. That evening, at 6:30 p.m., we've got our Summer Reading craft program for children ages six and over. And, for the rest of the week, there's our normal slate 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. You don't have to register for the Storytimes. If you'd like more information, check with Linda Hansen, the Children's Librarian.

Speaking of Linda, she'd like to thank everyone who donated items for the craft programs. The items are greatly appreciated. We'd also like to thank everyone who came to our reptile program last week. It was very well attended and a great success.

We've got a bit of an advisory for our patrons this week. Sometimes, you may find that an item you've borrowed has a problem. It could be missing pages from a book, skips in a CD, a rolling picture on a video, etc. If this happens, please inform us of the problem immediately. This will enable us to take immediate steps to repair or replace the item. Also, it prevents us from sticking a patron with damaged goods. Also, when reporting damage, please be as specific as possible. (Don't just

say "This tape doesn't work," tell us why it doesn't work.) Finally, if you or a family member (particularly your kids) damages something, please have the decency to come forward and take responsibility. It may cost you in the short term, but you won't have lost our respect.

It's been a while, but the Circuit books-on-tape and compact discs are back in circulation. They can be borrowed, four titles at a time from each category, for two weeks. The new group of audiobooks features works by Stephen King, Agatha Christie, John Grisham and Ken Follet, among others. The artists featured in the CD Circuit include Janice Ian, Frank Sinatra, Johnny Cash and Phil Collins, just to name four. However, there is a departure to announce: the present group from the Video circuit will be around until Monday. The group includes the 1998 remake of "Godzilla," "The Mask of Zorro," two tapes from the "Ramona" series and "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid". Videos go out for two days, four titles at a time. Get 'em while they're hot.

Before we go, here's a reminder about our operating hours during the summer. We're open 10 a.m.-9 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Tuesday and Friday, and 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday. We're closed on Sunday. Those hours will be in effect until after Labor Day.

That wraps it up for this week. Thanks to everyone who has come to the library this summer; we appreciate your patronage. Back next week.

June Rescue Squad Calls

	Monthly	Year to Date
Emergency Medical Calls	116	653
Motor Vehicle Accidents	16	95
Working Fire Calls	4	23
Hazmat Calls	1	7
Transportations	1	12
Maintenance Calls	1	21
Community Service Calls	8	27
Mutual Aid Calls	4	17
TOTAL CALLS	151	860
Members Hours in Service	382	

WE'VE MOVED!!

G&G Graphics and the

South Plainfield Observer

have relocated to 1110 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield.

If you would like to contact us, please call 908-668-0010, or visit us at our new location.

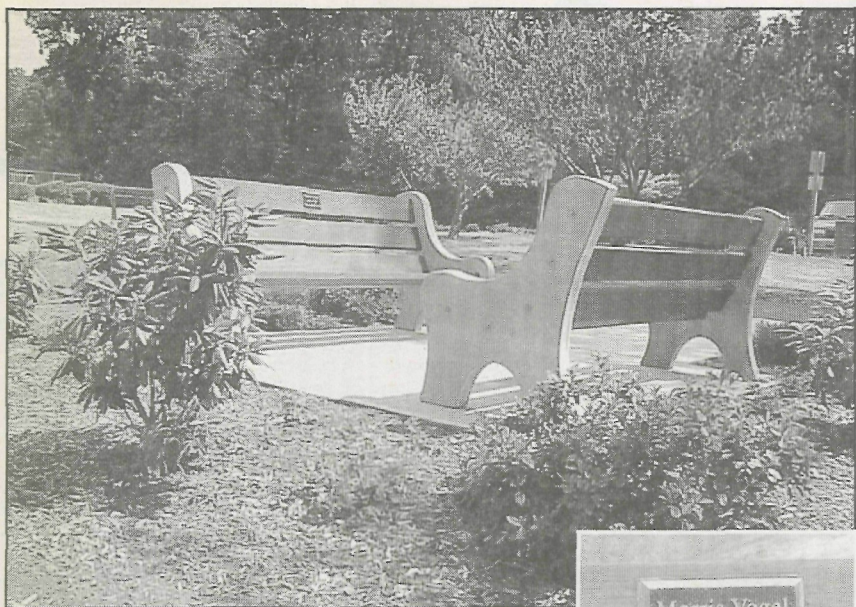
Aiello

Chiropractic Center, P.C.

Your hometown source for quick pain relief

2201 South Clinton Avenue, Suite H
South Plainfield, NJ 07080-1471
On the corner of New Market and South Clinton

755-2289



Have you seen these two park benches placed in Spring Lake Park? The benches are located near the Maple Street entrance and were donated by Mildred Vogel in memory of her husband, Morris Vogel, who spent many hours enjoying Spring Lake Park. Mrs. Vogel hopes that her donation might prompt others to contribute to the beautification of the park.



Learning Express to Hold Opening Four Day Celebration This Weekend

Children of all ages are invited to a four-day celebration, July 22-25, marking the opening of Learning Express at Oak Park Commons, 911 D Oak Tree Road.

The fun includes appearances by Andy the Clown, "Wimzie" and "Winnie the Pooh." The store will also hold drawings for three \$200-shopping sprees and a complete Thomas the Tank wooden train set and play table (worth \$575). Also, merchandise will be 20% off store wide during the grand opening celebration.

Learning Express offers high-quality, innovative toys that are educational as well as fun. The product mix includes science and nature, games and puzzles, construction and transportation, arts and crafts, sports, books, plush and more—for children from infants to young adults. Some of the most popular toys sold by the stores include Thomas the Tank and Brio wooden train sets, Rokenbok construction sets, yo-yos and, yes, Beanie Babies.

Classic toys are also part of the

mix. The fascinating non-violent products, the exciting in-store activities and a host of special services delight parents as much as children.

"Our store will be more than just a place to buy great toys; it will be a center of children's events for the community," said Ann Franson, manager of the South Plainfield store. Ann is excited by the attention that the new store is already receiving. She says, "We can't wait to open and let everyone in for a closer look at our store."

