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South Plainfield
Observer

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50 CENTS

JANUARY 14, 2000

**Middle School
History Teachers
Bring Lessons to Life**

By Patricia Abbott

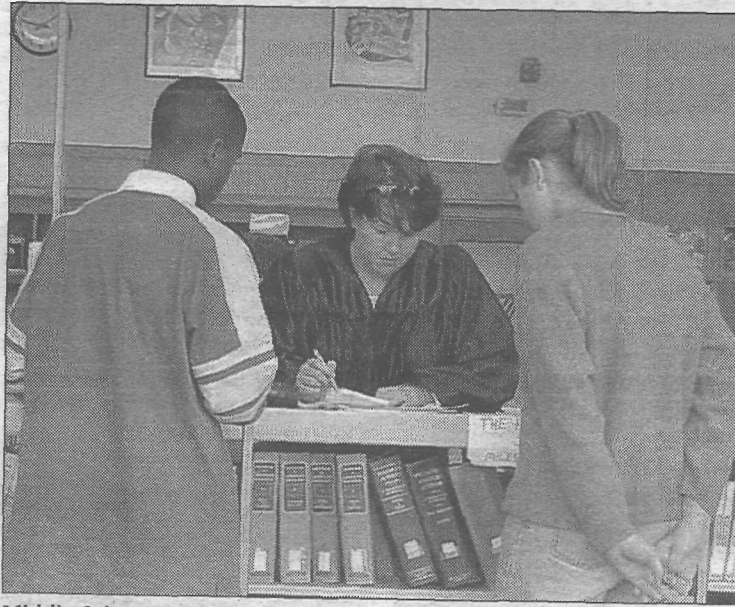
Thirty-two South Plainfield Middle School students found themselves on trial last week. They were being charged with murder. Fortunately for these students they faced a jury of their peers – their eighth grade peers. The courtroom was filled with students portraying the roles of bailiff, attorneys and witnesses. Presiding over the court were “judges” – Mr. Blondo, Miss Allen and Mr. Capizola.

The event was a mock trial depicting the Boston Massacre trial of 1770. Eight eighth grade history classes, totalling approximately 170 students, took part in the trial. Mr. Blondo began the trial last year as a means of studying the historic event. It is the first year for Miss Allen.

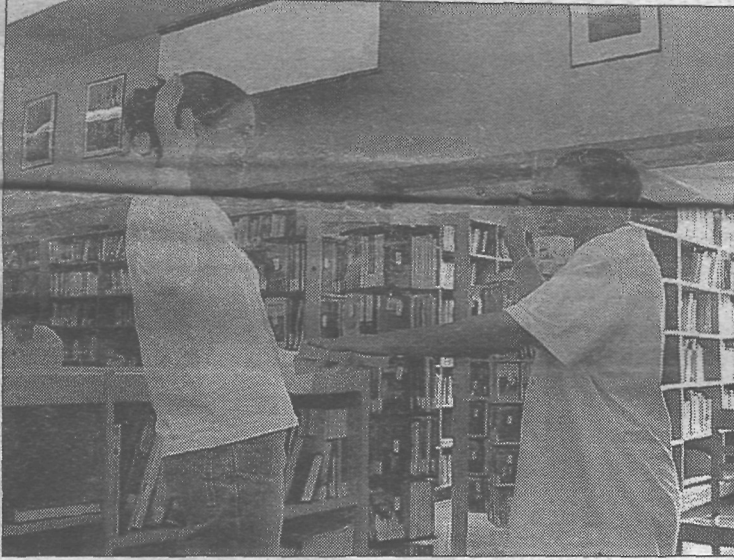
Students began preparing for the trial in early December, choosing roles as attorneys, defendants, witnesses and bailiff. Not only were students required to learn the details of the Boston Massacre, they had to learn the back-

grounds and experiences of the people who made up the trial, historic figures such as Paul Revere, British soldiers, a rope-maker, a young boy and more. Coveted roles seemed to be those of the attorneys because they seemed the most fun, or the jury because they seemed the easiest. Only six class sessions were allotted for preparation. A majority of the work was done at home.

