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South Plainfield Observer

SOUTH PLAINFIELD
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VOL. 3, NO. 7

50 CENTS

OCTOBER 15, 1999

Police Officer Pleads Guilty

Lt. John Brembt, 25-year veteran of the South Plainfield Police Department, pleaded guilty recently to simple assault and obstruction of justices charges. Brembt has resigned from the police department and will not be allowed to serve as a police officer again.

Brembt had pleaded not guilty in court to aggravated assault and several other charges stemming from an incident at a restaurant in Whitehouse Station last February. He was accused of firing

Continued on page 11

UNICO Commemorates Columbus Day

Last Monday, in honor of Columbus Day, UNICO held a ceremony remembering Christopher Columbus at Borough Hall. Attending the event were Mayor Dan Gallagher, Assemblyman Bob Smith, Carolyn Garofola, Mayor of Warren and Councilman Ed Kubala.

UNICO President Michael Cortese, John Farinella, Frank Licato, Renato Biribin and Lou DeFillipo all gave speeches remembering about our Italian Heritage.

Michael Cortese, Bob Smith, Dan Gallagher, Carolyn Garofola and Lou DeFillipo all helped to raise the Italian Flag in front of Borough Hall.

Bernice Diello, Filomina Viola, Isabelle Farry and Loretta Conroy presented a wreath.



Photo By
Snapshot Greetings

Fire Department Open House to Promote Safety

On Saturday, Oct. 16, the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department will hold their Annual Open House from noon to 4 p.m. There will be valuable information about fire prevention along with games to help children learn about fire safety.

This is a great time for you to get to know more about your fire department and to teach your children to fire safety tips they should be learning. The open house will be held rain or shine.



Firefighter Phil Esposito helps Paul Zushma and Rick Sierzega try on firefighters uniforms at last year's open house.

High School Band Boosters Grateful For New Tigermobile

By Patricia Abbott

Tom Falocco, vice president of South Plainfield High School Music Boosters, is proud of the new bus. The bus is instrumental in transporting the Tiger Marching Band's equipment to and from football games and competitions. Before the Boosters got the new bus, the Boosters spent a lot of money renting trucks to transport the equipment. Due to safety hazards, it is illegal to transport instruments on the same a bus as the students.

Two years ago the band used a bus that was donated by Vogal Bus Company. The bus had been in use for just one season when it was vandalized and set on fire by two out-of-town teenagers. Insurance offset some of the costs but the senseless act caused a major setback and the band had to resort to rental trucks once again.

The search began for another vehicle. The Board of Education purchased a small trailer to help carry equipment, but it was not large enough. The Music Boosters had to rent a truck most of last season.

Councilman Ray Petronko is credited with locating a vehicle—a senior citizens' bus no longer in service. Petronko approached Superintendent of Schools Guy Ferri with the idea and the revamped bus was on the way to becoming a reality. The bus was ideal for the band's equipment, but was in need of a great deal of mechanical work.

Parents stepped in and began to seek assistance for the repair and renovation of the bus.

In the tradition of South Plainfield community spirit, several residents offered the time and the services of their businesses. Band parent Craig Spisso contacted Joe Nicasastro, owner of Nicasastro Auto Service on Hamilton Blvd. Joe did all the mechanical work on the bus. The Music Boosters paid for parts only and for the labor needed for major brake work. Joe Servido helped Tom Falocco remove the seats from the bus. It turned out to be a big job, taking 45 minutes to remove just one seat.

Mike Alloco, owner of AKA Inc. of South Plainfield on New Market Ave., gave the truck its

unique look. He designed the artwork. The vinyl transfer decals took Mike more than two days to apply. Mike is also a volunteer basketball coach.

Band parents Mike Reedy and Creighton Pfeiffer have taken care of a lot of small details as well as the every day maintenance and operation of the bus.

The Board of Education provided the funds for the bus' general maintenance. Falocco said the bus is still in dire need of new tires. Local businesses can help support the SPSHS Tiger Marching Band with an offer of maintenance help. Falocco also noted that eventually those who helped revamp the bus will be recognized with their names or logos on the bus.



The High School Band has many to thank for its new "Tigermobile."

In My Opinion

Letters

To the Editor,

Welcome to South Plainfield's Million Dollar Downtown! Come see the restored railroad car!

That's one of the issues the South Plainfield Democratic Council Candidates would like you to buy into this election.

The downtown improvements do look good—no question about it. But is it camouflage to mask some of our other ills?

The Democrats like to spin the story that there were no taxpayer dollars spent on this project. Believe that?

The over one million dollars spent on the project fell from heaven.

It did not add one tax ratable to our roles to help reduce our taxes. The million plus dollars could have been used to pave streets in need. This would have been equal to four years of paving at the present pace of paving. It could have been spent to preserve open spaces that would improve our quality of life. And of course it could gone for any number of other things that would have led to a million dollar reduction in our taxes.

A two party government working for everybody would have looked at all the possibilities and not just how to win another election to protect the good old boys.

It is time to open the doors and windows and let some fresh

new ideas get into government in South Plainfield. It is time to elect Republicans Hank Grabarz and Mel Tomei for a fresh new perspective not tied to party interests. Electing Democrats only strengthens the hold on South Plainfield by out of town interest groups.

Vote Republican on Tuesday, November 2, for a fresh start!
JEREMY CORTESE

To the Editor,

Shame on you South Plainfield for trying to weasel out of paying employee taxes and benefits.

The position of Computer Manager requires 35-40 hours, five days a week. That is the ad that the town placed.

That is not a sub-contractor. If they were informed, they would have read about the state reclassifying subs as employees. It's been going on for at least two years.

They have ruled real estate agents, insurance agents and adjusters, sales people and even go-go dancers as employees, despite the fact that they work their own hours, work on tips and pay for their own insurance and clothes.

The small business have two choices, pay legal fees which become expensive, or pay back taxes.

So who will pay the back taxes and penalties when the State steps in, those who hire the person or the taxpayer?

Plus you make our town look like a bunch of scrooges by trying to weasel out of paying taxes on a person who is clearly an employee by the facts listed in the ad in the *Observer*.

JOE SCALEA

To the Editor,

Over the past six years, Jim Vokral and Ed Kubala have worked countless hours to make South Plainfield a better place to live and we need their energy and wisdom on the Borough Council to make sure that our tax dollars are put to their best use. South Plainfield needs council members who are on watch for government waste and mismanagement and who are not afraid to say no to more spending when the borough cannot afford it.

Jim Vokral and Ed Kubala have led the fight over the past five years to cut expenses after five years of million dollar increases by the Republicans. We should elect council members who know that they work for the taxpayers and have to answer to the taxpayers. Jim Vokral and Ed Kubala have shown that they deserve to be elected to the Borough Council because they always put the taxpayers first. Over the last two years, they have kept taxes level and have not increased spending at all. Jim Vokral and Ed Kubala have my vote on Election Day.

MARCELLA A. THOMAS

Dear Editor,

The other day, as I was walking along my newly paved street (Merchants Avenue), I couldn't help but think of all the great things that have happened in our town in the last few years.

I can remember when traffic was backed up at the intersection of Front and Maple for blocks and the same thing used to happen at Park and Maple. It wasn't so long ago that you couldn't make a left hand turn at Front Street and Oak Tree Road, or you couldn't park in front of the Bagel Stop or any of the stores in the center of town. We've paved a dozen streets each year with no new debt to the Borough and no increase in municipal taxes. It is no coincidence that these things began when Ed Kubala and Jim Vokral were elected to the Borough Council.

Ed and Jim have worked hard for all of our residents and now is our opportunity to support them. On November 2nd vote for Ed Kubala and Jim Vokral for Borough Council.

Walter Kalman

Open Letter to SPHS Students

Many of you are aware that other individuals in your school have shamed and embarrassed themselves, their families, your school and our community. Their actions were, at the least, against the policy of conduct for athletics. You are attending a school system that offers such programs as RARE and SPEECH, so that you can be exposed to ways, thinking and people that are different from your own. These programs try to give you the opportunity to learn about one another and to give you the tools so that you can work well with one another. They teach tolerance and understanding with the hope that you will respect all other human beings. For most of you, these lessons have not only been 'learned well' but have been internalized and become apart of your daily life. For that, we are very grateful.