Based in Massachusetts, Learning Express was founded in 1987 by Sharon DiMinico. The concept developed out of her desire to find high-quality, educational toys for her own children. DiMinico began franchising the concept in 1987, and there are now 130 stores located in 27 states.

"While product selection is an important part of the Learning Express concept, service is another significant component," DiMinico added. "As a child, my neighborhood toy store owner

knew us by name and what we wanted for Christmas. Our owners get to know their customers, too."

Learning Express of South Plainfield will provide customers with a number of special services, including a customer newsletter (with updates on new products and store activities), a holiday catalog, free gift-wrapping and personalizing, a Frequent Buyer Discount Card, and the Learning Express Wish List (a children's gift registry).

The store will also offer corporate and school buying programs, discounts for teachers and day care providers, and fund-raising opportunities for local schools and charities.

"We feel it's very important to give back to the community and we're very excited about these programs, as well as others," said Ann.

There's always something going on at Learning Express—from painting workshops to yo-yo demonstrations to guest appearances—so the fun will continue long after the grand opening celebration. Watch the local papers, including the *Observer*, or stop in and sign the Learning Express Mailing List to keep in touch.

The Alternative View

By Dr. Anthony J. DeCosta, D.C.



Dear Dr. DeCosta: What is NLP and how does it work?—S.L.

Dear S. L.:

Neuro-Linguistic Programming (NLP) helps people detect and reprogram unconscious patterns of thought and behavior in order to alter psychological responses and enhance the healing process. It focuses on how people learn, communicate, change, grow and heal.

"Neuro" refers to the way the brain works and how human thinking demonstrates consistent and detectable patterns. "Linguistic" refers to the verbal and nonverbal expressions of the brain's thinking patterns. "Programming" refers to how these patterns are recognized and understood by the mind and how they can be altered, allowing a person to make better choices in behavior and health.

NLP is a relatively new science. In the early 1970's, John Grinder, a professor of linguistics at the University of California at Santa Cruz, and Richard Bandler, a student of psychology and mathematics at Santa Cruz, collaborated in an effort to define the qualities of excellence in several accomplished individuals. They studied the thinking processes of Fritz Perls, father of Gestalt therapy; Virginia Satir, an exceptional family psychotherapist; Milton Erickson, M.D., an innovative hypnotherapist; and Gregory Bateson, a well-known British anthropologist and writer on communication theories. As a result, they discovered that many of the behavioral and psychological elements that allowed these individuals to achieve excellence were unconscious and intuitive and that the participants could not describe their own exceptional qualities.

By analyzing speaking patterns, voice tones, and the selection of words, as well as the gesticulations, postures, and eye movements of these individuals, Grinder and Bandler were able to make strong connections between body language and speaking patterns. They then related this information to the internal thinking process of each participant. Based on their findings, Grinder and Bandler then trained themselves to assist people experiencing emotional difficulties. Clients were asked questions about their problems and their body cues were observed as they responded.

According to Grinder and Bandler, eye movements, posture, voice tone and breathing patterns reveal unconscious patterns affecting a person's emotional state. Once these unconscious patterns are distinguished, the client can be assisted in adopting new patterns. From their work they devised a method to teach others how to analyze a person's language, thoughts and behavior.

People who have difficulty recovering from physical illness have often adopted negative beliefs about their recovery. They perceive themselves as helpless, hopeless, worthless and express statements like "I can't get healthy," "There is no hope," and "I am not worth the effort." The primary goal of the NLP practitioner is to move a person from his or her present state of discomfort to a desired state of health and well-being to reprogram beliefs about healing.

By identifying and removing an individual's limiting belief about his or her condition, NLP has been shown to benefit a variety of health conditions and illnesses including AIDS, cancer, allergies, arthritis, Parkinson's disease, and migraine headaches. Once these beliefs are redirected, the body is better able to utilize the immune system to promote healing and wellness."

Questions for *The Alternative View* should be addressed to: *The Alternative View*; c/o Dr. Anthony J. DeCosta, D.C., 129 South Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080. Visit *The Alternative View* on the web at www.usalternativemedicine.com.

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

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Historical Society Raffle Prizes Announced

By Bill Tuthill

The South Plainfield Historical Society has just purchased a queen size "Pennsylvania-Dutch" handmade quilt for their annual raffle. This year there will also be a second prize award—two tickets for a "Brunch-Cruise" on the Cornucopia Princess, sailing out of Perth Amboy. Tickets are ex-

pected to be available shortly. The annual raffle prize winners are selected in Veterans Park at the conclusion of the Labor Day Parade. Historical Society members who wish to help sell tickets should call Bill Tuthill (908) 756-9654 or Mary Mazepa at (908) 754-3503. "Many hands make light work."

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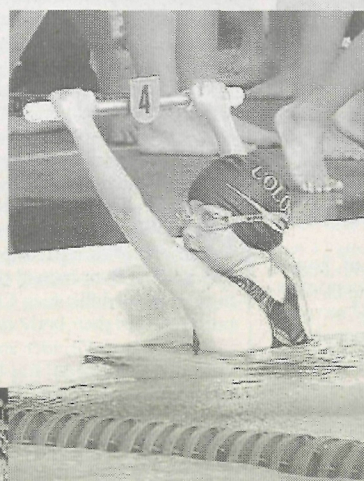
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SPORTS



Tiger Sharks Win

The South Plainfield Tiger Sharks Swim Team practices and competes at the South Plainfield Recreation Community Pool. The Tiger Sharks compete in the B League of the NJ Swimming and Diving Conference. As of July 14, the Tiger Sharks are 5-1 for the 1999 season, winning the last three meets in a row.

