

S. PLAINFIELD NJ 07080
2484 PLAINFIELD AVE
SPLD PUBLIC LIBRARY

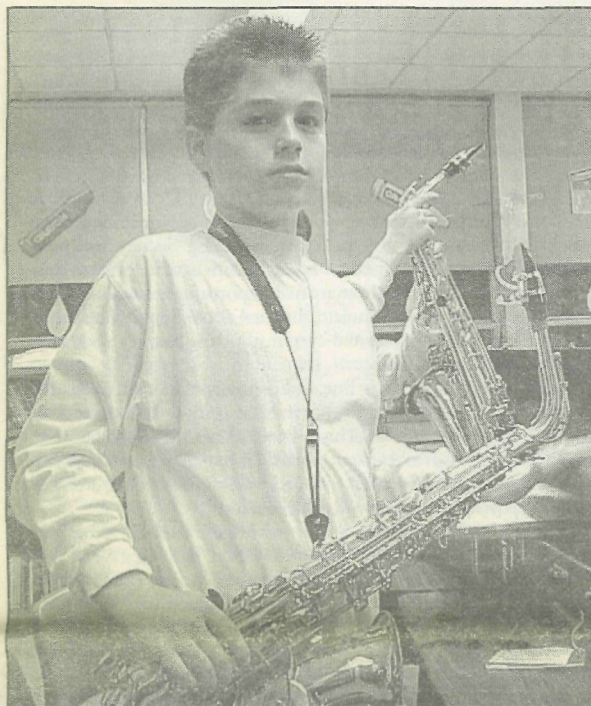
SOUTH PLAINFIELD
FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
2484 PLAINFIELD AVE
SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 3, NO. 17

50 CENTS

DECEMBER 31, 1999



A Franklin School student prepares for one of many holiday concerts throughout the South Plainfield School System this past week. For additional photos of concerts at Franklin, Roosevelt and Middle schools, see pages 6 and 7.

Ass't. Superintendent Of Schools Resigns

The recent announcement by Assistant Superintendent Dr. Lillian that she is leaving the district came as a surprise to many. Dr. Lillian DeSimon will be leaving the South Plainfield school district as of January 3, 2000. She has been with the district since July 1, 1991. Dr. DeSimon has been appointed superintendent of schools for Riverdell Regional School district which encompasses Oradell and River Edge, New Jersey middle and high schools, grades 7-12.

"I have enjoyed working with my colleagues in education, as well as the students, and I have enjoyed seeing the growth in our school district. I have learned a lot and hopefully I've shared a lot. I have mixed emotions about leaving. I will greatly miss many of the people in the school district, both as professionals and friends. I wish them all continued success," said Dr. DeSimon.

During last week's Board of Education meeting, members of the board wished her luck in the future and expressed how much each enjoyed working with her. Superintendent Guy Ferri said there was no doubt in his mind that she will succeed in her new position.



Dr. Lillian DeSimon

Roosevelt School Principal Mario Barbieri said, "Dr. DeSimon has been very successful in South Plainfield. She is both conscientious and hard working and I will miss her." Franklin School Principal Nancy Erickson stated, "Dr. DeSimon has been a good friend and colleague throughout her tenure in South Plainfield. She cares deeply about the children in our community and has done her very best to ensure that they will have positive and fulfilling experiences in our schools. Dr. DeSimon will be missed!"

Reorganization Meeting Set For Jan. 2

The Borough's 2000 reorganization meeting will be held on Sunday, Jan. 2 in Borough Hall at 1 p.m. Councilmen Ed Kubula and Jim Vokral, reelected this past November, will both be sworn in for three-year terms.

Assignments of committees for members of the council will also be announced, along with appointments to various boards and committees for the Year 2000.

During his reorganization speech Mayor Gallagher will outline last year's accomplishments and the plans he and the council have for the Year 2000. He is also expected to make an announcement regarding the construction of a senior citizens center and discuss the PAL Building expansion funding. The public is invited to attend.

Special BOE Meeting

A Special Business Meeting of the South Plainfield Board of Education will be held in the board conference room in the Administration Building on Cromwell Place on Jan. 4 at 7 p.m. Discussion of board goals and objectives and school matters will take place.

A Century of DeAndreas Gather To Celebrate Lineage

By Patricia Abbott

Ancestors and family history are often overlooked in the hustle and bustle of the fast-paced 90's lifestyle. Add multi-continent families and multiple marriages and divorces, which creates extended families, and the past often vanishes much like those distant unknown relatives, buried and gone.

The DeAndrea family recently

moved towards the new millennium with a celebration of the generations. A century of DeAndreas gathered at Caffè Piancone on Dec. 10. They jointly commemorated their 100 year lineage here in South Plainfield, along with celebrating the 83rd birthday of Vincent P. DeAndrea Sr. The eighteen guests ranged in age from 5 to 93, spanning nearly 100 years.

Continued on page 4

Rumor Hotline Number Set Up for Y2K

South Plainfield has been preparing for whatever may arise on New Year's Eve, according to Emergency Management Coordinator Mike Zushma. The State of New Jersey has mandated that every town operate under emer-

gency status, with evacuation and emergency contingency plans as the Year 2000 begins. Y2K problems which might occur include the possibility of a terrorist act, a limited shutdown of utilities, spotty power failures and the possible failure of railroad crossing signs.

The office of emergency management will set up a command center in Borough Hall starting at noon on Friday and remain open until noon on Saturday. It will be ready to handle any emergency or Y2K problem that may arise. Two crews from both the rescue squad and the fire department will also be available the entire night, and all members will be on alert. Public works will also have at least two workers on call for the night.

Middlesex County plans to set up a rumor hotline whereby callers can get updates on any rumors or problems that might arise. The rumor hotline number is 1-800-294-8001. Middlesex County will have at least 80 officers on standby at Middlesex County Fire Headquarters.

Several manufacturers in town

which process chemicals or dangerous material will be shutting down or limiting production on New Year's Eve. Also, trains will be halted just before midnight to ensure that all crossings and switches are compliant. The phone company is also asking people not to pick up their phones at midnight to see if there is a dial tone, since it may overload the system.

Stores in the area have seen an increase in generator sales and flashlights. Banks who have contacted all seem to be Y2K prepared and many have set up hotline numbers for more Y2K information.

Emergency Coordinator Mike Zushma stressed that, "He doesn't expect any real problems, but we will be ready if any arise. People should go out and enjoy their New Year's Eve celebrations."

If any resident wants to report a problem or needs assistance on New Year's Eve, they should call the police department at 757-0700. Do not call 9-1-1 unless it is a real emergency. The emergency management team will be available all night to help with any problems that may arise.



Ten generations of DeAndreas recently gathered to celebrate their 100-year history. Pictured are the following members of the DeAndrea family: Anthony, Vincent P. Sr., Joseph B. Sr., John, Carmen, Richard J. Sr., Vincent P. Jr., Joseph B. Jr., John Jr., Richard J. Jr., Daniel John, Joseph B. III, Peter, Joshi, Jordon, Justin and Jared. Also present but not pictured is Vincent P. III.

In My Opinion

Letters Letters Letters

To the Editor,

The reason why the bond issue referendum failed is probably the same reason school budgets fail annually. It seems that the South Plainfield School Board puts together some numbers and the only way to fund their requests is on the backs of the taxpayers.

It seems that the district administration could go directly to the taxpayers and plead their case (intimidating the taxpayer with less than adequate education if they don't get what they want).

As for the bond issue, you must ask the question, Who is building all these housing units and who approved the plan? The only result from all this development to the current citizens of South Plainfield is more congestion on our already existing roads. When the builders got the approval, they should have in their cost of construction, the cost of the necessary expansion needs for the school district. The recent referendum was no more than legalized extortion. Any future plans which will put an additional tax burden will be against the vote of the taxpayers and should be viewed by South Plainfield taxpayers as a slap in our faces. If the expansion is needed, put the cost in the cost of the new housing.

SINCERELY,
GARY BERSIN

Residents of South Plainfield

I have been attending Board of Education meetings since my oldest entered school eight years ago. I am appalled at Barry Fiddler's letter and the comments it contained and if they aren't received by our community for exactly what they were meant to be—an attempt to take the attention off the facts—then I feel the need to comment.

First, I've been acquainted with Frank Mikorski through all the years he has served on our

Board of Education, as a member of the parent community and a parent who regularly attended BOE meetings. Frank has always been an approachable member of this board. Whenever I had a concern or question, Frank was among the first I'd address.

As a present member of this Board and a member of the Negotiations Committee, I have never heard, nor witnessed any disrespect towards individual members of the SPEA, nor has he ever stated or implied disrespect for the profession of education. If Mr. Fiddler has a recollection of any such thing, it is part of the fantasy he continues to live. There is absolutely nothing wrong with sitting on this Board and asking the bar be raised. If Frank can be accused of anything, it would be constantly asking for more for our children, to be criticized for that is unjust. It is exactly what we were all elected to do.

There is not now, nor has there ever been any Board member to my recollection, that has worked tirelessly toward providing the children of South Plainfield with a thorough and efficient education. Frank has housed members of our local and State government on behalf of the children and taxpayers of this community. It is certainly my pleasure and honor to serve my term in his presence, his wisdom cannot be learned if not by example.

I know I speak for many children and taxpayers when I speak of my appreciation for the time and service Frank unselfishly gives. I am not ashamed to publicly thank him.

DAWN JEFFERYS
SOUTH PLAINFIELD
BOE MEMBER

To the Editor,

As one of the board members receiving an "extremely high salary" Mr. Pisaniello refers to (in

a letter appearing in the Dec. 24 issue), I feel obligated to set the record straight. Board members receive no monetary compensation for the positions they are elected to, nor for any of the countless hours spent contributing to what we all believe to be a very worthy cause—the education of our community's children.

Mr. Pisaniello claims that the board blamed the mayor and council for "allowing the homes to be built"—a statement that could not be further from the truth. At no time did any board member even hint at assessing blame. The fact is the development is taking place. The question remains; what are we going to do to address the resulting increase in enrollment?

The demographic studies predicting estimated enrollment figures were developed using information provided by the Middlesex County Department of Planning and Economic Development. Now while Mr. Pisaniello is certainly entitled to his opinions, it would help if they were based on widely accepted scientific analysis rather than simple conjecture.

As to his suggestion that the mayor and council "should run the schools or pick parents to work on board from various schools"—the system he advocates is essentially in place now. In any given year, if the public votes to defeat a proposed school budget, the mayor and council have the right to review and eliminate any funding they deem to be excessive. And as far as the make-up of the board goes; the public Board of Education elections held every April determine who sits on the board. A process regarded by many as "democracy at work."