It is very difficult to fathom the impact these perverted actions have had on the victims. How have their lives been altered? Things of this nature leave a mark and we should help each other get through these difficult times. One of the gentlemen who has been coaching recreation programs in this town for over 10 years always tells his team that the purpose of this experience is to have fun and make new friends while learning the game. Too bad that simple philosophy isn't a part of the code of conduct for all athletes, everywhere and all of the time. But how will we get through these difficult times right now? Do we bury our heads in the sand and pretend it didn't happen? Do we forget about it and go on, "business as usual"? No, it wasn't Columbine, but it was actions by some against others; actions which can not be forgotten or condoned.

Do you feel that the "punishment fit the crime"? Those of you that have spoken to us didn't feel that it was severe enough. Have you been given an opportunity to voice your displeasure? Has any of the administrators gone into any of your classes and asked you how you feel? So how can we show our disapproval? As a high school student, you know the activities of your school better than we do. You know what positions, such as King of the Court at Homecoming, would be considered honoring the actions of an individual. Hopefully these individuals would be hanging their heads in shame and not be nominated. But if they are, you can show your disapproval by not voting for them. If these individuals decide to be presented on Senior Night, we can all show our disapproval when they walk onto the field by standing and turning our back on them.

It is your school and these are your classmates. You are in the best position to show your displeasure and disdain. Do what you see fit, knowing that the good people of South Plainfield are behind you every step of the way!

SINCERELY, THE UNDERSIGNED GOOD PEOPLE OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Note: 35 signatures were collected in support of this letter as of Oct. 11 and many more are expected.

Safety Alert

Two school children were hit by automobiles on their way to or from school during the past week.

Our children are precious.

Please drive carefully in the presence of children.

South Plainfield Observer

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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in South Plainfield Observer:

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

Submit letters to the editor to:

South Plainfield Observer,
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Letters may be submitted by email at our website at spobserver.com or faxed to 908-668-8819.

South Plainfield

'99
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Ed Kubala and Jim Vokral

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School Auditorium

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Letters

Open Letter

How hard is it to do the right thing? How difficult it is for adults to accept responsibility? For weeks now our town and our athletes have been splashed across the front of several papers concerning hazing incidents which took place at football camp. Did the incidents occur? Certainly. Were they examples of physical and sexual abuse? Of course they were. Were the victims forced to practice with those who had held them down? Yes. Were they forced to change in the same locker room with the seniors who did this to them? Yes. Now some might say they were not forced to do anything. If they wanted to continue to be part of the team, they did.

But the team was forced to forfeit a football game! And certain players were given 10 days of OSS (sorry, some administrator decided five would be enough). But what about the victims? Who stood up for them? Who looked out for their interests? When one father had the guts to tell the truth, he was privately ridiculed for doing so. What does this say of our educational system or our town, when winning or losing is more important than recognizing and treating unacceptable social behavior?

The secret rumor around town is that this is an annual event at football camp. What is one to believe? Well, who knows? The superintendent of schools says he can not comment to protect the innocent. Well, he has already said publicly that there was no physical abuse (What do you call five seniors holding one sophomore down), and there was no sexual abuse (I wonder if he would be singing that tune if someone did this to him).

Every athlete involved in this incident should have received immediate counseling whether they wanted it or not. There should have been a student assembly so that facts (not rumors) could be discussed and a true learning experience could take place. And yes this could have been done without specific names.

We can still learn and grow from this experience. Students make mistakes, that's normal. That's how they learn. Those who were involved should not have been allowed to put their uniforms back on. They must be shown that there are consequences for their actions. A lesson learned now will be invaluable in the future. For the administrators and especially the superintendents, your actions have proven that it is time to evaluate your fitness to continue to serve in your positions. Students need moral leaders who can distinguish right from wrong, not men and women who are only trying to save their jobs.

To the Board of Education: where are you? Who are you? Why are you? Shame on all of you for your inaction.

A CONCERNED RESIDENT

Mindwaves Offers First Annual Free Stop-Smoking Clinic

On Thursday, Nov. 18, in conjunction with the American Cancer Society's "Great American Smokeout," South Plainfield resident Roxanne Cortese will be offering a *Free Stop-Smoking Hypnosis Clinic*. Roxanne is a holistic practitioner and the founder of Mindwaves, A Holistic Center for Prevention and Healing.

The stop smoking clinic will be held at the Holiday Day Inn in South Plainfield on Stelton Road. The Holiday Inn is donating the use of a banquet room to sponsor this event. The sessions will be from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m.

Roxanne is doing what she can to help fight cancer by offering this free clinic. She would like to make this an annual event. The goals are to end smoking habits in one session, eliminate the fear of weight gain and teach individuals self-hypnosis to take control back of their life, instead of the letting tobacco and fear control them.

Behavioral Stop Smoking and Relaxation Tapes (two sets) will be available for purchase for \$15. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the American Cancer Society. Handouts will be given to all participants to help continue their progress at home. The clinic is FREE, but donations to the American Cancer Society would

be greatly appreciated. The American Cancer Society will also be giving out free literature that day.

Seating is limited to 40 people per session. Registration is required. Please call Roxanne Cortese to register or for more information at (908) 561-1511. Choose this date to starting working toward your goal to STOP SMOKING!



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MILESTONES

Wedding

Councilman Vincent Buttiglieri Weds Ray Jean Neubig

South Plainfield Councilman Vincent Buttiglieri, son of Charles and Josephine Buttiglieri of Lakewood, recently wed Ray Jean Neubig.

Ray Jean is a graduate of Elizabeth General/Union College. She is employed by Cornell MRI, Manhattan.

Vincent is a graduate of Seton Hall University. He is employed by N.J. Highway Authority.

The wedding reception was held at Bridgewater Manor. Maid of honor was Joanne Dries. Best man was Chuck Collins.

The couple enjoyed a honeymoon in Hawaii.



Birth

Fred and Eileen Boosmann Announce Birth of Daughter

Fred and Eileen Boosmann of Fred Allen Drive are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Sandra Grace. Sandra was born on August 17. She joins sisters Erin, 10, and Taylor, 8, in the Boosmann Family. Sandra weighed 7 pounds 1.5 ounces and was 20½ inches long. She was born at Mulenburg Hospital.

South Plainfield Girl Scout Community of WRGSC

The South Plainfield Girl Scout Community helped provide some immediate relief for the hurricane flood victims in Bound Brook.

The girl scouts collected blankets,

pillows, plastic garbage bags and soap to be used at shelters. Within four days over one hundred bags and boxes of donated items, including clothing, cleaning supplies and canned goods were collected in addition to the original requested items.

All of the donations from the troops from within the community were stored temporarily and then delivered courtesy of Hall's Fast Motor Freight of South Plainfield to the various hurricane shelters in the Bound Brook community.

Once again South Plainfield Girl Scouts demonstrated caring about their fellow mankind by helping those who fell victim to the floods of Hurricane Floyd.

Police Ask for Help With Hit and Run Accident

Last Thursday at approximately 7 p.m. a bicyclist traveling northbound on New Market Ave. was struck by an unknown vehicle. The vehicle left the scene and the injured bicyclist was taken to the hospital.

The vehicle, which left the scene, was traveling in southerly direction toward New Market Ave.

Anyone who may have information concerning this accident is urged to call Traffic Safety Off. Karl W. Schuetz at (908) 226-7678.

(908) 769-5622
Fax (908) 769-5620

Grand Opening Oct. 15

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CHINA BUFFET
2000 Park Ave., So. Plainfield

Mon.-Thurs, 11 AM-10 PM • Fri. & Sat. 11 AM-11 PM • Sun. 12 Noon-10 PM

AROUND TOWN

EVENTS

Scoop Dinner to Benefit Project Graduation

South Plainfield High School Project Graduation cordially invites you to sample culinary treats at the high school cafeteria on Thursday, Nov. 4. Senior citizens are welcome at 4:30 p.m. The public is welcome at 5 p.m.

The cost is 50 cents per plate (plates are free for senior citizens) and 50 cents per scoop. All proceeds benefit Project Graduation, a celebration for all graduating seniors on graduation night.

