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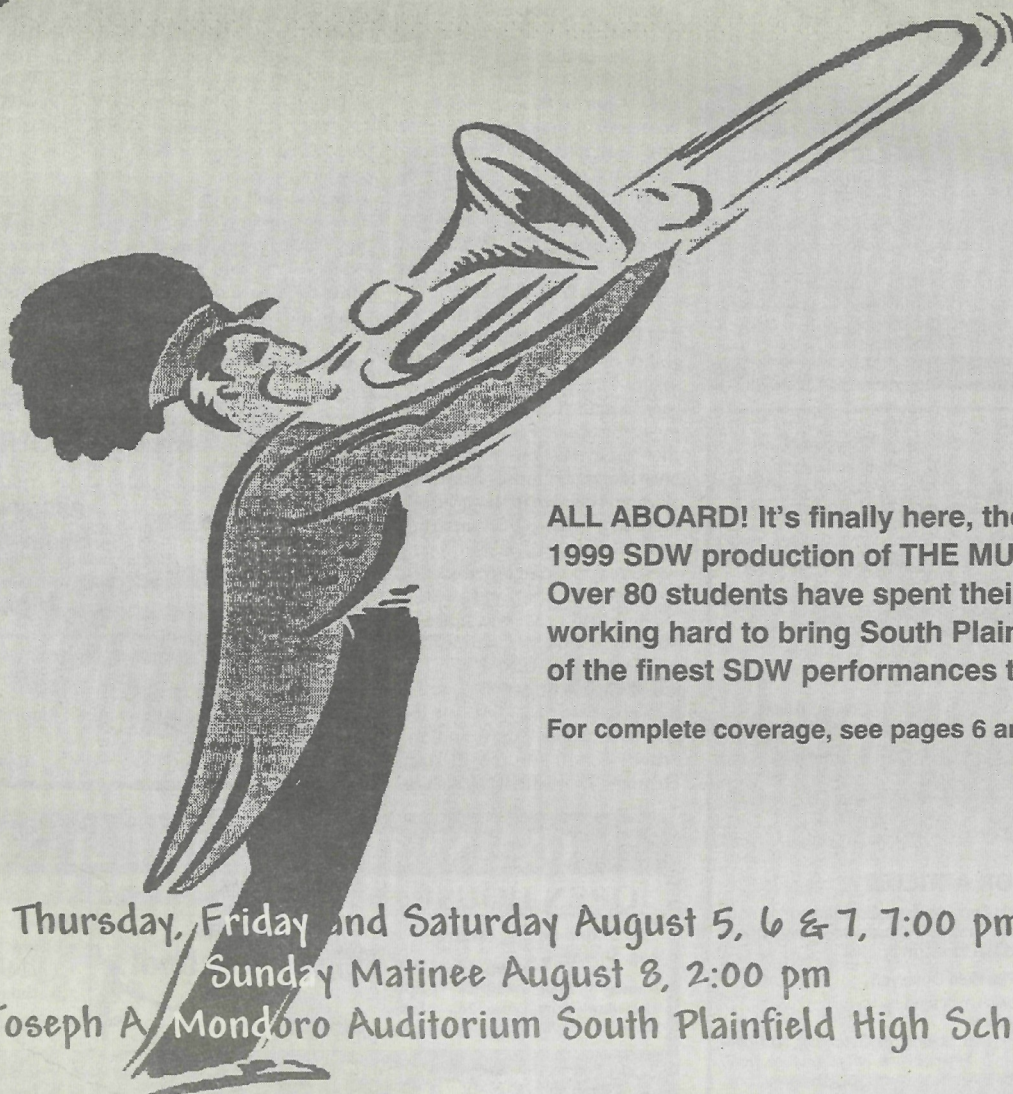
AUGUST 6, 1999

The 1999 South Plainfield
Summer Drama Workshop, Inc.

presents

Meredith Willson's

The Music Man



ALL ABOARD! It's finally here, the long awaited 1999 SDW production of **THE MUSIC MAN**. Over 80 students have spent their summer working hard to bring South Plainfield one of the finest SDW performances to date.

For complete coverage, see pages 6 and 7.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday August 5, 6 & 7, 7:00 pm
Sunday Matinee August 8, 2:00 pm
Joseph A. Mondoro Auditorium South Plainfield High School

In My Opinion Letter

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department, I would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to Mrs. Glowacki's fourth grade students at Riley School. The students undertook a special fund drive project in which they collected pennies to be donated to the Fire Department. The students raised \$100 and their contribution will be put towards the purchase of an air bag rescue system and hydraulic rescue tools. We truly appreciate their terrific effort and have quickly realized that the children of our community have once again proven that "they are our greatest assets."

**RESPECTFULLY,
J.A. ABBRUZZESE
CHIEF**

Board of Education Discloses Legal Fees in Salary Dispute

—From Guy Ferri,
Superintendent of Schools

The Board of Education released an explanation along with a list of the legal fees incurred for the initial salary placement litigation. With the list was a statement from Superintendent Guy Ferri. It reads as follows:

Attached is a memorandum from Board Attorney Celso which lists the cumulative legal costs incurred by our Board of Education to defend the Initial Salary Place Issue. That memorandum indicates the cost for each legal milestone since the grievance was initiated four years ago. The cost accounting amply justifies the expenses, especially when compared to the significant financial liability, had the district leadership not opted to defend our interests. The board has not been unnecessarily litigious, nor have the costs been exorbitant,

Legal Fees for SPEA Litigation

The following is a breakdown of the legal fees and expenses in connection with the above referenced matter:

■ Arbitration	\$5,940.00
■ Order to Show Cause	23,040.00
■ Plenary Hearing	7,260.00
■ Motion for Reconsideration	2,136.25
■ Appeal to Appellate Division	32,989.09
■ Petition for Certification	13,742.50

Total Legal Fees = 85,107.84
Expenses = +2,280.82
Grand Total = 87,388.66

given a potential liability of over three quarters of a million dollars—and that liability grows annually, given the prospect of retroactive salary adjustments.

The initial cost cited is \$5,940.00 for the arbitration. Because the initial grievance was so open-ended, it was impossible to accurately calculate the board's liability. The grievance was submitted "on the behalf of all affected teachers", without specifying which teachers, nor the amount of prospective nor retroactive compensation sought for any particular teacher. And so, the issue was forwarded to arbitration.

Once the arbiter's decision and award was rendered on February 26, 1997, the effects of the award were staggering, inasmuch as it was as open-ended as the original grievance. The arbiter required that the board compensate all affected teachers employed in-district as of the original December, 1995 grievance date and who continued to be employed as of the date of the award. The award required both prospective and retroactive compensation without specifying which teachers nor how much any one teacher should get. The retroactive provision was so nebulous that it failed to limit the number of years, though possibly requiring as many as fifteen years back compensation. At that time, our initial research identified thirty-seven (37) possibly affected teachers hired since 1990, who might require a total of 121 years adjustment for 1995/96 and beyond. If all credit claimed was verified, we could have had a total retroactive liability of \$333,505 and a total future, liability of \$441,760 over the life of the three year collective bargaining agreement. The net liability was estimated at \$775,265 at that time. It's no wonder the board chose to litigate. Besides an abiding belief that the arbiter's decision was flawed, failure to litigate would have a significant negative impact on our students, programs, personnel and services.

The board's case was heard in Middlesex Superior Court, Chancery Division in April, 1997. The board's initial litigation costs for that phase was \$23,040 for the Order to Show Cause and another \$7,260 for the Plenary Hearing. That \$30,300 total was

insignificant when measured against the estimated \$775,265 liability. In light of Judge Hamlin's decision, it was obviously money well spent. In May, 1997, the Chancery Judge found that "...the arbiter imperfectly executed her powers, and that there was no final and definite award." Hence, he was "...satisfied this is one of those rare cases under the statute where the arbitrator fails to resolve the specific dispute", citing further that "...it is difficult to comprehend how this arbitration binds anybody." Hence, Judge Hamlin vacated the award in its entirety. When asked by opposing counsel to remand the case back to the original arbiter, the judge refused that request. A formal Motion for Reconsideration was submitted to the court in spite of the judge's initial refusal to send it back to the arbiter. That additional motion, initiated by the teacher's union and denied by the judge cost the board an additional \$2,136. The board's total cost to get the arbiter's award vacated in its entirety cost a total of \$32,436.