Regardless of how strongly I disagree with Mr. Pisaniello's comments I do respect his right to his opinions, however misinformed they may be. My disappointment is in the parents of our community. Based upon the current enrollment of 3,583 students, considering only 2,176 votes were cast during the recently held referendum, one can easily conclude that on average not even one parent per child chose to participate in a process that so directly affects their children.

In closing, I would ask Mr. Pisaniello, when was the last time you visited one of our schools? While we certainly would not want members of the public just roaming the halls, I am quite sure if you contacted any of the building principals they would be happy to arrange for you to visit. It could be a bold step on your part, allowing you to form future criticisms on personal observations, not mere misconception.

DAN SMITH
MEMBER SOUTH PLAINFIELD
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Submit letters to the editor to:

South Plainfield Observer,
Editorial Dept.,
1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B
South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Letters may be submitted by email at spobserver.com or faxed to 908-668-8819. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length.

Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Observer.

Who is that masked man... uh, Gargoyle?

The Samptown Ave. gargoyle gets in the holiday spirit. Have you seen any of his elves?



Commentary

Freedom of Speech?

Professional athletes were once the stuff of kid's dreams; they were idols and heroes beyond compare. In this day and age hero worship of sports stars is not always so quick in coming. Society once positioned athletes as role models. Today's youth have to look carefully at their heroes. While there are many sports figures with whom a child would do well to emulate, there are also those who taint their team and fellow players and even insult their country with their distasteful personal views.

To offer an opinion is fine and certainly allowable under the constitution of our country, but to blast a city and a multitude of minorities is out of line. This is how Atlanta Braves pitcher John Rocker has chosen to represent himself. He recently attacked Mets fans and New Yorkers in general with their vast and diverse cultures. His comments reek of bigotry and crude sentiment.

In an interview with *Sports Illustrated* Rocker offered verbal put-downs of all "foreigners." He continued on, bashing gays and referred to Mets fans as faithful "degenerates." Rocker stated that he would "retire before ever playing for a New York team." He further commented on a train trip to the Shea Stadium, likening it to a trip through Beirut. He used phrases such as "... seated next to a kid with purple hair, next to some queer with AIDS, next to some dude who just got out of jail for the fourth time, next to some 20-year-old with four kids." He said the city never sleeps and no one speaks English. He admitted his dislike for foreigners with his statement, "The biggest thing I don't like about New York are the foreigners. I am not a very big fan of foreigners." He further commented on the many cultures he encountered while walking in the Times Square area and asked the question, "How the hell did they get in this country?" Most believe his hatred to be a "pre-existing" problem intensified by the Braves loss to the Mets during the 1999 playoff games. He expressed many derogatory comments towards the Mets and their fans during the playoffs.

The day the report hit the stands SP High School Principal Tony Massaro went into action. Massaro knew that the student group, Respect All Races Everywhere (RARE), would get involved. John Rocker's comments condemned all that RARE had worked to change. The attitudes he expressed encompassed everything that RARE abhors, and conflicts with all that SPHS endeavors to instill in its student body. The force of negativism and lack of compassion and understanding of others is the reason groups like RARE exist.

The students in Mr. Horowitz's English class were outraged when he brought the article to their attention. The winter break was at hand, but the students, inflamed by Rocker's comments, made haste and immediately set out on a letter writing campaign. RARE members will add to the letter onslaught. Mr. Horowitz and students have contacted newspapers statewide as well as TV and radio stations. RARE advisor is Tom Baker, who is assisted by seniors Diana Algo, Sandra Marin, Alina Viruet, Laticia Croford, Monica Vasquez and Johanna Alzante.

Submitted by Patricia Abbott

South Plainfield Observer

The South Plainfield Observer is published every Friday

G&G Graphics, Inc.
1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

(908) 668-0010 • FAX (908) 668-8819

Web page at <http://www.spobserver.com>

For subscriptions, advertising or information, call (908) 668-0010.

The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

NANCY GRENNIER
Publisher/Editor

WAYNE GRENNIER
Associate Publisher

SUSAN KANEPS
Art Director/Associate Editor

PATRICIA ABBOTT
Staff Writer

BRIAN COCHRANE
Sports Writer

BRIGGS LONGBOTHUM
KENNETH MORGAN
Correspondents

ROXANNE CORTESE
USA FOTI

WILLIAM TUTHILL
Advertising Sales

The South Plainfield Observer (U.S.P.S. 018253) is published weekly, except Thanksgiving week, by G&G Graphics Inc. 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080-2004. Second class postage paid at South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080-9998. POSTMASTER: Forward change of address orders to G&G Graphics Inc. 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080-2004. Subscription rates \$25 per year in South Plainfield; \$45 per year out of town. To subscribe: 908-668-0010.

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.

December SPECIAL

New Client Special

FREE
Blow
Dry or
Set

With
Every Hair
Cut,
Reg. \$24,
Now \$12

The Family Place
Carousel
Hair Salon



908-668-8397

Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri
8am-4pm

Sat 6:45 am-3 pm

Closed Sundays &
Mondays

307 Oak Tree Avenue,
South Plainfield, NJ

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Tonight, people are preparing to ring out the old year and ring in the new in a particularly big way. We don't know whether you're planning to be in Times Square, sitting at home, or at any number of parties when midnight rolls around. But, right now, you're reading the South Plainfield Library's column in the *OBSERVER*, so here's the latest news.

This week, our Children's Storytime programs remain cancelled.

We're going to close early today at 1:30 p.m. We'll remain closed Saturday, Sunday and Monday for the New Year's holiday. We'll re-open on Tuesday. During that time, our book and video drops will be available. However Elvis, our Virtual Librarian, will be off duty, due to Y2K computer concerns. If you need to renew an item, or check your record, call in today before we close.

Speaking of bar codes, let's clear up a common misconception. You'll note that the bar-code number on your Library card consists of a string of numbers, bracketed by a lower case "a" and "b". Whenever you need to input your number, don't include these letters. They're just there to show our scanners where the code begins and ends. Just put in the numbers, please.

There are more changes on the Circuit front. The Video Circuit is between groups today; the group for January should be ready on Tuesday. Meanwhile, this is the last day of availability

for the present group of Circuit audiocassettes. The next group will be ready soon. However, the new batch of Large Print Circuit books is now ready.

The Friends of the Library will meet on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. Also, today is the last day for the offer from the HoneyBaked Ham Company Store. For every ham bought with a special coupon, the company will donate \$5 to the Friends. Coupons and details are on the main desk.

Let's address something from the suggestion box. It's in regard to smoking and books. We don't permit people to smoke in the Library, but, at home, you're free to do as you wish. Unfortunately, some people have taken to smoking while reading, resulting in books that sometimes positively reek of cigarette smoke. (In fact, at least one item has had to be discarded due to smoke damage.) This causes problems for those who are particularly sensitive to smoke. If you feel you must smoke while reading our books, please try to cut down or, at least, exhale away from the book. The best thing, of course, would be for you to quit altogether. In any case, we'd appreciate your help on this.

That'll do it for now. We at the Library wish you a happy and safe New Year. We'll see you next week/month/year/decade/century/millennium.

(Although, to be accurate, the next decade, century and millennium don't start until January 1, 2001. Hope that fact won't rain on your parade, folks.)

Red Cross Needs Blood Donors

The American Red Cross and the New Jersey Blood Services will be holding several Blood Drives during January.

The drives are part of an effort to increase the number of blood donors. Only 2% of the general population gives blood. Last year the Red Cross provided 14,000 units of blood to county hospitals, yet only collected 10,000 units of blood from County residents.

To qualify as a blood donor a person must:

- Be between the ages of 17 and 75 (in New Jersey, seventeen-year-olds must have written permission from their parents or guardians. People over 75 can donate blood with a physician's consent).

- be in general good health.
- weight at least 110 pounds.
- not have donated whole blood within the last 56 days.

The schedule for blood drives for January is:

- Jan. 3 at the Ricochet Health and Racquet Club on Nicholas Ave. in South Plainfield from 3-8:30 p.m.

- Jan. 8 at the First Unitarian Society, 724 Park Ave. in Plainfield from 8:45 a.m. to 2:25 p.m.

- Jan. 16 at Our Lady of the Mount, 167 Mt. Bethel Rod in Warren from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For further information call, (908) 353-2500, (908) 756-4142 (800) 933-2566.



Dr. Scott Linick of Plainfield Animal Hospital presents Lorraine Zdeb with donations he collected for pets displaced by Hurricane Floyd.

Animal Hospital Collects Donations for Displaced Pets

On Monday, Scott Linick, DVM of Plainfield Animal Hospital, presented Lorraine Zdeb with donations of pet supplies and food collected from the drive to aid homeless animals.

Lorraine created a temporary shelter for all the stray animals that were rescued during Hurricane Floyd which devastated Central New Jersey in September. Her story became public when she was fined for housing an illegal shelter.

Her plight for a variance to have a centrally located rescue center has been met with great opposition and articles have appeared in all the area newspapers, reporting her efforts to help the homeless animals. Her

story will be featured on ABC's 20/20 on Jan. 7, 2000. When 20/20 airs this story, they will feature owners who have found their pets through the efforts of Lorraine.

Dr. Linick felt that this year's pet food/supply donations deserved to go to Lorraine because of all the time, money and effort she has put forth to save these animals. Lorraine will distribute the food among the 25 foster homes now taking care of these animals. The animals are in foster homes waiting for their owners to find permanent homes.

If you would like to adopt a pet or donate anything animal-wise, please call Lorraine at 908-874-5717.

MILESTONES



Heidi and David Pelech

Wedding

Heidi Zampella Weds David Pelech

Heidi Zampella and David Pelech were married on July 31 at Our Lady of Czestochowa Church in South Plainfield.

The bride is the daughter of Larry and Olga Zampella of South Plainfield. Heidi is the owner of Heidi's Hair & Nails on Hamilton Blvd.

The groom is the son of Walter and Lorraine Pelech of South Plainfield. David owns Ashley's Art Woodwork Design Inc.

Board of Ed Hires Central Registrar, Adult Advisor

Kenneth Van Kleef has been hired as Central Registrar/Residency In Town Enforcement Officer (RITE) at a salary of \$32,000.

Van Kleef, former South Plainfield police officer, will enforce the residency requirements for students enrolled in the South Plainfield School system.

The Board of Education also appointed Sophia Domogala as Adult Advisory for the Adult High School at the salary of \$45,000. Sophia replaces Judy Bayer who is retiring.

84-year-old Resident Loses \$16,000 in Check Scam

An 84-year-old South Plainfield resident was robbed of about \$16,000 by a friendly woman she met who offered to help out with chores and shopping. They had been acquainted for about a year.

According to Detective Paul Wylam, Geraldine Shead, 41, also known as Geraldine Powlison, has been accused of forging about 70 checks from two of the elderly woman's checking accounts during the past 10 months.

The manager of the First Union Bank on Plainfield Ave. called police to report what he thought was suspicious activity on the woman's account.