The main purpose of Project Graduation is to eliminate the tradition of party-hopping on graduation night and provide a safe, drug- and alcohol-free environment, where the graduating seniors can celebrate with each other one of the most important days of their lives.

Help keep graduation safe and drug-free. JOIN US ON NOVEMBER 4.

VFW Ladies' Auxiliary to Hold a Penny Sale

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6763 located on 155 Front St. will hold a Penny Sale on Friday, Oct. 22.

Please help us raise the funds we need to meet our obligations to the Cancer Fund, the local High School Student Scholarship and the VFW National Home for Orphaned Children of Veterans, which is located in Eaton Rapids, Michigan.

Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. Donation is \$4. and tickets will be available at the door.

Whatever you would like to donate to help us reach our goal will be very much appreciated.

Trip to Three Little Bakers Dinner Theatre

The Caring and Sharing group of Sacred Heart is sponsoring a trip to Three Little Bakers

Dinner Theatre on Sunday, Oct. 31.

The cost of \$48 covers transportation, dinner, Christmas show and all gratuities.

The bus will leave at 9 a.m. from behind the South Plainfield Municipal Building. The trip is open to anyone wishing to go.

For additional information call Lydia 908 755-1596.

Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support Meeting

Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support (CHATS) will meet from 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 25, at Watchung Ave. Presbyterian Church, 70 Watchung Ave., North Plainfield. Dr. Anne Brodzinsky, adoption therapist, adoptive mother and author of the popular children's book, *The Mulberry Bird: Story of an Adoption*, will speak on the topic, "Developmental Issues in Children's Understanding of Their Adoption Story."

Dr. Brodzinsky is a nationally-known adoption expert who is one of the two speakers at the "Let's Talk Adoption" conference. Open sharing of adoption-related stories and light refreshments. Call Alyce at (732) 227-0607 for information.

Pre-Dance Demo Offered

Jo-Ann's Dance Studio, The Performing Arts Centre, will be offering a FREE demonstration class as a special introductory offer for its newest programs: Dance Babies (mommy & me) ages 18 to 24 months and Toddler Time Dance, two to three years of age.

This class is being offered on Tuesday, Oct. 19, 10:30 to 11 a.m. at the dance studio on South Clinton Ave. Please call (908) 561-5094 for more information.

Flo's Piano Studio Will Hold Recital at Nordstrom's

The public is invited to attend a piano recital on Friday, Oct. 22, at Nordstrom's in Menlo Park from 6-9 p.m.

The recital will feature seven concert pianists from Flo's Piano Studio performing classical, jazz, pop and Broadway numbers.



The Knights of Columbus Columbiettes held a Chinese Auction at Sacred Heart on Oct. 1. Pictured above are (left to right) Maryann Tannenbaum, Dorothy Apice, who won \$493. in the 50/50 and Nancy Stillman. Over 300 donated baskets were given away.

cal, jazz, pop and Broadway numbers.

The recital will be preceded by Ms. Flo on piano and Mr. Roland Washington on the saxophone. An awards ceremony/reception will follow.

Scoop Dinner for Stokes Forest Trip

John F. Kennedy School on Norwood Ave. will host a Scoop Dinner on Friday, Oct. 22 at 4:30 (senior citizens) and 5 p.m. (general admission). The dinner will benefit the Class of 2001 Stokes Forest trip. The cost is 35 cents per scoop.

Woods Plans Fall Festival for Kids

The Annual Fall Festival at Highland Avenue Woods Environmental Education Reserve this year will feature "Nature Crafts for Kids." The festival will be held on Saturday, Oct. 16, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

The children will search a designated area for leaves, seed pods, stones, sticks, flowers and herbs to make a variety of nature crafts at the crafting tent. Crafts may include: nature rubbings, stone painting, leaf bursts, leaf collages, sun prints, garden print stamping, mushroom spore prints, foiled leaf designs, pine cone bird feeders, pebble necklace and herb sachets.

The event is free to the public and is sponsored by the Friends of the Woods, a subcommittee of the South Plainfield Environmental Commission. Rain date is Sunday, Oct. 17, 10 a.m.-12 noon.

The main gate at Highland Avenue Woods is located on Sylvania Place off South Clinton Ave. For additional information, call the Environmental Office at 908-226-7621.

tion, call the Environmental Office at 908-226-7621.

Golden Goose Craft & Gift Boutique

The Golden Goose Craft Club will hold its annual boutique at the Westfield Tennis Club, 139 North Chestnut Street, Westfield from Wednesday, Oct. 13 through Sunday, Oct. 17. The hours of the show are, Wednesday 6-9 p.m.; Thursday 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Baskets of hand-crafted items donated by the crafters will be on display and raffled off on Oct. 17. Raffle tickets will be available throughout the show and from Hospice members.

The Golden Goose Craft & Gift Boutique has become an annual October tradition. This year's boutique brings crafters from across the country including handmade soaps from Colorado, candles from Wisconsin, stuffed toys from Texas, plus many other talented crafters. Unique seasonal crafts along with decorative items artfully displayed in the quaint setting of the clubhouse affords the perfect opportunity to pick up that special gift. Ample street parking is available.

St. Stephen's Church to hold Second Annual Oktoberfest

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church located on Park Ave. announces the second annual Oktoberfest will be held on Saturday, Oct. 23. The Oktoberfest will include "all you can eat" authentic German food at two seatings: 5 to 6:30 p.m. and 6:30 to 8 p.m. Advance ticket prices are: adults at \$10, seniors at \$8.50 and children 5-12 at \$5. Children under five are free. Tickets at the door will be \$1 extra. Takeout dinners will be available. Call (908) 757-4474 for reservations at.

All proceeds will benefit local charities.

SEEMOREEVENTS
ONPAGE5

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- Planning Board & Board of Adjustment Agendas
- Police - Fire - Rescue Squad
- Recreation
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- Community Bulletin Board
- Civic Organizations
- Election Results
- and more

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For rates or information email at: southplainfieldnj.com
Or call 908-226-7656

AROUND TOWN

EVENTS

VFW Plans Pork Chop Dinner

The VFW Post 6763 Ladies Auxiliary will hold a breaded Pork Chop Dinner from 5 to 8 p.m. The menu will include will be noodles, vegetables, salad, dessert and beverages. Admission is \$5 for adults, children under 11 are \$2.50. Take-outs are available. Come join us for a delicious dinner!

Atlantic City Trip Planned by Polish Home

The Polish National Home is sponsoring a trip to the Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on Sunday, Oct. 17. Tickets are \$15 per person and include a \$17 return and a \$2.50 food voucher.

The bus leaves the Polish Home parking lot located on New Market Ave. at 11:30 a.m.

For reservations, call Ann at 561-6551 or Emily 757-3428.

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.

SPHS Class of 1979 Planning Reunion

What a long strange trip it has been since graduation from South Plainfield High School in 1979. Join us at the twenty year reunion of the high school class of 1979 and tell us about what the past 20 years have been for you.

The reunion will be held on Saturday, Nov. 27, at the Pines

Manor located on Route 27 in Edison, from 8-12 p.m.

The cost is \$45 per person and includes a buffet and a DJ. There will be a cash bar. Pass the word to other alumni. For more information log on to <http://idt.net/~abbottk/SPHS1979.HTML>.

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, Nov. 6 from 8 a.m.-4:45 p.m.

The conference is sponsored by Concerned Persons for Adoption. The scheduled keynote speaker is Dr. David Brodzinsky and the lunchtime speaker is Dr. Anne Brodzinsky.

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

Workshops 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 mcben216@aol.com to request a registration flyer.

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 Playhouse.

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. Transportation is included. Tickets can be purchased at the PAL Building on Maple Ave. For more information call 226-7713.

Columbiettes List Coming Events & Trips

The South Plainfield Columbiettes are sponsoring a shopping trip to Reading, Pa. on Saturday, Nov. 6. The cost is \$18. Other upcoming events are:

- A Country Western dinner dance is planned for Saturday, Nov. 20 at Bobby & Mary's in Piscataway. The cost is \$20.

- A trip to "The Miracle of Christmas" at the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, Pa. on Saturday, Dec. 11. The cost is \$85.

All events are open to the public. For information or tickets for any of these trips, call Mary Ann at (908) 226-1222.

