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South Plaintield Observer

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AUGUST 27, 1999

BULK RATE U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO. 15 SOUTH PLAINFIELD,

Back to School

What's New for 1999-2000

By Patricia Abbott

The 1999-2000 school year is set to begin. A host of new programs have been implemented along with new teachers.

While all information has not been finalized, some of South Plainfield schools have provided the *Observer* with information as to what's new in their respective schools.

School calendars have been sent via mail to parents. Keep them handy! The calendars contain important information regarding holidays, half days and individual school activities, along with phone numbers of school contacts.

High School

The Science and Technology in Society class will be expanded into a laboratory class program. A class in computer programming has been added to the curriculum.

The Performance Band is under consideration for an expansion to an eight credit and five credit program. Student participation in Marching Band will allow eight credits to be earned. Student non-participation in Marching Band will provide for a five-credit program.

provide for a five-credit program.
Student hallway lockers have been repainted. The math department hallway has been repainted as part of the Senior Project by the class of 2000.

Due to staff expansion and retirements, thirteen new teachers have been added. Middle School

A Visual/Fine Arts course has been added for the seventh grade. The sewing class has been moved from seventh to sixth grade. Keyboarding skills will be taught throughout the computer technology program in all grades.

ogy program in all grades.

The number of in-class support class sections has been increased to 21 in compliance with NJ Department of Education objectives of providing a "least restrictive environment" for students with special needs

The eighth grade computer lab has been upgraded with new computers with improved Internet capabilities. Nineteen computers are being distributed to eighth grade teachers for regular use in the classroom.

An art teacher has been hired for the new seventh grade program. Three teachers will replace those retiring or moving.

Roosevelt School

A new problem solving program called "Bullying Program" will begin this year. It will teach students how to deal with bullies. A creative original reading program will being in October. The program called "Going to the Olympics" was developed by Principal Mario Barbiere. A multi-cultural program is scheduled for January. The Rainbow Fish program (kindness and justice) will continue this year.

A new technology activity

Continued on page 10



MassMutual and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce honored The Multitech Group of South Plainfield with its Blue Chip Enterprise Award at a recent luncheon. Pictured left to right are Mayor Dan Gallagher; John and Cecelia Kennedy, owners of The Multitech Group; Russell Presti, MassMutual agency vice president; and Michael Vesuvio, general agent.

Observer Inundated With Calls on Cadillac Law Suit

Last week found the South Plainfield Observer inundated with calls from newspapers in the area. It started with the Star Ledger which wanted to run the photo we ran last May showing Keith Lewis standing in front of the Cadillac he thought he won at the South Plainfield Business Association's Golf Outing, Lewis has recently filed suit to claim the prize.

Word about our photos seemed to spread to other news media in the area and our phones started ringing. Channel 2 News ran the photo in their evening news segment; the Long Island newspaper, Newsday, published it; and the New York Times ran it in their Sunday New Jersey section. Bill Tut-

Last week found the South hill, who originally took the photion hill, who originally took the photos, has also sold a copy of the photos to Court TV Network. Started with the Star Ledger

photos to Court TV Network.

Lewis got a hole in-one on the seventh hole and play stopped while he was awarded the keys, and the photos were taken which appeared in *The Observer*. Later he found that the paperwork indicated the winning hole was actually the fifth.

After weeks of finger pointing by officials, Lewis was told he would not be awarded the Cadillac

Lewis then filed suit against the South Plainfield Business Association, Golf Event Services, Summit Bank, Cranbury Golf Course, Kemper Cadillac and Art Muglia, a member of the Business Association. Lewis is secking \$40,000 for the Cadillac and \$275,000 for punitive damages.

Teacher Offered Plea Bargain in Sex Case

52-year-old middle school teacher Roger Wood, who was suspended in December of 1998 after being accused of molesting six females, has been offered a chance to avoid jail time.

Assistant Middlesex County Prosecutor Joseph Rea noted that the plea bargain means Wood will be allowed to plead guilty to six counts of endangering the welfare of a child and agree to forfeit his teacher's certificate.

teacher's certificate.

Wood will be placed on probation with terms including no contact with the victims. He must undergo counseling and he will be required to register as a sex offender under the terms of Megan's Law.

The original charges, which included six counts of second-degree official misconduct and one count of sexual assault and carrying a sentence of five to ten years in prison on each count, would be dismissed, as well as four counts of sexual contact and one count of attempted sexual contact.

A science teacher, Wood was accused of molesting one 12-year-old and five 13-year-old female students by touching them on the buttocks with his hands or rubbing up against their buttocks while they stood at lab stations in class. The incidents occurred between September 1996 and June 1998. The suspension was made after parents complained to school officials and an investigation was conducted. Wood was arrested in January of 1999.

Wood taught in the school dis-

Wood taught in the school district for 21 years. He is free on a \$30,000 bond.

Noise Ordinance to Limit Late Night Garbage Pickups Amended

In the past, garbage collectors, household or commercial, have been exempt from the South Plainfield noise ordinance because

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TO SUBSCRIBE SEE P. 9

they were a public utility and the fine for violations was only \$100. New amendments to the ordinance introduced at the last council meeting will change the hours of collection in residential areas and impose greater fines.

Councilwoman Darlene Pinto has done extensive research and concluded that surrounding municipalities have more specific ordinances which limit the hours of collection. She felt that the borough would benefit by following suit.

At last week's council meeting a noise ordinance was introduced amending the current ordinances and increasing the fines for violations to \$1,000.

South Plainfield Ordinance #1521, entitled "noise", will be amended and the phrase "Those

engaged in the collection of household garbage" will be deleted and "All collections of refuse adjacent to residences" will replace it. These changes should make the ordinance easier to enforce.

In addition, violations and penalties will be amended to increase fines from \$200 to \$1,000 for violations and the allowable hours of collection will be added to the ordinance. Collection at residences will be permitted between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. These hours will not apply to business, industrial or commercial premises, except if they are adjacent to residential premises.

The amendments will take effect after a public hearing and vote at the September 9 council meeting.



Councilwoman Darlene Pinto presents a certificate of appreciation to Salvatore Esposito for his many years of service on the borough's Land Management Advisory Committee.

In My Opinion

Letter

Dear Residents of South Plainfield:

This past August 11, the South Plainfield Golf Association sponsored the fifth annual and biggest ever, South Plainfield Open Golf Outing for the benefit of the South Plainfield High School Golf Team. While it is difficult to thank all those who helped make this event the great success it was, we would like to take this opportunity to do so. Our sincerest thanks go to all the area businesses and individual sponsors who donated their time, cash, supplies and prizes:

PLATINUM SPONSORS -ARMPCO Office Machines DeAndrea Associates, Disch Tree Experts, Fyre Technology, Inc., J.D.M. Trucking & Rig-ging, Inc., Sal's Spirit Shoppe. GOLD SPONSORS—Car-

pet Showcase, Inc., Comcast Cablevision of New Jersey, Di-Lex Trucking, Inc., ECI Communications, Instruments S.A., J. Anthony Equipment Co., JAFCO Supply, John Cecchettini Insurance Agency, The Lampost, Stilo Excavation, Inc., Tele Cable Inc., Thatcher & Lanza, Esq.

SILVER SPONSORS—Ab-

IMPORTANT BOROUGH MEETING NOTES

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.

Board of Education Meetings 1999/2000

Committee of the Whole Meetings 1999 1999: September 14, October 12, November 9, December 14 2000: January 11, February 8, March 7, April 4

Regular Monthly Meetings 1999: September 21, October 19, November 16, December 21 2000: January 18, February 15, March 14, April 11, 2000

Zoning Board of Adjustment

First, third and fifth Tuesday of the month as follows: August 31, September 21, October 5, October 19, Nov. 4 (Thursday), November 16, November 30, December 7, December 21

Second and fourth Tuesday of the month as Follows:

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

1999 Meeting Dates

September 23, October 28

Planning Board

October 26

1999 Meeting Dates

September 14, September 28,

Council Meetings

AGENDA MEETINGS ...

Monday, Nov. 8

Monday, Dec. 6.

solute Fire Protection, Butrico's Auto Body, Inc., Caruso-Dello-mo Construction, Columbia Savings Bank, E. A. Boniakowski Agency, Frank A. Santoro, Esq., The Hess Group Incorporated, Home Capital Network, Innovative Folding Cartons Co., Johnstone, Skok, Laughlin & Lane, Lumar Enterprises Inc., McCriskin Home for Funerals, Plainfield Animal Hospital, PC., R.A.D. Corporation, Roma Food Enterprises, Inc., Skrocki Memorial Home, South Plainfield Education Association, Staats Auto Body, Thomas E. Hood, PA, Valley National Bank.
BRONZE SPONSORS—

Patrick Diegnan Jr. Attorney at Law, Blaise of Color, Caldwell Tire Company, Inc., Renato Biribin Counsellor at Law, Excel Communications, Inc., Good Time Auto Repair, Heidi's Hair and Nails, Lynn Graphics Incorporated, Paul's Stationery, Zebro's Car & Truck Repair

SPECIAL SPONSORS-Acme Food Stores, Bagel Pantry, Costco Wholesale, Crown Reef Resort, Flemington Ford, Freihofer's Baking Co., GE Capital, Goodyear Auto Service Center, Here's The Scoop, Liccardi Ford, Masda Corp., Mita Copiers, New Jersey Nets Basketball, M&V Tobacco Outlet, Penske Trucking, Rick Morrison, V.A. Tramontano & Son, Rita's Italian Ice, Sears Hardware, White Beeches Golf & Country Club. Special thanks to the South Plainfield Athletic Booster Club for their continued support!