Each character had a “role sheet” describing their name, age, background, what they saw and statements they made and how they presented themselves, both on and off the stand. One role sheet noted that the witness did not willingly give information. Lawyers had to take “role sheets” for each witness and defendant and prepare questions for the stand. In addition to portraying individuals who lived during the era, students were taught the basics of questioning, testifying and interpreting evidence. They learned basic legal and court phrases. Students were encour-

Continued on page 6

Middle School students Reenact Boston Massacre Trial as part of their history lessons.

**Cellular
Tower
Approved**

In a case that dates back to 1995, the Board of Adjustments last week approved a request by Comcast Cellular Communications to allow the construction of a 90-foot cellular tower in South Plainfield.

The case, heard in 1995, was originally denied by the Board of Adjustment. An appeal was filed which ultimately went all the way to the State Supreme Court, which sent the case back to the board for another hearing.

After months of hearings and delays the board voted to approve the cellular tower. The tower will be built on Durham Ave. near the intersection of Helen Street. The communications tower, consistent will house radio equipment and a 90 foot tall steel monopole.

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Golden Acres Renovations Set to Begin

New shopping malls and stores are popping up throughout the area like spring flowers gone amuck. Every corner seems to have construction underway for the next mega mall or convenience store. Competition is a must and many older stores are, at the very least, getting facelifts. There isn't a major

shopping center within miles that is not being or has been renovated within the year.

The oldest mall in South Plainfield, Golden Acres Shopping Center on Oak Tree Road, will soon jump on the fast-paced renovation band-

wagon. The center was purchased about a year and half ago by The Polimeni Organization, a multifaceted real estate firm which develops and markets prime commercial and industrial properties. The Polimeni Organization is made up of four separate entities, each with a unique purpose and goal. Skyline Management Corp., one of the Polimeni groups, has begun working on plans for major renovations to Golden Acres – renovations which they believe will bring the once thriving mall back to life. Phil Okun is president of Skyline Management and

Paul Mullen is the executive vice president.

In an *Observer* interview, Mr. Okun seemed very confident about the future of the mall. He spoke of several positive steps already underway. Among the first steps taken in the renovation process was the renewal of a lease with Bradlees for a 12 year period. Skyline has begun the process of re-tenanting the vacant stores and expects to have them all leased by this summer. Okun said, “We feel very strongly about the South Plainfield area; it is a great community. Once the renovations are underway we believe it will have a strong positive impact on the community.”

Another significant addition will be a twelve thousand square foot expansion adjoining the Maxim's store. The vacant McDonald's building and those adjoining it will be torn down to provide greater visibility of the shopping center. A free standing Wendy's is slated to go up near the corner of Oak Tree Road and Park Ave. The many businesses located on the Park Ave. side of

the mall will retain their leases. Several months ago Maxim's closed for renovations. They were expected to reopen in just a few weeks but remain closed at present. Jannie, an employee with

Continued on page 6

“We feel very strongly about the South Plainfield area; it is a great community.”

—Phil Okun, Pres. Skyline Management



Artist's rendering of the future renovations at Golden Acres Shopping Center.

**Junior Baseball
Registration
Going On**

Registration for the 2000 season is being held at the Junior Baseball Clubhouse this Thursday and Friday, 6 to 9 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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 through 16. New players must turn 8 years old before August 1, 2000, and must present a copy of the child's birth certificate. Late registration fees are \$60 per player with no discounts.



Community Policing Thanks the Many Who Helped With DARE Building

Monday evening's agenda session, which normally has very few residents in attendance, had a courtroom that was nearly filled.

Officers Joe Papa and Alan LaMonda invited the 46 residents and business owners who donated their labor and materials, as well as those who contributed money toward the construction of the new Community Policing Building to the meeting. A certificate of appreciation was given to each individual or business for their donation to the project. Pictured above are those

who attended the ceremonies on Monday.

The construction of the Community Policing Building, built on the corner of Hamilton Blvd. and New Market Rd., turned out to be a real community project; constructed entirely with labor and materials donated by local residents and area businesses.

The former site of the Empire Gas Station had become a local eyesore.