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 Oct. 24 at the Polish National Home on New Market Ave. Doors open at 12 noon. Tickets are \$27 and may be purchased by calling 908-754-8275 or from any auxiliary member.

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.

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

The Alternative View

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



Dear Dr. DeCosta:

I think I may have tendinitis in my elbow but I have no idea how I got it. What causes tendinitis and what can be done about it without using anti-inflammatory drugs? - A.C.

Dear A.C.;

A tendon is a fibrous chord that attaches a muscle to a bone or a muscle to another muscle. Inflammation can occur to the tendon itself (tendinitis) or to the lining of the tendon called the tendinous sheath (tenosynovitis). Inflammation usually occurs to both simultaneously.

If the muscle which attaches to the tendon is chronically overloaded through overuse or abuse (trauma), the tendon attachment to the bone becomes irritated, causing what is called a periosteal pain point. If this condition continues the tendon itself becomes inflamed.

With tendinitis, the involved tendons are usually very painful and tender to the touch and are painful on motion of the involved joint. Often the joint motion becomes restricted because of the pain and the abnormal changes to the tendons themselves that affect movement. The pain can become very severe depending on the degree of inflammation. Very severe pain may radiate to the joints above and below this joint. The pain may affect daily life and make sleep difficult when the joint is moved during movements while sleeping. The involved tendons often have a "creaking" quality to them due to "friction rubs" from the inflammation itself, and may become swollen because of the inflammation or due to some fluid accumulation. Sometimes, calcium becomes deposited in the area, or the swollen tendon sheath puts extra pressure on its insertion into the bone so that the bone enlarges at that site in response to this chronic pressure.

Tendinitis is very common, especially in middle and older age due to decreased circulation in the tendons associated with repeated microtraumas. The most common cause of tendinitis is repeated or extreme trauma, excessive exercise and strain.

The most common areas to get tendinitis are the shoulder capsule, the tendons of the big thumb, the elbow and the hip capsule. If the problem is acute, ice therapy is indicated. Wet a cotton cloth with cold water and wring out the cloth so that it stays moist-not dripping wet. Wrap the cloth around the ice pack and apply the cloth covered ice pack to the involved area for twenty minutes. Wait an hour and repeat this ice application. This process should be repeated for the first twenty-four hours. Repeat this process at two-hour intervals for the next twenty-four hours. After forty-eight hours, alternate between cold applications and moist heat applications to the affected areas every two hours, making sure that you start and end the day with a cold application.

Remember, "ice" at the end of word means inflammation. If something is inflamed and you add heat to it what will happen? It will become more inflamed! That is why ice therapy should be applied in acute situations.

After the acute phase (the first 24-48 hours), moist heat may be used to help increase circulation and remove toxins from the involved area. Never use a dry heating pad! A little phrase I use with patients is to remember, "Moist heat penetrates, dry heat aggravates".

Sometimes, the cause of the tendinitis may be more deeply involved or the tendinitis may be secondary to another condition. That is why a chiropractic evaluation would be indicated and recommended.

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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For residents who **have already applied** for assistance through FEMA - FEMA will be at Borough Hall in the Council Room on Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 18 and 19 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. to answer questions.

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COMPUTER EDUCATION
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From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Time for some mid-October news from South Plainfield Library:

Our storytime programs will follow the usual schedule next week. They take place on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. All are for children ages three and over; no registration is needed.

Beyond the storytimes, we've got a few special children's programs coming up. A week from today, Oct. 22, we're having a children's craft program for kids ages six and over. It starts at 4 p.m. and we ask that you pre-register. The next day, Oct. 23, we've got a pumpkin-painting program scheduled. Held in association with the Friends of the Library, it starts at 10:30 a.m. We'll provide the paint and pumpkins, but there is a \$1 fee to cover materials. Space is limited for this activity, so sign up right away. Finally, on Wednesday, Oct. 27, we'll have this year's children's Halloween Party. It's for all ages and will feature stories, songs and refreshments. And don't forget to come in costume! It starts at 6:30 p.m.; we'd like you to register for this one, as well. (There's no space limit, but we'd like an idea of how many people will be showing up.) If you have questions about these or any children's program, check with Children's Librarian Linda Hansen for more details.

Never let it be said that we let adults feel left out. We've got a program coming up focusing on a concern of practically all grown-ups in New Jersey: auto insurance reform. On Tuesday,

Oct. 26, we'll host a seminar addressing frequently asked questions about the Garden State's new auto insurance law. It'll focus on subjects like personal injury coverage, limitations on lawsuits, and protection against uninsured or underinsured drivers. The speaker will be Richard S. Panitch, Esq., a personal injury attorney. The seminar starts at 7 p.m.; there's no admission charge and refreshments will be served. Seating is limited so, once again, we ask that you register in advance.

These days, digital videocassettes represent more or less the cutting edge of recorded entertainment. But, should we stock them in our A/V collection? That's what we're considering, and we'd like your input on the matter. Please pass along your opinions on this proposed upgrade in our available entertainment media. DVD's or no DVD's?

Here's another reminder about the Domestic Violence Awareness display. It'll be in place throughout the month and includes pamphlets with more information on this serious problem. Also, volunteers will be here Monday, Wednesday and Thursday nights from 7-9 p.m. to answer your questions. The display is sponsored by the South Plainfield Police Department's Domestic Violence Educational Outreach Program.

That's about all for this week, but here's one last note before we go. Please pick up any library cards you signed up for during Back to School Night. They're sitting here gathering dust and they weren't meant to do so.

Back with more next week.

Degussa-Hüls Welcomes Employees and Their Families to an Open House

Last Saturday Degussa-Hüls Metal Division management provided its employees with the opportunity to show their families "where they work" as they were taken on a guided tour of the South Plainfield metal manufacturing facility and learned about the processes in developing and manufacturing specialized metal products used in computers, cell phones, entertainment electronics, batteries, automobiles, homes and many other electronic components.

In addition to viewing the manufacturing areas, the employees and families were taken through the research and development laboratories where new products are developed and through the analytical laboratories where scientists conduct tests on conductive metals for use in high performance products for both the electronic and metallurgical industries.

Craig Benson, Vice President and General Manager of the Metal Division, was also joined on the tour by South Plainfield guests, Mayor Dan Gallagher, Council President Jim Vokral and Councilman Ed Kubala.

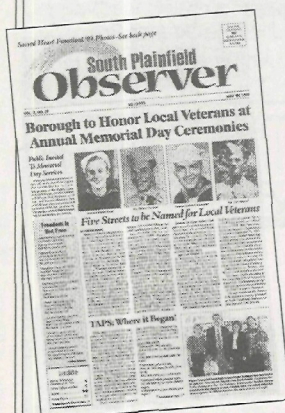
Following the tour, the guests were treated to a harvest repast at Precious Meadows, the Metal Division's park behind the complex and watched the children romp through a "pumpkin patch" as they each "picked" a Halloween pumpkin to take home.

Mr. Benson was "Happy that the mayor and two council members were able to join us in our first Employee Open House." He said, "We look forward to being able to have more open houses in the future, both for our employees and other members of the South Plainfield community."

To reach the South Plainfield Observer by fax, please dial (908) 668-8819. It will no longer be possible to reach us by faxing (732) 469-4380.

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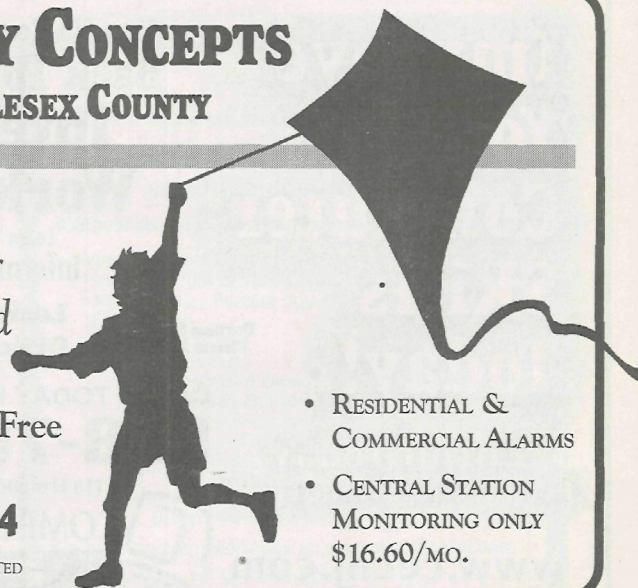
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PAL Offers Saturday Nights Out for Teens And Youth

The South Plainfield Recreation Department, in cooperation with the South Plainfield Alliance for Substance Awareness, kicked off "A Night at the Movies" last Saturday as part of their New Saturday Night at The PAL activities.