To see a recap of this event, see page 8 or visit our web site at SINCERELY,

SOUTH PLAINFIELD GOLF ASSOCIATION

NJ KidCare Program Available

The Middlesex County Children's Health Commission has announced that it has been awarded a grant to provide outreach services for the New Jersey KidCare program by the New Jersey Department of Human Services.

The NJ KidCare Program is an initiative to provide health insurance coverage for uninsured children in New Jersey. Families with a gross family income of up to 350 percent of the poverty level are now eligible for KidCare coverage. This means that families earning \$38,710 for a family of two or \$57,575 for a family of four would be entitled to healthcare coverage for uninsured children up to 19 years of age.

A meeting is planned in September with area mayors and

school leaders to find a way to reach those eligible for this program.

For further information on this program, call Mary Varga Crabiel, chairperson at (732) 745-3729.



PLEASE BE AWARE: Residents are reminded that there is no longer a clothes drop off at Bradlees Shopping Center on Oak Tree Rd. As evidenced in the recent photo, clothes are left beside the utility box. The sight has now become an eyesore

Middlesex Public Health **Department Offers** Reduced Fee Mammograms

The Middlesex Public Health Department provides a reduced fee mammography, program, Below is a list of where the program will be offered through the end of the year. The cost is \$90. If you are over age 50 and do not have insurance, you may be eligible to receive services under the Women's Cancer Screening Program.

The program is open to all Middlesex County women age 35 and over. If you are under age 35 and have a prescription from your doctor, you will be eligible for services. Along with the mammogram, blood pressure screening, health education and a breast exam are also provided.

For Medicare clients, the Women's Mobile diagnostic will bill Medicare directly. Medicare now pays for annual mammo-gram. Deductible does not have to be met. Medicare pays a

The Observer encourages all organizations, businesses or anyone preparing floats or decorated vehicles for the Labor Day Parade to call us at 668 = 0010. We would like to cover

the parade "in the making"

maximum of \$64.73. The patient is responsible for the co-payment. The total payment will not exceed \$90.

If you are under 65, payment can be made with cash or check. A doctor's note is not required, however, your insurance company may require it when you submit your claim. You will be given a receipt for insurance purposes. In 1991 the legislature mandated health insurers to provide coverage for screening mammograms. You may want to call your insurance company to find out what amount of coverage you are entitled to. For more information, call Connie at (732) 494-67452.

Mammography Screening Schedule

Sept. 21.....9 a.m.-3 p.m. Piscataway Senior Center

Nov. 16......9 a.m.-3 p.m. East Brunswick Senior Ctr.

Nov. 30......9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monroe Senior Center

Space is limited and by appointment only. Call Connic at (732) 494-6742.

The South Plainfield Labor Day Parade Committee would like to invite all former Labor Day Parade Grand Marshals to attend the **42nd Annual Labor Day Parade** and view the parade from the reviewing stand.

For further information, contact Addie Levine at 561-9161 (eve.) or 754-7306 (day).

* Date has been changed from Monday, Nov 15

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.

NANCY GRENNIER Publisher/Editor

ALL MEETINGS ARE

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

.. PUBLIC MEETINGS

November 9, November 23

December 14, December 28

...... Thursday, Sept 9

Thursday, Sept 23
Thursday, Oct. 14
Thursday, Oct. 28
*Monday, Nov. 22

... Thursday, Dec. 9

WAYNE GRENNIER

SUSAN KANEPS Art Director/Associate Editor PATRICIA ABBOTT

Staff Writer **BRIAN COCHRANE** Sports Writer

BRIGGS LONGBOTHUM KENNETH MORGAN Correspondents

ROXANNE CORTESE WILLIAM TUTHILL Advertising Sales

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:

Type (double spaced) the article you wish published.
Mail, fax or drop it at: Editorial Department
South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Bhd., 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 spobserver.com. Include your name, address, telephone number

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Kids from Elsie Ave. set up a curbside table selling snacks, drinks, candy and various homemade crafts. Pictured are Joshua and Johnathan Guirguis, Danny and Amanda Zalinsky, Nicole and Melissa White, Joe Trafficente, not pictured are Alyssa and Rachael Scrudato.

Community

Year 2000 Budget Introduced; No Increase in Municipal Taxes

The 2000 Fiscal Budget was introduced at last weeks council meeting.

Councilman Ed Kubala noted this year's budget, as promised by Mayor Dan Gallagher at the January reorganization meeting, will mean no increase in taxes this year.

The total municipal budget is \$18,161,490, up by \$393,147 from last year. The tax rate for

municipal purposes will remain at 75.3 cents per \$100 assessed value. This year South Plainfield will only receive \$225,000 in extraordinary state aid. Five years ago the borough received \$500,000.

Kubala also noted that this year the school tax rate is down by two points and the county tax rate is down by 1 point.

South Plainfield Employee Appreciation Day to Be Held

The South Plainfield Recreation Department is inviting all borough employees to the First Annual Employee Appreciation

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, Wed-

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

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

Day to be held on Saturday, September 11 at the Community Pool on Maple Ave. from 12 noon until 5 p.m.

Employees should bring their own food and soda. Grills will be available to cook on. Games that are set up at the pool include volleyball, bocce, horseshoes, basketball, handball, etc.

All employees and volunteers are welcome to attend. This includes South Plainfield's firemen, police, rescue squad, public works, borough hall, recreation, emergency management, teachers teachers aids, board of education employees and anyone who is employed for South Plainfield.

Businesses Utilize Facade Program

By Patricia Abbott

The downtown area of South Plainfield has been undergoing renovations for several years. The new street lights installed a year ago add a touch of days-gone-by to the center of town. Many of the businesses have also gotten a facelift thanks to the Borough of South Plainfield Facade Improvement Program.

Cindy Michael Jewelry and South Plainfield Music Store are the latest additions to the program. The program will help provide both businesses with new store front signs. Another business that recently met all criteria is Cornerstone Architectural Group. Two more downtown businesses are in the process of applying.

plying.
Councilwoman Darlene Pinto,
Chairperson of Economic Development, provided details of the
facade program. The program enables business owners in the
downtown area the chance to

improve the exterior of their building through a combination of grants and loans. A business is eligible to receive up to \$5,000 in matching grants if all criteria are met. The applicant provides 50% of the total cost of renovation and the grant will provide 50% not to exceed \$5,000. Lowinterest loans from Columbia Savings Bank are also available. Loan amounts per application range from \$3,000 to \$50,000 and repayment is scheduled up to seven years. An applicant may apply for a grant, a loan or both. Applications are on a first come, first serve basis.

An advantage of the program is that grant money does not have to be paid back, except in certain cases, such as a business closing or a property sale. The interest rates on the loans available are considerably better than can be obtained individually.

The grants and loans under the program must be used exclusively

for exterior improvements. Examples of work which qualify are corrections of exterior code violations, painting and siding, signs and awnings, exterior repairs, door and window replacement, shutters and trim work. Additional types of work may also qualify for loans.

The program offers limited free design assistance provided from the Borough of South Plainfield's Office of Community & Eco-

design assistance provided from the Borough of South Plainfield's Office of Community & Economic Development. They have publications, videos and other materials available to assist with decisions. The program will also determine what type of professional services are needed. If approved, a business may be eligible for an additional grant of \$500 to pay for architectural services. A list of contractors is also available to assist with bids as well.

This year up to \$40,000 in Community Development Block Grant Funds has been committed for the program. Columbia Savings Bank has committed \$500,000 in the form of low-interest loans. The Facade Improvement Program was organized with the assistance of the South Plainfield Business Association. If you would like more information on this program contact Councilwoman Darlene Pinto at 561-

Billboard Ordinance Introduced Amidst Much Opposition

When a billboard ordinance was introduced at last week at the council meeting, all were in agreement that no one is in favor of billboards in South Plainfield.

However, Mayor Gallagher feels strongly that an ordinance is needed because of past court decisions which have gone against the borough. Gallagher stressed time and again at last week's meeting that he will not spend the taxpayers money going to court and fighting what he believes is a losing battle.

Borough Attorney Patrick Diegnan said that there have already been several applications to erect billboards in South Plainfield. Presently there are no laws in affect covering billboards. Diegnan feels the borough will be challenged and the courts will rule against us as they did previously in the case of microwave and phone towers.

By regulating any future billboards, Gallagher said we will at least have control over what and where they are placed.