Dissatisfied with the Chancery Court ruling, the teachers' union appealed Judge Hamlin's decision to the Appellate Court. A three judge panel reviewed the issues and rendered a decision on April 13, 1999. The Appellate Court reversed the findings of the Chancery Court, requiring the matter to be amended to the original arbiter for proceedings. That is, they made no findings as to the merits of the case presented by either the Board or the teacher's union, insisting that "Such issues

are best addressed after the entire proceeding is concluded, and will be preserved for any future proceedings involving a review of the arbitration." However, they required that the arbiter consider the fiscal impact, adding "...the identification of the teachers affected by the contract violation, the time period covered by the award and a definition of, among other things, the term 'accredited school'." The Board's cost to defend the Union's appeal was an additional \$32,989.

Both the Chancery and Appellate Courts ruled that the arbiter's decision was flawed in that it lacked specificity as to named grievants, duration of alleged contract violation and specific compensation for the alleged aggrieved parties. And those decisions support the board's position throughout the four year saga. With the passage of time, the board's possible liability grows if we're required to make retroactive compensation. That prospect only exacerbates the need to seriously consider the financial impact on a district which can only negatively impact directly on our students. Therefore, the board authorized appealing the most recent decision to the New Jersey Supreme Court. That petition for certification was denied, meaning the Supreme Court refused to hear the case. The board's cost for the Supreme Court appeal was \$13,742.50.

Inasmuch as recent unjustified criticism and newspaper accounts have placed the board's defense efforts in a rather negative light, I recommend we release this memorandum and the attached cost accounting for public dissemination. Our board president concurs that such release is in our best interest. The figures speak for themselves, and tend to void the erroneous impression that our district posture is to force costly, unnecessary litigation. The overall costs have been entirely reasonable and when viewed in the context of time, the milestone costs were necessary and appropriate. The litigation costs amount to roughly eleven percent of the estimated 1996/97 potential liability, which has the propensity for further growth as more time passes.

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 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:

August 10, August 24, November 9, November 23
September 14, September 28, December 14, December 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.

ALL MEETINGS ARE
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

South Plainfield Observer

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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 Mohn'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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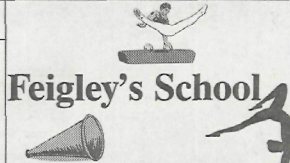
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Community

Police Seize Drugs Valued at \$50,000

Last Wednesday after, the South Plainfield Police Department executed a search warrant for narcotics at 239 Fifth Street. Information developed by patrol officers Michael Redden and David Franchak led to the issuance of the search warrant which was executed without incident.

As a result of the search warrant, Carlos Katryniok, a resident in the house was arrested. Katryniok is single and 21 years of age.

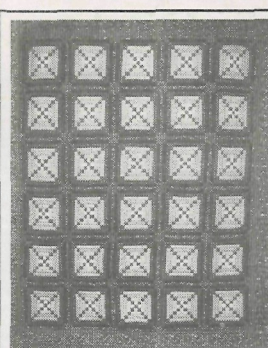
The police seized 23.5 pounds of marijuana, drug paraphernalia, cocaine and the tranquilizer drug ketamine, commonly known as "Special K" from the residence. The street value for the marijuana is estimated at \$50,000.

Katryniok was charged with pos-

session of marijuana, possession of marijuana with intent to distribute, possession of cocaine, possession of ketamine, possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a syringe. The investigation is continuing with more arrests anticipated.

Bail for Katryniok was set by Municipal Court Judge Daniel Murphy at \$100,000, with no 10% option. Katryniok was unable to post bail and was committed to the Middlesex County Adult Correction Center.

Participating in the investigation and the execution of the search warrant were detectives Paul Wyllam, Gene Bataille, James Darby, Chuck Siedenburg, and patrol officers Michael Redden, David Franchak and Mark Hollain.



Historical Society Raffle Quilt on Display at Library

The South Plainfield Historical Society quilt for the annual Labor Day raffle is on display in the Public Library. Members who would like to help with raffle ticket sales may call Mary Mazepa 754-3503 or Bill Tuthill 756-9654. Also on display are artifacts from the museum collection.

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 Recycling Hotline at (908) 226-7620.

Discrimination Case is Dismissed

The Division of Civil Rights has dismissed the allegations by Sergio Rodriguez claiming discrimination in hiring by the South Plainfield Police Department. The case was dismissed because there were insufficient facts to credit the allegations.

Rodriguez complained that when South Plainfield hired Mark Delair in late 1997, they showed a racial bias. Rodriguez is His-

panic and Delair is white.

Both Rodriguez and Delair were tied on the civil-service list the department uses when hiring new recruits. Police candidates are required to take a state administered civil service test. When the scores are compiled, they are then placed on a civil service hiring list. This list determines who is to be hired next.

Past Mayors, Longtime Residents to Join Parade

"South Plainfield is Marching into the Millennium," the theme of the parade, will showcase its longtime residents by having them lead-off the parade. The parade committee has also invited past mayors to march and many have agreed to participate.

A parade of this size takes a lot of planning. Our Labor Day Parade committee members are all volunteers and literally give up part of their summer to make sure we have a great day. This is South Plainfield's day to shine. Residents come together as a family to greet and get to know each other. Make plans to come to this once-a-year celebration and feel the pride that is exhibited by the hundreds of marchers and participants. Once you have experienced this feeling, you will never miss another Labor Day Parade.

Activities will start with a 5K run and a 1.5 mile Fitness Walk just before the parade. Sponsored by the Alliance for Substance Awareness

and the Ricochet Racquet Club, 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 will be in the park with contests and games for young and old alike 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. 'People Pleasers' will have two attractions for the kids to play on. There will be a largest tomato and zucchini contest, so plan on bringing your best specimen from the garden. An afternoon concert from 1-3 p.m. at Veterans Park by the band 'Back Splash' is another added attraction.

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

This year the raffle has a second prize of two tickets to cruise on the Cornucopia Princess.

Entertainment at Spring Lake Park starts at 6 p.m. with a local group CLASS, followed by the band 'Sound Investment'. The fireworks display at dusk will be synchronized to music.

If your organization or group would like to enter a float or march in the parade, contact Jan La Jeunesse at 561-4416. Past participants who did not receive an entry form should call Joe Scrudato at 754-0869 or email him at jascrudato@ms.att.com. Concessions and booths are still available in Veterans' Park for the parade festivities, contact Darlene Pinto at 908-561-1517.

The Observer will continue to provide details as they become available. For the latest information on the parade, log on to the Borough's webpage at southplainfieldnj.com.

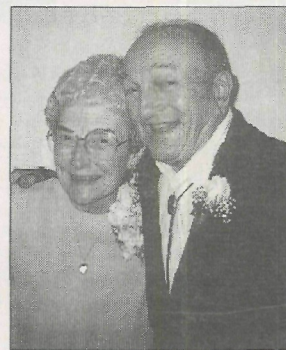
MILESTONES

Anniversaries

Hunts Celebrate 50th Wedding Anniversary

Herbert and Marguerite Hunt of South Plainfield celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 18. A surprise luncheon was held in their honor at Knicker Hall of Grace Episcopal Church, Plainfield, NJ.

Eighty relatives and friends attended with some traveling from as far away as California and Colorado for the occasion. The Rev. Peter T. Manzo officiated at the reaffirmation of the wedding vows which was witnessed by four members of their original wedding party.



Herbert and Marguerite Hunt

Boves Celebrate 50th Wedding Anniversary

Ralph and Anna Bove, former 30 year residents of South Plainfield, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 30. Ralph worked for the borough for 30 years before he and his wife retired to Lady Lakes, Florida in

1994. Their daughter, Maria Perry and family reside in South Plainfield.

Ralph and Anna also have four grandchildren, Michelle, Debra, Angela and Lauren and one great grandchild, Brooke.

Former Business Owner Plans Suit Against Borough

Douglas Scheuerer, owner of Cookies Bakery formerly located here, plans to sue the South Plainfield Police Department, the Borough and his former landlord for \$1,000,000 in damages.