During the investigation, the victim told Detective Wylam that she had only written one check to her friend in the past year. Wylam then went through the victim's cancelled checks and found 59 First Union checks cashed by Shead. He also found Shead had cashed about 11 checks from her Prudential Securities Fund.

The forged checks were all written in amounts between \$100 and \$500.

The bank was notified and the victim's accounts were frozen. Geraldine Shead was arrested last Friday and charges with forgery and theft.



Twin City Pharmacy
755-7696

1708 Park Ave., South Plainfield (Next to ACME)

COMPLETE LINE OF

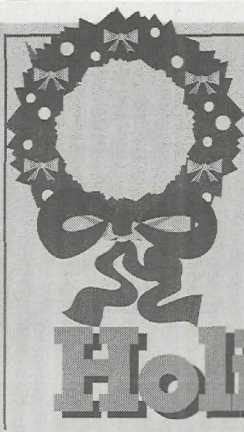
VITAMINS & MINERAL SUPPLEMENTS
Featuring Solgar and Hudson

Today's modern pharmacy with old fashioned values

- Free Delivery
- We Accept Most Major Medical Plans
- Hospice Care & Home Healthcare Needs
- Diabetic Counseling & Supplies
- Direct Medicare billing for medical goods and equipment.
- Hallmark Cards and Gifts

Happy New Year to all our customers!

Come and See for Yourself!



We thank you for your support and wish you a Happy New Year!

Happy Holidays

1110 Hamilton Blvd. So. Plainfield, NJ 07080

COMPUTER EDUCATION CENTER

908-757-9085
www.cecnj.com

AROUND TOWN

EVENTS

Historical Society To Meet

The regular meeting of the South Plainfield Historical Society will take place on Tuesday, Jan. 4, 2000 at the library in South Plainfield High School.

The Historical Society is planning to catalog all of their pictures and artifacts, by listing what they are and where they came from. If you are interested in helping, come to the meeting next Tuesday.

Music Boosters Paper Drive Moved

The South Plainfield High School Music Boosters Paper Drive will be held on Jan. 8 this month due to New Year's Day falling on the first Saturday of the month.

Our Lady of Czestochowa to Hold Wafer Supper

Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish's Annual Wafer Supper will take place on Sunday, Jan. 9, 2000 at 4 p.m. at the Church Hall on Hamilton Blvd. Donation is \$12 per person; \$5 each for children 12 and under. Music will be provided by Frank Sendzik and "The Happy Tones." For reservations, contact Marie Monticchio at (908) 755-7328 or Carolyn Yankoski at (908) 755-2516.

Recreation Plans Trip To Footloose on Broadway

The South Plainfield Recreation Department is sponsoring a trip to see the Broadway musical *Footloose* on Sunday, Feb. 27. The bus will leave from the PAL Building at 12 noon.

The price is \$55 per person. Register at the PAL on Maple Ave. Only 49 tickets are available, so reserve early.

Recreation Plans Ski Trip to Montage

The South Plainfield Recreation Department invites you to ski Montage on Monday, Jan. 21, 2000.

You must be at least 14 years

old to participate. Fee for bus and lift only is \$45; bus, lift and rental is \$59 and bus and adult learn to ski is \$47.

Register at the PAL by Jan. 14.

Columbiettes Upcoming Events

The South Plainfield Columbiettes are planning a trip to see the New Jersey Devils play the Washington Capitals on Friday, Jan. 14, which is baseball cap giveaway night to all fans in attendance. The cost is \$65 per person and includes the hockey game ticket, bus and driver gratuity. Bus will leave the Knights of Columbus Hall at 6 p.m.

For info or reservations, call Mary Ann at (908) 226-1222. All events are open to the public.

Polish Home New Year's Eve 2000 Party

The South Plainfield Polish Home on New Market Ave. will hold a New Year's Eve Party. A grand buffet, music, special drinks, snacks and giveaways are planned. 10 p.m.-4 a.m.; \$5 admission. For information call 668-9442.

Senior Line Dancing At PAL Building

Seniors aged 55 and older are invited to join the fun of Line Dancing on Wednesdays from 1:15 to 2:15 p.m. The scheduled Jan. 5, 12, 19 and 26.

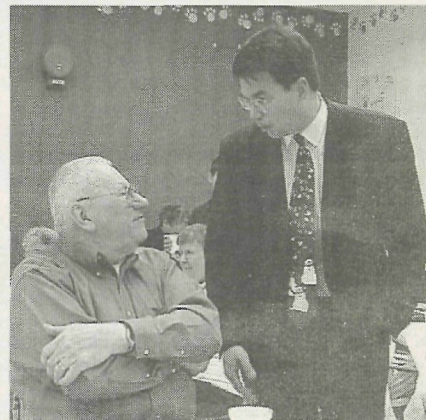
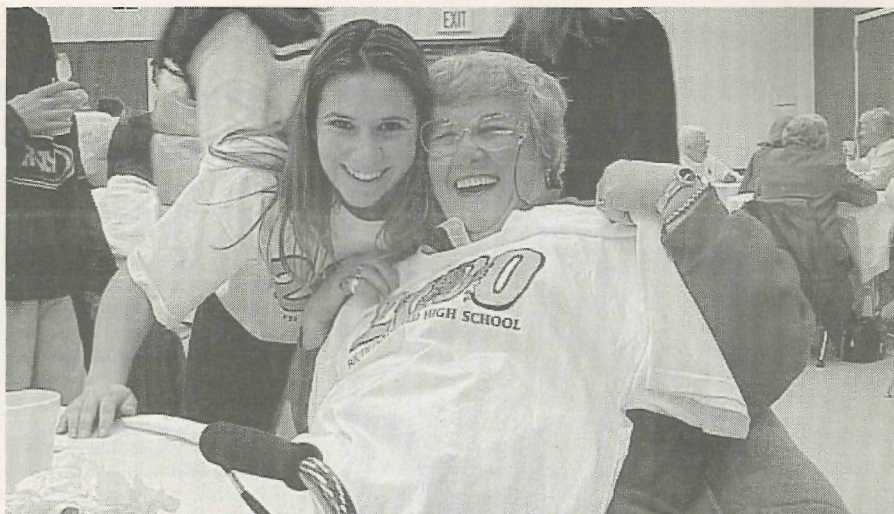
Line Dance instructors will be Sandy Smehil and Lois Desoto. The fee is \$15 for residents and \$25 for nonresidents. Social and country western dancing will be included. This class will be teaching all the great, popular lines. Sign up at the PAL Building located on Maple Ave.

For info, call the Recreation Department at (908) 226-7714.

Tourette Syndrome Support Meeting

The Tourette Syndrome Association Family Support Group of Middlesex County will meet on the following dates: Jan. 11, March 14 and May 9, 2000.

For more information, contact Debbie at 732-283-1439 or www.tsanj.org.



On Thursday, Dec. 23 South Plainfield's senior citizens were given an early gift. The SPHS Student Council treated the seniors to a luncheon in the high school cafeteria. Mike English began the annual luncheon six years ago. Student Council members set up, served and cleaned up with help from Mrs. Flannagan-Wurtz's home economics classes. The luncheon served 110 seniors. Thirty to forty students worked throughout the afternoon. Juniors and seniors served the food and freshmen and sophomores handled clean up detail. Manny from Marriott was instrumental in arranging for the food and its preparation. Prior to the luncheon the senior citizens enjoyed a concert featuring the Traveling Choir and the band.

DeAndreas Gather to Celebrate History

Continued from page 1

The event was organized by Richard "Dick" DeAndrea and was recorded with photographs providing those who attended with a piece of the history they created. It also provided those DeAndreas yet to be born with a yet another piece of a millennium past. The photo session took up a only small portion of the afternoon. Portraits of the entire group, as well as specific family photos, were taken by South Plainfield resident Joey Harrah and Bill Reedy from Hot Shots Digital Photography.

Memorabilia was displayed on a long table. The items displayed traced DeAndrea history, as well as offered a simple lesson in South Plainfield history. A framed newspaper clipping of an old photo showed Anthony Alfred DeAndrea, (who moved to South Plainfield from Roccamanpoli, Italy around 1919) in front of the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company store (A&P), which he managed on South Plainfield Ave. Page upon

page of carefully garnered family history dating back to approximately 1856 were laid out for all to see. Along with more recent family reunions the display was an impressive history lesson. The pages told of happiness and tragedies, prosperous times and lean times. They spoke of the good and not so good traits of the family over the decades. One record showed a burial receipt from Holy Redeemer Cemetery for a young DeAndrea. The total for the plot and burial was approximately \$15 dollars.

On the day of the event, Dick DeAndrea made an amazing discovery while reading through the family history. It was the first time he realized that his family had settled on South Clinton Ave.

when they arrived in South Plainfield. Just a few blocks from the present DeAndrea Associates on South Clinton Ave. stands a small gray building that housed generations of DeAndrea immigrants after they entered this country and struggled to find jobs and a place to call their own. While much of the family is spread out over New Jersey, Pennsylvania and beyond, it is amazing how many can be found not only right here in South Plainfield but within a few blocks of the original home-stead. How many can trace their family back over 100 years? From the looks of the DeAndrea clan attending the recent festivities, another century is clearly in the making!

Orientation Program Set For Eighth Grade Parents

High School Principal Anthony Massaro is inviting the parents of all Middle School eighth grade students to attend a spe-

cial high school orientation program. The progression to high school is a major event in the experience of students and their parents.

To make the transition to South Plainfield High School less overwhelming, an orientation program has been scheduled for parents on Jan. 13, 2000 (students optional as separate orientation sessions will be held for incoming freshmen prior to the start of their school year). The program will be held in the high school cafeteria at 7:30 p.m.

During the course of this program visitors will be given an overview of the programs and activities at South Plainfield High School. The scheduling process will also be addressed as well as the extra and co-curricular activities available to students.

Spread the Word!

Submit your events for the AROUND TOWN page. Mail or drop off your stories and photos: The South Plainfield OBSERVER, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Fax (908)668-8819 • email GGNAN@aol.com.

Aiello Chiropractic Center, P.C.

Your hometown source for quick pain relief

2201 South Clinton Avenue, Suite H
South Plainfield, NJ 07080-1471

On the corner of New Market and South Clinton

755-2289

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.

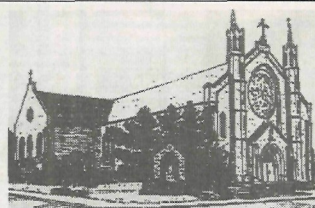
Weekdays 9:00 a.m. (church)

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.
and after 5:45 p.m. Vigil M





The Alternative View

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

Dear Dr. DeCosta: I have read that many spinal problems may actually begin in infancy. Are there any things I can do to help my baby avoid any future spinal problems? - C.B.