On Wednesday, July 7, the Tiger Sharks traveled to Hillsborough to meet the Hillsborough YMCA. Hillsborough proved to be a difficult opponent and it was a close meet throughout the night, but the Tiger Sharks managed to pull in off in the end with a final score of 143-127. The following are the highlights from that meet (times are in yards):

Time	Swimmer	Place	Time	Swimmer	Place
Boys 100 IM 10 & Under			Boys 100 Fly 15-18		
1:32.90	Luzny, Philip	2	1:01.31	Rowe, Charlie	1
1:37.92	Moates, Matthew	3	Girls 100 Breast 15-18		
			1:18.37	Dabrio, Shannon	1
			1:21.56	Banas, Jen	2
Girls 100 Free 10 & Under			Boys 25 Free 8 & Under		
1:15.25	Konops, Leah	2	18.40	LeDet, Drew	3
Boys 100 IM 11-12			Girls 25 Back 8 & Under		
1:12.82	Smiley, Calvin John	1	23.25	Gunasekara, Talya	3
Girls 100 Free 11-12			Boys 50 Free 9-10		
1:01.21	Kaczka, Katherine	1	36.81	LeDet, Matt	1
1:03.40	Jones, Natalie	2	36.84	Luzny, Philip	2
1:09.23	Byard, Nina	3	43.10	Kaczowski, Darren	3
Boys 200 IM 13-18			Girls 50 Back 9-10		
2:16.77	Rowe, Charlie	1	49.25	Dougherty, Julia	3
2:28.94	Bostick, Jon	2	Boys 50 Free 11-12		
Girls 200 Free 13-18			27.84	Smiley, Calvin John	2
2:03.42	Reed, Lauren	2	33.59	Moates, Billy	3
Boys 50 Fly 9-10			Girls 50 Back 11-12		
45.53	Moates, Matthew	3	32.87	Kaczka, Katherine	1
Girls 50 Breast 9-10			36.68	Byard, Nina	2
46.25	Konops, Leah	1	Boys 100 Free 13-14		
Boys 50 Fly 11-12			1:07.57	Keller, Timmy	2
34.94	Gunasekara, Devin	2	Girls 100 Back 13-14		
Girls 50 Breast 11-12			1:08.57	Reed, Lauren	1
38.25	Jones, Natalie	1	1:20.38	Banas, Allison	3
40.44	Miller, Stefanie 2	1	Boys 100 Free 15-18		
Boys 100 Fly 11-14			55.50	Bostick, Jon	1
1:42.22	Moates, Billy	1	Girls 100 Back 15-18		
Girls 100 Breast 13-14			1:10.28	Banas, Jen	1
1:26.78	Londono, Nathalie	2	1:16.97	Otlowski, Mary	3
1:27.84	Banas, Allison	3			

The Tiger Sharks met the Middlesex Municipal Pool Swim team at home at the South Plainfield Pool on Saturday, July 10. The Tiger Sharks won a decisive victory with a final score of 159-110. The following are the highlights from that meet (times are from South Plainfield's pool at 27.6 meters):

Time	Swimmer	Place	Time	Swimmer	Place
Girls 100 IM 10 & Under					
1:52.24	Konops, Leah	2	Boys 100 Breast 11-14		
2:13.79	Harty, Allison	3	2:09.37	Gunasekara, Devin	3
Boys 100 Free 10 & Under					
1:42.95	LeDet, Matt	2	Girls 100 Fly 15-18		
1:43.52	Luzny, Philip	3	1:31.81	Blessing, Sarah	2
Girls 100 IM 11-12					
1:37.48	Byard, Nina	1	1:36.07	Otlowski, Mary	3
1:50.79	Manning, Jessica	2	Boys 100 Breast 15-18		
1:51.22	Primavera, Lisa	3	2:09.35	Dec, Josh	3
Boys 100 Free 11-12					
1:21.64	Smiley, Calvin John	1	Girls 25 Free 8 & Under		
Girls 200 IM 13-18					
3:10.42	Banas, Jen	1	24.19	Arcachunas, Danielle	1
3:13.82	Dabrio, Shannon	2	25.57	Gunasekara, Talya	2
Girls 25 Fly 8 & Under					
25.10	Atcachunas, Danielle	1	Boys 25 Back 8 & Under		
32.18	Gunasekara, Talya	3	30.00	LeDet, Drew	1
Boys 25 Breast 8 & Under					
29.97	LeDet, Drew	1	31.83	Boyle, Michael	3
Girls 50 Fly 9-10					
49.61	Konops, Leah	2	Girls 50 Free 9-10		
1:14.01	Keller, Becky	3	48.37	Boyle, Megan	1
Boys 50 Breast 9-10					
58.03	Luzny, Philip	1	55.21	Keller, Becky	2
1:00.81	Moates, Matthew	3	55.57	Harty, Allison	3
Girls 50 Fly 11-12					
43.58	Kaczka, Katherine	1	Boys 50 Back 9-10		
55.02	Primavera, Lisa	2	57.10	LeDet, Matt	1
Boys 50 Breast 11-12					
52.86	Reed, Chris	1	1:00.67	Moates, Matthew	2
1:03.17	Revolinski, Matthew	3	1:11.34	Egan, Ryan	3
Girls 100 Fly 13-14					
1:25.96	Reed, Lauren	1	Girls 50 Free 11-12		
			35.31	Kaczka, Katherine	1
			40.45	Byard, Nina	2
			Boys 50 Back 11-12		
			42.54	Smiley, Calvin John	1
			52.06	Gunasekara, Devin	3
			Girls 100 Free 13-14		
			1:16.69	Reed, Lauren	1
			1:28.62	Kaczka, Lauren	2
			1:32.43	Banas, Allison	3
			Girls 100 Free 15-18		
			1:14.67	Banas, Jen	1
			1:18.79	Dabrio, Shannon	2

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tiger sharks cruise

SPORTS

Four in a Row!