The mayor and council also received a certificate of appreciation for their support and

their help with acquiring the property.

Bob Yurgel was presented with an specially engraved plaque. He worked almost every day, along with Officers Papa and LaMonda, during a very hot summer.

Those who received certificates are:

E.C.I. Communications Inc.
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Wallace Lock & Key
Security Concepts
Disch Tree Experts
A A & G Masons
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Jafco Supply
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Vails Hardware
Allied Building Products
Quality Interiors
Quality Glass
Dean Benak Home Improvements



Bob Yurgel receives a plaque from Officer LaMonda for all the work he did on the new Community Policing Building

Y2K 2,000 Dimes Project

Y2K has hit Riley School's Room 12. But rather than creating a problem it has created a very special classroom project. The third graders in Marie Gumina's class have dubbed Y2K as their "Year 2 Kare".

In the new millennium the students have embarked on a class project to collect 2,000 dimes. The students are using their project in various academic disciplines as the project continues. In math, the students have estimated the volume the 2,000 dimes will fill within its container. The math activities will also include counting the coins, estimating, pro-

jecting, and creating bar graphs. In Language, the students debated various uses for the 2,000 dimes. As the project continues, they will write letters to their recipient to keep them informed of their progress.

The students strongly felt their project should be one of "Kids Helping Kids." After debate and discussion the students voted and decided to donate the proceeds of their Y2K 2,000 Dimes Project to the Children's Specialized Hospital in Mountainside. The donation will be used for the purchase of toys to be used by the patients.

Prepaid Tuition Plan to Air on PBS

CollegeNOW Company, the first National Pre-paid Tuition Plan, based in South Orange, will be featured on the Public Broadcasting System program Money Hunt on Sunday, Jan. 16 at 1 p.m.

CollegeNOW is a unique program, which allows families to purchase college education at a discount off present tuition rates. The prepaid tuition can then be redeemed at any of a thousand colleges that will participate in the CollegeNOW plan.

For more information on CollegeNOW, contact the company at 973-762-2312, or visit the web site at www.college-now.com.

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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.

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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.

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In My Opinion

Letters

To the Many Thoughtful People of South Plainfield including the Faculty, Staff, Student Body and Cub Pack 207 of Franklin School:

With the recent passing of Mrs. Nancy Rittinger, mother of Natalie, wife of Charles, we have had to adjust to life without the most loving and caring person we have ever known.

I cannot begin to express my thanks to all of you for your help and understanding during this difficult time. Your contributions have made this a truly memorable Christmas for my daughter and myself. You have helped to fill the emptiness we feel.

We wish you all the best for the New Year.

**THANK YOU AGAIN,
CHARLES AND NATALIE
RITTINGER**

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 our website at spobserver.com or faxed to 908-668-8819. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. We reserve the right to limit the number of letters submitted by one individual on the same subject we will publish. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Observer.

To the Editor,

On behalf of the Junior Woman's Club of South Plainfield, I would like to thank those residents of the South Plainfield community who donated wrapped gifts for residents of the Woodbridge Developmental Center during our "Wish Tree Project." Over 30 gifts were collected from the trees set up at Columbia Savings Bank and South Plainfield Public Library.

It was with great pride that I personally delivered these gifts to the center, with my small son in tow, just in time for their holiday party. It was truly amazing to walk into the offices and see hundreds of wrapped gifts from many organizations in various New Jersey towns. It was truly a spiritual and rewarding experience for me.

Once again I thank Columbia Savings Bank and South Plainfield Public Library for allowing us to place our homemade ornaments on their trees and for assisting in the collection of gifts.

**VERY TRULY YOURS,
SUE RICKERT, SECRETARY
GFWC JUNIOR WOMAN'S
CLUB OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD**



Rick Stefany, Joe Chanley, Clayton Echan and Bill Samson will team up once again this year to ensure a happy Valentine's Day for a lucky recipient and to raise money for the United Way. The quartet will serenade your sweetheart and present them with a flower, candy and a photograph.

Quartet Reunites to Serenade on Valentine's Day

This year the United Way Quartet will again be available to serenade your sweetheart on Valentine's Day.