The program has been redesigned and enhanced to meet the needs of both the middle school and high school students. The PAL is open from 8-11 p.m. every first and third Saturday for middle school students and every second and fourth Saturday for the exclusive use of high school students. This Saturday high school students are invited to attend.

The PAL has purchased a 60-inch-wide screen TV with surround sound and will be showing movies for the students.

Also planned in the future are dances, coffeehouses, band concerts and other special events. Saturday, Oct. 23, a Sadie Hawkins Dance for middle school students is planned. Everyone should dress up in old hillbilly clothes and plan to learn some new dances. Saturday, Oct. 30, the same type of dance is planned for high school students.

The PAL is looking for local DJs and bands to display their talents are needed. Please contact the PAL at (908) 226-7714.



Last Friday the Middle School held their first dance of the school year. The dance was a great success.

Junior Woman's Club is Seeking Beautiful Babies

The Junior Woman's Club of South Plainfield is looking for children between the ages of newborn and 36 months for a Beautiful Baby Contest.

To enter, send two photographs, no larger than 4-by-6

inches, with child's name on the back. Include \$4 registration fee and a 3" x 5" card with parents name, address, phone number and the child's name and age. Also, please indicate permission to have your child's picture posted and printed in the newspaper and please sign your name. Send entries to the Junior Woman's Club of South Plainfield, P.O. Box 189, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 to the attention of Baby Contest.

Deadline for entries is Friday, Oct. 22. If you would like the photos returned, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Photos will be on display November 1 to November 12, at two local stores. You may vote for the beautiful baby of your choice by dropping money into the appropriate slot of the ballot box. All votes will be tallied at one vote per penny.

Winners will be notified by Nov. 17, 1999. Prizes will be awarded during the Junior Woman's Club meeting at Pilgrim Covenant Church on Park Ave. Proceeds go to general contributions. For more information, call Joyce (908) 756-7127.

the U.S. Federal Government!

The ELKS need your help now, as they are taking up the slack in the face of our government's cutbacks to veterans. This is a sad situation, and only the Elks and individual citizens are left to care for those who cared so much for us. This year, let's all do the right thing and support our Vets by buying the *Entertainment* books through the Elks Veterans Committee.

(See <http://www.njelks.rutgers.edu/main/national.htm> for more insight into the Elks role in founding VA Medical Centers and the G.I. Bill!)

Support Our Veterans Elks Selling Entertainment Books

Once again *Entertainment* coupon books are available offering great discounts and shopping bargains. The books sell for \$30 and may be purchased from many sources! This year, you are invited and encouraged to buy the *Entertainment* books from the South Plainfield Elks Veterans Service Committee. (Lou Peralta, Chairman 908-756-6406). If you are going to buy one anyway, please take a moment to call Lou, and buy one through the Veterans Committee.

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (BPOE) do more to support and care for our Vets than any other group outside of

From the Democratic Candidates

Kubala/Vokral Goal to Keep Taxes Under Control

Councilpeople Ed Kubala and Jim Vokral this week reflected on the progress of the 1999 Council campaign in South Plainfield. "It's always rewarding talking to our residents as we campaign door to door," Ed Kubala said. "Even though over 60 streets have been repaved and borough facilities have been upgraded, we can see first hand what needs attention next year as we walk around town."

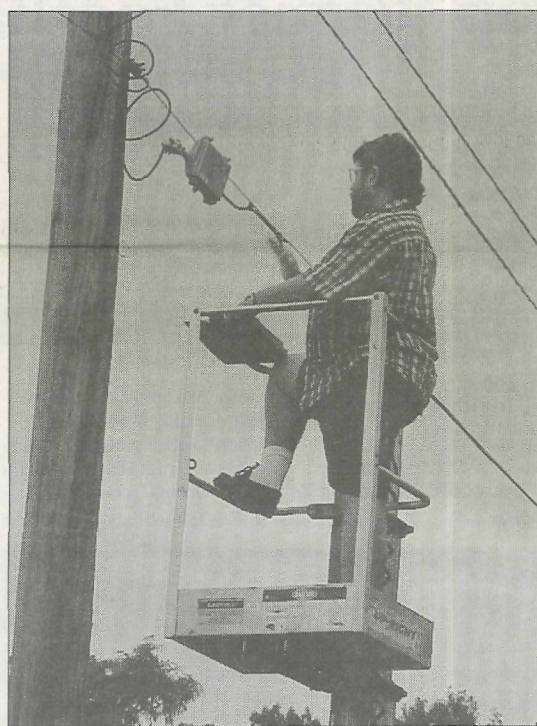
Jim Vokral agreed with his running mate saying, "Don't be shy when we knock on your door. Let us know what you want to see done in South Plainfield. The new Democratic majority has always listened to the people and open government is still our top priority."

Ed Kubala continued, "Taxes are always a concern in South Plainfield. We realize that its

hard work to just meet day-to-day expenses. Keeping taxes under control isn't a luxury, its a necessity. We're proud that the municipal tax rate in South Plainfield is the same today as it was in 1997. In fact the overall tax rate is five points less this year than "it was last year."

Jim Vokral summed up the Democrats position stating, "If you honor Ed and I with re-election, we will continue to work as hard as we can to keep spending and taxes under control in South Plainfield."

PLEASE NOTE: The *'99 Vote* invites all candidates to submit their opinions on the issues. We encourage all candidates to take advantage of this opportunity to inform voters.



Do you know who this man is and what he's doing on top of a cherry picker? The man is Band Director Mark Tweed directing the South Plainfield Marching Band during rehearsals.



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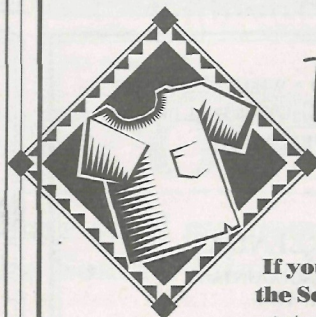
Domestic Violence Exhibit Continues At The Library

The South Plainfield Library is hosting a Domestic Violence Exhibit through Oct. 27.

The exhibit will be available during regular library hours. A team member will be at the library to answer any questions on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 7-9 p.m.

This exhibit is in cooperation with Women Aware, Inc., the South Plainfield Police Department and the South Plainfield Domestic Violence Crisis Intervention Team.

Celebrate South Plainfield



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SPORTS



Pop Warner Football Results

Mighty Mites Defeat Maplewood

Mighty Mites

(The Mighty Mites played Maplewood at South Plainfield.)

Maplewood 6-So. Plainfield 26

Danate Johnson ran for four touchdowns. Patrick Hunter and Jalil Williams both kicked the extra points. Standouts on offense were: David Smith, Rocco Severini, Shawn Parisi, Mike Jefferys; on defense, Nick Heilmann, Jonathan Conroy and Nathaniel Eliassen.

Results from last Sunday's game against West Orange are as follows:

Jr. Pee Wees

West Orange 12-So. Plfld. 6

Jeff Oshey scored a touchdown with a 40-yard run. Standouts on offense were: Anthony Cassano with a fumble recovery, Kyle Lendach, Jacob Rosocha and Taylor Mandel; on defense: Bennie Gibson, Jeff Cianfrocca, Amber Hartman and Charles Loiacono.

Junior Midgets

West Orange 6-So. Plfld 8

Steve Turise caught a touchdown pass from Bill Merkle and David Gerina scored the two point conversion. Standouts on

offense were: Sandile Manzini, Nick Grego, Frankie Vedutis; on defense: Jeff Pollin, Anthony Fierro and Robert Mathis.