The Tiger Sharks then won another meet at home on Wednesday evening, July 14 against Chatham Colony swim club, 157-116. The highlights from this meet are as follows (times are from South Plainfield's Pool 27.6 meters):

Boys 100 IM 10 & Under			
1:56.35	Luzny, Philip	2	
1:56.95	LeDet, Matt	3	
Girls 100 Free 10 & Under			
1:38.83	Konops, Leah	1	
1:52.44	Boyle, Megan	2	
Boys 100 IM 11-12			
1:28.84	Smiley, Calvin John	1	
1:47.54	Reed, Chris	3	
Girls 100 Free 11-12			
1:18.43	Kaczka, Katherine	2	
1:19.07	Jones, Natalie	3	
Boys 200 IM 13-18			
2:50.51	Rowe, Charlie	1	
3:10.84	Bostick, Jon	2	
Girls 200 Free 13-18			
2:42.83	Banas, Jen	1	
Boys 25 Fly 8 & Under			
29.41	LeDet, Drew	2	
30.25	Boyle, Michael	3	
Girls Event 25 Breast 8 & Under			
31.08	Gunasekara, Talya	1	
32.51	Pickarski, Emily	3	
Boys 50 Fly 9-10			
58.25	LeDet, Matt	3	
Girls 50 Breast 9-10			
59.39	Konops, Leah	1	
59.46	Keller, Becky	2	
Boys 50 Fly 11-12			
50.66	Reed, Chris	3	
Girls 50 Breast 11-12			
46.64	Jones, Natalie	1	
50.54	Byard, Nina	3	
Boys 100 Fly 11-14			
1:47.90	Gunasekara, Devin	2	

The South Plainfield Tiger Sharks' 1999 summer meet record is now six wins and one loss after another victory Saturday, July 17 over Crystal Springs Aquatic Center of East Brunswick. The highlights from that meet are as follows (times are from South Plainfield's Pool - 27.6 meters):

EVENT	TIME	SWIMMER	PLACE
Girls 100 IM 10 & Under	1:47.28	Konops, Leah	2
Boys 100 Free 10 & Under	1:39.97	Luzny, Philip	1
	1:40.29	LeDet, Matt	2
Girls 100 IM 11-12	1:30.43	Jones, Natalie	1
	1:36.40	Byard, Nina	2
Boys 100 Free 11-12	1:23.34	Smiley, Calvin John	1
	1:31.99	Moates, Billy	2
Girls 200 IM 13-18	3:10.06	Banas, Jen	1
	3:17.70	Dabrio, Shannon	2
Boys 200 Free 13-18	2:41.63	Bostick, Jon	2
Girls 25 Fly 8 & Under	25.00	Atcachunas, Danielle	1
Boys 25 Breast 8 & Under	29.77	LeDet, Drew	1
Girls 50 Fly 9-10	51.77	Konops, Leah	1
Boys 50 Breast 9-10	58.06	Luzny, Philip	2
	1:00.47	Moates, Matthew	3
Girls 50 Fly 11-12	38.90	Jones, Natalie	1
	40.95	Kaczka, Katherine	2
	53.38	Primavera, Lisa	3
Boys 50 Breast 11-12	54.12	Reed, Chris	2
Girls 100 Fly 13-14	1:23.89	Reed, Lauren	1
	1:44.88	Londono, Nathalie	3
Girls 100 Fly 15-18	1:35.28	Orlowski, Mary	2
Girls 25 Free 8 & Under	24.02	Atcachunas, Danielle	3
Boys 25 Back 8 & Under	29.77	Boyle, Michael	1
	29.80	LeDet, Drew	2
Girls 50 Free 9-10	47.85	Boyle, Megan	3
Boys 50 Back 9-10	55.75	LeDet, Matt	1
	1:01.49	Moates, Matthew	3
Girls 50 Free 11-12	34.61	Kaczka, Katherine	1
	38.61	Byard, Nina	2
Boys 50 Back 11-12	43.65	Smiley, Calvin John	1
	55.73	Moates, Billy	2
Girls 100 Free 13-14	1:13.84	Reed, Lauren	1
	1:25.94	Kaczka, Lauren	3
Boys 100 Back 13-14	1:45.15	Keller, Timmy	2
Girls 100 Free 15-18	1:15.38	Banas, Jen	1
	1:20.28	Dabrio, Shannon	3
Boys 100 Back 15-18	1:26.68	Bostick, Jon	1

Submitted by Lynn K. Reed

Suburban Baseball League Results

The South Plainfield 13-year-old Suburban Summer League team displayed great character and courage using a late inning comeback to defeat Millburn 14-13. In spite of temperatures approaching 100 degrees, both teams battled back and forth with Millburn pushing across four runs in the sixth to take a three run lead. Connecting on a leadoff single, Jason Cosma later scored in the bottom of the inning to cut South Plainfield's deficit to two runs.

The score remained the same when the Tigers came to the plate for the final at bat. After a leadoff walk, Kyle Kazimir scored on a wild pitch and Cosma drove in Mike Alvarez with the tying run to send the game into extra innings. Alvarez, pitching in relief of Chris Horn, shut Millburn down in the top of the eighth, putting South Plainfield in a position to win the game. With one out, Jon Buggie singled up the middle putting the winning run on base. Chris Czapinski followed with a clutch game winning double, scoring Buggie all the way from first with the final run. Buggie and Czapinski finished with two hits on the day, each with a double and a single. Mike Alvarez contributed a key bases loaded double, driving in two

runs while Andrew Holt, Matt Milano and Robert Barone each had a hit to help pace the offense.

The win over Millburn set up a show down the next day with Cedar Grove for a spot in the Suburban League playoffs. South Plainfield's offense responded with their best hitting display of the season, as the Tigers pounded out 18 hits. Playing three games in four days however, seemed to take a toll on South Plainfield's pitchers.

After struggling in the first inning, Eddie Kania battled back pitching effectively and keeping the Tigers within striking distance. Chris Horn and Mike Alvarez, both pitching the second day in a row, gave good efforts but Cedar Grove was able to hang on for a 16-14 win. Jon Buggie continued to be a tough out at the plate with a double and two singles, knocking in three runs and scoring twice. Andrew Holt, Steve Turrise and Chris Czapinski all came up big as well, as each knocked in a pair of runs while pounding out three hits apiece. Robert Barone was two for three with an RBI and two runs scored. Mike Maher, Mike Salerno and Kyle Kazimir also contributed to the offensive effort.