Those opposing the ordinance want more research done on the laws and restrictions other towns have in place to prevent the placement of billboards. Larry Randolph, a member of the Environmental Commission, brought up the fact that Edison has passed a billboard law which hasn't been challenged. Others who spoke against the ordinance were Jake Caltaldo, Mary Mazepa and Hank Grabarz, asking that the council reconsider implementing the ordinance.

There will be an opportunity for the public to speak at the September 9 council meeting before a vote is taken. The mayor added that in the meantime he will look into what other municipalities are doing to restrict billboards.

Quilt Raffle Tickets Still Available

The Historical Society Labor Day raffle tickets were distributed last week. The first prize is a Pennsylvania Dutch queen size hand-sewn quilt. Second prize is two tickets for a Sunday Brunch cruise aboard the Cornucopia Princess.

Tickets are still available. Contact Mary Mazepa, 754-3503; Bill Tuthill, 756-9654 or Arlene Anthony, 753-7852.

Please note that all raffle tickets, sold or unsold, must be returned by 2 p.m. on Labor Day. You can bring them to the park or they can be mailed to South Plainfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 11, South Plainfield, NJ 07080. All unsold books must also be returned.





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The Woodlands

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AROUND TOWN

EVENTS

GOP to Hold Annual Fashion Show

The South Plainfield Republican Organization will be hosting their Sixth Annual "Fall into Fashion" Fashion Show and Brunch on Sunday, September 12, at the Metuchen Country

Club in Metuchen. Fashions will once again be provided by BJ's Dressing Room in Scotch Plains and The Answer, specializing in wom-an's sizes, in Menlo Park. Door prizes and the traditional gift basket raffle will highlight the

Tickets are \$35 and may be obtained by calling Kathy at 755-2068. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

Cup Pack 324 to Hold Car Wash

Cub Scout Pack 324 from Kennedy School will be sponsoring a car wash on Saturday, Sep-

tember 11 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The car wash will be held in the parking lot of South Plain-field Middle School located on Plainfield Avenue. The fee per

Please come out and support the Cub Scouts in this fundraising project.

New Jersey's 18th Annual "Let's Talk Adoption" Conference

The 18th Annual "Let's Talk Adoption" Conference will be held at Seton Hall University in South Orange on Saturday, November 6 from 8 a.m.-4:45

The conference is sponsored by Concerned Persons for Adoption. The keynote speaker will be Dr. David Brodzinsky and the luchtime speaker is Dr. Anne Brodzinsky (limited seat-

Over 25 different workshops will be held throughout the day for prospective and current adoptive parents, adoption professionals, and members of the adoption triad.

Wokshops to be held include: Homestudy, International Opportunities, Adopting the waiting child, Searching, INS Update Subsidies, How to Finance an Adoption, Finding a Therapist, School Issues and Language Issues for the Internationally Adopted Child

To register, call 908-273-5694 or email mcben2l6@aol.com to have a registration flyer sent to

VFW Annual Picnic Will Celebrate 100th Anniversary

This year the VFW Annual Picnic will celebrate the year-long commemoration of the Veterans of Foreign Wars 100th Anniversary.

The picnic will be held on September 11, rain or shine, from noon to 6 p.m. Tickets are on sale at the VFW Post or at the gate. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$6 for children 5 to

12. Children under five are free.

The fair will include the usual pig roast, as well as chicken and plenty of hot dogs, hamburgers, salads, beer and soda. There will also be a D.J., games and a moonwalk for the kiddies. For additional information, call 908-668-9751.

Come and bring your family and friends to eat, sing, dance and have a few laughs. The winter season will be here all too

The VFW Post will also be holding its monthly dinner on Sept. 24. A full dinner will be served for just \$6.

Recycling Comm. Reschedules Meeting

The South Plainfield Recycling Commission did not meet on Thursday, August 26, as was scheduled. The next meeting will take place on September 23.

Seniors Plan Trip to 'Mame" at Paper Mill Playhouse

The South Plainfield Recreation Department would like all seniors to join them in a trip to see "Mame" on Wednesday, Oct. 20, at the Paper Mill Play-

Jerry Herman's legendary hit musical will feature stage and screen star Christine Ebersole as the larger-than-life Auntie Mame, who will "coax the blues right out of the horn" in this dazzling musical.

The cost for seniors is \$20 per person and transportation is included. Tickets can be pur-chased at the PAL Building on Maple Ave. For more information call 226-7713.

Columbiettes Fall **Events Announced**

The South Plainfield Columbiettes are sponsoring several events this fall, including an auction, shopping trip, Country Western dinner-dance and a Christmas show. All events are open to the public.

The Chinese style auction will be held on Friday, Oct. 1, in the Sacred Heart School cafeteria. Doors open at 6 p.m. and drawings start at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$6 and includes a sheet of auction tickets and a door prize for all who attend.

Food will be available for purchase in the kitchen and complimentary coffee, tea and dessert will be served. Tickets are on sale and may be purchased by calling Mary Ann at (908) 226-1222.

If anyone has new items they wish to donate, bring them to the Parish Center weekdays or

call Mary Ann to arrange pick-up. On Saturday, Nov. 6, the Columbiettes will sponsor a shopping trip to Reading, Pa. The cost is \$18. Bus leaves from the Knights of Columbus Hall on 334 Hamilton Blvd. at 8 a.m. for five hours of shopping before stopping at the Cracker Barrel for an early dinner on your own. The return to South Plainfield is expected at 6:30 p.m. Last year's trip sold out early so reserve as

soon as possible by calling Mary Ann at the above number.

A Country Western dinner dance will be held on Saturday, Nov. 20, at Bobby & Mary's on William St. in Piscataway. Tickets will be \$20 and include a buffet dinner and soft drinks. Dance lessons will be by Boot Scootin Slim and Pam. For information, call Helen at (908) 757-8332.

The Columbiettes will also have a bus trip to "The Miracle of Christmas" at Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, Pa., on Saturday, Dec. 11. The cost is \$85 and includes the show, transportation and dinner. The bus will leave from the Knights of Columbus Hall at 9 a.m. and return at approximately 9 p.m.

Reservation deadline is Oct.

15. Call Mary Ann for info.

AARP Schedules Meetings

South Plainfield Chapter #4144, AARP, resumes monthly meetings on September 17 at 12:30 p.m. at the PAL Building, 1250 Maple Ave. The guest speaker, Mr. John Mulkerin, President of First Savings Bank, will tell everyone how banks are preparing for Y2K, and how to protect yourself from the numer-ous "scams" that are being gen-erated from fears of the changeovers.

They are accepting reservations for a bus trip to Three Little Bakers Dinner Theater (in Delaware) to see "The Unsinkable Molly Brown". Price of \$49 includes, dinner, show, transportation and gratuities. You do not have to be a member of AARP. Call Lee at (732) 968-6613 or Mary (732) 752-3764 for the September 23 performance.

Business Association Cancels Meetings

The South Plainfield Business Association did not be meet during July and August.

The 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.

Polish National Home Flea Market

Polish National Home is seeking vendors for a flea market to be every Sunday through November at 312 New Market Ave. They are currently seeking vendors. 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. Ticket are \$27 and may be purchased by calling 908-754-8275 or from any aux-

iliary member.

Tickets will not be sold at the door. Proceeds from this annual fund raiser help the South Plainfield Rescue Squad defray numerFrom the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

With the Summer Reading Club finished for the year and the start of school a couple of weeks away, we've eased back a little here at South Plainfield Library. Even with that, though, there are still items to pass along.

We have a correction: There will be no children's Storytime programs for the next two veeks. They'll resume on Tues-

day, September 14. Last Thursday, we held the closing program for the Summer Reading Club. We had a very good crowd for the program, to put it mildly. The kids were well behaved and really enjoyed the silly songs performance by Mr. Kurt. If your child wasn't able to attend, please stop by and pick up their certificate from the

This month's group of Circuit videos will be available until closing time today. The new group will be in place late next week.

We've gotten many comments about our August displays. As noted before, our cabinets have local artifacts and memorabilia from the Historical Society, while our display wall features a handmade quilt. If you'd like to see them, though, you'd better get moving. They'll be up until Monday.

In recent days, there seems to be an upswing in the number of people (usually kids) that use our Internet terminals to log onto chat rooms. Now, we've advised against this in the past, mainly due to matters of personal security and safety. But, now, there's another reason. We recently installed some new security software that seems to show little tolerance of chat rooms. Many times, the terminals end up crashing on people in mid-conversation. If you want your cor-

respondence to go through without trouble, you'll just have to use your own computers for chat rooms. If we find a patron using our terminals for chat rooms, said patron will be asked to log off at once.