Midgets

West Orange 0-So. Plfld. 26

Chris Dickerson ran for two touchdowns, one for 85 yards and one for 55 yards. Guy Severini ran 50 yards for a touchdown and Marcellus Abrams scored a touchdown with an 80 yard run. Standouts on offense were: Chris Czaplinski, Michael Medici, Marquis Jones and George Watkins; on defense: Raj Jainerrain, Jeff Toolan, Danny Manning and Matthew Carella.

Flag

Standouts were: Daniel Whalen, Anthony Cianfrocca, Joe Cornelius, Shane O'Conner and Tyler Herriott.

Next Sunday Pop Warner will be away playing New Providence.



Copy deadline for the Observer is Monday, 5 p.m. for the following Friday's publication.

Please mail, fax or email your copy, (preferably typed in upper and lower case and double spaced) to South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080. Fax to (908) 668-8819.

Junior Baseball Club Notes

By Frank Hanley

"Early" Registration Next Week

October "EARLY" registration for the 2000 season will be held in from 6 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 21 and Friday, Oct. 22, and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday Oct. 23 at the clubhouse. Early registration fees are \$50 for one player, \$80 for two players, \$100 for three or more players (all per family).

Registration is open to all South Plainfield residents ages eight to 16. New players must turn eight years old before August 1, 2000 and must present a copy of a birth certificate. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at the time of registration. Any parent interested in being a manager, coach or umpire can sign up at the registration.

The January registration will be held from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 13 and Friday, Jan. 14, and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 15 at the clubhouse. January registration fees are \$55 for one player, \$85 for two players, \$105 for three or more players (all per family).

Late registration fees are \$60 per player and there will be no discounts.

All players will receive a brand new hat, shirt and pair of pants to keep at season's end.

Parent Sign-up

Any parent interested in being a manager, coach or umpire can sign up at the October registration. Parents are encouraged to attend the monthly Men's and Women's club meetings. The Men's meeting is held on the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse. The Woman's meeting is held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse.

Woman's Auxiliary

The Woman's Auxiliary will be on-site during the October registration to take orders for the new line of SPJBC clothing. The clothing items make excellent holiday gifts!!! The Women will also be selling Home Interior Jar Candles at the early registration on October. Nine scents will be available at a cost of \$5.50 per jar, cash & carry. For more information contact Cindy Eichler at 769-4047.

For more information, contact the SPJBC ... Clubhouse 908-754-2090 or email spjbc99@aol.com. Web Site members.aol.com/spjbc/spjbc.html

Events at a glance

Early Registration—Oct. 21, 22 and 23 at the clubhouse.

Registration—Jan. 13, 14, 15 at the clubhouse.

Try Outs—Saturday, Mar. 4 at the PAL.

Opening Day—Saturday, Apr. 15.

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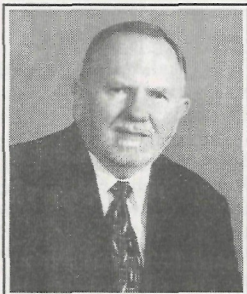
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SPORTS



1999 HS Gymnastics Roster

The 1999 Gymnastic Team from South Plainfield High School are having a good year in competition. They are senior: Theresa Vitelli; juniors: Justina Carubia, Melissa Jamieson and Veronica Zappi; sophomores: Mary Otlowski, Jacqueline Wong; freshmen: Kim Dziomba, Kelly Harty and Victoria Zappi. Head coach is Lori Bress and assistant coach is Mike Nausedas.

Youth and Adult Basketball League Registrations Winding Up

This is the last week to register for the South Plainfield Recreation Youth and Adult Basketball League.

The league is open to all South Plainfield residents ages 7-14 (as of Oct. 1, 1999). Games are played Saturdays at the Middle School. Practices are at the coaches' discretion, weekdays, afternoons and evenings at various locations. The fee is \$35 per participant.

Birth Certificates are only required for registrants who have not participated in a Recreation sponsored Youth League in the past 24 months.

The Adult Basketball League will start on Nov. 18. The games will be played at 6, 7, 8 and 9 p.m. The fee is \$500 for a 5 member roster. You must be 18 years or older. The first eight

teams with the required fee will be accepted.

Register at the Recreation Office located on Maple Ave., Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Registrations will be taken until Oct. 18. The Recreation Office will also be open from 6-8 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 4 and Oct. 18.

Adult Volleyball Leagues Forming

The South Plainfield Recreation Department is accepting registrations for an adult co-ed volleyball league.

Games will be played on Tuesday nights at the Middle School starting on Jan. 4, 2000. The times are 6:30, 7:30 and 8:30 p.m.

Registration is being taken at the PAL Building located on Maple Ave. The fee is \$225 for a 16 member roster. Deadline for registration is Dec. 6.

To be eligible you must be 18 years old or older. The first 12 teams with the fee will be accepted.

For more information, call 226-7714.

Football Tigers Crushed by Carteret

By Brian Cochrane

The South Plainfield Tiger Football Team traveled to Carteret last Friday and were beaten 40-0, behind the rushing of senior tailback Brian Joseph. Joseph, who averages 206 yards per game, tallied 362 on this night. Scoring on runs of 28, 15, 87 and 62 yards, Joseph and the Carteret offense continuously picked apart a bewildered Tiger defense.

The Tigers were coming off two straight victories over New Brunswick and Monroe, but could not figure out how to stop a potent Carteret offense which totaled 505 yards on the night.

Next up the Tigers have a Saturday matinee in Spotswood then they face Hackettstown.

In-line Skating League Forming

The Recreation Department is sponsoring an In-line Skating League. The newly formed league will be open to children ages 10-18. The league will play Oct. 4 through Nov. 18, Monday through Thursday nights at the courts behind Borough Hall.

Register at the PAL Building on Maple Ave. The fee is \$35 per person. Teams will be limited to 10 players. For information, call 226-7713.



Pattie and Chris Abbott to Appear at Haunted Village

Are you batty about Halloween? Love a good thrill? Are you anxious for the haunted holiday to arrive yet the calendar moves forward too slowly? Get a jump start on Halloween at the Sixth Annual Haunted Village. Located on the grounds of the New Jersey Renaissance Kingdom in Somerset, the Haunted Village offers spine-tingling tours through the forest each year. The unique experience leads you deep into the woods where the action comes to you. You never know what lies ahead on the trail or behind the next tree.

South Plainfield resident Patricia Abbott and son Christopher are performers with the Haunted Village. Last year Christopher performed in the family tour while Patricia spent the evening being ripped apart by aliens. This year's tour takes a different twist, not for the faint of heart. Cross the bridge and find yourself in "Somerset National Park." The guides suggest that you ignore the rumors that the dangerous "Somerset Slasher" lurks within. Laugh at the Urban Legends that are a hidden piece of the park's history.

What could be more fun than

an after-dark guided tour to seek out cute adorable creatures of the night. You'll be protected from the wild animals such as owls and rabbits by the highly trained guides. Find out what other creatures lurk in the shadows. The tours are open for several weekends leading up to Halloween.

Last year featured two tours, an adult tour and a family tour. Haunted Village 1999 offers just one tour. No children will be admitted without an adult. Visitors are encourage to come in costume and candy will be distributed to children throughout the evening. After the tour village shops will be open with hot chocolate, glow sticks and more.

The village opens Friday, Oct. 15 and continues for three weekends. Additional dates are Saturday, Oct. 16; Friday through Sunday, Oct. 22-24 and Friday through Sunday, Oct. 29-31 from 6:30 to 10 p.m. The village is just a short trip away, take Exit 10 off I-287 to Davidson Ave. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$6 for children under 12. For information, directions, pre-sales and group discounts, call (732) 271-1119.

We Want Your News. Period.

The South Plainfield Observer would like to promote your nonprofit organization, school, club, etc., but you've got to notify us (in advance) and we will cover it. Or, send us your news, along with photos, if applicable, and **WE WILL PUBLISH IT!**

Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.
South Plainfield, NJ

Very Rev. Michael A. McGuire, Pastor

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Evening Mass 5:45 p.m.

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

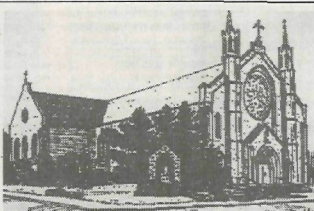
Weekdays 9:00 a.m. (church)

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

Holy Days 7 p.m. (Vigil); 7 and 9 a.m., 12:10 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 11 a.m.- 12 noon, 5:15 - 5:45 p.m.
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Obituary

Nancy Ann Podlovits, 38

Nancy Ann Podlovits died on Thursday, Oct. 7, at the Wayne General Hospital in Wayne following a long illness.