Workup for Physical Examinations to be Held

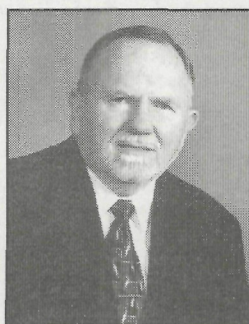
Workups for the Fall Sports physical examinations will be conducted on Tuesday, July 27 and Tuesday, August 3 in the Health Office at South Plainfield High School. Students must bring a completed Medical History Questionnaire with them. Times for each sport are as follows:

8:30 a.m.	Football (10-12)
9:30 a.m.	Football (9)
10:30 a.m.	Boys' Soccer
11:00 a.m.	Boys' Cross Country
1:00 p.m.	Field Hockey/Gymnastics
1:30 p.m.	Tennis/Girls' Cross Country
2:00 p.m.	Cheerleaders/Girls' Soccer

Athletes should attend on these dates at their designated time.

Appointments for physical examination will be given at the workups. Physical exams will be given on the following dates: July 28, August 4, and August 11 and will be done by appointment only. The next school physical will be given on September 8 after school has started. Remember, no athlete may practice without a physical. It is your responsibility to attend the workup and the physical examination.

All necessary forms needed for the workup may be picked up in the athletic office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, during July. Please do this prior to July 27. If you choose to go to your own doctor, at your own expense, please pick up our physical forms to take with you and return them to the athletic office prior to the first day of practice.



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SPORTS



Roma Food team members discuss strategy before the championship game.

Roma Food Repeats Win With Men's 'A' League Title

On Tuesday Roma Food successfully defended their Men's "A" league title with a thrilling come from behind 7-5 victory over the Polish Home. A large crowd was on hand to cheer the team. Roma Food has competed in the Championship game for the fifth straight year, winning back to back championships in 1998 and 1999.

Roma was led by the outstanding pitching of Frank Delgardo and the timely hitting of Jim Parker, John Bjorio and Steve Bolesta. Roma, which completed the regular season undefeated with a record of 20-0 went on to win four out of five games in the playoffs.

The team sponsored, by the Piancone family of Roma Food,

is on the verge of dynasty status winning championships three out of the last five years.

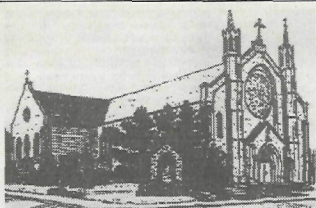
Roma Food team members are: Bob Boyle, Bill Haus, Jim Parker, Nick Rundella, John Bjorio, Jay Culver, Frank Delgardo, Scott Oller, Steve Bolesta, Howard Adler, Bill Mosier, Rick Bolesta, and Mike Whalen.

Polish Home team members are: Rob Strausser, Dave Fatz, Brian Newman, Jason Wrotny, Allan Essorin, Wendell Born, Bill Cochran, Peter Damanti, Peter Gusterson, Joe Leonardis, Peter Leonardis, Kenny Schlato, Kevin Bickunas, Jeff Catalini, Joe Gingereli, Chris Cochran, Brian Cochran and Tom Matuzak.

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Very Rev. Michael A. McGuire, Pastor



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Saturday Evening Mass 5:45 p.m.

Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:15 a.m.

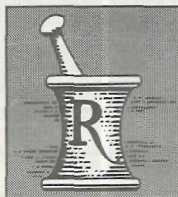
Weekdays 9:00 a.m. (church)

Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m.

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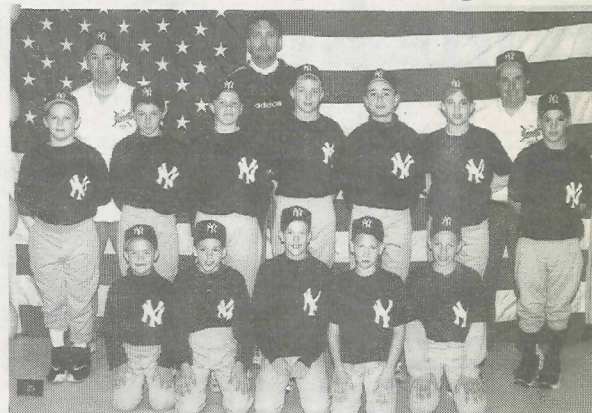
Come and See for Yourself!

Junior Baseball Small Fry A League

NEW YORK YANKEES

Coaches: Bob Merkler
and Frank Benak

Players: Michael Benak, Chris Borjarski, Jonathan Donahue, Michael Hanley, John Kukuch, Jonathan Lazar, Rob Maistickle, Thomas Manolio, William Merkler, Nicholas Sbordone and Kyle Thomas



ATLANTA BRAVES

Coaches: Bob Cesare
and Ray Velez

Players: Nicholas Cesare, Joe Helgesen, Nicholas Jefferys, Galen Johnson, Kyle Luthman, Kurtis Maglaque, David Miglis, Christopher Moore, Michael Richard, Robbie Strani and Vincent Velez



TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS

Coaches: Roberto Agostino
and Al Mazurak

Players: Daniel Agostino, Christian Camacho, Nicholas Curico, Peter DeAndrea, George Kleinknecht, Allan Mazurak, Jr., Andrew Miller, Billy Moates, Erik Vesper, Stephen Ward and Robert Yuill



ST. LOUIS CARDINALS

Coaches: Dave Eichler
and Mike Downes

Players: Vincent Donato, Michael Downes, David Eichler, Robert Hoffman, Joey Jaghab, Charles Martinez, Greg Morris, Billy Padula, Paul Ritchey, Kevin Siedenburgh and Joey Teller



ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS

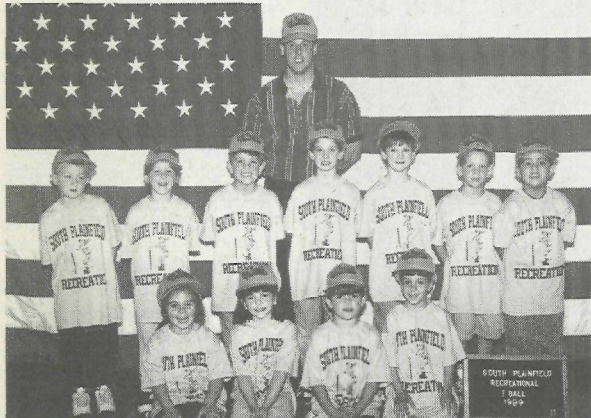
Coaches: Tom Kiczula
and Ken La Verne

Players: Kyle Baker, Matthew Boley, Keith Dezmin, Douglas Dietzold, Thomas Kiczula, Jr., Daniel La Verne, Salvatore Liszewski, Chris McKnight, Dane Miyasato, Daniel Piwo-war and John Roesch