Don't forget about the perfor-

mance by local resident Dave Street on Saturday, Sept. 11 at 11 a.m. He'll be performing his environmental theater show for all ages. There's no admission charge for this performance. One correction, though, the performance will take place here at the library, not in Borough Hall, as previously noted. For more information, call us at (908) 754-7885. Friday, August 13, marked the

100th anniversary of the birth of Alfred Hitchcock. (Pretty appropriate; Friday the 13th.) We feature several films by the Master of Suspense in our video collection. Titles include some of his early works, like "Jamaica Inn", as well as his later, betterknown films. Those include the psychological thriller "Vertigo" with James Stewart, the wartime espionage story "Notorious" starring Cary Grant and Ingrid Bergman, and perhaps his best-known film, the horrifying "Psycho". We also have the docu-mentary "Inside Hitchcook", which includes clips from his films and interviews with Hitchcock himself. Our videos can be borrowed, four at a time, for two days at no cost. But, if you do take out a Hitchcock movie. take our advice: leave the lights

on when you watch it.

We'll close out today's column with a note of congratulations to staff member Eleanor Haines, who's been named Grand Mar-shal of South Plainfield's Labor Day Parade. Thanks for your attention; see you in September.



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The Observer will be handing out the September 3 issue at the park after the Labor Day Parade. To advertise call 668-0010.

Send Us Your News or Events

We would love to publish your news, weddings, anniversaries or any special occasion. You can also submit your events for the AROUND TOWN page.

You can mail or drop off your stories and pictures to: The South Plainfield OBSERVER, 1100 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or fax to (908)668-0010, or email to GGNAN@aol.com

Recreation Plans Labor **Day Games** and Contests

The Recreation Department is planning several games and contest f or the kids and adults to be

held after the parade.
Residents should plan to stay in
Veteran's Park after the Labor Day Parade is over to enjoy the games and contests as well as the homemade food.

An obstacle course, an Izzy dizzy contest, grease pole contest and sand art will be part of the festivities on the field starting at l p.m. In next week's Observer we will list a complete schedule with including starting times.

Tomato and Zuchini Contest

Residents who want to enter their prize tomatoes or zuchini for judging should bring them to Veterans' Park by the reviewing stand. Someone will be there to help show you how to sign up and answer any questions. Judges will choose the best of the best right after the parade and ribbons will be presented to the winners.

Pie Eating Contest

To enter the Pie Eating Contest just sign up by the reviewing stand. Last year this contest turned out to be lots of fun. The blueberry pies are returning as the pie of choice. This contest has no age or size limit, so why not join in the fun and sign up

Celebrate Labor Day! PLAINFIELD "MARCHES INTO THE MILLENNIUM"

Friends of the Woods to Celebrate Labor Day

Friends of the Woods would like to invite you to join them in South Plainfield's Labor Day Parade. To promote Highland Avenue Woods Environmental Eduafloat in the parade featuring young birders among native trees and shrubs. Signs will feature plant, animal and bird species

found in the preserve.

There will be a pavilion at Veterans' Park where residents may obtain handouts and register for a nature walk through the trails of Veterans' Park at 1 "Walk'n Talks" Program sponsored by the South Plainfield Environmental Commission.

Take advantage of this excellent opportunity to learn more about opportunities that can be found here in South Plainfield in South Plainfield.



Class—The Girls Next Door will perform at Spring Lake Park at 6 p.m. Pictured are Jan Bender, Kacey Lechowski and Joannie Ann

Class-The Girls Next Door To Perform on Labor Day

By Patricia Abbott

With their poodle skirts and pony tails, bobby sox and blue leans, "Class—The Girls Next Door" come rocking into the 90's singing and dancing. They take you by the hand and bring you with them back to the early days of rock and roll.

Class began with the simple love, and longing for the music of the 50s, as Kacey Lechowski and her cousin Jan Bender often attended 50's concerts in full recipies of the Rebuser Efficie Their galia of the Fabulous Fifties. Their enthusiasm was contagious and the often slow crowds at the start of concerts were in high gear by the time the top performers arrived on stage. The oldies artists welcomed the antics of the costumed duo.

In 1994 Kacey and Jan recruited Joannie Ann. They hit the road as groupies of various old-ies bands. Their crowd pleasing, warm-up act quickly grew in popularity. Word was out that these three were the way to open a concert or show. In time the decision was made to go professional and expand their talents. Last year they hired a five piece band, The Blues Brothers II, to play for them.

They may have started with just two but the entourage now numbers about 15. In addition to Kacey, Jan and Joannie, they have two back up singers, the five band members, one sound and stage man, two children backups and two roadies. Kacey's husband, Eddie Lechowski, handles the sound and stage work for Class. He recently purchased a recording studio that will be moved to South Plainfield in October.

Class has opened for various groups including Richard Nadar's Doo Wop Show which features performers such as Bobby Rydell, the Duprees, Frankie Lyman, Joey Dee, Leslie Gore and more. In October they will open at Madison Square Garden for the Rock and Roll Revival. Upcoming is a six month job with a Caribbean cruise line where Class will do Saturday shows every other weekend.

ground in performing that dates back to when she was five years old. She has made appearances with Merv Griffin, Don Ho, Paul in English and a BA in education,

16 years. She currently works in business administration and public relations, in addition to owning a boutique called Kacev's acious Boutique on Front Street right here in South Plainfield. In addition, she is a wife, mother and grandmother of five.

Jan Bender has worked in communications industry for the past 18 years. She has entertained in the US and abroad. She is recognized for love of nostalgia and her ability to transfer that emotion to the audience. She specializes in amusing and entertaining young audiences by portraying children's characters. She is a college graduate, a mother and a career profes-

Joannie Ann works in communications management and has degrees in marketing and internal business. With Class she specializes in choreography. She has traveled extensively in the US and abroad. Joannie is mother of three.

Class can be found on the WEB at www.classgirls.com and HTTP:/members.tripod.com/ ~Classgirls/class.html. Plans are in the works to market dolls and T-shirts. Their CD will be available in December.

Class is a class act that will open for "Sound Investment" on Labor Day. The show will take place at Spring Lake Park before the fireworks

Time is **Running Out** to Sign Up for Marchers/ Concessions

If your organization or group vants to enter a float or march in the parade please contact Jan La Jeunesse at 561-4416 or Joe Scrudato at 754-0869. The parade committee is still looking for convertible cars to ride in the parade. Call Joe or Jan if you can help out by donating your car for the day.

Concession stands and booths at Veterans' Park during the afternoon are filling up, but there is still room for a few more. If interested, contact Ms. Darlene Pinto at 561-1517.

Veterans' Park will have plenty of food and beverages to chose from. The list includes the Lions Club selling beer, steak sand-wiches, sausage and beverages; SPHS Music Booster Club selling hot dogs, soda and coffee; the fire department selling snow cones; Knights of Columbus selling corn on the cob, D&D Concessions selling lemonade, popcorn, cotton candy, choros and

Booths scheduled to be at the park are the South Plainfield Historical Society raffling off a quilt, the fire department with a dunk-ing booth, American Red Cross, the Plainfield Curling Club, South Plainfield Observer, Dandee Pets, Fiegley's Gymnastics, Friends of the Woods and

The Labor Day **Parade Committee is** asking any residents who could loan their convertibles for the parade to please call **Mike English** at 226-7713.

Marchers Needed

The VFW is looking for some good marchers for the Labor Day Parade. If interested, give the VFW Post a call at 908-668-9751.

The Knights of Columbus are also looking for members who would like to march with them. Call Joe Scrudato at 754-0869 to sign up.



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Library Reading Program Winds Down

Kids Celebrate Love for **Reading With Songs**



ing Program for the younger set, ages 2-8, closed on August 19 with a fun evening of laughter and silly songs. The entertainment was provided by Kurt Gallagher. Mr. Kurt is an established entertainer from New York. A recording artist whose roots began with preschoolers as he recorded in Mahwah and Philadelphia, Pa. He has been entertaining at schools, libraries and special events since

Mr. Kurt accompanied himself and his wonderful nonsensical songs and poems on the guitar and other instruments. The children loved the jaw, ukulele and penny whistle. They clapped and sang and giggled. They were quite generous with applause and vocal appreciation of Mr. Kurt's antics. Five-year-old Jena Cianfrocca interacted with mom Terry during many of the songs. She giggled as she pointed out a boy, as was requested by Mr. Kurt.

The summer reading program for this age group included a readto-me program for the very young. Those able to read for themselves belonged to the regular reading program. The number of books read by the youngsters was phe-nomenal. Certificates were awarded during the course of the evening by program coordinators Ms. Linda and Ms. Cheryl.