She was born in Plainfield and had resided in South Plainfield for most of her life.

She had attended the South Plainfield Public Schools and graduated South Plainfield High School in 1979. She had worked as a service clerk at the Shop Rite in Piscataway for several years.

She was a communicant of Sacred Heart RC Church in South Plainfield, where she was a member of the choir.

Her father, Ernest J. Podlovits, died in 1988 and her mother, Agnes Mazurek Podlovits, died in 1997.

Surviving are three brothers: Thomas J. Podlovits and William J. Podlovits, both of South Plainfield and Richard J. and his wife, Anne Podlovits, of Flanders.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.



Pictured in front row is Scott Whalen; second row from left, Danny Alligier, Meghan Murphy, Tyler Whalen, Mrs. Feltham, Richard Cruz-De Leon and Arielle Armand. Back row: Mr. Feltham, Kaitlyn Feltham, Mrs. Feltham, Mrs. Armand holding Miles Feltham.

Franklin School Honors Grandparents

The children in Mrs. Stemmie and Mrs. Furka's classes at Franklin School recently honored their grandparents for Grandparents Day. Mr. and Mrs. Feltham, Tyler Whalen's great-grandparents, impressed the children with tales of hard work and teachers who hit students.

Arielle Armand's mother shared her experiences of school life in Jamaica, before she moved to New Jersey. An enjoyable and educational time was had by all on this special day.

POLICE REPORT

• Home Depot reported the theft of computer equipment from the Cragwood Road office. Two laptops and a merchandise scanner were taken.

• The manager of Sam Goody observed two suspects ripping labels off of merchandise. When she confronted them at the door one of the suspects set off the theft alarm. The merchandise was returned and they were told not to return to the store. She reported that she had similar incidences with the suspects before.

• An Edison resident was arrested for shoplifting at A&P on Oak Tree Road. Store security also noted to police that the suspect had a syringe in his front shirt pocket.

• A Hadley Center, A&P employee responded to police headquarters to report the theft of a credit card. The card was taken on September 26 by a vendor known to the employee. She noticed the card missing two days later when checks bounced. Current bank statements show that the card had been used in sev-

eral locations throughout town. The suspect was seen using the card on A&P videotape by two employees.

• Douglas Quintana of Rahway reported the theft of a cell phone and CD player from his work truck. He left the truck unlocked and went into CVS on Plainfield Ave.

• An Avon Ave. resident reported the theft of a cell phone, compact disks, a book bag from his jeep. Also taken were his insurance and registration cards.

• A resident of Piscataway reported the theft of a cell phone from a Maple Ave. residence. There are no known witnesses or suspects.

• An Elliot Place resident reported two tires slashed on two vehicles. The cars were parked in the driveway at the time.

• Airborne Express on New Durham Ave. reported the theft of computer equipment and video games. The items were taken from a loading belt while waiting to be placed on a delivery truck. Security is working with detectives.

By Cyrus n Moon

Weekly Horoscope 10/15-10/21

LIBRA 9/23-10/22 Venus/Moon combination.

If you are jealous and possessive of your partner, this week it may produce feelings of love that are suffocating to him or her. Be aware that even the closest relationship needs room to breathe. Avoid being over-protective and smothering. Your freedom should also be their freedom.

SCORPIO 10/23-11/21 Pluto/Moon conjunction. Keep your head! An intense emotional involvement with a woman regardless of your sex is possible at this time. And the reason for this possible outburst is that you are reacting to a situation, so take a moment and rationalize the situation. Be careful of stomach ailments.

SAGITTARIUS 11/22-12/21 Moon opposition Jupiter. This transit stimulates your drive for personal freedom and if you feel free and unencumbered, you will behave quite responsibly in other people's eyes. But just the same if you feel people are trying to hold you back, you will resist.

CAPRICORN 12/22-1/19 Sun in cooperating aspect to Saturn. This week if you have detailed work to do, you can accomplish it meticulously and well. So without saying this is a good time to bear down and get that work done. Also seek out the opinion of someone who is older or in a position of authority.

AQUARIUS 1/20-2/18 Uranus in challenging aspect to Moon. In the next few months unexpected events could occur that precipitate changes in your emotional life that will swing back and forth. If you are experiencing emotional turmoil and stresses, this is a sign of resisting changes. What's wrong with change?

PISCES 2/19-3/20 Jupiter squares Neptune. At this time you will have to work to make your ideas a reality. You will be challenged to demonstrate that your ideas are not just irrelevant, impractical abstractions. Also you may want to help out some people with your generosity, be sure they deserve it.

ARIES 3/21-4/19 Mars challenging aspect to Uranus. Do something new! This will be a way for you to avoid the carelessness that is a negative potential of this aspect. You're likely to be in a hurry or feeling more impulsive and rebellious and this can lead to accidents.

TAURUS 4/20-5/20 Moon squares Venus. You may be feeling very sentimental this week. This transit awakens memories of the past and causes you to feel attached to them. So get together with family members and smile about the things that can continue to strengthen the family bonds.

GEMINI 5/21-6/20 Moon/Mercury combination. Now is the time to sit a family member down and have a conversation (heart to heart). This combination will put you in a position to be more in touch with your feelings. And thus will express sensitivity between you and that family member.

CANCER 6/20-7/22 Moon conjuncts Sun. Groups efforts are very favorable by this

transit. This is a good time for conferences or any other situation in which you and others have to come to some conclusion. So take the lead and let the higher ups see how well you can take control of the situation.

LEO 7/23-8/22 Sun/Moon combination. This is an especially good time to think about your personal and emotional life. Strains in this area can be corrected now because of how easy communication about personal matters are. If you wait till later on the communication it will not be so easy. So TALK! **VIRGO 8/23-9/22 Mercury squares Uranus.** This is a good week to tackle old problems that you have not been able to resolve in the past. This transit will help you see fresh solutions. Also you may receive some startling information from an old friend. Learn about math or science, this can help you in your career.

QUOTE: Stars that streak across the heavens, Is the sparkle that I see in your eyes.

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Because We Care

by Robert Hunter

HEALTHY OPTIMISM

Those who have lived long lives say that stress reduction and a healthy dose of optimism play a big role in increasing longevity. While negativity is a jail cell for those who indulge themselves in pessimism, optimism imparts a sense of freedom. Furthermore, who knows enough about the future to make a determination about how we are to feel about it? As Edward Hoagland once wrote: "It's simpler to be an optimist and it's a sensible defense against the uncertainties and abysses which otherwise confront us prematurely—we can die a thousand deaths and then usually we find that the outcome is not what we predicted, neither so 'bad' nor so 'good,' but one we hadn't taken into consideration."

For some, works of art are proof of a divine nature, for others, science itself reveals a logic and interconnectedness that seems to have been the result a grand plan. For others it is the sheer unpredictability of life that causes them to hold fast to a power which is impervious to the storms and onslaughts of our earthly existence. The prearrangement specialists at the JAMES W. CONROY FUNERAL HOME invite members of all faiths and beliefs to call 756-2800 to schedule a consultation. We are located at 2456 Plainfield Ave. in South Plainfield. Cremation services available.

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— Grace Paley

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Copy deadline for the Observer is Monday, 5 p.m. for the following Friday's publication.

Please mail, fax or email your copy, (preferably typed in upper and lower case and double spaced). Mail to South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080. Fax to (908) 668-8819, or email us on our web page at spobserver.com.

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Franks is 'Keeping Kids Safe' at Woodbridge Center

Congressman Bob Franks (R-District 7), co-chairman of the Congressional Missing and Exploited Children's Caucus, is urging parents and children from throughout Central New Jersey to attend a special program he is sponsoring on "Keeping Kids Safe" on Saturday, Oct. 23 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The event will be held at Woodbridge Center in the upper and lower levels of the Sears wing.

"Keeping Kids Safe" is free to the public and will include a presentation by the Federal Bureau

of Investigation on how to protect children from a wide range of dangers on the Internet. Leading child safety experts, including the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, will have informational tables for parents and kids.