The complaint dates back to when Scheuerer, who relocated his bakery to Colonia, was found on the roof of the building where Cookies was then located, in the Bradlees Shopping Center. Scheuerer was subsequently arrested and charged with trespassing. The charges were dismissed when the case went to court in South Plainfield.

Later the owner of the South Plainfield property complained that items were missing from the building after Scheuerer moved out. A search warrant was executed at his new location in Colonia and Scheuerer was arrested and charged with theft.

Scheuerer claims he took nothing that did not belong to him and the police are just seeking revenge because their trespassing charge was dismissed. He stated the South Plainfield Police brought a crane and removed his air conditioner and also seized some of his

bread making equipment. He indicated that he is losing business every day because he is unable to make bread.

Detective Kevin Murtaugh, the officer who executed the search warrant, said the matter was in front of a grand jury and he could not comment on the case. At press time the Observer learned that a Middlesex County Grand Jury had just handed down an indictment against Scheuerer. He will be charged with one count of theft and two counts of criminal mischief.

Scheuerer says he wants his confiscated equipment returned to him at once. He claims it was given to his former landlord and it should have been kept for evidence and ultimately returned to him. The police deny this and say all seized evidence is kept in storage until the case is completed.

Scheuerer says this is a civil matter between him and his former landlord and the case should never have been prosecuted. He also says he is determined to carry this case to the end since he is not guilty of theft.

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EVENTS

Lions Club Holding 50/50 Drawing

The Lions Club of South Plainfield will be holding their annual 50/50 drawing in September. First prize will be \$500 cash and succeeding prizes will be awarded depending on the number of tickets sold. Tickets may be purchased from Sal's Spirit Shop and Von Graf Florist, both located on Park Ave. or from any Lions Club member. Tickets can also be purchased in Veterans Park at the Lions' food stand after the Labor Day Parade.

Donations will be \$2 each or three for \$5. All profits will go to the Lions projects for the blind, hearing impaired and other charitable causes the Lions Club supports.

Feigley's Plans Open House

There will be a gymnastics open house for all non-enrolled boys and girls, ages 1½ and up at Feigley's School of Gymnastics in South Plainfield. Children must be accompanied by an adult and come dressed and ready for tumbling, balancing on the beam, swinging on the bars and jumping on the trampoline.

The open house is from Aug. 10 through Sept. 2. The hours are Tuesdays at 7 p.m., Thursdays at 6 p.m. and Saturdays at 11:30 a.m. Please call 908-561-8888 to reserve a space.

Babysitting Course To be Held

There's still time to register for the Babysitting course, co-sponsored by the South Plainfield Library and the county and local Health Departments.

It will be held August 16, 17 and 19 from 10 a.m.-12:15 p.m. in the Borough Municipal Building. Space is limited, so register early. For registration or information, call the library at 754-7885.

Blood Pressure Screening at PAL

The Middlesex County Health Department will be holding a blood pressure screening at the PAL Building on Maple Ave. on Wednesday, August 11, from 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Adult School Seniors to Meet

The South Plainfield Adult

School Seniors will hold their monthly meeting on August 6 at 10 a.m. in the Administration Building, Cromwell Place. After the general meeting coffee and cake will be served. Please call 754-1047 for transportation.

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.

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.

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 homeroom 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 ac-

tivities of the High School Golf Team. 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 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 snlprntnj@aol.com.

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.tsani.org

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

This summer, sometimes it seems like it's too hot to do just about anything. Fortunately, it doesn't take much energy to read. So, sit back and enjoy some news from the South Plainfield Library:

We've got several announcements relating to our children's programs. First off, TOMORROW is the last day for turning in Summer Reading Club booklets. Next week, we're holding to our usual story-time schedule: Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. They're for children ages three and over. You don't need to register for the Storytimes. There are also two special programs coming soon. On Monday night, August 16, we'll have the final Summer Reading craft program at 6:30 p.m. For several weeks, the kids have been making medieval costumes; now, they get the chance to wear them. On Thursday night, August 19, we'll have the Summer Reading Club closing program at 6:30 p.m. It'll feature recognition of participating readers and Mr. Kurt's Silly Songs. The programs are for children of all ages, though the closing program is recommended for youngsters ages 2-8. We ask that you pre-register for these two programs. For more information, check with Children's Librarian Linda Hansen.

On to other news. The Library Board of Trustees will hold their next meeting on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

The new group of Circuit videos is now available; it'll be here until August 28. The titles in this group include the thriller "Jennifer 8", Hitchcock's "Marnie", "Michael Collins" and the "Beauty and the Beast" spin-off "Belle's Magical World". We've also got some new additions to our own video collection. In the general section, new tapes include the big screen adaptation of "Lost in Space," "As Good As It Gets" and two movies featuring perennial hero Zorro, "The Mask of Zorro" from 1998 and a new copy of "The Mark of Zorro" from 1940. Some new items in the children's section are a new "Teletubbies" tape, as well as tapes in the "VeggieTales" and "Bear in the Big Blue House" series, respectively. More tapes will be added soon. Turning to audio, we've also added items to our CD collection. They include discs by Mariah Carey,

Ricky Martin, Charlotte Church, Whitney Houston and two discs with the Backstreet Boys. There's also a boxed set from Bruce Springsteen, the soundtrack to "Star Wars: Episode I-The Phantom Menace" and a selection of songs from the World War II era, "G.I. Jukebox". Videos go out for two days; CDs go out for two weeks.

There's still time to register for the Babysitting course, co-sponsored by the Library and the county and local Health Departments. It's coming up on August 16, 17 and 19. It'll be held across the way in the Municipal Building. Space is limited, so register soon.

And, while you're at the main desk getting your books checked out, please take one of our Patron Survey forms. Fill it out at your leisure and return it. We'd really like to know what you think about the library and how we can better serve you. (But don't get your hopes up; we're not about to put in a coffee bar like Borders.)

That's about all we have space for this week. We'll be back next time with more.

YMCA Offering After School Care Registration

The Plainfield Area YMCA will begin registration for After School Adventure and KinderKare on August 2.

As in previous years, After School Adventure will be offered at the following schools, as well as at the Plainfield Area YMCA; Barlow, Cedarbrook, Cook, Jefferson, Maxon and Woodland. The program runs from dismissal to 6:00 p.m. KinderKare begins at 10:50 a.m. and ends at 6 p.m. with services available for ½ day kindergarten students. Van service is available at \$12 per child.

The cost of After School Adventure is \$42 for one child and \$79 for two. KinderKare is \$51 for one child. The program will be prorated at \$15 per day the first week of school.

The YMCA, the largest provider of after-school activities, serves half a million kids a day from all backgrounds.

Further information is available by calling the YMCA at (908) 756-6060.



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South Plainfield Observer

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A group of young fishermen try to get the right bait for the fish in a drought-stricken Spring Lake. Water levels in the park are down about three feet.

—Photo by Bill Tuthill

Stay Cool—Know the Signs of Trouble

Heatstroke (sunstroke), is a substantial rise in body temperature when the body cannot rid itself of excess heat.

Signs to look for are very hot and dry (usually no sweat) skin. A victim of heatstroke may experience rapid onset of dizziness, nausea, confusion, often unconsciousness.

Quickly move to a cool area and lower the body temperature as quickly as possible. You can immerse or pour cool water over the person and seek medical attention immediately. Heatstroke can be fatal.

Heat exhaustion is a mild form of shock from excessive exposure to heat.

Watch for skin that becomes pale and clammy, profuse sweating, body temperature close to normal, headache, dizziness, fatigue and sometimes abdominal cramps.

Move the victim to a cool area

and make them as cool as possible while preventing a chill (watch for shivering). If they are conscious, give them cool water to drink and seek medical treatment as quickly as possible.

Heatsyncope is a loss of consciousness because of decreased blood flow to the heart and brain as blood pools in the extremities.

Signs are a sudden loss of consciousness, then the person quickly regains consciousness when lying down.

Allow the victim to rest and remove the person from the environment or activity which caused the person to lose consciousness.

Heat Rash (prickly heat) is a rash caused by blocked sweat ducts.

Look for a skin rash, tingling or prickling sensation at the site of the rash.

Shower or wash frequently, dry thoroughly, change into dry cloth-

ing and avoid exposure to the heat until the rash is gone.

Heat Cramps are painful muscle cramps resulting from profuse perspiration.