Photos by Bill Tuthill and Patricia Abbott









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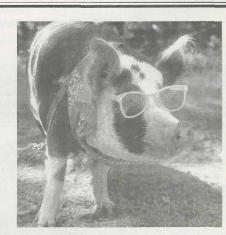
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13 Sat. Playoffs

SOUTH PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

SPORTS SCHEDULE

VARSITY FOOTBALL AUGUST 31 Tues. Point Pleasant Beach/ Away 10:00 Hightstown SEPTEMBER 2 Thurs. Colonia (scrimmage) Home 3:45 9 Thurs. North Brunswick Home 7:00 18 Sat. J. F. Kennedy ... 24 Fri. Monroe Township Home 7:00 OCTOBER 8 Fri. Carteret Away 7:00 16 Sat. Spotswood 1:00 29 Fri. Bishop Ahr Away 7:00 NOVEMBER St. Mary's-South Amboy Home 7:00

VARSITY & JUNIOR VARSITY BOYS SOCCER

SEPTEMBER				
		Colonia (scrimmage)	Home 3:45	
	Sat.	Edison (scrimmage)		
	Tues.	Princeton (scrimmage)		
9	Thurs.	,		
13	Mon.	Monroe Township		
15	Wed.	Spotswood		
17	Fri.	Middlesex	A Part of the Control	
22	Wed.	J. F. Kennedy	Away 3:45	
24	Fri.	New Brunswick		
27	Mon.	South River	Away 3:45	
00	ТОВЕ	R		
4	Mon.,	Monroe Township	Home 3:45	
6	Wed.	Monroe Township Spotswood	Home 3:45	
8	Fri.	Middlesex	Away 3:45	
12	Tues.	J. F. Kennedy		
14	Thurs.	New Brunswick	Away 3:45	
18	Mon.	South River JV/3:45	Home 7:00	
20	Wed.	Metuchen	Away 3:45	
22	Fri.,	Rahway	Home 3:45	
23	Sat.	GMC Tournament		
29	Fri.	Cranford	Away 4:00	
		State Tournament		

VARSITY & JUNIOR VARSITY GIRLS SOCCER

SE	PTEM	IBER		
1	Wed.	Princeton (scrimmage)	Home	2:00
9	Thurs.	J. P. Stevens	Home	3:45
13	Mon.	Carteret	Home	3:45
15	Wed.	Spotswood	Home	3:45
18	Sat.	Woodbridge	Away	11:00
22	Wed.	J. F. Kennedy	Home	3:45
24	Fri.	New Brunswick	Away	3:45
27	Mon.	South River	Home	3:45
00	CTOBE	R		
1	Fri.	Metuchen	Away	3:45
4	Mon.	Carteret	Away	3:45
6	Wed.	Spotswood	Away	3:45
8	Fri.	Cranford	Home	3:45
11	Mon.	Highland Park	Away	6:00

• football • soccer • tennis • gymnastics • cross country • field hockey • football • tennis • cross country

October (cont)				
12 Tues.	J. F. Kennedy	F. Kennedy Away		
14 Thurs.	New Brunswick	Home	3:45	
18 Mon.,	South River	Away	3:45	
20 Wed.	Metuchen JV/5:15	Home	7:00	
23 Sat.	GMC Tournament			
25 Mon.	South Amboy	Away	3:45 V	
	State Tournament			

VARSITY & JUNIOR VARSITY FIELD HOCKEY

			a Charles of the last		
SEPTEMBER					
Sat.	Scrimmage Workshop	Home	9:00		
Thurs.	Union	Away	3:45		
Mon.	Sayreville	Home	3:45		
Wed.	Monroe Township	Away	3:45		
Fri.	Old Bridge	Away	3:45		
Wed.	East Brunswick	Home	3:45		
Fri.	Metuchen	Home	3:45		
Mon.	Middlesex	Home	3:45		
Tues.	Hopewell Valley	Home	3:45 V		
CTOBE					
Fri.	Piscataway	Away	3:45		
Mon.	Sayreville	Away	3:45		
Wed.	Monroe Township	Home	3:45		
Sat.	Old Bridge	Home	11:00		
Oct.	East Brunswick	Away	3:45		
Oct.	Metuchen	Away	3:45		
Fri.	Cranford	Home	3:45		
Mon.					
Wed.	Piscataway	Home	3:45		
Tues.	GMC Tournament				
	State Tournament				
	Sat. Thurs. Mon. Wed. Fri. Wed. Fri. Mon. Tues. TOBE Fri. Mon. Wed. Sat. Oct. Oct. Fri. Mon. Wed.	Sat. Scrimmage Workshop Thurs. Union Mon. Sayreville Wed. Monroe Township Fri. Old Bridge Wed. East Brunswick Fri. Metuchen Mon. Middlesex Tues. Hopewell Valley TOBER Fri. Piscataway Mon. Sayreville Wed. Monroe Township Sat. Old Bridge Oct. East Brunswick Metuchen Fri. Cranford Mon. Middlesex Mon. Middlesex Metuchen Fri. Cranford Mon. Middlesex Wed. Piscataway Tues. GMC Tournament	Sat. Scrimmage Workshop Home Thurs. Union Away Mon. Sayreville Home Wed. Monroe Township Away Fri. Old Bridge Away Wed. East Brunswick Home Mon. Middlesex Home Tues. Hopewell Valley Home Tober Fri. Piscataway Away Mon. Sayreville Away Wed. Monroe Township Home Sat. Old Bridge Home Oct. East Brunswick Away Fri. Cranford Home Mon. Middlesex Away Wed. Monroe Township Home Sat. Old Bridge Home Oct. Fast Brunswick Away Cot. Metuchen Away Mon. Middlesex Away Mon. Middlesex Away Wed. Piscataway Home Mon. Middlesex Away Wed. Piscataway Wed. Piscataway Wed. Piscataway Wed. Piscataway Wed. Piscataway Wed. Monroe Township Home		

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

17	Fri.	St. Mary's	Away 3:45	
		St. Peter's	Away 3:45	
00	CTOBE	ER		
1	Fri.	North Brunswick	Away 3:45	
5	Tues.	Dunellen	Home 3:45	
12	Tues.	South Amboy	Away 3:45	
15	Fri.	Highland Park/Edison	Away 3:45	
19	Tues.	New Brunswick	Home 3:45	
23	Sat.	GMC Meet	. Away	
26	Tues.	Middlesex	Away 3:45	
NOVEMBER				
2	Tues.	South River	Away 3:45	

November (cont.)

State Sectionals **Shore Coaches Invitational**

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

SEPTEMBER				
9 Thurs.	Monroe Township	. Away 3:45		
14 Tues.	Perth Amboy	. Home 3:45		
22 Wed.	J. F. Kennedy	. Home 3:45		
28 Tues.	Carteret	. Away 3:45		
OCTOBE	ER .			
1 Fri.	North Brunswick	. Away 3:45		
5 Tues.	Spotswood	. Home 3:45		
15 Fri.	Highland Park/Edison	. Away 3:45		
19 Tues.	Middlesex	. Away 3:45		
23 Sat.	GMC Meet			
26 Tues.	Colonia	. Home 3:45		
NOVEMBER				
2 Tues.	Bishop AhrState Sectionals	. Away 3:45		
	Shore Coaches Invitational			

GIRLS TENNIS				
SEPTEMBER				
8	Wed.	North Brunswick	Home	3:45
10	Fri.	Carteret	Away	3:45
13	Mon.	Colonia	Home	3:45
15	Wed.	Monroe Township	Home	3:45
17	Fri.	Mother Seton	Away	3:45
22	Wed.	J. F. Kennedy	Home	3:45
24	Fri.	Bishop Ahr	Away	3:45
27	Mon.	North Brunswick	Away	3:45
29	Wed.	Carteret	Home	3:45
00	TOBE	R		
1	Fri.	GMC Tournament		
2	Sat.	GMC Tournament		
 6	Wed.	Colonia	Away	3:45
8	Fri.	Monroe Township	Away	3:45
12	Tues.	Mother Seton	Home	3:45
13	Wed.	J. F. Kennedy	Away	3:45
15	Fri.	Bishop Ahr	Home	3:45
		State Tournament		
				1

CAMMAGAILC

UTIVINASTICS					
SEPTEM	SEPTEMBER				
14 Tues.	Old Bridge	Home	5:30		
16 Thurs.	South Brunswick	Away	5:00		
18 Sat.	Pioneer Classic at				
	Somerville High School	Away	12:30		
22 Wed.	Piscataway	Home	5:30		
24 Fri.	Bishop Ahr	Away	4:30		
28 Tues.	North Brunswick	Away	4:45		
OCTOBE	R				
5 Tues.	East Brunswick	Home	5:30		
8 Fri.	Montgomery	Away	5:00		
12 Tues.	Sayreville	Away	4:30		
21 Thurs.	GMC Tournament				
26 Tues.	Hillsborough	Home	5:30		
NOVEMBER					

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SPORTS



Winners of Low Team Score are (left to right): Steve Qaugliero, Pat Devany, Jimmy Painter and Kevin Campana.

Kevin Campana Captures South Plainfield Open

Against a field of 170 golfers, the largest South Plainfield Open to date, local resident Kevin Campana took first place at this year's tournament with a one under par gross score of 71, at the near by par 72 Bunker Hill Golf Course. Kumi Fujii won the women's division with a gross score of 82.

This was the Fifth Annual South Plainfield Open, a fund Jimmy Painter (77), Steve Quagliero (83), and Pat Devany (88). There were also special awards given to Tony Grzan, who pounded the Men's Longest Drive. Joyce Rose hit the women's Longest Drive. Linda Reagan earned Closest to the Pin.

No one was able to make a hole-in-one to win the 1999 Ford Explorer sponsored by Liccardi Ford. But separate



Kevin Campana, winner of the South Plainfield Open.

raising event sponsored by the South Plainfield Golf Association for the benefit of the South Plainfield High School Golf Team. This event has doubled in size since its inauguration five years ago.

five years ago.