The quartet will go to your business or home, dressed ap-

propriately in a red vest and tie, sing two songs, and present your sweetheart with a rose, candy and a photo of the event for only \$50. This is a great way to tell your sweetheart you care and to help the United Way of South Plainfield raise money for their many projects.

Last year this group, consisting of Rick Stefany, Joe Chanley, Clayton Echan and Bill Samson

teamed up to raise over \$800 for the United Way of South Plainfield. The group rehearsed together for weeks before their big event. This year they have already begun practicing and hope to exceed last year's amount.

To make arrangements to have the quartet serenade your sweetheart or if you need more information, call Marge at (908) 753-2200.

Taxpayers Advisory Group Sets New Agenda



Bill Miller and Nancy Zmuda, who were appointed to the Taxpayers Advisory Commission on Reorganization Day, are sworn in by Jim Eckert at last Monday's Agenda meeting.

The Taxpayers Advisory Group for the Borough of South Plainfield met on its regularly scheduled day (the first Thursday of each month) and time (7 p.m.) in Borough Hall. The group held its reorganization meeting. Harry Kuhn was reelected as chairperson and Richard Petrone as vice-chairman. The position of secre-

tary remains open to any group member. Fred Toth was thanked for his year of service as the group's secretary. Carol Hunterton was welcomed to the group.

The focus of the Taxpayers Advisory Group is two-fold: it addresses issues affecting taxes as well as issues of the quality of community life. All members are

appointed by the Mayor for three year terms and do not necessarily represent the collective opinion of the local taxpayers, but do advise the governing body on issues of significant concern.

The group is looking forward to meeting with representatives of other municipal committees, boards, commissions and departments to formulate a consensus of opinion to give meaningful and relevant advice to the mayor and council.

Upcoming issues to be discussed by the group will be alternative approaches to meeting the anticipated increase in student enrollment, the enforcement of local ordinances and the enforcement of NJ State law requiring that motorists yield to pedestrians in the crosswalks throughout the borough, the publication and distribution of an informational brochure to attract investments and revenues and selected joint-committee meetings with the Business Advisory Group, the Environmental Commission, Public Safety Committee, and other related municipal groups.

The public is welcome to attend the Taxpayers Advisory Group meetings.

MILESTONES

Birth

Passanos Welcome New Addition to Family



Louis and Jessica Fasano, Jr. are proud to announce the birth of a daughter, **Jordan Danielle Fasano**.

Jordan was born on Monday, Nov. 22 at 6:40 a.m. She weighed in at six pounds, 3 ounces and measured 18¾ inches.

She joins at home her 3½-year-old brother, Louis Fasano III.

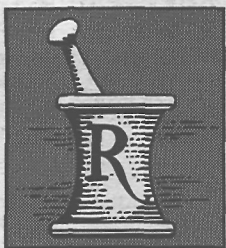
Proud grandparents are Louis and Selma Fasano of South Plainfield, Darlene Giordano of Rahway and Robert Rasmussen of South Plainfield.

The South Plainfield Health Department Is Conducting a

RABIES CLINIC At the
South Plainfield Borough Garage

Dog & Cat Licenses Will Be Available.

Please note: Cats must be in a carrier **Dates:**
Friday, January 14, 2000 • 6pm-8 pm
Saturday, January 15, 2000 • 9 am-12 noon



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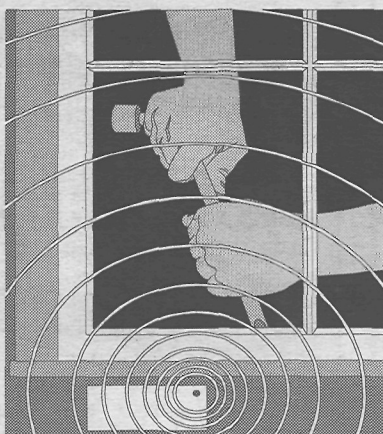
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AROUND TOWN

EVENTS

Roosevelt Sponsors Snow White At SPHS

Yates Musical Theatre presents Snow White, sponsored by Roosevelt School PTA, on Sunday, Jan. 23 at 2 p.m. at South Plainfield High School. Tickets are \$8.