SPORTS

Recreation T-Ball Teams



BLUE JAYS

Manager: Jeffrey Bartone
Players: Marisa Bartone, Michael Mocharski, Daniel Sticco, Kyle O'Keefe, Jason Arevalo, Amanda Mrutagh, Alyssa Aiello, Joey Cornelius, Jeffrey Bodyl and Richard Rotella



YANKEES

Manager: Fran Tramutola
Players: Danielle Tramutola, Crysta Hay, Connor Gillis, Christopher Negron, Nikos Amick, Adam Buck, Jeremy Strausser, Vincent Appello, Sean McDede, Allyson Gruber and Keith Horvath



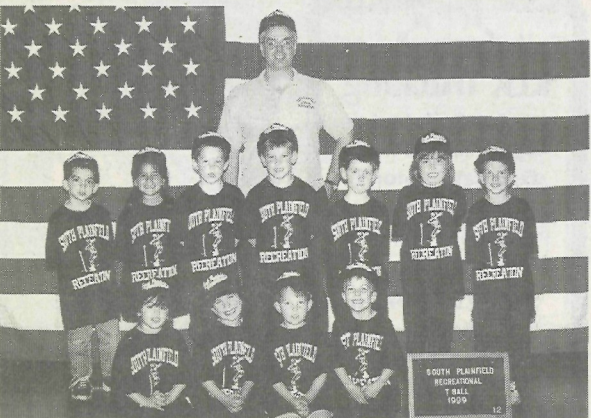
GIANTS

Manager: Raymond Jazikoff
Players: Jessica Jazikoff, Jonathan Ditmars, Dina Dou-ras, Griffin Lynch, Michael Dispenziere, Dylan McDermott, Sarah Rodbal, Meghan Murphy, Ellen Zinsky, Shane O'Connor and William Hartmann



ROCKIES

Manager: Frank Hanley
Players: Nicolette Hanley, Erin O'Connor, Christian Giammarino, Joseph Nicastro, Joanna Bosse, Angela DeSantis, Elizabeth Gratta, Mark Collins, Brandon Staynings, Nicole Disch and Eric Carrasca



METS

Manager: Ray Palazzo
Players: Alexandria Palazzo, Michelle Miller, Nicholas Okoszko, Stephen Lanza, Alex Moubarak, Vincent DiCindio, Ryan Hutchison, Patrick O'Connor, Joseph Fugazzi, Christopher Richard and Cassandra Vasquez

Junior Baseball Small Fry B League



TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS—**Players:** Scott Hartje, Amber Hartman, Daniel Hubner, Matthew Madurski, Justin Mellanson, Justin Panzarella, Harshel Patel, Bobby Parillo, Chris Pine, Christopher Pollin, Ryan Smith and Mark Warness, Jr. **Coaches** are Don Pollin and Chris Hubner.



ATLANTA BRAVES—**Players:** Adam Barletta, Michael Braco, Thomas Burnett, James Connolly, Nicholas Decillis, Keith Goddard, Matthew Gross, Garrett Lake, Benjamin Milcarek, Brian Spisso, Chris Stallone and Michael Stallone. **Coaches** are John Stallone and Bill Lake.



OAKLAND ATHLETICS—**Players:** Jason Alves, Justin Basilone, Terrence Brown, Anthony Cassano, William Daly, Charlie George, Michael George, Billy Hodge, Stephen Holowka, Paul Nicolosi, Darnard Smith, Shawn Smith. **Coaches** are Tony Cassano and Tom Daly.



ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—**Players:** Jake Bayak, Nicholas Dorey, Ryan Driscoll, Danny Erhardt, Anthony Ettore, Ryan Fredericks, Lauren Fry, Michael Jakubik, Timothy Keane, Thorne Ramirez, Michael Schuetz and Matthew Whitsitt. **Coaches** are Pat Driscoll and Karl Schuetz.

Obituaries

Jean A. Avin, 48

Jean A. Avin died on Monday, July 12, in her home.

Born in Brooklyn, NY, she had resided in Middletown before moving to South Plainfield five years ago.

She had been employed as a wire operator for Solomon, Smith, Barney of Shrewsbury for the past 15 years.

Surviving are her husband, Edward K. Avin; a daughter; Gina C. Gaita of Port Monmouth and a son, Joel Avin of Michigan.

Private funeral services are under the direction of McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Mary Krupa Soltis, 88

Mary Krupa Soltis died on Thursday, July 15, at the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

She was born in Jersey City where she lived for most of her life before moving to South Plainfield 22 years ago.

Mrs. Soltis was a communicant of Our Lady Czestochowa R.C. Church and a member of the Altar Rosary Society.

She was predeceased by her husband, Edward E. Soltis Sr., who died in 1977.

She is survived by two sons, Edward E. Soltis Jr. of South Plainfield and Richard J. Soltis of Easton, Pa.; eight grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

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

South Plainfield Business Owner—A Woman Who Means Business

By Patricia Abbott

Patricia Bender is a woman who knows about business. After all she is a former business broker. Ten years ago a bankrupt auto body business crossed her desk. It caught her eye and changed her career and her life. It was a fluke, Pat explains. Everyone, including her fiancée, advised, "Don't do it!" The business had no lease and a bad reputation. Pat took all these details into account and saw the positive side, a good location in South Plainfield on a well-traveled road, a business with immense possibilities. All it needed was the right touch. Pat commented that she feels that women tend to be more meticulous about detail and this job demands detail. South Plainfield Auto Body was born.

Bender is also a woman who means business. Once the decision was made to take on the auto body shop, nothing could stop her. Pat knew it would be rough, there are not a lot of females who own auto body shops, much less highly successful shops. Determination and hard work were key factors. She attended an estimating academy in Pennsylvania to learn important basics. "A learning experience," is how Pat described the early years. Pat has since married the once doubtful fiancée. "Once" being the key word as she related their Sunday marriage ceremony and a return to work on Monday. By 1996 not only was the business flourishing



Pat Bender, owner of South Plainfield Auto Body

but she had bought the property it sat on, making it truly hers. They recently took their first real vacation in ten years.