Dear C.B.:

Yes, it is true that many spinal problems can start in infancy. There are also many preventive measures that parents can take with their infants and young children that will decrease the probability of spinal problems later in life.

Dr. Fred H. Barge, D.C., Ph.C., of LaCrosse, Wisconsin, has addressed this issue. In his book entitled, *Scoliosis*, Dr. Barge tells parents that the adult spine normally has four curves; the neck and lumbar spine curve forward and the mid-back and sacrum curve backwards. However, when a child is in the womb, and is first born, the spine configuration is that of a figure "C". This is called the primary curve (backward curve) and the two primary curves of the mid-back and sacrum will remain throughout your lifetime.

The secondary curve (forward curves) of the neck and low back have not yet been formed, and the early days and months of a child's life are of the utmost importance in the development of the spine.

Most mothers realize that their new born baby cannot support the weight of its head. The baby's little neck wobbles and strains to hold its head upright. These motions and exercises develop the muscles of the neck region, and begin to promote the development of the first secondary curve of the spine which is the arch of the neck.

One of the best positions for the baby when awake and amusing itself is on its stomach. This position permits the baby to lift its head and develop the arch of the neck. This position also lays the groundwork for the second secondary curve, the arch of the low back. This curve is developed when the baby begins creeping. Most babies today are not allowed to creep for a long enough period of time.

You have often watched an infant laying on its tummy, hands in the air, feet in the air, head up, smiling, wiggling, kicking, and chortling. These actions are really exercises for their little body. These exercises develop the spinal muscles and contours which prepare the child for the upright posture of man.

However, when the baby falls asleep on its tummy, and mother fails to return the child to its back, it may sleep with its head turned habitually to one side and a tendency for an abnormal cervical curve may develop.

The baby may also lie with one leg curled up with bended knee. This habitual position can produce a pelvic (hip) rotation, and may cause a child to walk with one foot pointing out (or in) during his early walking attempts.

When a child sleeps on its tummy, see to it that constant poor postural habits are not developed. If the child changes its position as it sleeps, no harm is done. If the child lies habitually with its head to one side, you should turn the child's head to the opposite side or turn the child over on its back.

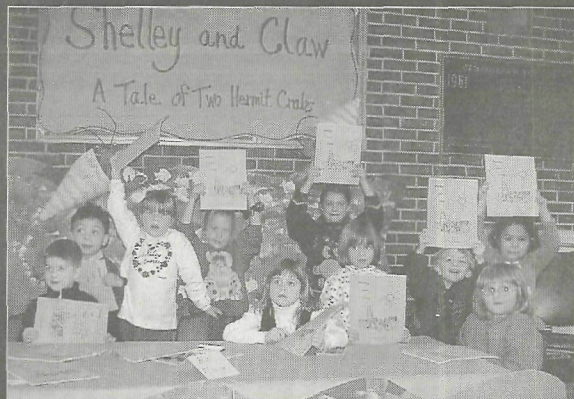
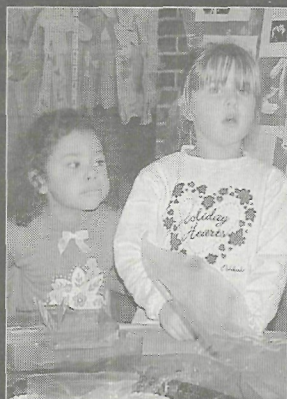
There are contraptions on the market today such as the "Swinggy Swing" or spider-legged walker, which sometimes has wheels, that lulls the child into oblivion, holds the spine in the figure "C" posture, and prevents the development of the secondary curves of the spine. The walker introduces them to propelling themselves with their feet before their spine is developed properly for the upright posture. Both the swing and the walker train the baby's balance mechanisms, (the labyrinth of the inner ear), to accept the upright posture. Both devices encourage early walking by the baby, and urge for it to stand before the spine is ready to support the weight of standing erect.

The crib and playpen are also prone to encourage a child to attempt to stand. As soon as the baby is able to grab the bars of his confinement, he automatically attempts to stand, and again the upright posture is assumed before the lower back has formed its normal curve. This leads to a flat lower back which is called a kyphosis. Therefore, let the child crawl as much as possible in order for the baby to develop good muscle balance and a healthy spine and nervous system.

When in the crib, the child will look toward the light, or toward where there is motion. You should change the baby's position, and place its head one day at one end of the crib, the next day on the other. Using this technique, the baby will not be turning its head one way all the time in order to look and see what is going on. This will help prevent the formation of dominant spinal rotations in the child's neck and prevent flat spots from forming on the child's head. If the child refuses to turn its head in one direction, or will only lie with its head turned one way, it is a good indication that a vertebra is out of alignment (subluxation), and a consultation with a chiropractor should be sought immediately. Remember in the womb, this natural confinement chamber usually prevents abnormal postures. After the baby is born, it is our responsibility as parents to insist that our children maintain good posture and habits that will insure good health. Good spinal posture not only promotes good health, but provides an attractive appearance as a young adult.

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.

Shelly and Claw Inspire Book



Mrs. Merlo and Mrs. Ward's Enrichment Class at Future Stars Pre-School busy selling their recently "published" book, *Shelly and Claw - A Tale of Two Hermit Crabs*. Their objective is to raise money which will be gifted to the Heifer Project International, an organization that places indigenous agricultural animals with poverty stricken children and their families worldwide.

The children's words and drawings for the book were inspired by the classes resident hermit crabs, *Shelly and Claw*.

The Safest Place For Your Money...is in the Bank!

As we move closer to the Year 2000 date change, consumers will need to be on guard against schemes that play up to Y2K fears and which will try to separate you from your money.

Over the next few months, you can expect many ploys to be used to get you to withdraw your money and put it someplace claimed to be "completely safe" and "Year 2000 proof." If you are offered this type of service, we urge you to use sound judgment and caution.

Columbia Savings Bank has invested more than \$1 million to make the transition into the next millennium an "uneventful" event and will continue to intensify internal and external Y2K awareness efforts. As part of these efforts, all Columbia Savings Bank branches now have available a free Y2K awareness video presentation which outlines the Y2K date change problem and what Columbia is doing to meet the Y2K challenge. As always, exercise caution

when making any decision about withdrawing large amounts of cash from the bank. Remember that, as long as your funds remain on deposit, they are insured by the FDIC, for up to \$100,000 per account. Never put yourself at risk by keeping large amounts of money unprotected at home, which substantially increases your chances of being robbed or falling prey to a Y2K scam.

Always remember, the Safest Place for Your money ... is in the Bank!

BOE Commends Local Teacher

Monika Lehman received a Certificate of Commendation from the members of the Board of Education. Monika is the nominee chosen from our district for the 1999 Sallie Mae First Class Teacher Award. Monika graduated from South Plainfield High School 10 years ago. She went on to graduate from Lehigh University and teaches AP chemistry in South Plainfield.

Starr Radiator Service
 "SAME LOCATION SINCE 1971"
 700 Hamilton Blvd. • So. Plainfield
561-6263

Auto • Truck • Industrial Parts & Service • Radiators • Heaters
 Air Conditioner Service
 Gas Tanks • Aluminum
 & Plastic Repairs & Replacements

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

CHINA BUFFET

2000 Park Avenue • South Plainfield

Featuring over 100 items including Chinese, Japanese, American cuisine...

Eight New Dishes Every Week		*Four New Dishes Every Day*	
Spring Young Chicken, Chaihu		Monday-Friday	
Vinegar Fish, Nanlin Duck, Pineapple		Saturday	
Ham Duck, Garlic Chinese		DINNER 4:30-9:30 PM	
Vegetables, Dong Bo Pork,		\$8.49 \$10.99	
Foo Young Shrimp		Mon-Thurs. Fri. & Sat. All Day Sun.	
		CHILDREN (2-10) LUNCH 11:30-3 PM	
		\$3.99 \$4.29 \$5.59	
		Mon-Fri. Sat. Sun. All Day	
		DINNER 4:30-9:30 PM	
		\$4.99 \$5.59 \$5.59 \$5.59	
		Mon-Thurs. Friday Saturday Sun. All Day	

Banquet Room
 Accommodates 35-180 guests
 • Catering •
 • Business Meetings •
 Holidays • Parties
OPEN 7 DAYS
 Karaoke Available

Fri-Sat Dinner & All Day Sunday we offer Seafood Specials
 (Including lobster & crab legs)

10% Off CHINA BUFFET
 2000 Park Ave., So. Plainfield
 10% Off for Senior Citizens at all times. No coupon needed. Exp. 12/31/99
 Mon.-Thurs, 11 AM-9:30 PM • Fri. & Sat. 11 AM-11 PM • Sun. 12 Noon-9:30 PM

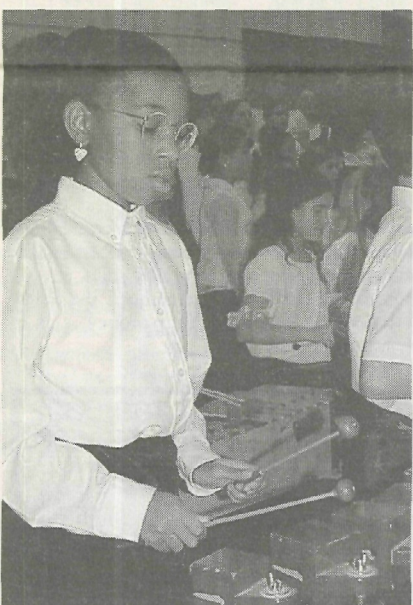
Do You Hear What



Franklin School Holiday Concert



The Middle School



Photos by Patricia Abbott



KACEY'S
"BODACIOUS"
BOUTIQUE'S

**10% OFF ALL
CHRISTMAS
ITEMS**

**15% WITH
THIS AD**

Hours: Wed-Fri 11-3 & 6-8
Saturday 10-3

- * CRAFTS * ANTIQUES
- * COLLECTIBLES
- * CONSIGNMENTS
- * GIFTS (wrapped in balloons)