Other winners this year included Bill White with the low men's net score of 71 and Vera Shereyko with the low women's net score of 74. The winning team score came from the four-some of Kevin Campana (71),



Bill White, winner of low men's net score.

drawings did award a free vacation and golf for four in Myrtle Beach, and a free round of golf for four to White Beeches Golf & Country Club.

Coach Mike Kavka would like to thank everyone who participated in the event, particularly the local businesses and sponsors who helped make this event a

More information about this event can be found at www.spga.org.

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A Perfect Ten

Submitted by: Tom McCreesh

From eight years old, to nine and learnin', By now the boys could play. Twenty five of them would now try out, For Coach Stallone on Memorial Day.

As in years before, three tryouts Would be used to select the team. By All-Star Sunday, the twelve kids chosen, Could now begin to dream.

Three tourneys were picked, but the coaches concern,

Was that they all started late.
A round robin fourth was added to help the coaches,
Solve the position debate.

Some practices early, no game situations,

Piscataway started in June.
The coaches McCreesh, Ashnault and Cassano, taught the kids, to shoot for the moon.

A second place finish, by only one run, The kids were feeling their way. The prevailing thought, among

those who watched, Was, yes, they surely could play.

July in full swing, three tournaments going,

No relief in sight for the heat.
The pitching fantastic, good defense and hitting,

We could be the team to beat.

An early loss in Carteret, for the team Was surely the toughest medicine. But with a little luck, the playoffs loomed, With a win against North Edison.

An early lead, we were never threatened, Off our backs came the monkey. While we were eating Snickers, They were eating Chunky.

A semifinal win, put the team in the finals, One more win, they'd be champs the next day. But it wasn't to be, another one run loss, At that time there was nothing to say.

No time to reflect, two more tourney's to win, it was time to play from the heart.
Look your teammates in the eye, with a confident gleam, Each player now knew their part.

Chris Stallone was the catcher, with his strong arm, No team would dare try to steal. Justin Basilone at first, sometimes left or right,

Nick Dorey played second, a sure hand gold glover, adept at turning one or two.

Mike Stallone at short, acrobatic plays, Were something we all saw him do.

Wherever, he had a good feel.

Billy Ashnault at third, like the rest, solid defense, Was quickly becoming our theme. Bill Daly at first, and also a pitcher, Embodied the meaning of team.

Chris Pollin a pitcher, and outfielder too, His arm impressed other towns. Garrett Lake played both positions as well, He also gave other teams frowns.

Danny McCreesh patrolled center, and also played second, making sure that nothing would fall.

Anthony Niemczyk played right, pitched

And hit, four balls over the wall.

Danny Hubner was vital in outfield defense,
His speed would keep us ahead.

Anthony Cassano in right, made catches that had
Other coaches shaking their head.

The batboys worked hard, the late nights no bother, The helmets and bats, they would take. Riley "Chicago" Hubner did well, As did partner Eric "Pond" Lake.

Music blared, while driving to games,



South Plainfield 10-Year-Old Traveling All Star Team—back row standing: (left to right) Team Mom Tammy Cassano, Coach Tom McCreesh, Manager John Stallone and Coaches Bill Ashnault and Tony Cassano; middle row: Garrett Lake, Anthony Niemczyk, Justin Basilone, Danny Hubner, Chris Stallone and Billy Daly; front row kneeling: Anthony Cassano, Chris Pollin, Nick Dorey, Danny McCreesh, Billy Ashnault and Mike Stallone; sitting are Bat Boys Riley Hubner and Erick Lake.

Good luck songs only, as the coaches wheeled. 'Cause "Hey Now, You're' An All-Star" Season ticketholders heard "Centerfield".

The finals, Field 2, late on Friday night, Summer's first rain, at game time would yield. Left, Center and Right, Our home fans were great, Don't spell "SOUTH" till they take the field.

A six run fifth, a 7-2 win
Deserving champs, but no time for bed.
The winning spirits donated by Sal,
The pizza provided by Ted.

Fords was now left, with one more chance
To make the whole team proud.
The stands were a sea of green and white shirts,
Cheering loud, now that's our kind of crowd.

North Elizabeth was the team, they would meet in the finals,

One more win and the losses would vanish. Their fans with maracas, were cheering as loud In English, and sometimes in Spanish.

100 degrees, a 4-0 win,
All facets of the game came together.
Champions again, by the end of the season,
The team was as hot as the weather.

Two firsts and two seconds, memories forever, Much success in their early careers.

The boys worked hard, shedding blood, sweat And more than their share of tears.

Now Justin, Garrett, Mike and Nick, When you reflect, on the summer of '99. Two Anthony's, Danny's, Chris' and Billy's No doubt, you surely did fine.

You brought pride and joy, to all who watched, In the future as they recall when. Your families and friends, will sit back and smile To us, you were a PERFECT TEN.

Bus Routes/School Hours 1999/2000 School Year

The following is a list of the School starting times and bus locations for the 1999/2000 school bus routes in South Plainfield.

Bus and van drivers will make every attempt to pick up students at the proposed times noted on the student bus pass. However, there could be delays such as traffic, student loading, inclement weather and other unknowns. If delays occur, everyone's patience and cooperation will be appreciated.

Student school hours for transportation for 1999/2000

High School	8:10 a.m. to 2:20 p.m.	Sacred
Middle School	8:10 a.m. to 2:20 p.m.	Bishop .
Elementary Schools		St. Jose
(Grades 1-5)	8:35 a.m. to 2:55 p.m.	Timothy
Kindergarten		New Life
Morning Session	8:35 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.	
Afternoon Session	12:15 nm to 2:55 nm	

Heart School Ahr High School 7:58 a.m. to 2 p.m. 8:15 a.m. to 2 p.m. eph's H.S. Christian School 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. e Christian .

A list of bus stops for all of the routes will be posted at all schools near the main offices, in the administration building, and in borough hall

Bus routes for private schools for 1999/2000

The following is a list of the private school bus routes (Sacred Heart, New Life Christian, Timothy Christian, Bishop Ahr and Joseph's High School) and stops for the 1999/2000 school year. Please note there may be revisions to these stops.

ROUTE SHI

(Sacred Heart) Hamilton at New York Durham at Hogan Durham at Regency Hamilton at Matis
Montrose at Second Pl. Day at Jackson Green at Delmore Arlington at Belmont Fred Allen at Schillaci Cherry at Clinton New Brunswick at Sussex New Brunswick at So. 9th Clinton at W. 8th Tompkins at Palmer Tompkins at Baker Clinton Ave. at Clinton Terr. Orchard at Garden Wells at Meadow Rahway at Field Kenyon at Stratford Firth at Central

ROUTE TC/NL (New Life Christian, Dunellen) (Timothy Christian, Piscataway) Park Ave at E. Golf Woodland Ave - 3152

Joan at Puha OakTree at Babes So. Plainfield at Sacred Heart Dr.

IO-ANN FAULKNER.

DIRECTOR

Maple at Michael

Kenyon at Cedarbrook So. Central at Conklin Sampton at Fred Allen Clinton at Cherry Clinton at Walnut Clinton at Ledden McDonough at So. 10th Irving at Foster Clinton at Foster Franklin Ave - 211 Franklin at Greenwich Tompkins at Pershing

Additional Sacred Heart Stops with TC/NL Route Park at Fairmount Park at Sprague Maple at Terrace So. Plainfield at Gubernot Park at OakManor

ROUTE BA/SJ

(Bishop Ahr/St. Joseph's School) Durham at Hogan Durham at Jankowski Durham at Crown Hamilton at Hillside Hamilton at Day Belmont at Arlington Hamilton at Jackson Amboy at Cannine Clinton at Cherry Clinton at Ledden Clinton at O'Keefe Clinton at Foster

Plainfield at Rahway Rahway at Central Plainfield at Merchants Randolph at Front Maple at Oakland Maple at Joan Sprague at Oxford Park at E. Fairview Park at So. Plainfield Oak Tree at Babes Oak Tree at Putnam

BA/SJ VAN Park at E. Crescent Park at W. Fairview Park at Caffrey

NOTE:

Next week's issue will include the bus schedules for the high school, middle school, and the five elementary school.

INTERACTIVE COMPUTER CORNER

By Briggs Longbothum

Well here we are again and we've actually had some rain. I can even hear lawn mowers and smell fresh cut grass again. We're even enjoying cooler nights and early mornings in the upper 50's! This makes for some great sleeping weather (except for us newspaper types who are always behind with deadlines, etc.) Oh, by the way, our weekend pool in-staller and filler upper got away with only a wrist slap and a hundred dollar fine for building it without a permit! Yes, there was a water restriction violation too, but not worth pursuing. Fodder for another cannon.

But the story did transcend into something of some interest to all of us. While following up on that one, I did take the occasion to ask about Y2K issues. I would like to thank Police Sgt. Mike Grennier who was very helpful with my questions. I will also point out that Sgt. Grennier is very knowledgeable and competent with the electronic technology and computer systems that support our police department and town in general. In a nutshell, we are in very good shape with Y2K issues and any problems that do arise will be of minor consequence. Mike has attended many meetings where these issues have been reviewed and he assured me that life, as we know it, will continue in the next millennium.