Bender's success takes on many forms. She takes a personal interest in each vehicle that comes in. In fact, she refers to them as "my cars"—at least while under her care. Her standards for her employees are strict. She looks for ASE and ICORE certified indi-

viduals and she prefers six to seven years previous experience. When hiring, Bender said she is point blank about her standards and that includes any problems with "working for a woman." She refurbished the business from top to bottom. The building is an eye catching pink and burgundy. The scheme follows in the interior. Yet beyond the soothing, pleasant colors and neat interior are more

signs of Pat's formula for success—top notch, up-to-date equipment. Her theory is simple, give your employees the best and they will give their best to you. With new equipment, tools and supplies there are fewer hassles and problems with routine day to day operations. She noted that while many shops do collision work exclusively, South Plainfield Auto Body does overall custom painting as well. She proudly displayed her state-of-the-art paint room and the room used for drying. No spraying is done outside of ventilated areas. Health and safety of employees is an important factor to Bender.

She said the shop is run from her office, which is ruled by two orphaned kittens she adopted and adores. Her eagle eye observes every detail of a work in progress. Bender noted that despite a slow beginning, South Plainfield Auto Body now has an excellent reputation. Insurance adjusters trust her and many of her customers are repeat customers. Bender is proud of her light pink walls that stand out against the tools of her trade and damaged cars. The shop is tidy but still a place of business, a very busy business. The color scheme echoes her decree, "I don't want there to be any doubt that a woman owns this shop!"

By Cyrus n Moon

Weekly Horoscope 7/23-7/29

LEO 7/23-8/22 Happy birthday Leos. With a sun/jupiter transit on Monday you can expect some difficulties with other people, but you should be able to handle them and even win them over to your side. Just don't be arrogant or self-righteousness. Key word "cooperation".

VIRGO 8/23-9/22 Be careful Monday as a mercury/neptune opposition is happening. This can be a poor day for any work that requires disciplined thinking and precision. If you do any of this type work check it over in a few days for errors. Be careful of being swindled.

LIBRA 9/23-10/22 A moon trine Venus transit is a good time to make some improvements in your home. You will

want to be around beautiful objects. Playing interior decorator has your home looking grand. Also look for a relationship to start for you that are single.

SCORPIO 10/23-11/21 Moon conjunct's Pluto this is a transit that will bring around intense emotional experiences. Events that take place now will help you find out about your real feelings. Relationship with women unusually intense. Be careful with head games and do not use manipulation to gain power.

SAGITTARIUS 11/23-12/21 You have a jupiter/sun transit going this week. It's a good transit for growth and expanded opportunities. Just don't bite off more than you can chew. A few projects have a better chance when you can focus on them. Compromise on a law issue.

CAPRICORN 12/22-1/19 Do not let past memories of actions make you feel guilty that you have not lived up to your own expectations. This is a time when you have to make important changes in your life's priorities. Remember you're not alone; share this with a loved one.

AQUARIUS 1/20-2/18 Be careful about feeling impulsive and willing to act rashly. Do something other than your normal routine. Do not do any work that requires great concentration or you will do a sloppy job of it. Be careful of doing something you will regret later. Be patient with other people.

PISCES 2/19-3/20 Around Wednesday

a moon/neptune combination has you feeling more sensitive to those around you. A friend may want to discuss a problem with you or visa versa. You can be a sponge at this time so hang out with people who are in a positive frame of mind. Write some poetry.

ARIES 3/21-4/19 This week be sure to return your telephone messages or you can miss out on some info at your job. A past romantic interlude can come back to haunt you. You're on eggshells on how you handle this one. Do not let off steam! Listen to what the other person has to say.

TAURUS 4/20-5/20 Be careful what you say to a child, as they can take it to heart at what you say. Also, how about finally apologizing and end a family argument that's been going on long enough. You have that power. This would also be a bad time to try to hide a mistake. Honesty works here.

GEMINI 5/21-6/20 You are going to be busy this week. Expect a visit from out of towners but don't panic everything will work out fine. Also, be careful of leaving work to colleagues. Take care of this work yourself. Try wearing green —this is your power color and just have a good time, you deserve it.

CANCER 6/21-7/22 On Monday a moon/mars combination can have you taking a lead in a work project. With you setting the group standards high as your own they will be willing to follow you. So in your communication with others be open and honest. Higher ups will notice this leadership ability.

QUOTE: To share your life experiences with others, is to make you realized life is unique.

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by Robert Hunter

A CONFESSION

If a man or woman is committed to pursuing the truth over being right, he or she should have little trouble in confessing to being wrong. The pursuit of truth is a noble endeavor, while the compulsion to be right is a mere flight of ego. If anything, an admission of being wrong can elevate one's standing in the minds of others. As Jeremiah Seed once wrote: "Be not ashamed to confess that you have been in the wrong. It is but owning [taking responsibility for] what you need not be ashamed of - that you now have more sense than you had before, to see your error; more humility to acknowledge it, more grace to correct it."

How many friendships and family relationships have been severed because of an inability to admit or forgive a misdeed? Just as confession eases the soul, so receiving an admission of weakness with mercy and forgiveness strengthens our spirit, and fills our hearts with a gentle peace. At JAMES W. CONROY FUNERAL, we are dedicated to helping families to heal and take solace in the company of their friends and loved ones. We invite members of all faiths to schedule a consultation by calling 756-2800. We are located at 2456 Plainfield Avenue in South Plainfield.

"There could not be a cleansing without a clean confession."

—Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi

Area Businesses Fined in Municipal Court

Last week several area businesses were fined for violations of weights and measures. Pleading guilty were: BRAVO Supermarkets, first offense fined \$308 on four counts; A&P Supermarkets, first offense fined \$381 on three counts and Acme Supermarkets which pleaded guilty a second time in a year was fined \$3,878 to 14 counts.