179 Front St. So. Plfd.
(908) 756-7004

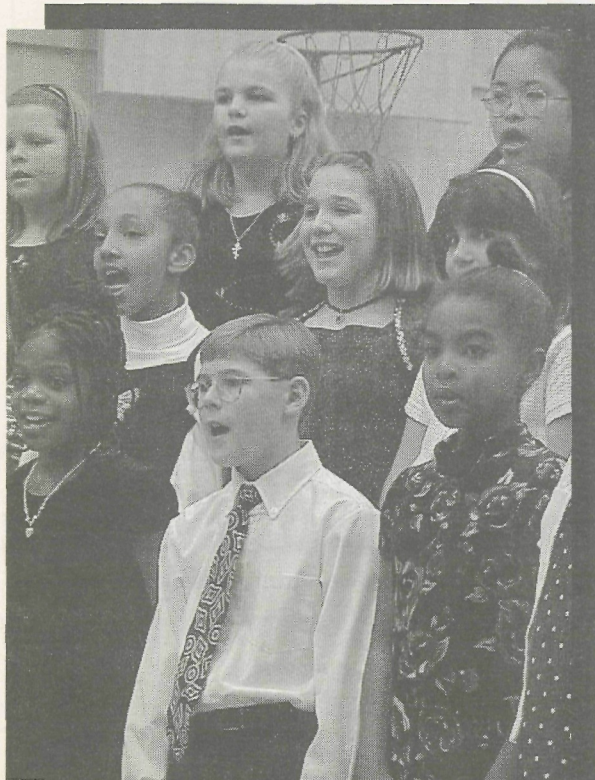
NEW YEAR HAPPY South Plainfield 2000

TAX RETURNS PREPARED • WILLS, CLOSINGS
INDIVIDUAL AND BUSINESS • PERSONAL INJURY
WORKERS COMPENSATION

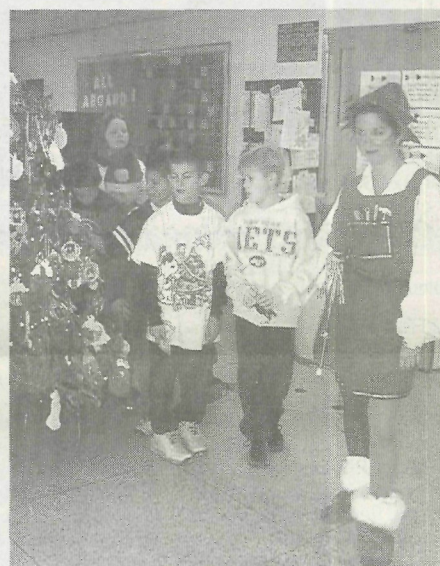
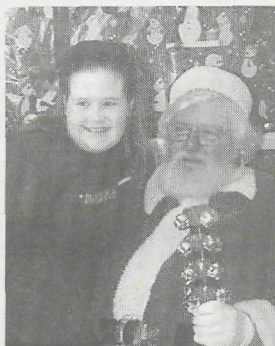
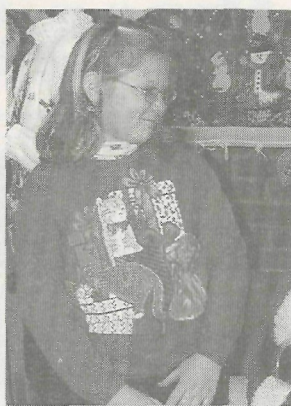
PAUL W. GRZENDA
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT
ATTORNEY AT LAW

HOUSE CALLS AVAILABLE
SO. PLAINFIELD OFFICE Tel.: (908) 769-8602

I Hear?



Roosevelt School



Santa Sightings

Last week The Observer spotted Santa (Councilman Ed Kubula) at Roosevelt School visiting with the students. The students each got a chance to tell Santa what they wanted for Christmas and had their picture taken with him. Santa's assistant for this visit was Councilwoman Darlene Pinto.



Wayne Grennier
SALES REPRESENTATIVE
Resident of South Plainfield
For Over 30 Years

A real estate professional can
determine the value of your home so
it sells when **you** want it to.

An informed seller is a satisfied seller.

Before you sell, compare.

**Weichert
Realtors**



*We Sell More
Because We Do More*

METUCHEN OFFICE
640 Middlesex Ave.,
Metuchen, NJ 08840



**For a complimentary market analysis,
call Wayne Grennier at 732-906-8200.**

Eves: (908) 755-8565 • Pager: 888-346-1314 • FAX: (732) 906-8109

SPORTS

High School Bowling...

Tigers 3089 Pins Post a Big Upset Win Over Woodbridge

Last week the Boys Bowling Team, in a David vs. Goliath cross-over division match-up, rallied in the third game with a booming 1,076 effort and upset the State's powerhouse Woodbridge by 119 pins. The victory for the undefeated Tigers was their eighth straight.

The Tigers blistered the Maples with uncanny accuracy in a barrage of high scores. Doug Lauckhardt and Matt Square both bowled a 212, Eric Gaub 232 for a 593 set, Danny Wallis bowled a trio of 190 plus games, Paul Larisch a 235 and a 600 set and Ray Tomei turned in a superb 212-229-223 for a 664 high set. It was a solid team effort as the Tigers offset a big 278 game and 709 high set by Sam Cataland of the Barons.

The Girls Bowling Team fell to the two-time defending State Champion Woodbridge team. Their record dipped to 5-2-1. The girls rolled two solid games, but it wasn't enough for the high

scoring Barrons. Junior Melissa Jamieson led SPHS with a 208 high game and a 527 high set. Also chipping in were Kristen Herzog with a 165 and Jacquie Herzog with a 163.

Brett Synder bowled a 187 and Michele Smith recorded a 185 in the Junior Varsity match.

December 21 vs St. Mary's

The boys team upped their league leading record to 9-0 as they humbled the Eagles of St. Mary's by 706 pins. Their solid team effort was spearheaded by Matt Square with a 216 and a 599 high set. Doug Lauckhardt bowled a 207, Ray Tomei a 200, while Eric Gaub recorded a pair of 190 plus games.

The girls team improved their record to 6-2-1 as they defeated the Eagles by over 400 pins. Melissa Jamieson's 224 high game and 537 high set led the sweep. Chipping in were Freshman Meridith Cooper with a 162 and Amanda Smith with a 168.

Spotlight on Freshman Kim Dziomba

By Diana Algoo, SPHS Tiger Times

SPHS Freshman Kim Dziomba is an active, well-known member of the SPHS gymnastics team. Eight years of dedication and 33 hours a week of practice is reflected in her talent and ability in gymnastics.

She participates in vault, bar, beam and floor activities, but she enjoys floor the best.

When competition time comes around, it is Dziomba's most uncomfortable part of being a gymnast. "I get very nervous before the meet. I hate competing," she said. Yet the support is there to take away some of the butterflies in Dziomba's stomach. Even though no one person has really influenced Dziomba, her friends and family provide great support.

Dziomba has placed first in floor and second for all around level eight in the state competition, fifth for all around level eight in the regional competition, 12th for all around development in the national competition, and second for all around bars development in the national competition. All the awards and the glamour of being a gymnastics star hasn't prevented Kim from being down to earth.

"I really don't consider myself to be one of the best at all and I try not to let gymnastics go to my head," she said. "I don't even think I am all that great. I rate myself about average."

While sleeping and eating are Dziomba's favorite hobbies, she also enjoys hanging out with friends and teammates outside of the gym.

New Weights Purchased for PAL

The South Plainfield Recreation announces the addition of a new set of free weights to their weight room. The weights are two- to 1000-pounds.

The PAL Building houses a weight room combination of aerobic equipment, free weights and universal equipment.

Membership fees are \$30 for three months, \$60 for six months and \$100 per year. Sign-up at the PAL from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. Gift certificates are available.



1999 U-11 South Plainfield Riptide: Back row: (L to R) Stephen Richard, Garrett Lake, Danny Hubner, Justin Basilone, Joey DeNitzio, Chris Stallone, Anthony Niemczyk. Kneeling: (L to R) Mike Stallone, Nick DeSimone, Stephen Dvorak, Danny McCreesh, Chris Pollin and Joey Turrisse.

Footprints on the Field

By Tom McCreesh

Footprints on the field are the lasting impression,
Of the games our children play.
Take the time to support their endeavors
Enjoy them every day.

As the summer began, balls and bats cracking,
Talk turned to having a fall sport picked.
Thirteen young boys, would begin a journey
To play a game where the ball is kicked.

But soccer is more than a game of kickball,
And that the team soon would learn.
Each practice they worked fast and hard,
As the leaves began to turn.

The Riptide was now formed, vacations were ending,
Practicing shooting the ball in the nets
Work on give and goes, keep the ball wide,
Vinnie's down, there goes the Jets.

The season was delayed in getting started,
An early scrimmage had the team annoyed.
But the primary thoughts were for a Riley recovery,
And for the victims of Hurricane Floyd.

The team was now flighted, the schedule was set,
Ten games against opposing towns.
The first two games, wins, had the team excited,
A third game tie brought some frowns.

But everything seemed to click at that point,
To succeed took hard work and desire.
Corner kicks, throw-ins, offsides traps,
In their eyes, you could now see the fire.

Coach McCreesh worked on a lineup to best serve their talents
Coach Hubner had a purpose for every touch.
Enjoy yourself, go out and have fun,
It's a kid's game, and treated as such.

Strong teams have good defense, ours was no different,
The keepers allowed us to win.
Anthony Niemczyk's strong leg was a factor
Chris Pollin made saves with a spin.

The fullbacks allowed the midfield to take chances,
For our opponents to score it took might.

Stephen Dvorak used his speed on the left,
Mike Stallone, his instincts on the right.

The middle was guarded with strength and aggression,
Stay separated, don't start to bunch.
Joey Denitzio provided the toughness,
Danny Hubner provided the punch.

From fullback to midfield, communications important,
The units cannot play alone.
On the right Garrett Lake used quickness and speed,
With the power of Justin Basilone.

On the left, Nick DeSimone used good intuition,
His timing was always well done.
For Chris Stallone, middle left was his office,
Opponents visits were never real fun.

Stephen Richard was a vital swingman,
Up or back he was always ready.
Pollin and Niemczyk played halfback as well,
Exciting, but best of all steady.

The offensive attack came from every direction,
In all games we played with the lead,
On the left, Danny McCreesh had moves and deception
On the right Joey Turrisse had speed.

The remaining seven games all were hard fought,
The competition all played their best games.
But the team persevered, with vocal support,
Their families all shouting their names.

Each game condition was different, the wind was a factor,
The kids all adapted well, it seemed.
Practice, preparation, allowed for success,
Remember there's no "I" in team.

Lessons were learned by the whole team,
Use your whole body, from head to toes.
In the soccer version of rock, paper, scissors,
The head always breaks nose.

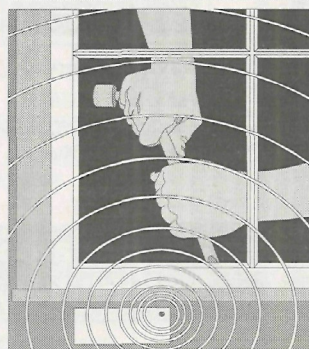
With the season completed, thirteen kids were the champions
Nine wins, one tie and none lost.
They left their impression, their footprints on the field,
Are now footprints in the frost.

Boys/Girls High School BOWLING

All Matches Played at Carolier Lanes at 3:45 p.m.