Franks said, "I encourage families to come and receive expert advice on how to better protect your children. As a father of a two-year-old little girl, I recognize that our children are growing up in an increasingly dangerous world. This conference is designed to empower both parents and children with common sense safety advice."

Among the topics to be addressed at the event are safe surfing in cyberspace; what to do if your child is missing; protecting children's privacy; keeping kids tobacco and drug-free; and how to child proof your home.

Special tables and presentations for children will focus on bicycle safety; safety around dogs; and steering children away from crime. "PC" the South Plainfield Police Department robotic talking car, will be on hand to visit with children.

Fingerprinting and child-ID cards will be provided by the Union Township Police Department at no cost.

Police Officer Pleads Guilty

Continued from page one
his gun after a heated argument, leaving the scene and not reporting the incident to police.

In August Brembt rejected a plea bargain and opted to go to trial. Two days into the trial he pleaded guilty to the charge of simple assault.

On Oct. 22 there will be a hearing to determine the time he will be placed on probation. Since the February incident, Brembt has been suspended from the police department.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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5	\$41,418.	\$66,269.
6	\$44,486.	\$71,178.

REVISED/CORRECTED RATES
(Rates advertised in 10/8/99 issue were incorrect.)

Unit Design	Rental Rates
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2 Bed Room	Mod. Income \$805.
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From Points North: Take Route 287 South to Exit 5 (Stetson Road). At the end of exit ramp, turn left. Travel to second light, and make right onto Hamilton Blvd. Pass Home Depot and travel another .8 miles to first traffic light, turning left onto continuation of Hamilton Blvd. Travel 1/2 mile, turning left onto Montrose Ave. Make third right onto Kennedy Rd. to Woodland Manor straight ahead.

From Points South: Take Route 287 North to Exit 4 (Durham Ave, South Plainfield). At the end of exit ramp, turn right onto Durham Ave. At second light, turn right onto Hamilton Blvd. Turn left onto Montrose Ave. Make third right onto Kennedy Rd. to Woodland Manor straight ahead.

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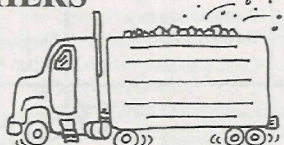
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"Little House on the Prairie" at Riley School

Photos & Story by Patricia Abbott

On Tuesday, Oct. 12, Riley School took a trip back in time to the days of covered wagons, new frontiers, pioneers and a small girl living and traveling in the vast frontier land of a young country. They watched "Little House on the Prairie" author Laura Ingalls grow up right before their eyes. They traveled with her and her family; pioneer-spirited Pa, Charles and Ma, Caroline, who gave Laura her love of reading and books and her older sister Mary on an ever widening adventure of the frontier in search of a 'home.'

ArtsPower National Touring Theatre took the students on this journey via a one act musical entitled, *Laura Ingalls Wilder: Growing Up on the Prairie*. The stage was lit and the curtain opened as the students filed into the gym. The wooden set's abstract simplicity immediately caught their eyes. The house, a huge trunk, along with other set pieces, dominated the stage yet left plenty of room for the performers.

The lights dimmed and the four equity actors brought the much loved characters to life. First Laura and Pa, then Ma and Mary and later in the performance Laura's rival, Nellie Owens. The show opens with Pa and his fiddle as the family prepared to make yet another move. The children sat mesmerized as the show took the family through six states, through good times and bad. Early on Laura inquires of Pa, "What's the one thing I am good at—that nobody else can do?" She compares herself to her smart older sister and sets out to discover what she can do well. The audience experiences the family's sadness when sister Mary loses her sight from Scarlet Fever and fun times such as the scene where Laura ties the mean girl from town, Nellie in a sack. The children discovered how different and difficult pioneer life was. They learned how Wilder began writing about her adventures and the encouragement she received from her close-knit family. The story takes place from the



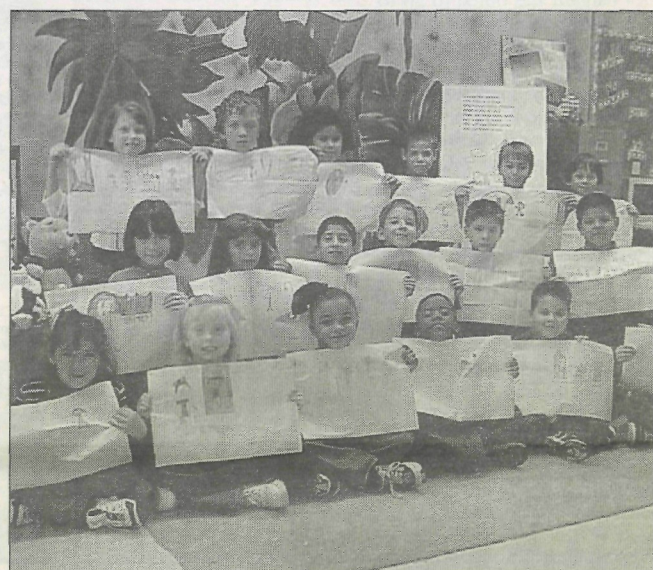
Joseph Nicastro and Joana Sa display their pictures.

1870's to the 1880's. Wilder was over 60 when she began to write about her childhood memories.

ArtsPower is a touring company based in Montclair, NJ. The 50 minute show, written by ArtsPower Artistic Director Greg Gunning, premiered in September of 1995. It features six original songs. The company supplied a "Study Buddy" packet for teachers which provided a background on the show and contained cross-curricular activities for before and after the show.

Riley School Cultural Arts Chairperson Ann Delaney spoke enthusiastically about the show. It ties in with studies of the third graders, but it was also a performance that delighted everyone from kindergarten youngsters to teachers.

Two performances were held to accommodate the student body. First grade teacher Mrs. Linda Bohl's students saw the morning performance. She spoke of their excitement and enthusiasm upon returning to the classroom. While unplanned, she found the perfect 'teachable' moment. She had the children draw pictures of what they saw and they begin to write descriptions of their delightful crayon artwork. The drew the covered wagon, the locust attack and a favorite moment, when the mean Nellie was tied in a sack. While these youngsters are just learning to read, the *Little House* series by Laura Ingalls Wilder is sure to be on future reading lists for many of them.



September/October

& Meetings & Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Editorial copy deadline: Friday, 5 pm Advertising copy deadline: Monday, 5 pm	27	28	29	30	OCTOBER 1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Board of Adjustment 8 pm	Court 9:30 am & 7 pm Business Advisory Group 5:30 pm Court 9:30 am	Taxpayers Advisory Group 8 pm	Publication of <i>So. Plfd. Observer</i>	VFW Country Western Nite 7-11 pm
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Recreation Comm. Mtg 7 pm PAL Columbus Day	Borough Council Agenda Mtg 8 pm Library Board 7:30 pm Planning Board Mtg 8 pm	Environmental Comm. 8 p.m. Cultural Arts Comm. 8 pm Court 9:30 am & 7 pm	Flu Shots at Medicine Shoppe 10am-2pm Borough Council Mtg 8 pm	Publication of <i>So. Plfd. Observer</i>	Highland Woods Reserve Crafts Festival 10-noon South Plainfield Fire Department Open House noon to 4 p.m.
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Board of Education Meeting 8 p.m. Land Management Advisory Comm. 7:30 pm	Board of Adjustment 8 pm Board of Health 7:30 p.m.	Court 9:30 am & 7 pm	SPBA Candidates Debate 7:30 pm SPHS SP Business Assoc. Mtg.	Scoop Dinner Kennedy School 4:30 VFW Penny Sale 6:30 pm Publication of <i>So. Plfd. Observer</i>	St. Stephen's Church Octoberfest Dinner
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Rescue Squad Ladie's Auxiliary Fashion Show at Polish Home	Borough Council Agenda Mtg 8 pm	Softball Parents Assoc. Meeting Oct. 26 8 p.m. Planning Board Mtg 8 pm Recycling Comm. 8 pm	Traffic Safety Adv Comm. 7 pm Court 9:30 am & 7 pm	Borough Council Meeting 8 pm Recycling Commission meeting 8 pm	Publication of <i>So. Plfd. Observer</i>	

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