Look for mild to severe cramps in the arms, legs and/or abdomen from working in a hot environment or drinking iced drinks very quickly or in too large quantities. Also watch for pale, moist skin with heavy sweating and occasional nausea or faintness.

Move to a cool area and do not massage. If the person is not nauseated, slowly give them one or two glasses of an electrolyte drink. They should not resume the activity which caused the cramps for at least 12 hours or the cramps may return.

General tips to prevent heat related illnesses

- Spend whatever time possible in air conditioning, even if only a few hours each day.
- Ensure adequate food (light meals) and fluid intake.
- Avoid alcohol and caffeine, and see your physician about whether you need additional salt.
- Because the elderly are particularly susceptible to the effects of heat, they or their caretakers should make a special effort to follow these guidelines.
- Because children under five years of age, and especially under one year, are also sensitive to heat's effects, parents and caretakers should be careful not to overdress them and to give them plenty of liquids to drink.
- Remember, some pets can be affected by the heat. Ask your veterinarian for advice.
- In cases of health emergencies, call your physician, or visit your local hospital emergency room.

Keep Your Cool When The Weather Heats Up

When the temperature reaches 90 degrees it's important to keep a cool head to stay cool. Use common sense.

- **Stay out of the sun**—Avoid going outside during the hottest part of the day, noon to 4 p.m.
- **Limit your activity**—Reserve exercise and like activities for early morning or evening.
- **Dress properly**—A large-brimmed hat and light-colored, light-weight, loose-fitting clothing that breathes are best. A sweaty shirt will keep you cooler than bare skin.
- **Drink plenty of liquids**—Fluids help you sweat, which is the body's way of cooling off. Drink lots of water, juice or sports drinks. Avoid alcoholic or caffeinated drinks that promote fluid loss.
- **Avoid hot, heavy meals**—They increase metabolism, causing an increase in body temperature.
- **Keep it cool**—Set your air conditioner between 75 and 80 degrees F. If you don't have an air conditioner, take a cool bath or shower once or twice a day and visit air-conditioned public places.

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South Plainfield, NJ

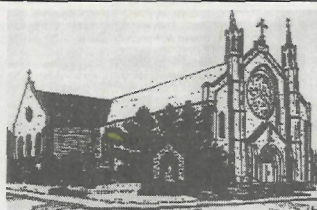
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Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:15 a.m.
Weekdays 9:00 a.m. (church)
Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m.
Holy Days 7 p.m. (Vigil); 7 and 9 a.m., 12:10 p.m.

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FYI

The Alternative View

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



Dear Dr. DeCosta: In a previous article, you spoke of the relationship of vertebrae moving out of place and interfering with nerves (subluxation) and its affect on organ function and overall health, but you did not mention how these subluxations occur. Just what exactly causes these subluxations? —WD.

Dear W.D.:

If the spine is subjected to an external force which is strong enough to overcome the resistance of the body's muscles and ligaments, a vertebra will misalign or subluxate. This is a very simple principle. If you tap a nail lightly against a wooden board, nothing happens, because the force of the hammer (the outside force) is not strong enough to overcome the internal resistance of the wood. Strike the nail forcefully and the nail will move.

There are various kinds of external, invasive forces that affect the spine. They can be put into three classifications: physical, chemical and mental or emotional.

Physical forces are probably the most well known and most easily understood. It is not difficult to see how a physical trauma could cause a vertebra to subluxate. Falling down a flight of stairs or being run over by a truck are physical traumas which are sure to cause vertebrae to misalign from their normal position and interfere with normal nerve transmission.

The automobile accident that causes a whiplash is another such physical trauma. Almost everyone has felt the trauma of walking down two steps when there were actually three, or down three steps when there were only two. All of these traumas are physical forces that could be sufficient to subluxate the spine.

Another physical trauma which is not easily understood is subliminal, constant trauma. The mail carrier who carries the weight of the mail bag on only one shoulder is an example. The data processor who sits at a keyboard with his or her head turned at an angle for hours each day is another. Sitting, standing and sleeping incorrectly over periods of time are physical traumas which could also cause subluxations.

It is an accepted fact that a chemical can affect the tone of the muscles. Remember that the alignment of the spinal segments is dependent upon muscle tone. Lack of calcium, for example, can cause muscle spasm. A build-up of lactic acid (a by-product of muscle exertion) can cause cramps which athletes sometimes experience. Drugs can also affect muscle tone. The body has a delicately balanced chemistry. Anything that upsets this chemistry can upset muscle tone and cause a subluxation.

The causes of a chemical imbalance in the body sufficient to cause subluxation are numerous. If we were aware of all the chemicals that we place into our bodies, in the water we drink and the food we eat, it would frighten us. The body has the ability to remove many of these poisons, but if sufficient poisons are taken in, even the body's filtering mechanisms can be overcome.

Our society's lifestyle has caused the emotional factor to be one of the most important factors causing subluxations today. We live in a fast-paced, tension-filled society. If you have ever been in a tense or emotional situation, you can remember how the muscles in the back of your neck and across your shoulders tightened. This muscle tension can cause a vertebra to subluxate.

Although each of these three forces can cause a subluxation by themselves, most subluxations are caused by some combination of the three. A slight physical trauma, which ordinarily would not cause a subluxation, does so because of muscle tension due to emotional factors. Normal stress and strain of daily life may prompt muscles that are full of toxins and chemicals to allow subluxation to occur. With all the stresses, physical traumas, and emotional tension as well as poisons that our bodies are subjected to each day, it is not difficult to see how the spine can become subluxated.

We can and should make every effort to keep our spines free of subluxations. Some subluxations may be prevented by common-sense living but many will still occur. It is important that we have our spines checked regularly by your chiropractor in order to correct subluxations as soon as they occur.

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.

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From Page One

Summer Drama Workshop has endeavored to provide the audience with a truly unique experience. The show begins long before the house-lights dim, long before first note of the overture is heard. In fact SDW starts you on a journey the moment you walk through the doors. The hallway has been transformed into a train station. The box office has become a railway ticket booth, right down to the barred windows. As you await your turn to purchase a ticket, note the schedule of stops that sits above the ticket booth. SDW Rail Lines takes you on "The Music Man Express" destination, River City, Iowa. While touches of a 1999 era school are in evidence, 1912 Americana decor is slowly pushing the upcoming millennium out of sight. Old fashioned wrought iron benches beckon the ticket holder to stop and rest before the adventure begins.

Meredith Wilson's *The Music Man*



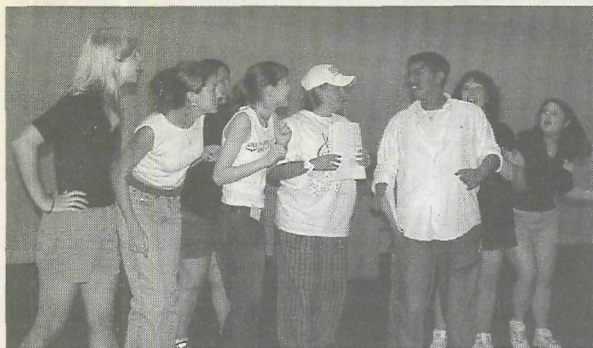
Man is set in River City, Iowa. A typical sleepy Midwestern locale. *Music Man* is also a classic love story with a seemingly mismatched

couple. The show opens with passengers on the train to River City, salesmen talking shop along the way. The fast-paced vocals/dialog are set to the repetitive movement of the train. Also aboard is a man

traveling salesman with nothing to sell but his charm. His halo is supported by his horns; he is deceptive and persuasive yet has a kind heart he refuses to acknowledge.

The other half of the love story comes in the form of River City's librarian and piano teacher, Marion Paroo, who doesn't quite fit in with her fellow townsfolk. She is well educated and a bit outspoken but a loner when it comes to men. Her mother Mrs. Paroo is widowed, she is clearly the head of the family. She is Irish and has a brogue that combined with her wit and fast tongue keeps everyone wondering what she will say next. Her fondest wish is for her daughter Marian to find a man, to stop seeking an unattainable white knight. The second child in the Paroo family is ten year old Winthrop. He is shy and has a lisp. In the early scenes he speaks only when pressed to do so by his family. Amariyllis is a neighbor and a piano student of Marion. Her heart belongs to Winthrop although he doesn't realize it. While still in her pre-teen years, Amariyllis is fearful of becoming an "old-maid" like Marian. Marian and Amariyllis share the love song "Good Night My Someone".