Thurs. Dec. 16	Monroe Township
Mon. Dec. 20	Woodbridge
Tues. Dec. 21	St. Mary
Tues. Jan. 4	Middlesex
Wed. Jan. 5	South River
Thurs. Jan. 6	Bishop Ahr
Tues. Jan. 11	J.F. Kennedy
Wed. Jan. 12	GMC Individual Qualifying
Thurs. Jan. 13	Carteret
Tues. Jan. 18	Colonial
Wed. Jan. 19	GMC Individual Finals
Mon. Jan. 24	Franklin
Tues. Jan. 25	Monroe Township
Wed. Jan. 26	St. Mary
Sat. Jan. 29	Central Jersey
Mon. Jan. 31	Winter Classic
Tues. Feb. 1	GMC Preliminary
Thurs. Feb. 3	GMC 1st Round 2nd Round
Sat. Feb. 5	Girls Sectionals
Tues. Feb. 8	GMC Semi-Finals
Thurs. Feb. 10	GMC Finals
Sat. Feb. 12	Boys Sectionals
Sat. Feb. 19	State Final

SECURITY CONCEPTS OF MIDDLESEX COUNTY



Feel Secure About Your Home While You Are Away

- RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL ALARMS
- CENTRAL STATION MONITORING ONLY \$16.60/MO.

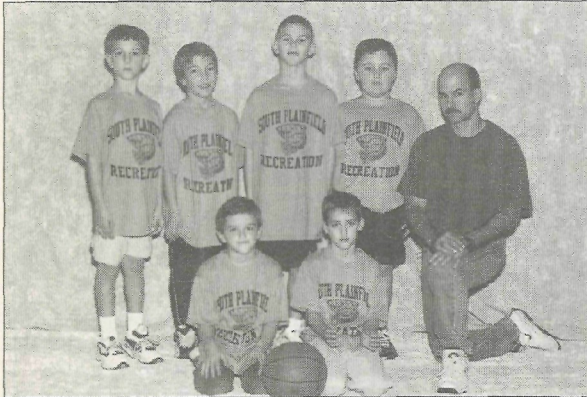
Call Today for a Free Estimate

908-757-7344

LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED

SPORTS

Ed Niemczyk's Youth Basketball League



CELTICS-D League—Players: Michael Romano, Daniel Smith, Alan Kasmer, Chris Hartje, Stephen Wagner, Nicholas Jankoski, Lenny Casiero and Christine Nau. Coached by Anthony Romano.



KNICKS-D League

Players: Daniel Hansen, Michael Dezman, Andrew Ritchie, Gaganjot Dhaliwal, Anthony Salerno, Vincent Stark, Matthew Galinsky and Lark Stagnitto. Coached by Chris Hansen



HORNETS-D League

Players: Cassie Prendergast, Michael Muglia, Kaitlin Muglia, Kyle Kaczka, Kristie Crilley, Steven Wiecek, Alfonse Muglia and Teddy Skwiat. Coached by Gary Prendergast



JAZZ-D League

Players: Christopher Fulton, Ricky Walton, Matthew Carringer, Christopher Lesniak, Steven Grzenda, Patrick Nolty, Nicholas Whitney, Stephanie Alexander and Jenna Alexander. Coached by Dough Fulton

Junior Baseball Club Notes

By Frank Hanley

Happy New Year!!!

2000 Season Registration in Two Weeks—Registration for the 2000 season will be held in just two weeks. The registration will be held from 6 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.

Registration fees are \$55 for one player, \$85 for two players and \$105 for three or more players (all per family). Registration is open to all South Plainfield residents ages 8 thru 16. New players must turn eight years old before Aug. 1, 2000 and must present a copy of the child's birth certificate. Late registration fees are \$60 per player with no discounts.

2000 Membership—Membership cards for the 2000 season are available and may be purchased at the monthly meetings. Parents are encouraged to get involved with one of the many club committees. Any parent interested in being a team manager or coach, or umpire can sign up at registration or at the regular monthly meeting.

Monthly Meetings—The Men's meeting is held on the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse. Starting in January, 2000, the Woman's meeting will be held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse.

Woman's Auxiliary—The next Woman's Auxiliary meeting will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2000 at 7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse. The meeting has been moved to the second Wednesday of the month due to conflicts with other group meetings.

Now in stock are the new Custom SPJBC outdoor flags. The flags are two feet by three feet, white, black and green, with the new SPJBC logo. The cost is \$21 per flag. Contact Carolyn White at 561-8723 for more information.

Contact the SPJBC clubhouse phone: (908) 754-2090 ... email: SPJBC99@aol.com ... Web Site: members.aol.com/spjbc/spjbc.html.

Events at a Glance—Men's Meeting on Monday, January 3, 2000 at 7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse; Woman's Meeting on Wednesday, January 12, 2000 at 7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse; Registration on January 13, 14, 15 at the clubhouse; Tryouts on Saturday, March 4 at the PAL and Opening Day on Saturday, April 15

Log on to the
**Borough of South Plainfield's
official web site at
southplainfieldnj.com**

Visit your community web site for the latest local news on

- Mayor and Council
- Planning Board & Board of Adjustment Agendas
- Police - Fire - Rescue Squad
- Recreation
- Youth Activities
- Senior Corner
- Professional & Business Directory
- Community Bulletin Board
- Civic Organizations
- Election Results
- and more

Advertise your business and support
South Plainfield's own web site

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

Take a closer look at
what's going on around you....

Read the Observer.



To start home delivery, enclose your check or money order for \$25. for 52 issues (out of Town-\$45) payable to: South Plainfield Observer.

Mail to South Plainfield Observer, G&G Graphics, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080. Or order your subscription via email at nancyg@spobserver.com and send your check to the mailing address above.

South
Plainfield's
Official NEWS
Source

South Plainfield Observer

Subscribe

Please send me home delivery of
the South Plainfield Observer.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

Obituaries

Evelyn M. Toresco Schroeder, 72

Evelyn M. Toresco Schroeder of South Plainfield, died on Wednesday, Dec. 22, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

She was born in Plainfield and lived there before moving to South Plainfield 49 years ago.

Mrs. Schroeder was a supervisor for the school crossing guards in South Plainfield for 20 years before retiring in 1997.

She was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church and a member of the Altar Rosary Society.

She was a past president of the ladies auxiliary of the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club. She was also a member and past president of the Chardavoin Park Women's Club in South Plainfield.

She is survived by her husband, Alfred Schroeder Jr.; two sons, Alfred L. Schroeder of South Plainfield and William J. Schroeder of Chandler, Arizona; a daughter, Debbie Grego of South Plainfield; two sisters, Mary Toresco Knemoller of Edison and Anna Toresco MacDonald of Den-ville and grandchildren Stephanie, Alyssa, Jody, Michael, Bret, Joseph, Matthew and Nicholas.

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

She was a communicant of Sacred Heart R.C. Church and a former member of St. Mary's R.C. Church Altar Rosary Society in Plainfield.

Her husband, Charles Naples, died in 1960. Her daughters, Jayne Latocha, died in 1943 and Margaret "Peg" Ashworth, died in 1998; a son, Anthony Naples, died in 1983; a sister, Sister Mary Colum-bire, who died in 1999.

Surviving are five grandchildren, Patricia Anderson of South Plainfield, John Latocha of Littleton, Col.; James Naples of Fla., Richard Naples of Bound Brook and Ginzer Helgert, with whom she had lived in South Plainfield. Also surviving are 12 great grandchildren and one great great grandchild.

Funeral Services were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

Robert T. Cauldwell, 71

Robert T. Cauldwell died on Tuesday, Dec. 21 in Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Rocky Hill, he had resided in New Brunswick, New Market section of Piscataway and South Plainfield before moving to Edison two years ago.

Mr. Cauldwell was employed as a machine operator for American National Can Co. of Piscataway for 11 years before retiring in 1990. Previously, he was the owner of the Junction Deli in Piscataway for five years. He was a member of the Teamsters Union Local #202 of the Bronx, N.Y.

Surviving are his wife, Gloria (Rodriguez) Cauldwell; a daughter, Sharon A. Altreche of South Plainfield; three sons, Bryan J. of Monmouth Junction, Wayne J. of Middlesex and Kevin of Israel; a sister, Colleen O'Leary of Lake-worth, Fla.; three brothers, William Cauldwell of Vineland, Roy Lutz of Franklin Park and Edward Lutz of Old Bridge.

Funeral Services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Mary E. Pearly, hairdresser

Mary Elizabeth Bubenick Pearly, died on Monday, Dec. 27, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

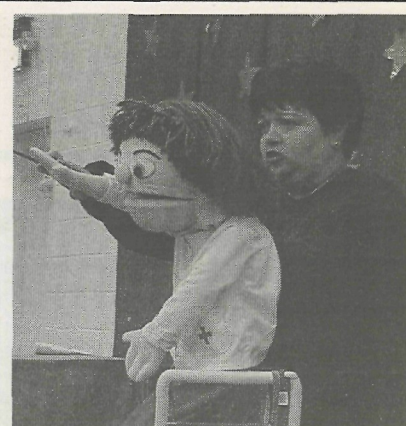
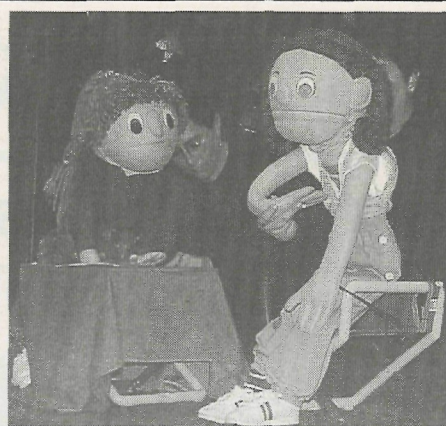
Mrs. Pearly was born in New York City and had resided in Dunellen and Piscataway before settling in South Plainfield. She was the owner and operator of Pearly Hairdresser Shop in South Plainfield.

She was a communicant of Sacred Heart RC Church, a member of the Court Regina Coeli #940, Catholic Daughters of America, Dunellen chapter and a long-time active member of the Middlesex County Hair-dressers Association.

She is predeceased by her husband, Lawrence Pearly.

Surviving are her children, Marlene J. Lang of Nanuet, New York, Larry Pearly of Hillsboro and Roger Pearly of Bridgewater; three brothers, Louis, Timothy and Joseph Bubenick and her grandchildren, Melissa Lang, David, Kevin, Gregory, Brian and Lisa Pearly.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.



A recent *Kids on the Block* Puppet show at Franklin School highlighted the difficulties individuals with disabilities face.

The puppeteers taught the children to be tolerant of and embrace the differences that makes each of us unique.



By Cyrus N. Moon

Weekly Horoscope 12/31-1/6/2000

CAPRICORN 12/22-01/19 Now is the time to accept whatever responsibilities come along and to initiate important projects that require long-term efforts, especially if they are related to real estate, business, building or engineering. Seek favors from those in authority.