I have heard one comment in passing that, I think does point to some legitimacy. This bears solely on the nature of us human types too! As there will be some who will bury their heads in the sand and move to sell out of their stock and bond portfolios, there may well be some very short term buying and selling oppor-tunity for investors as the year closes out. Hey, if someone else gets scared and sells out cheap, it's fair game to buy in where they sell out! Take that as a timely word

to the opportunist!
Realistically, and more to the point, I do think that every last one of us will experience some kind of Y2K hitch, but I doubt it will be anything like the critical stuff the fear-mongers are talking about. That, of course, assumes businesses and others have been doing what's been advised ahead of time. By all means, examine your own risks and act accordingly! Nonetheless, I do believe planes will not be falling out of the sky, water will continue to flow downhill and your boss will expect you back at work on Monday. But, just in case some joker does pull the master breaker switch in your building at midnight, don't jump out the window! The sun will rise in the morning.

For an interesting review of some Y2K issues, the Internet is the place to go. Here's few sites worth looking at, and then judging for yourself: www.gary-north.com and (209.26.202.182).

TIP: Just as you can type in the URL or website name, you can also type in the exact IP address of the site you wish to visit. This would be in numeric from, so after "http://" just enter the numbers as shown above. Note the "dots" or decimal separators.

This Y2K stuff can drive you crazy, so just keep everything in perspective as you delve into it all. Let me know what issues you and your company are facing with this Y2K stuff and how you're handling it all. We'll cover more next time. See you then.

Briggs Longbothum, ed. (Bruggo@home.com)Briggs Longbothum, ed.

Plainfield's

Official



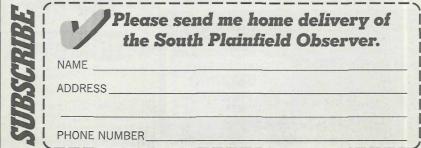
There's still time to register for Fall Classes! TARA FAULKNER-CATALINA. ARTISTIC DIRECTOR *Official dance training for Feigley's School of Gymnastics *Home of the award winning LeCentre Dance Ensemble South Plainfield, NJ



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NEWS Source South Plainfield



Obituaries

Walter J. Batog, Jr., 54

Walter J. Batog, Jr., formerly of South Plainfield, died on Friday August 20, at his home in Escondido, Calif.

Born in Plainfield on April 16, 1945, Batog was raised in South Plainfield and graduated from South Plainfield High School in 1963. He received his BA in accounting in 1968 from Rider University and his MA from Seton Hall University. He had resided in California for the last 22 years.

He was an accountant for American Standard Co. in Stockton, Calif. for many years.

Batog was a veteran of the United States Army and completed a tour in Vietnam. He was a member of American Legion Post 149 in Escondido where he served as finance officer and service officer. He was a life member of the Polish National Home in South Plainfield.

He was an avid and diehard fan of the New York Yankees and the New York Giants.

Batog is the son of the late Walter, Sr. and Blanche (Doben-

ski) Batog. He is survived by his wife, Patricia; two sons, Tim Batog of Eugene Oregon and Ken Batog serving in the US Navy stationed in San Diego; a sister and brother-in-law, Mae and Larry Possien, and a niece Kerri Ventriglia, all of Dunellen. He is also survived by several aunts and uncles, many cousins, three stepsons and a stepgrandson.

At the family's request a mass in Walt's memory may be offered at St. John's R.C. Church in Dunellen.

Local arrangements were by James W. Conroy Funeral Home.

Gregory Olekson, 50

Gregory Olekson died (of natural causes) on Saturday, August 14 at his home in Bedminster.

He was born in New York City and had resided in Piscataway for most of his life before moving to Bedminster three years ago.

He had worked for a brief time as a traffic analyst for Ingersoll



Rand and American Standard, both of Piscataway. He retired many years aog

His father, Milton G. Olekson, Sr., died in 1997.

Surviving are his daughter and son-in-law, Cynthia and Harrison Burd, III, of Flemington and his daughter, Keri Olekson of Greenbrook; his mother, Mary (Butz) Olekson of Dunellen; three sisters, Sarafyna Schulz of Norwalk, Calif., Pauline Hahn of Colonia and Mary Olekson of Dunellen; three brothers, Milton G. Olekson, Jr. of Lusby, Md., John Olekson of Cornelius, No. Carolina and George Olekson of Piscataway. Also surviving are several of his nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Irene (Brauner) Mayersky, 91

Irene (Brauner) Mayersky died on Saturday, Aug. 21, at Green-brook Manor Care Center in Greenbrook, following a brief ill-

Mrs. Mayersky was born in Elizabeth. She lived in Roselle and later in Watchung for 20 years, before moving to South Plainfield in 1942. She also maintained a second residence in Ortley Beach for many years. In 1956 she had acted as an

interpreter at Camp Kilmer in Edison for Hungarian refugees. She later worked as an assembler at the Standard Plastics Co. in South Plainfield for 15 years before her retirement in 1980.

She enjoyed crocheting and craft work.

She was predeceased by her husband, Joseph G. Mayersky, who died in 1965; a son, Joseph W. Mayersky who died in 1996; a daughter in law, Dolores Mayersky who died in 1994 and a brother, William Brauner who died in 1995.

She is survived by her loving and caring family of two sons, Frank E. Mayersky of Lebanon and John Mayersky and his wife Jean, of Whitehouse Station and by her nine grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the American Cancer Society, 846 Main St., Fords or to the Haven Hospice Program, 65 James St., Edison would be appreciated.

WE WANT YOUR NEWS!!

ou have news about South Plainfield ple or events, send us a note, fax us at -8819, or give us a call at (908) 668-0. We would like to include your story in



Friends of the Woods to Present Display, Slide Show

The month of September brings the return of children to local schools. Once again they will spend hours in the classroom. Yet their educational opportunities do not have to end with the school day.

This year, when you attend your child's Back to School Night be sure to check out the Highland Avenue Woods Environmental Education Reserve display, sponsored by the Friends of the Woods. There you will see photos of the diverse communities of plants and animals that exist in the 35-acre reserve located right here in your community. Learn about the Walks 'N Talks programs sponsored by the South Plainfield Environmental Commission, where your children can gain more knowledge about the nature that surrounds them.

The Friends of the Woods

would also like to extend an invi-

tation to a celebration on September 21 at the South Plainfield Public Library, where the recently published Nature Guide, Trail Map and Species List will be presented to the mayor and council, board of education, library, Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife, and others who have been instrumental in preserving the Highland Avenue Woods site. A spectacular slide show will entice you to visit the Highland Avenue Woods Environmental Education Reserve.

Join in the festivities and discover the many educational opportunities available to your organization and your families. Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts can gather information for the badges that can be earned here in South Plainfield. Nature lovers can discover the wonders of each new season as they explore the everchanging trails.

By Cyrus n Moon

Weekly Horoscope 8/27-9/02

VIRGO 8/23-9/22 Happy birthday Virgos. A Mercury/Mars square will likely have you feeling touchy and irritable. Just don't be so harsh towards anyone who may cross your path. On a milder side you may have to defend your ideas. Just be careful to not look for a battle or create an issue where

none exists.

LIBRA 9/23-10/22 A Moon/Pluto trine will have your feelings and emotions much more intense, but at the same time it stimulates your sensitivity. Re-lationships with family can bring out into the open your deep understand-ing for one another. But be careful not to let obsessive thinking dominate your mind at this time

SCORPIO 10/23-11/21 With a Sun/ Pluto square you may find it difficult to contend with persons in authority. They may demand that you be able to account for yourself and your actions.

If you can you will have no problem with them. Just do not leave any work

left undone or poorly.

SAGITTARIUS 11/22-12/21 A sun/Jupiter trine will enable you to project energies into the environment that will help your affairs work out, as you want! This may seem like luck, but not really. This came though hard work you have done in the past. Try out some new activities or take a trip at this time. CAPRICORN 12/22-1/19 Moon/Saturn conjunction can cause domestic problems. This usually happens because you feel that in some way your domestic life is not giving you what it should. And in some cases this transit can activate a sense of guilt about some past event. Be open-minded; don't let many issues cloud your mind.

AQUARIUS 1/20-2/18 A Moon/Uranus sextile in your home and other close surroundings. You are not willing to accept the same old situation. Try to find ways to change your circumstances or at least provide some temporary excitement. It is possible you will meet a new friend sometime this

PISCES 2/19-3/20 Moon/Neptune co-

operating aspect. This transit may be a period in which you are more than usually sensitive and idealistic. You may be engaged in selflessly helping others. Pay attention to your hunches they may be accurate. Also be more in tune

to psychic ability you have.

ARIES 3/21-4/18 Mars/Mercury combination. Be careful how you talk to others. Your energy level is very high and you tend to identify your ego very closely with your ideas and opinions, so you are quick to take offense. And later on when the smoke clears you will wonder why did I argue that issue.