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- Details, So. Clinton Ave.
- Distinctive Landscaping, Oak Tree Rd.
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- K Foods, Park Ave.
- Krauser's Food Store, Oak Tree Rd.
- Twin City Pharmacy, Park Ave.
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POLICE REPORT

• A Somerset resident employed at Bradlees reported the theft of fog lights and light covers from his vehicle while it was parked in the front lot of the store.

• Angelo Delbeni, owner of Angelo's Ice, Sylvania Place reported the theft of an aluminum walk ramp from the rear of his building. Upon checking with Boro Recycling it was discovered that the ramp had been sold the same day and had already been cut into pieces. An employee at recycling was able to give a detailed description and noted that the suspect comes in twice a day with items to sell.

• A Ledden Terrace resident reported the theft of a cell phone from her car while parked at Quick Check. The victim's daughter was using the car and was in the store for approximately five minutes. She does not recall if she locked the car or not.

• A North Plainfield resident reported a bad check given to him by Ronald Marino of Exceptional Carpets, South Clinton Ave. The victim tried twice to deposit the check in the amount of \$1,445.30, but it was returned each time. Several attempts were made to collect the money from Exceptional Carpet. A complaint will be signed.

• A Park Ave. resident reported her son's bike was stolen from her garage and another bike was left in its place. The garage door had been left open.

• Airborne Express reported the theft of two laptop computers, a CPU and a six pack of computer game cartridges. The items were scanned in as received by employees and placed on a conveyor belt to be loaded into a delivery truck.

The items were taken while on the conveyor. There are no witnesses or suspects.

• An Orchard Drive resident reported that unknown actors had popped the locked doors off the track of his back yard shed and then removed the doors. Nothing was reported missing.

• A custodian at Franklin School reported damage to nine windows; seven large and two small. The damage was caused by rocks and possible a BB gun. Several rocks were found inside the classrooms. There are no suspects.

• A Christopher Ave. resident reported the house broken into and vandalized. Entry may have been gained by picking a lock on a side door. Screens were torn, light fixtures smashed and holes kicked in the walls.

• A Durham Ave. resident reported a burglary at her home. While the victim sat in a chair in front of her home a suspect approached her and stated he had worked for her in the past. He had her follow him to the side of the house and attempted to convince the victim of yard work and plowing he had done. As she returned to the front of the house a dark blue truck pulled into the driveway and the suspect jumped in. Upon entering her home she discovered a gold bracelet, checks and \$300 cash missing.

• Darlene Esposito was arrested outside of Cedar Oaks Nursing home for trespassing. She had been warned previously not to return to the building by both administration and police. While visiting her mother, she had caused disturbances many times.

Classifieds

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COMPUTING MANAGER-BOROUGH of South Plainfield is looking for a computer consultant available on a 5 day / 40 hours per week schedule to review current hardware and software requirements and maintain MIS systems on a day to day basis. Successful candidate should be familiar with Novell, Windows NT, Groupwise E-mail and Microsoft Office. Individual will be hired as an independent contractor and report to the Chief of Police and Borough Administrator, Compen-

sation \$35,000-\$40,000. Send resume and cover letter to John N. Corica, Borough Administrator, Borough of South Plainfield, 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

TEACHERS WANTED FOR SOUTH Plainfield Adult School in the following areas: English As a Second Language, Adult High School Math, Adult Basic Education, Internet, Computers, Dance, Crafts. Call the South Plainfield Adult School at 908-754-4620 ext. 213 for an application.

FOR SALE

GIRLS 5-PC. CANOPY BEDROOM set, dark wood. \$450. Call 757-0268.

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Local Teacher Attends Leadership Program for Mathematical Topics

Nineteen teachers from New Jersey attended the Rutgers University Leadership Program in Discrete Mathematics at Rutgers University during June 28 through July 14. Institute participants included elementary and middle school teachers, elementary mathematics specialists and mathematics supervisors. Attending the program was Katherine Wilson, a South Plainfield Middle School teacher.

At this institute, the teachers studied a number of topics in mathematics which are accessible to students at all grade levels and provide a wealth of real world problems which are engaging, fun, and challenging for all students.

Among the kinds of problems considered were: coloring maps, connecting networks, finding optimal routes for mail delivery and for traveling salespeople, creating your own Escher-like drawings, exploring patterns in numbers and geometry and generating fractals (as in Jurassic Park).

Teachers in the program are expected to introduce these and other interesting and contemporary problems into their classrooms. Problems like these are

open-ended and can lead to interesting classroom discussions and experiments. Although easily understood, these problems can lead quickly to situations which are quite challenging and are at the cutting-edge of modern research.

Teachers are also expected to introduce their colleagues to these mathematical topics and take leadership roles in incorporating these topics into the curricula of their schools and districts.

The program is sponsored by the Center for Discrete Mathematics and Theoretical Computer Science and the Rutgers University Center for Mathematics, Science, and Computer Education. Funding is provided by the National Science Foundation and Rutgers University.

For further information, contact Project Director Dr. Joseph G. Rosenstein, Center for Mathematics, Science and Computer Education, Rutgers University, SERC Building, 118 Frelinghuysen Road, Piscataway, New Jersey 08855 or by telephone at (732)445-4065.

Keep Your Cut Flower Fresh

Did you know that your floral arrangements will last longer if they are kept away from excessive heat? Also, direct sunlight is a good, but a hazardous, source of heat.

When re-cutting the flowers in your arrangement, always cut each stem on an angle under water. This will assure that the first intake will be water, not air. By doing this, it will prolong the life of the flower.

After purchasing a floral arrangement, you will receive a packet of cut flower nutrients that will enhance the longevity of the flower. The packet should be di-

luted in room temperature water.

To keep the flowers as fresh as possible, change the water every two to three days and follow the instructions stated above.

Flowers are sensitive to bacteria, therefore, the utmost care should be used. Use clean water; cut flower nutrients and a clean vase. Remove foliage from the part of the stems that will be under water.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns pertaining to cut floral arrangements, please feel free to contact Joe Morella at (908) 822-1040.

—Submitted by Joe Morella

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