AQUARIUS 1/20-2/18 Your love of mystery and a desire to solve difficult puzzles are high. You will want to examine, scrutinize and probe everything that comes your way. If someone makes a proposal you will know what searching questions to ask. Your capacity to learn makes it difficult for others to take advantage.

PISCES 2/19-3/20 Take advantage of opportunities that encourage your imagination. You can find yourself mystified or even strangely attracted to people or things of great beauty. Let romantic encounters or social settings enhance your awareness and sensitivity to the subtleties of human relationships.

ARIES 3/21-4/19 Check your times! Incorrect information or directions may cause you to be too early or too late to attain a certain goal. Possible car breakdown or public transportation delays can occur. Avoid rash behavior by what others may say. And understand information you receive.

TAURUS 4/20-5/20 To the lady Bull at Friday's on Wednesday. An unorthodox or less-than traditional partnership or alliance may be on the agenda. Romantic or social contacts may inspire you to adopt unique methods to achieve common goals. Those viewed by most of society as different or eccentric may be the people or things you do or you find appealing. (Venus conjuncts Uranus) transit is in effect till Thursday.

GEMINI 5/21-6/20 Make a break. It's the New Year and any new phenomenon will interest you. How about the idea of traveling to a foreign place. At this time you will find it appealing. Or you can try to finish up a tricky problem that you have not finished in some time. (New Ideas).

CANCER 6/21-7/22 This is a time not to

take what people say to you seriously. And if something is said you may react in a way you are ashamed of later. An apology will be accepted when you explain that you were in a bad mood. But, the best way to handle these feelings is to do nothing. Let the words pass.

LEO 7/23-8/22 Watch small opportunities that can work for you that you take for granted. These will improve your life in ways that when all said and done, it was, as it was planned. This is the week to pull it all together. Speak to your loved ones about your desires for the upcoming year.

VIRGO 8/23/9/22 Been doing some good work lately at the job? You probably acquired lots of new information at your job in the last year and now is the time to be rewarded. You can even be rewarded handsomely for your advice and consultation. And others will support your promotion. Congrats.

LIBRA 9/23-10/22 Your emotions will run deep this week. If you are in love, you feel it strongly and sensually. If you meet someone new, the attraction will probably be intense, perhaps compulsive. If you are an artist, your work will be highly expressive and revealing of your inner self.

SCORPIO 10/23-11/21 Your ambition will be high this week. You may want power and you can succeed, if you do so with integrity. If you don't, resistance, conflicts or power struggles can be a very challenging. So face up to needed changes and take charge of rejuvenation efforts.

SAGITARIUS 11/22-12/21 Watch out! Details and reality get shortchanged this week. If you are not a perfectionist, you are likely to be overwhelmed by admonitions from those who are. The potential for being victimized by illusion of one sort or another is increased. Be wary of those who say to look at the whole picture.

QUOTE: Like a lady bull in a china shop, She shows the grace of a swan.

Susan D. Naples, 104

Susan D. Naples died on Wednesday, Dec. 22 in the Villa Maria Home for the Aged in North Plainfield.

Born in Austria, Mrs. Naples came to the United States in 1890. She had resided in Raritan and Plainfield before moving to South Plainfield in 1959.

Mrs. Naples was a homemaker.

Because We Care



by Robert Hunter

AS IF A DREAM

It is often said that death is much like sleep. Yet, while we may look upon death with much trepidation, we often welcome sleep as a comforting repose. Thomas Wolfe took comparative note of death and sleep with the words: "In sleep we lie all naked and alone, in sleep we are united at the heart of night and darkness, and we are strange and beautiful asleep; for we are dying in the darkness, and we know no death." It just may be that one is as normal to the experience of life as the other. The only difference may rest with our perceptions. Yet, each may induce a dream state of liberated souls.

We may sleep, or we may pass into a reality which is more wondrous than we could imagine. Is not our dream life more varied, strange, and surprising by far than our waking existence? At the JAMES W. CONROY FUNERAL HOME, we invite members of all beliefs to call 756-2800 to schedule a preplanning consultation. We offer a full range of affordable end-of-life services, and will be glad to create a memorial service which accords with your need and preferences. Our facilities are located at 2456 Plainfield Avenue in South Plainfield. Cremation services available.

"Our souls belong to our bodies, not our bodies to our souls."
—Melville

Mohn's Flowers
Always Caring

2325 Plainfield Ave.
So. Plainfield, NJ
(908) 561-2808

(908) 561-8000

McCriskin
HOME FOR FUNERALS

2425 PLAINFIELD AVENUE
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
FAX (908) 561-6744

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

ADVERTISE
YOUR
BUSINESS
IN THIS SPACE
FOR \$15.
PER ISSUE.

BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL

For info, call
908-668-0010

POLICE REPORT

• A Fredericks Ave. resident attempted to leave Kmart with a Philips-Magnavox am/fm cassette/CD radio. When the suspect was confronted outside of the store he dropped the radio and ran. He was seen leaving the area in a Ford minivan. The same suspect was seen leaving Kmart with a TV a week later. He was recognized from the previous week.

• A So. Clinton Ave. resident reported the contents of his glove box was scattered on the front seat of his car and a CD player, beeper and \$50 cash were missing. The car had been parked in the driveway of his home. There was no sign of forced entry. The victim said he may have left the car unlocked.

• The owner of AJ Electronics, New Market Ave., reported a window was smashed on a company owned van that was parked on the property. A passenger side vent window was smashed on a second vehicle and entry was gained via the passenger side sliding door. A toolbox was removed from the vehicle. Additional items missing from both vehicles were unknown until the driver/employees could be contacted for inventory of the vans.

• A resident of Green Brook reported receiving a credit card bill from The Home Depot in the amount of \$3760.88. The victim notified The Home Depot that he does not have an account with the store. He was informed that an unknown suspect(s) had opened an account using his personal information. The victim also discovered a credit card with a \$3000 limit had been opened in his name at Lowes in Piscataway. He gave

police the names of several locations that had recent access to personal information—a recently purchased car, refinancing of his home and he also noted the name of the garbage carrier for his residence. He filed a report with the Piscataway police.

• A Pierce St. resident reported finding the driver and passenger doors on same side open of his car. The contents of the glove box was removed and items were taken from bags and boxes of toys on the rear seat. The victim stated the vehicle was locked.

• Police responded to a call from a visiting nurse at an East Hendricks St. residence. The nurse found the patient in a wheelchair unconscious and not breathing. Police arrived at the same time as Plainfield EMTs. The Plainfield EMT performed CPR with negative results. South Plainfield Rescue Squad and the Mercy 6 unit also tried resuscitation. The body was transported to McCricken's Funeral Home. The visiting nurse was not the patient's regular nurse and had no knowledge of the victim's medical problems. A grandson was also unaware of medical problems. There were no signs of foul play.

• Sonia N. Rosa of Plainfield returned a food order to Holly Park Diner with the complaint that the coffee had spilled all over the food. She allegedly asked for the order to be remade and was refused by the employee. She further claimed he spit on her and she stated she spit back. She claims he pushed her and hit her bottom lip with his hand. The employee stated that the victim came into the diner screaming and yelling at him and making a scene. He reported that she refused to calm down and continued to spit and curse. He claims she kept trying to get near the cash register and told him she wanted her money back. He said he was trying to get her away from the register. A witness stated he heard the woman screaming and she was "out of control." He said he never saw the suspect strike her. A complaint was signed by the victim.

• A Sherman Ave. resident reported the theft of his cell phone from his vehicle. The car was parked in the driveway at the time of the theft.

• The Home Depot reported that three metal cages located in the rear of the receiving department had been forced open and twenty-four 20-pound propane tanks were removed. The tanks were grey in color; total value was \$720. Locks were cut off of two of the cages.

• A former employee assaulted the manager of China Buffet, Park Ave. A verbal dispute with the former employee was brought outside the restaurant at the suggestion of the manager. The suspect punched the manager causing swelling and a laceration under his eye. The suspect left the area in a green Montero. The suspect had been employed for only two weeks and had been terminated a few days earlier.

• A Piscataway resident reported his cell phone was stolen from the front seat of his car while he was cleaning in the Polish Home.

• Mamia Patel of Piscataway was arrested for shoplifting movies and padlocks valued at \$114.52 from Kmart.

• Eric N. Kunst, Piscataway was arrested for shoplifting from Quick Chek. The merchandise was found concealed under his coat. An officer in the Quick Chek parking lot observed him exit the store and walk past a bike leaning against Giakas cleaners. The suspect crossed the street to a pay phone by Seven Eleven. The officer noticed what appeared to be several items under his coat. Further investigation revealed five "Lunchable" meals and a tin of chips. The suspect admitted the bike was his and that he had taken the items from Quick Chek because he was homeless and hungry. A Quick Chek manager identified the items and noted that the man was in the store often. The manager will sign a complaint. Due to a recent burglary the bike's location aroused suspicion. The bike appeared to be an expensive mountain bike and had been sprayed over with spray paint. In the possession of the suspect police found work gloves, a utility knife, several blades and two flashlights. The suspect has had numerous burglary and trespassing arrests. He claims he stays in a construction trailer behind the little league fields. He had the key to the trailer in his property.

South Plainfield Observer CLASSIFIEDS

Call 908-668-0010 or fax to 908-668-8819 to place an ad.
Rates are 3 line minimum for \$10, \$1 per ea. additional line.

HELP WANTED

SOUTH PLAINFIELD MUNICIPAL COURT has opening for a Docket Clerk, full time. Seeking ambitious, bright, self-starter for data entry and general clerical. Good office and computer skills required. ATS/ACS experience a plus. Very busy office. Hours 9am-5pm, evening court session every Wed. Salary \$19034+ benefits. Contact Pat Vargo, Court Adm. 908-226-7651.

P/T MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST, 5 days/wk-no wknds. Exp. preferred but will train. Call Randi 908-756-5908. Leave message.

CEMETERY PLOTS FOR SALE

Two plots—Somerset Hills, VA Honor Section in Bernardsville. \$1,500 or best offer. (732) 572-7126 after 2 pm

THE OBSERVER IS SEEKING ADVERTISING SALESPeOPLE.
SET YOUR OWN HOURS.
EXP. PREFERRED, BUT NOT NECESSARY.
CALL 668-0010.

APARTMENT FOR RENT

Two bedrooms, newly renovated. One of a kind—too much to list—

must see. \$950. Ref. required. Call 908-693-5101 or 732-9283.

AUTOS FOR SALE

1992 MAZDA PROTEGE, 4/DR, 5/SPD, NEW BRAKES, COMPLETELY NEW EXHAUST SYSTEM, NEW RADIATOR, MOST RELIABLE CAR I'VE EVER OWNED. Owner buying a truck. \$3800. 732-545-3132.