TAURUS 4/19-5/20 Moon enters Tau

rus. At this time you may be inclined to be stodgy and cautious. This is a time you will want to protect what you already have instead of striking out for something new. Because of financial concerns this is a poor time to seek change. Take a rest and relax to build up strength.

GEMINI 5/21-6/20 Mercury/Venus square. This will be a good time to have a discussion with a loved one about the state of your relationship. You may find that the two of you do not agree in as many ways as you thought. So try to reach a compromise. But, if you approach it from self-righteousness, communication can be cut for some time. CANCER 6/20-7/22 Moon/Jupiter in co-operating aspect. This is an excellent time if you need to schedule a social event or celebratory occasion. This is also a time to feel optimistic, generous and generally happy. So get friends and family involved in some fun activities. You well deserve it!

LEO 7/23-8/22 Sun/Venus sextile. This

is a good time for you to make friends at the work place as well out on a social events. The possibility of an op-portunity of some sort just may come your way from this meeting. This is also a good transit for most of your finan-cial matters, especially for one that has been started.

QUOTE: Why question when you fall in love, Just question how much!



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RICHARD W. McCRISKIN, Pres., Mar. William C. McCriskin, V. Pres., Dir. James A. Gustafson, Dir. James F. Connaughton, Assoc. Dir.

The South Plainfi d Elks will be hosting their annual Family Picnic on Saturday August 28 at the Lodge on New Market Avenue Call the lodge for actails at 668-9750.

The South Plainfield Elks are growing their lodge as a family-ori-ented organization for all members to share in and discover the personal rewards found in helping others by supporting the communitywide benevolent services extended by the Order of Elks.

Wave to us in the Labor Day Parade too, as we wish our students everywhere a great new academic

Back to School

Continued from page one called "As a Quest" will involve the children in a fascinating Internet program. The students will be able to talk to National Geographic ex-

plorers as they trek across Asia.

Plans continue for a new school on the Roosevelt School site as well as renovation of Roosevelt School.

Riley School
An "Immersion in Literacy Teaching & Learning" program will be instituted. Reading and writing will be woven into various subjects throughout the day, such as science, math, social studies, art, music, computer studies and language arts. Grade four will learn language arts/art history integration and music/computer integration.

A security camera has been in-

stalled. The main office and bathrooms have been painted. A school counselor and an instructional teacher aide will be added to the staff.

Updates from Franklin and Kennedy schools were unavailable at press time but will appear in a future issue of the Observer.

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Accreditation Assessment Team (CALEA) Invites Public Comments

A team of assessors from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc (CALEA) will arrive September 18 to examine all aspects of the South Plainfield Police Department's policy and procedures, management, operations and support services, Chief Steven A. Merkler announced today.

Chief Merkler stated, "The pur-

pose of the on-site assessment is to verify that South Plainfield Police Department meets the state-of-theart law enforcement standards. This is part of the on-going process we voluntarily participate in to maintain our accredited status — a highly prized recognition of law enforcement professional excellence.'

As part of the on-site assessment, agency employees and members of the community are invited to offer comments at a public information session on Monday evening, September 20 at 6 p.m. The session will be conducted in the Borough Council Chambers located at Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave.

If for some reason an individual cannot speak at the public information session but would still like to provide comments to the assessment team, he/she may do so by telephone. The public may call (908) 226-7708 on Tuesday, September 21 between the hours of 1

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"Setting the Standards of Excellence"

Telephone comments, as well as appearances at the public information session, are limited to 10 minutes and must address the agency's ability to comply with CALEA's standards. A copy of the standards is available at the South Plainfield Police Department. The local contact is Lt. Robert Merkler (908) 226-7674.

Persons wishing to offer written comments about the South Plainfield Police Department's ability to meet the standards for accreditation are requested to write: Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., (CALEA), 10306 Eaton Place, Suite 320, Fairfax, Virginia 22030-2201.

The South Plainfield Police Department has to comply with 406 standards in order to gain accredited status. Chief Merkler said, "This is an arduous task that requires the commitment of all members of the police department".

The Accreditation Program Manager for the South Plainfield Police Department is Lt. Robert Merkler. The assessment team is comprised of law enforcement practitioners from similar but outof-state agencies. The assessors will review written materials, interview individuals and visit offices and other places where compliance can

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be witnessed. The assessors are: Colonel Edward Guthrie, Salisbury (Md.) Police Department, Chief Louis Dekmar, LaGrange (Ga.) Police Department, and William Shanley, Director of South-West Central Dispatch Center, Il. "Once the Commission's assessors complete their on-site review of the agency, they report back to the full commission, which will then decide if the agency is to maintain its accredited status," Lt. Merkler stated. Accreditation is for three years, during which the agency must submit annual reports attest-ing continued compliance with those standards under which it was initially accredited.

For more info regarding the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., please write the Commission at 10306 Eaton Place, Suite 320, Fairfax, VA 22030-2201; or call 1 800-368-3757 or (703) 352-4225.

South Plainfield oserver

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POLICE REPORT

· A Meister Ave. resident called police after seeing a black male e the back of a neighbor's house. Police responded to the scene and saw the suspect crouched on the back porch. As the officer approached the residence the suspect fled on a bike but was apprehended a short time later. He was transported to headquarters where he gave false informa-tion about his identity, claiming he was a minor named Ali Christmas. A phone call made by the suspect to a 'friend' indicated that the suspect was

Rasheed Moore of Westfield.

• Hummel Chemical, Harmich Rd. reported the theft of a Sony Mavica digital camera. An unknown suspect who entered through a rear unlocked office door took the camera off a desk. · A Hancock St. resident reported the theft of jewelry from her home. The jewelry had been kept in two boxes, one on the dresser, one hidden in a closet. There was no sign of forced entry. Victim told police that she had a roommate and also a new live-in boy-friend. The room was unlocked and neither of the jewelry boxes had locks.

 A Wadsworth Ave. resident reported the window in his daughter's bedroom had been shot with a BB gun. The vic-tim lives near a dead end portion of the road with a large wooded area behind the house. There are no suspects.

 A Hillsborough resident reported his car burglarized while parked in a lot on Montrose Ave. The right rear window had been smashed to gain access to the door locks. A cell phone and a radar detector were taken. An attempt was made to pull the radio/cassette player from the dashboard.

Airborne Express reported the theft of multipacks of video games while awaiting shipping. There are no wit-

 An attendant at Roth Brothers Getty, Park Ave. reported receiving a coun terfeit \$50 bill. The suspect also offered to sell the attendant marijuana.

 A Lafeyette Place resident reported a carjacking to police. The victim related that he was driving by the taxi stand in the center of town and was flagged down by a black male who offered him \$5 for a ride. The victim stopped at West 8th St. and Clinton Ave. to let the suspect out. Two black males approached the van, one held him and the second punched him in the eye. He awoke some time later and found himself on a grassy area near Tompkins Ave. and Clinton Ave. His wallet and vehicle were gone. He stated that he did not report the carjacking right away because he was in a daze for part of the morning; he had been drinking the night before.

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Tiger Day Camp Closes Summer Program with Songs, Sweets & Swing











August / September 1999

Meetings & Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	S ATURD AY
Copy Deadline: Friday, 5 pm Advertising Deadline: Monday, 5 pm	23	24 Board of Education Regular Meeting Planning Board Meeting 8 pm	25 Court 9:30 am & 7 pm	26	Publication of So. Plfd. Observer	28 Elks Family Picnic
29	Observer Office Closed—Going to US Open Tennis	31 Board of Adjustment 8 pm	S Sacred Heart 1 School Starts ½ Day Business Advisory Group 5:30 pm Court 9:30 am	Sacred Heart ½ Day Taxpayers Advisory Group 8 pm	Sacred Heart ½ Day Publication of So. Plfd.Observer	4
5	Labor Day Parade	Recreation Comm. Meeting 7 pm PAL Borough Council Agenda Meeting 8 pm	Schools Open 8 ½ Day Environmental Comm. 8 p.m. Court 9:30 am & 7 pm	9 Borough Council Meeting 8 pm	Publication of So. Plfd.Observer	VFW Annual Picnic 11 noon to 6 pm 11 So. Plfd. Employee Appreciation Day Car Wash-Kennedy 9-1 Dave Street at Library 11am
GOP Annual Fashion Show Metuchen Country Club	13	14 Planning Board Meeting 8 pm Board of Health 7:30 p.m.	15 Court 9:30 am & 7 pm	Business Association Meeting	AARP #4144 17 Meeting 12:30 pm PAL Building Planning Publication of So. Plfd.Observer	18
19	Borough Council Agenda Meeting 8 pm Land Management Advisory Comm. 7:30 pm	21 Board of Adjustment 8 pm	22 Court 9:30 am & 7 pm	Borough Council 23 Meeting 8 pm Recycling Commission meeting 8 pm	Publication of So. Plfd.Observer	25

Want to know what's going on in South Plainfield? Get home delivery of The Observer. Subscription form on page 9.