Marcellus is a former salesman and old friend of Harold Hill. The reformed con artist has settled in River City and acquired a girlfriend, Ethel Toffelmeier. Marcellus is wise to the ways of the residents of River City as well as those of Professor Hill. He provides Hill with vital inside information on the citizens and tries to protect his old buddy.



From Professor Harold Hill to "Professor"—John Abbott!

By Patricia Abbott

Summer Drama Workshop's roots are far-reaching. This year's production of *The Music Man* is not the first for the 28-year-old theater group. The show was originally done by SDW in 1974. The cast was smaller, the sets were less elaborate, but kids are kids in any generation.

In 1974 new SPHS graduate John Abbott won the coveted lead role in SDW's 3rd annual production. John was cast as Professor Harold Hill in the *The Music Man*. The 18 year old was charismatic and energetic, perfect for the role of the fast-talking charmer, Professor Harold Hill. John poured his heart and soul into the character and along with the rest of the cast, produced the young theater groups third hit show. The show left him with many fond memories of the Professor.

Over the years John's high school interests in communication and writing remained and spurred him on. After working in commercial radio for five years in New England he returned to NJ and began night school at Rutgers, finally earning a BA in English in 1985. Once a stringer for local papers, he returned to writing and began to do free-lance work. He focused on writing mystery fiction and has written a number of scripts. He is currently an active member of the Mystery Writers of America. He also worked as a features correspondent for the Home News, now The Home News-Tribune. After

spotting an ad in the paper, he began to work as a writing tutor at Rutgers. It was at this time that John discovered teaching. He had found his niche. He returned to Rutgers and the Graduate School of Education for an Ed. M. in English Education in 1995.

Twenty five years later, John is once again called "Professor", but it is not in reference to *The Music Man*. John is a Part-Time Lecturer at Rutgers University in New Brunswick. He currently teaches freshman English composition in the English Department's Writing Program. He also works with pre-service high school English teachers, helping them prepare for the day they step in front of their own classroom. John pointed out that his title is not professor but students often say "Professor Abbott," a common characteristic of college students.

John now resides in Kingston with his wife, Maria. He is working on an Ed. D. in Education at Rutgers in The Graduate School of Education. A short step into the new millennium will find him with his degree as well as a new set of puns regarding his name. Consider Dr. John and The Medicine Show of R&B fame. John noted that references are already popping up regarding his upcoming title.

As long ago memories returned, John said, We did the show together, as a team effort and as a family. There could not have been a Harold Hill without Leslie Toth, the Strassle, Krisburg and Scesselberg families and many, many more people from friends to parents."

Once again Summer Drama comes full circle as John "Professor Harold Hill" Abbott sits in the audience to watch the next generation put their own imprint on this classic musical.

The cast of *The Music Man*



Mayor Shinn is a man without a clue. He mangles words and phrases and normally ends up unknowingly insulting himself or his wife. His lofty position as mayor seems to have clouded his judgement or it could be his ever present cigar.

The Mayor's wife is Eulalie Shinn, a wacky character who takes on the town's cultural events. Her

innocent youths who peer in the door. He has details worked out down to the very last second. He doesn't count on interference in the form of the town librarian, Marian, the only person who seems immune to his charms. While insisting he has no interest in Marian with the song "The Sadder But Wiser Girl," he finds himself drawn to her and her family.



serious, if misguided, efforts provide the town with some comical moments.

Teenager Zaneeta Shinn is the mayor's oldest daughter. She has a crush on local boy Tommy Dijlas and desperately tries to hide the relationship from her stern father. Her squeaky, "Ye gods!" is a phrase uttered often.

Gracie Shinn is the mayor's youngest daughter. She is a spoiled brat and a tattletale.

Tommy Dijlas is a typical teenager who is not interested in little kid stuff and very interested in Zaneeta. His pranks have him in constant trouble with the town folk and especially the Mayor.

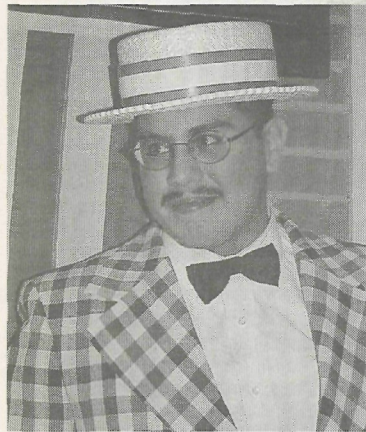
Hill's plan is to sell the citizens on the need for a children's band by selling them instruments and uniforms. He accomplishes this feat with the song, "Trouble," as he points to the new pool hall and the

A highlight of the show is the River City School Board. Four men who bicker constantly until Hill, using his con artist skill, brings harmony to their lives and music to the street of the community. The ladies of River City have taken small town gossip and turned it into a fine art as heard in the song "Pick a Little, Talk a Little." The large ensemble is very important to this production, they literally become the citizens of River City, the mothers and fathers and children and business owners. The town is ablaze with colorful costumes and personalities. All Aboard, next stop, River City Iowa!

The Music Man runs Thursday, Friday and Saturday, August 5-7 at 7 p.m. Sunday, August 8 at 2 p.m. at the South Plainfield High School auditorium. Tickets are available at the door, be sure to arrive early for the best seats.



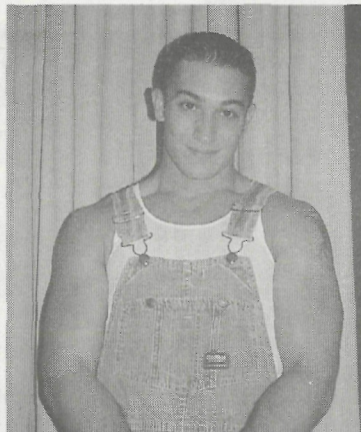
Who's Playing Who in *The Music Man*



Jose Pineda as Harold Hill



Kristyn Ciarliariello as Marian Paroo



Vincent Anthony DiNizo as Marcellus



Joseph LaJeunesse as Mayor Shinn

Pictures and Story By Pattie Abbott

Jose Pineda (Harold Hill)—This is Jose's second appearance with Summer Drama Workshop. His first show was last year's *Guys & Dolls*. Jose is a sophomore at Penn State University. He was the drum major for the South Plainfield Marching Band in 1996 and 1997. He has participated in the SPSHS Jazz and Concert Band and also with the Chorus.

Kristyn Ciarliariello (Marian Paroo)—*The Music Man* is Kristyn's third year with Summer Drama and she is excited to be back on stage performing the part of "Marian" in *The Music Man*. Her stage credits include *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Guys & Dolls*, *Godspell* and *Oklahoma!* She is also active with the chorus, Emeralds, cheerleading, the softball team and President of the Junior Class.

Vincent Anthony DiNizo (Marcellus)—Vinnie is making his fifth Summer Drama Workshop appearance. Last year he appeared as "Nathen Detroit" in *Guys & Dolls*. Additional stage credits include *Oliver*, *Oklahoma!*, *Dracula*, *Godspell* and *A Christmas Carol*.

Joseph LaJeunesse (Mayor Shinn)—This is Joe's fourth year with the Summer Drama Workshop program. His stage credits include the "Tinman" in *The Wizard of Oz*, *Guys & Dolls* and *Oklahoma!* When he is not studying his lines, Joe is currently managing his ever growing business, Right Touch Landscaping.

Nicole Scavone (Mrs. Paroo)—Nicole is a senior at SPSHS and is in her fifth Summer Drama Workshop production. She is a member of the SPSHS Chorus, Emeralds and Vice President of the SPSHS Players Drama Club. Her stage credits include *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Joanne* in *Godspell*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Guys & Dolls* and *Leader of the Pack* at Villagers Theater in Franklin Township.

Vincent Carubia (Winthrop Paroo)—This is Vinnie's third year with Summer Drama Workshop. His stage credits include; *The Wizard of Oz*, *Guys & Dolls*, and *Squad Room*. Vinnie enjoys sports. He plays soccer, basketball and baseball. He has been in chorus for four years and loves to dance and act.