MOTORCYCLE FOR SALE



MOTORCYCLE FOR SALE 1994 SUZUKI INTRUDER 800.
With Saddle Bags and pouch.
Under 1500 miles. Mint condition.
Must see. \$4100.

LAND FOR SALE

100X200 BLDG. LOT/SOMERSET.
\$69,900. Residential neighborhood.
Call 732-545-3132.

PHOTOGRAPHY

COPIES OF OBSERVER PHOTOS for sale. Call Pattie Abbott at 756-8011 or the Observer at 908-668-0010.

NEED HELP?

Find what you're looking for in the
BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL SECTION.
To advertise, call 908-668-0010.

SPIRITS



1645 Park Avenue,
South Plainfield
791-9463
Cavit (1.5 liter)
Pinot Grigio \$9.99 Mon.-Sat.
Estate Cellars 9am-1am
White Zinfandel Sundays
(750ml) \$3.49 1am-7pm
(1.5 liter) \$5.49

Bring in this ad for 10% on wines

GIFTS

A Heavenly Country Store
2125 Oaktree Rd.
Edison, NJ
732-494-7711
Open Mon-Sat 10-6
Thurs til 8, Sun 11-5
5 Rooms of Gifts, Boyd's Bears,
Roman Seraphim Angels,
Country Decor & More

PLUMBING, HEAT & COOL

Holly Park
PLUMBING • HEATING • COOLING
Sales & Service
BOILERS/FURNACES
AIR CONDITIONING
RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL,
INDUSTRIAL
908/755-6409
Serving So. Plainfield N.J. Lic. 7051

VIDEOS

HOLLY PARK VIDEO
Movie Sales, Rental & Accessories
(908) 561-7227
DVD-3 Day Rental-\$3.49
Fresh Complimentary Popcorn on
Monday - Tuesday - Wednesday
with rental
1615 Park Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ

HOLISTIC HEALING

A Holistic Center for Prevention and Healing
Stop Smoking * Weight Loss * Childbirth
Stress Management * Fears * Phobias
ADD/ADHD * Study Habits * Sports
Pain Control * Preparing for Surgery
MIND WAVES
Roxanne Cortese C.Hy. C.H.P.
"Using A Natural Approach"
Reiki * Hypnosis * Reflexology
(908) 561-1511 2701 Park Ave.
(908) 757-2330 2325 Plainfield Ave.
Magnet Products and TPR Cream Available

NUTRITION

Miriam Handler
Nutrition Consultant
Sunrider Whole Foods
"You Are What You Eat"
If You Eat A Diet Of Whole
Foods You Will Renew or
Regenerate At A Higher Level
call for free seminar dates
(732) 549-8688

BAGELS

The Bagel Stop "the best bagel in town"
908-561-5808
23 South Plainfield Ave.
South Plainfield
Monday-Friday 5am-1pm
Saturday/Sunday 6am-12pm

CONTRACTORS

BUILDER & GENERAL CONTRACTOR
NJ DCA LIC #019771
Since 1981
Lordina Builders
908-753-3850
ADDITIONS-KITCHENS-
BATHROOMS-
Office Renovations
FREE ESTIMATES

SNOW REMOVAL/SALT

Call **KLK Trucking** for:
Sand/Salt Mixture, Bulk
Rock Salt, Ice Control Sand
Sanding • Salting • Snowplowing
Pick up or Deliv., Mon. thru Sat
908-757-4434
265 Ryan Street
South Plainfield

GARBAGE DISPOSAL

PINTO BROTHERS DISPOSAL
Andrew & Matthew Pinto
P.O. Box 263
So. Plainfield, NJ 07080
Phone **908-561-8231**
Fax 908-561-9889
CONTAINERS FROM 1 TO 40 YARDS
Residential, Commercial & Industrial Service

HOME REMODELING

RONZO REMODELING
HOME IMPROVEMENTS • BATHROOMS
KITCHENS • CERAMIC TILE
WINDOWS • DOORS • DECKS
(908) 668-0662
CUSTOM
INSTALLATION
AVAILABLE
JOE RONZO

ROOFERS

J.T. PENYAK ROOFING CO.
COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL
RESIDENTIAL
908-753-4222
FAX 908-753-4763
124 CAMDEN AVE.
SO. PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080

AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR

BUCEY'S
AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE CENTER
Complete Foreign and Domestic Auto Repair
(908) **753-9555**
700 Hamilton Blvd. South Plainfield
Bring in this ad to receive \$5.00 off any repair over \$25.00
To place an ad in the Observer, call 908-668-0010.

PRINTING

Wedding Invitations
20% Discount
with this ad
Presto Printing
Call Today-908-756-5337
19 So. Plainfield Ave., So. Plfd., NJ

The Ups and Downs of 1999—A Year in Review

January 8, 1999

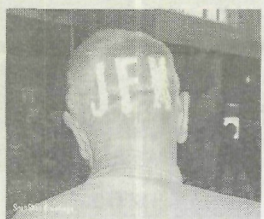
Observer Publishes Weekly!

In response to readers requests, the *South Plainfield Observer* will be published weekly beginning with this issue. Please note that the publication date will be Friday instead of Thursday.

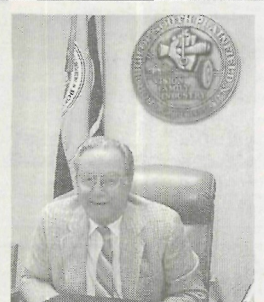
So look for *The Observer* every Friday from now on.



Borough Hires First Female Officer



Principal Al Czech Turns Green for Kids



Hogan Resigns After 17 Years on Planning Board

Two Newcomers, One Incumbent Win Seats; BOE Budget Passes

Newcomers Daniel M. Smith and Jeffrey A. Seider won seats on the Board of Education along with incumbent Ken LaFreniere. Daniel Smith received the most votes, 1,026; Jeffrey Seider received 1,000 and Ken LaFreniere, 714. All will serve a three-year term.

Incumbent Myra Stillman received 589 and Carol Byrne, a former board member who was defeated last year got 518.

The school budget passed by a margin of 880-561.

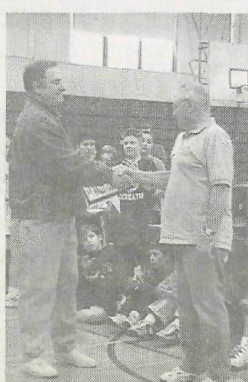


Propane Truck Accident Brings Out Volunteers

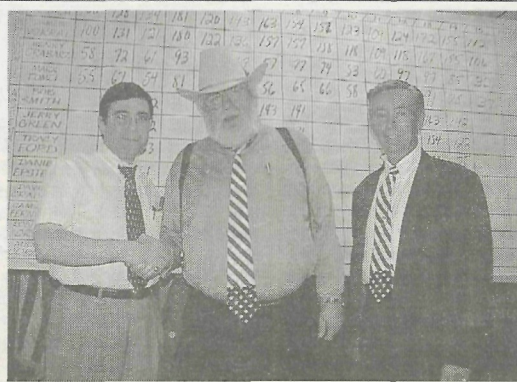
On Wednesday, Jan. 13, a propane truck owned by Amerigas, overturned on Belmont Ave. The truck was carrying 3,000 pounds of liquefied petroleum. When police arrived, they found a valve on the propane truck leaking. Propane, a dangerous gas, settles along the ground and is extremely explosive.



Bomb Scare Causes Havoc, High School Evacuated



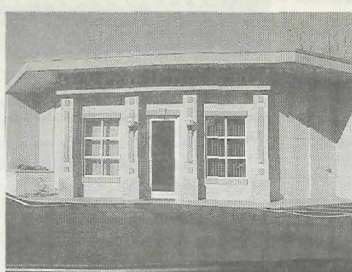
Basketball League Named for Ed Niemczyk—Recreation Honors 45 Years of Dedication



Voters Re-elect Incumbents Vokral, Kubala by 2-1 Margin



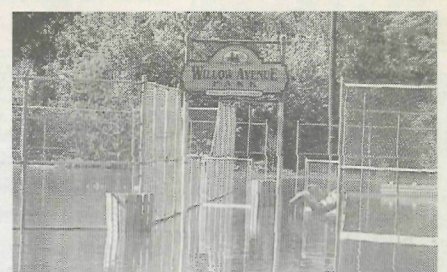
Mario Abbruzzese Named "Fireman of the Year" by VFW



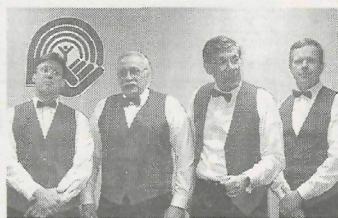
New DARE Police Building Opens



Capt. Wayne Bowden Retires After 30 Years



Hurricane Floyd Closes Schools, Causes Flooding



Rick Stefany, Joe Chanley, Clayton Echan and Bill Samson teamed up to insure a happy Valentine's Day for a lucky recipient and raise money for the United Way. The quartet raised over \$800 for the South Plainfield United Way.

Voters Reject School Bond Proposal



Eleanor Haines was chosen as this year's Labor Day Parade Grand Marshal. She was also honored at a retirement party for her 20+ years at South Plainfield Library this year.



Flos's Piano students held a recital at Nordstrom's. Each concert pianist performed one classical piece and one they chose themselves. When we originally did the story, we didn't include the difficult pieces they played, so we are including them now. Victoria Zappi performed *Doctor Gradus ad Parnassum* by Debussy and *Imagine* by John Lennon; Kimberly Ann Galinsky performed *Tales from the Vienna Woods* (Opus 325) by Strauss and *Bumble Boogie* by Jack Fina; Britney Denielle Hollaway performed *Moonlight Sonata* (Opus 27, No 2) by Beethoven and *The Key to You* by David Benoit; Cionna McCalman-Forsythe performed *Fur Elise* by Beethoven, *Solfegietto in C minor* by C.P.E. Bach; Kaija Helene Hunter performed *Prelude II, C minor from the Well-Tempered Clavier* by Bach and *Wind Beneath My Wings* by Henley & Silbar; Andre Michael Boomer performed *Deux Arabesque II* by Debussy and a *Medley of Tunes* by Kirk Franklin, Mariah Carey and Stevie Wonder. After the concert Flo presented Joseph Regan of Nordstrom's with the 'Solid Rock Award' and Freda Jones with the 'Diamond Award'. Receiving both the 'Piano Award' and 'Gold Piano Award of Excellence' were Andre Michael Boomer, Kimberly Ann Galinsky, Britney Denielle Hollaway and Meridith Marie Brown. Also receiving the 'Gold Piano Award of Excellence' were Cionna McCalman-Forsythe and Kaija Helene Hunter. The hostesses for the evening were Katherine Krawiec and Kory Watson.