Jacqueline Muglia (Amaryllis)—Jacqueline will enter seventh grade at the South Plainfield Middle School in Septem-



Nicole Scavone as Mrs. Paroo

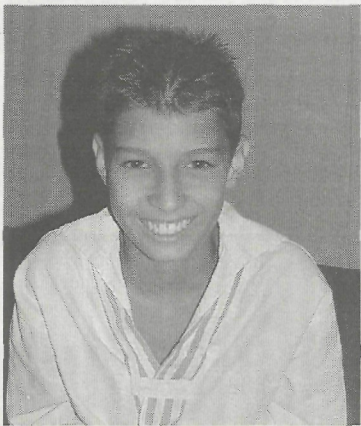
ber. Her stage credits include *Small World* and *Guys & Dolls*. She has participated in chorus and All-District Chorus.

Derrick Mazokiewicz (Tommy Djas)—This is Derek's first production with Summer Drama Workshop and he is extremely happy to be here. He just starred in *Leader of the Pack* at the Villagers Theater in Franklin Township. He's done six shows with Franklin High School and numerous community shows.

Laura Walter (Zaneeta Shinn)—This is Laura's second year with Summer Drama. Her credits include "Audrey" in *Little Shop of Horrors*, "Adelaide" in *Guys & Dolls*, *Godspell* and *A Christmas Carol*. She has also performed on the Middlesex County School of the Arts stage as "Eliza Doolittle" in *Pygmalion* and "Mary Warren" in the *Crucible*.

Beth Gold (Eulalie Shinn)—In her third year with Summer Drama, Beth's stage credits include: *The Sound of Music*, *Singing in the Rain*, *Plots*, *Pyramus and Thisbe*, *Guys & Dolls* and *The Wizard of Oz*. Most recently Beth received a director's award for understudying a number of roles in *Little Shop of Horrors*.

Jamie Morris (Gracie Shinn)—Jamie is in her fourth year of Summer Drama Workshop. Her stage credits include *Oklahoma!*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Guys & Dolls*, and *Fiddler on the Roof*. She is entering her freshman year at SPSHS. Grace plays the flute and is also a member of the chorus.



Vincent Carubia as Winthrop Paroo



Jacqueline Muglia as Amaryllis



Derrick Mazokiewicz as Tommy Djas



Laura Walter as Zaneeta Shinn



Beth Gold as Eulalie Shinn

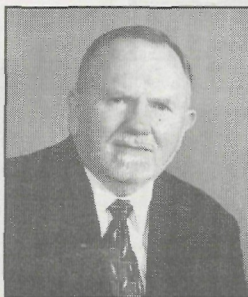


Jamie Morris as Gracie Shinn

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ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS

Managers:
Dave Spayder
and Joe Cupido

Players: Vicki Boley, Andrew Cupido, Thomas Holowka, Andrew Holt, Eddie Kania, Sean Keane, Christopher Nguyen, John Okuski, Michael Salerno, David Spayder and Prasanna Sridharan.



NEW YORK METS

Managers:
Dennis Kazimir
and Don Acrin

Players: Brian Acrin, Michael Alvarez, Nicholas Figler, Andrew Hedler, Christopher Horn, Michael Kasmer, Kyle Kazimir, Ian Levine, Ryan Mack, Jasen Ortiz and Ruben Camacho.



ST. LOUIS CARDINALS

Managers: Dorsey Finn,
Dick DeAndrea
and Dan Wasnick

Players: David Cacciatore, Ryan Cornell, Daniel DeAndrea, Ryan Decker, Nick Deoll, Alexander Ferraris, Matthew Finn, Nicholas Guarraci, Michael Maher, Carlos Pineda and Adam Toth.



TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS

Managers:
Chet Czaplinski
and Sal Severini

Players: Jonathan Buggy, Jonathan Chiang, Jason Cosma, Chris Czaplinski, Jason LaFontaine, Timothy O'Brien, Matthew Santone, Guy Severini, Jeff Smith, Derek Smith and William Weaver.



Tiger Sharks Win Last Dual Meet of the 1999 Season!

The South Plainfield Tiger Sharks won their last dual meet of the season last Wednesday at the Middlesex Municipal Pool. This last win brings the Tiger Sharks record to nine wins and one loss for the 1999 season. Highlights from this meet are as follows (times are in yards):

Event	Time	Name	Place
Boys 100 IM 10 & Under	1:31.21	LeDet, Matt	2
Girls 100 Free 10 & Under	1:12.74	Konops, Leah	1
Boys 100 IM 11-12	1:13.92	Smiley, Calvin John	1
Girls 100 Free 11-12	1:28.64	Moates, Billy	3
Girls 200 Free 13-18	1:00.51	Kaczka, Katherine	1
Boys 25 Fly 8 & Under	1:05.07	Jones, Natalie	2
Girl Breast 8 & Under	2:08.05	Reed, Lauren	1
Boys 50 Fly 9-10	2:17.67	Blessing, Sarah	3
Girls 50 Breast 9-10	22.02	LeDet, Drew	2
Boys 50 Fly 11-12	22.83	Boyle, Michael	3
Girls 50 Breast 11-12	23.13	Gunasekara, Talya	1
Girls 100 Breast 13-14	25.22	Atcachunas, Danielle	2
Boys 100 Fly 15-18	43.29	LeDet, Matt	2
Girls 100 Breast 15-18	46.30	Konops, Leah	1
Boys 25 Free 8 & Under	48.25	Harty, Allison	2
Girls 25 Back 8 & Under	48.86	Keller, Becky	3
Boys 50 Free 9-10	5.67	Gunasekara, Devin	1
Girls 50 Back 9-10	7.36	Moates, Billy	3
Boys 50 Free 11-12	38.90	Jones, Natalie	1
Girls 50 Back 11-12	41.06	Byard, Nina	2
Boys 100 Free 13-14	1:25.95	Banas, Allison	1
Girls 100 Back 13-14	1:26.95	Kaczka, Lauren	3
Boys 100 Free 15-18	1:01.01	Rowe, Charlie	3
Girls 100 Back 15-18	1:15.63	Dabrio, Shannon	1
Boys 25 Free 8 & Under	18.35	Boyle, Michael	1
Girls 25 Back 8 & Under	18.55	LeDet, Drew	3
Boys 50 Free 9-10	22.33	Gunasekara, Talya	1
Girls 50 Back 9-10	23.45	Atcachunas, Danielle	2
Boys 50 Free 11-12	35.14	Luzny, Philip	1
Girls 50 Back 11-12	45.76	Dougherty, Julia	3
Boys 100 Free 13-14	29.04	Smiley, Calvin John	1
Girls 100 Back 13-14	32.07	Kaczka, Katherine	1
Boys 100 Free 15-18	36.14	Byard, Nina	2
Girls 100 Back 15-18	38.48	Manning, Jessica	3
Boys 25 Free 8 & Under	1:05.32	Keller, Timmy	2
Girls 25 Back 8 & Under	1:06.93	Reed, Lauren	1
Boys 50 Free 9-10	58.80	Bostick, Jon	3
Girls 50 Back 9-10	1:11.39	Dabrio, Shannon	2
Boys 100 Free 13-14	1:18.51	Otlowski, Mary	3

See next week's *Observer* for the Tiger Sharks Championships competitions held last Saturday.

Youth Soccer Program Offered

Youth Soccer, open to all South Plainfield residents ages 6-13 as of Oct. 1, 1999, is forming. The fee is \$25 per participant. The program will run evenings and Saturdays, Sept. through Nov.

Register at the Recreation office, located in the PAL Recreation Center on Maple Ave. Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Registrations will be taken until 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 participants will need a copy of their birth certificate (if required) and proof of residency. Birth certificates are required for registrants who have not previously participated in a Recreation sponsored Youth League. For more information, call 226-7713.

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- We Care, Plainfield Ave.
- Yogurt Express, Maple Ave.



SPHS Tiger Times

The following articles are excerpted from
Tiger Times, South Plainfield High School newspaper

Book Club Goes Abroad

By Alison Butrico

Earlier this year the South Plainfield Book Club, Algonquin Square, traveled into New York City to experience the world of books.

The trip started out with a visit to the Strand Bookstore. There they were surrounded by hundreds of old books.

Sophomore David Aquino commented, "The trip was a great experience. We all got to open our minds to so many wonderful books."

After visiting the book store, the club went to the New York City Library. Senior Mohamed Shiliwala summed up the trip in just three words: "Brilliant! Just brilliant."

Advisors who accompanied the Algonquin Square Book Club are Mrs. Timko, Ms. Flannery, and Mrs. Massey.



English Students Create Web Page

By Erin Mackey

Each year teachers at South Plainfield High School assign their students one or more research papers per class, amounting to tons of work. SPHS English teacher Ann Brown, however, has opted for an alternative and possibly easier, way to obtain a research grade.

"Since the English writing lab has complete Internet access, I have been looking for a meaningful way to incorporate Internet research to the classroom," said Brown. She asked four sophomores to create a web page as an alternative to a research paper. Sophomores Rosemarie Brizak, Tiesha Cooper, Rachel Feller and Wanda Raynes were given the challenge.

Joining forces with the University of Minnesota's "Voices from the Gap," the page will be called "Valerie Wilson Wesley," after a famous female writer. The purpose of the project is to focus on the works and lives of women writers of color in North America.

"We read all of Wesley's books and did Internet research on her. However, there were not many books about Wesley because she is a more contemporary writer. It was fun because we got to work with friends and learn teamwork while doing something to better our grades," said Feller.

The students and Mrs. Brown had the opportunity to present the researched web site to Wesley in person, on May 24. They attended a program at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center presented by authors who wrote about Newark.

The page provides biographical, bibliographical and critical information, along with quotes that pertain to the author's life and works. The requirements are simple: name of author, place of birth, significant dates and ethnic/racial identity.

The project was primarily designed to serve as a "teacher" in classrooms where works of women writers of color have been studied.

The web page is now up and running. The address is <http://voices.cla.umn.edu/authors/valeriewilsonwesley.html>.



Rita Ludovico Gets Married

By Alison Butrico

As the organ chimed the chords of the Wedding March, one of South Plainfield's favorite English teachers sauntered down the aisle. On May 2, Ms. Rita Ludovico, a teacher at SPHS, was married to Leonard Marcocci.

Ms. Ludovico, now Mrs. Marcocci, celebrated the special day with close family and friends. The ceremony was held at Verdi's Restaurant in Warren. South Plainfield Mayor Daniel Gallagher was the pastor for this ceremony.

Students and teachers alike were very happy and supportive of the wedding. "I am very happy for Ms. Marcocci," said sophomore Jessica Arndt. With the weather in the 70's and the sun shining brightly, it was a perfect day for a wedding.

During the summer, the two newlyweds will spend two weeks in Hawaii for their honeymoon. Marcocci decided to wait until the summer to go so as not to take time away from her students.

Borough Notes

Council

■ 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

■ Clifford Adkins of Lexington Ave. was granted approval to build a 8' x 20' front porch with conditions.

■ Monica Lehman of Franklin Ave. was granted a setback variance to build a 16' x 16' wood deck on her property.

■ Kenneth and Laura Shaw received a side yard variance to erect a 16' x 16' deck on their Front Street property.

■ Home Depot is proposing to use the exterior of the Home Depot retail store for the outdoor display of seasonal merchandise in accordance with the Board's June 2 temporary use permits. The outdoor display of merchandise is not a permitted use. This case will be continued until the Board's September 21 meeting.



Mrs. Glowacki's fourth grade Riley School class collected pennies to donate to the fire department. The students raised \$100. Their contribution will be used toward the purchase of an air bag rescue system and hydraulic rescue tools.

Keystone Community Residence Renews Front Street Adoption

Director of Vocational Services Dina Esposito at Keystone Community Residence signed a new contract this month with The Clean Business Association to pick up litter along Front Street. The agreement is good for the next year and can be renewed again if both parties continue to be satisfied with the arrangement. This is Keystone's second renewal since their initial adoption of the street in 1997.

Four to six people and a staff person will be picking up litter

along the entire length of Front Street once a week. They will also sweep the sidewalk and pull out any weeds growing along the curb.

The Clean Business Association's President Joe Diegnan is particularly pleased with this adoption, which supports the efforts of the downtown business community to revitalize the center of town.

For more information about the Adopt-A-Spot program, contact the Clean Communities Coordinator at (908) 226-7621.

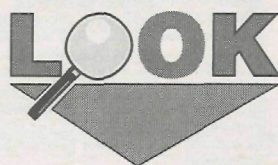


Photos by Snapshot Greetings

Learning Express Celebrates Grand Opening

Visitors at Learning Express at Oak Park Commons on July 22-25 were treated to a four-day celebration marking their opening. Festivities included appearances by Andy the Clown, "Wimzie" and "Winnie the Pooh" and drawings for three \$200-shopping sprees and a complete Thomas the Tank wooden train set and play table.

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Obituaries

Esther L. Muldoon, 78

Esther L. Muldoon 78, died on Thursday, July 29, in her home.

Born in Providence, Rhode Island, she had resided in Jersey City and the Bronx, N.Y. before moving to South Plainfield in 1956.

Mrs. Muldoon had held many secretarial positions for a variety of employers including U.S. Naval Department, Springs Mills Inc., Home Decor, U.S. Census Bureau, Allstate Insurance Company and State Farm Insurance Company.

She was a communicant of Sacred Heart R.C. Church and a member of the AARP South Plainfield Chapter # 4144 where she was the editor of the chapter's quarterly newsletter. She was also the former Welcome Wagon Lady for South Plainfield.

Surviving are her husband, Edward H. Muldoon, Sr.; a daughter and son-in-law, Maureen and Lou Vaccaro of Belle Mead, NJ; three sons and daughters-in-law, Edward H. Jr. and Kathy Muldoon of Robeson, Pa.; John J. and Maryann Muldoon of Metuchen and Brian Muldoon and Paula Buchta of Minneapolis, Minn.; a sister, Joanne Monteleone of Hasbrouck Hgts. and a brother, John McEivogue of Scotsdale, Arizona. Also surviving are nine grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Memorial contributions in her memory may be made to John F. Kennedy Haven Hospice, 65 James Street, Edison, N.J. 08820.

Because We Care



by Robert Hunter

FEELING CONNECTED

There is substantial research to suggest that there is a valid connection between one's personal life and one's health. Individuals who enjoy rich social connections are less likely to get sick and more likely to live longer than people with poor relationships. All this serves to point out the value of having friends and family who are supportive with a lending hand and a sympathetic ear. Relationships with family and friends are even more important to those who are already ill because they can play a crucial role in recovery. As Sydney Smith once wrote: "Life is to be fortified by many friendships. To love and to be loved is the greatest happiness of existence."

Friends are more than people we can count on in times of need, they lend a richness and glow to our lives. They heighten our enjoyment, witness our progress, and remember important milestones. In short, they give substance and meaning to our lives. At the JAMES W. CONROY FUNERAL HOME, we understand the bereavement which follows the loss of a good friend, and we are committed to helping friends and family create a final tribute which honors the individual, and gives solace to those who mourn their passing. To schedule a consultation, call 756-2800. We are located at 2456 Plainfield Avenue in South Plainfield.

"Friendship is the only cement that will ever hold the world together."

- Woodrow Wilson



Daisy Troop Bridging Ceremony

Daisy Troop 118 held their Bridging Ceremony at John F. Kennedy School on June 24. The ceremony marked the "Flying Up" from the Daisy level to the Brownie level. Refreshments for the girls and their families followed the ceremony.

Pictured are: (first row) Lauren Keane, Alexis Parnovets, Sarah McCarthy (second row) Alexis Rocco, Nicolette Hanley, Beth Becker, Jillian Cortese and Troop Leader Jane Becker. Missing from the photo are Caitlyn Whalen, Jamie Caruso and Kyesha Oliver.

Myths of Aging: How Do You Score?

Though we all know many elders who are active, engaged, happy and in good health, we tend to think of them as isolated examples who do not represent the typical elder. No matter how sophisticated or educated we may be, we succumb to society's myths about aging and what elders are like. We think of our elder years as characterized by loss, not gain. We think of elders as dominated by feelings of loneliness, depression, uselessness and boredom. We think of old age as a disease. The fact is that many of the myths that shape our image of 'old age' are based more on fear than reality.

Learning more about the actual attitudes, opinions and experiences of the elderly should encourage us to approach both the elderly and our own aging pro-

cesses with more understanding and optimism.

So, put your own myths about aging to the test with this brief quiz.

1. Overall satisfaction with one's life:

- A. goes up dramatically as we age
- B. remains fairly constant at a high level
- C. remains fairly constant at a low level
- D. goes down dramatically as we age

2. The percent of those over 65 say they look forward to each new day is:

- A. 25% C. 81%
- B. 57% D. 93%

3. The biggest worry people over 65 have is:

- A. their health
- B. the country's problems
- C. whether they have enough

money

4. Death and dying

4. Feelings of loneliness, boredom, depression and helplessness are common in about:

- A. 75-85% of those over 65
- B. 55-65% of those over 65
- C. 35-45% of those over 65
- D. 15-25% of those over 65

5. Once we reach the age of 80, we become less concerned about keeping up with what's happening in the world.

- A. true B. false

6. The older we get the more we think life is worse than it was 20 years ago.

- A. true B. false

7. As we age, we say that our health status:

- A. stays excellent/good
- B. stays fair/poor
- C. goes from excellent/good to fair/poor

D. varies too much to show a trend

8. Compared to those 65-69, those 80 or older are:

- A. more concerned about their physical health
- B. concerned about the same level
- C. less concerned about their physical health

9. The percent of people over 65 who feel they are more fortunate than others is:

- A. 85% C. 57%
- B. 70% D. 34%

How did you do? See below for the answers to these questions which were taken from a poll conducted by Genesis ElderCare, one of the nation's leading providers of eldercare services.

- 1.B; 2.D; 3.B; 4.D; 5.B; 6.B; 7.A; 8.C; 9.A.

By Cyrus n Moon

Weekly Horoscope 8/5-8/12

LEO 7/23-8/22 With a Sun/Mars square you are likely to have serious ego conflict with others. As with other squares this will test the validity of a statement or position you took about six months ago. So be careful, as other people may be trying to look for chinks in your armor.

VIRGO 8/23-9/22 With a Moon/Mercury conjunction this will be a good time to talk about your feelings. Communications with women are very good now. Be careful not to put aside important issues that you are working on right now or the workload will be doubled when you do get around to it.

LIBRA 9/23-10/22 You have a challenging Venus/Neptune aspect. Relationships at this time may be uppermost in your mind. Idealistic love can appeal to the heights of your imagination. This is also a good time for any creative or spiritual pursuits that will open your mind to not-so-stuffy subjects.

SCORPIO 10/23-11/21 A Moon/Pluto opposition may get you into some intense encounters with others, mainly those with whom you are very emotionally involved. Don't act impulsively! Bring up a conflict at another time, so it can be discussed in a more calm matter. At this time you may not be able to see clearly.

SAGITTARIUS 11/22-12/21 You have a

Moon/Jupiter trine going for you. This is a good time to be at home with families and friends. What a wonderful way to recharge you home life with those you love. On the work front people may seek you out with beneficial information—take note!

CAPRICORN 12/22-1/19 A Moon/Saturn sextile around Sunday. Any work that needs to be done at this time will be done carefully. Your approach will be thorough, no need to mop up here. Be ready to give someone a hand, they may well be in need of your help. Sit back and reflect or converse with an older person whom you respect.

AQUARIUS 1/20-2/18 A Moon/Uranus trine has you wanting to seek out different things this Friday. Something that departs from the normal, or visit people that you haven't seen in awhile. Go somewhere that's different. And if you feel impulsive go with it, it will make you feel more alive.

PISCES 2/19-3/20 A Moon/Neptune opposition will have you feeling very sensitive. Be careful, misunderstandings are common with this transit. You may have felt that you were unfairly criticized. Do not feel that someone dislikes you for the flimsiest reasons. Go out have some fun on Saturday. A special hello goes out to Kim. Hello!

ARIES 3/21-4/19 A Mars/Saturn combination has you putting the finishing touches on a work related project, something you've been carefully planning that started six months ago. But be aware that if you experience a major defeat, someone in the background tried to block the outcome. Did you plan carefully?

TAURUS 4/20-5/20 With a Moon/Jupiter square on Tuesday, if anyone tries to rattle you, you won't let that happen. You will be feeling benevolent and generous towards those around you. This is also a way to get people's reaction to what you have to say. And in return you can adjust your attitude to the situation.

GEMINI 5/20-6/20 A favorable aspect of a Moon/Mercury transit can have you expressing to the one you love how much they mean to you. You can communicate sensitivity that only they can understand. If you have a problem to work out with any one, this is the right time to talk it out.

CANCER 6/21-7/22 A Moon/Venus sextile around Saturday gives you the opportunity to show your stuff on a date. A person that been holding your attention can see the qualities of your personality. A date today can lead to many more later on. On another front, invite friends over for an evening of fun.

Quote:

If life is all about making new friends,
Then I was fulfilled when I met you.



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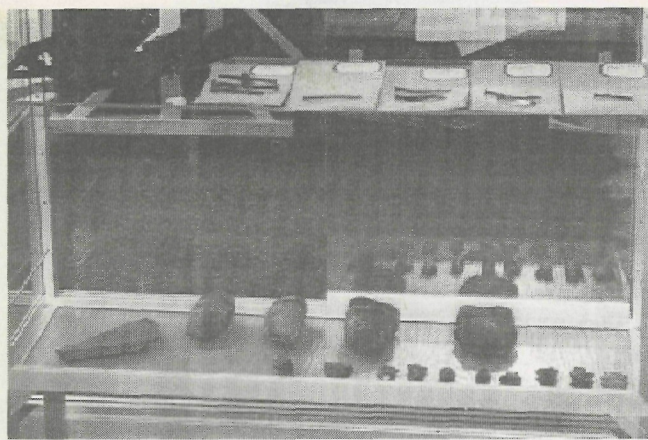


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On display throughout the month of August at the Public Library are some artifacts from the South Plainfield Historical Society's museum collection.

POLICE REPORT

• A custodian at Riley School reported the theft of the POW flag from the flag pole. He found a garbage can next to the flag pole. A search of the area did not turn up the missing flag.

• John Kratz of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., was arrested at Holiday Inn, Stelton Road for defiant trespassing. The bartender at Holiday Inn felt that he was intoxicated, refused to serve him and asked him to leave. He refused, saying that they would have to call the police to remove him. An officer arrived and escorted him outside. He was advised that if he returned he would be arrested. Within

hours HQ received a call that Kratz had returned despite the warning. He was arrested upon arrival of the officer.

• Friet Machine and Tool Inc., Belmont Ave. reported a burglary while the business was closed for vacation. It was not determined what was missing. The owner felt that an employee who had been recently fired might be responsible.

• Central New Jersey Cardiology, Park Ave., reported the theft of cash from a locked file cabinet. The key was kept in an unlocked desk. Nothing else was missing. Two clerks and a clean-

ing service had access to the office at the time of the theft.

• An employee of White Star Diner reported at attempted burglary of the premises. The rear door of the diner was found forced open. The hardware from the door was found inside but nothing appeared to be missing from the diner.

• A New Market Ave. resident reported the theft of a 27" huffy mountain bike from the resident's yard. The bike was not locked at the time of the theft. She noted that a co-worker and a former tenant had both threatened her recently.

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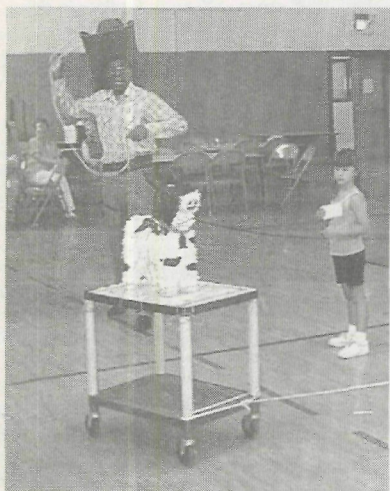
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"Rodeo 1999" at Tiger Day Camp



Tiger Day Camp held a Rodeo last Thursday. Kids were encouraged to wear their western wear. The kids competition included horseshoe toss, lasso-a-bull,, basketball, hippity-hop ball race and a golf putting contest. Points were awarded to the contestants and everyone won a prize.



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