For information, call 561-7559.

Footloose Tickets Still Available

Tickets are still available for the Broadway musical "Footloose" on Sunday, Feb. 27. The bus leaves at 11 a.m. from the PAL. The cost is \$55 per person. Tickets may be purchased at the PAL on Maple Ave. For information call 226-7713.

Rec Sponsors Trip to "The King and I"

The Recreation Dept. is sponsoring a trip to the New Performing Arts Center to see "The King And I" on Thursday, March 23. Senior Citizens only. Bus leaves at 12 noon from the PAL. The cost is \$25 per person. Sign up at the PAL Building on Maple Ave.

Columbiettes Sponsoring Roast Beef Dinner

The Knights of Columbus and Columbiettes are sponsoring a Roast Beef Dinner on Saturday, Jan. 29. The dinner will be held at the K of C Hall on Hamilton Blvd. from 4 to 8 p.m.

Prices for the dinner are \$9 for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$7 for children ages three to 12.

Advance tickets will be available at a savings of \$1 per person.

The menu will consist of roast beef, potatoes, vegetables, salad, dessert and coffee, tea and milk or juice for the children.

For additional information and advance tickets, call Mary Ann at 908-226-1222.

Ponytail Association Meeting

The South Plainfield Parent/Ponytail Association will hold its next monthly meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 25, at 7:30 p.m. in the South Plainfield Middle School Library.



Roosevelt School PTA will sponsor Yates Musical Theatre production of "Snow White" on Jan. 23 at SPHS.

Republican Comm. Meeting Scheduled

The South Plainfield Republican Committee will hold a meeting on Thursday, Jan. 20 at 7:30 p.m. at the American Legion located on Oak Tree Ave.

Recreation Plans Ski Trip to Montage

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

Participants must be at least 14 years old. 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.

Connected Hearts Adoption Group

Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support (CHATS) will meet 7:15-9:15 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 24, at Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church on 170 Watchung Ave. in North Plainfield. Mary Levitt, adopted adult who was never told by her parents that she was adopted, will discuss her growing-up years and her reunion with both of her birthparents and 13 siblings.

Open sharing of adoption-related stories and light refreshments. Call Alyce at (732) 227-0607 or <http://community.nj.com/cc/chatsfor> information.

Columbiettes Upcoming Events

The South Plainfield Colum-

biettes 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.

Senior Line Dancing At PAL

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 dates are Jan. 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.

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.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Well, that's two weeks gone in the popularly perceived new decade/century/millennium/whatever. Time for some more news from the South Plainfield Library:

The Library will be closed on both Sunday and Monday in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

For the last few weeks, our children's Storytime programs have been on a break, while Linda Hansen, our Children's Librarian, took a well-deserved vacation in Japan. Now that she's back, the programs will resume next week. They'll follow the usual schedule: Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. Each program is for children ages three and over; you don't have to register. If you have any questions, ask Miss Linda.

We've got a special children's program coming soon. Friday afternoon, Jan. 28, at 4 p.m. we'll have our monthly Kidcraft program. It's for children ages six and over; there's a limit on available space, so call ahead. That same day, at 10:30 a.m., we'll host a Homeschooler's meeting in our Children's Room. It's for parents who home school their children, or those who are interested in doing so.

While we're at it, here's a note about another program on the way. We'll be holding a basic Internet class on Tuesday, January 25, at 7:30 p.m. (Because you demanded it!) The class will be conducted by Herbert Frank and by Sundra Fenn, our director. The class will cover some basic Internet techniques and

features, as well as the use of search engines. The class is free; there is, however, limited space. Please pre-register at the main desk or call us at (908) 754-7885.

This month, we have two displays in place. Our display wall features a number of photographs taken by Ellis Williams, a local resident who's a retired teacher and department head from South Plainfield High School. (Other photos taken by him can also be seen at the Library.) Information about each picture is available on the provided index. You can also see a number of awards Mr. Williams has received during his career. Our display cabinets are featuring "Reflections of Our Past, Samptown/New Market 1670-1920." The exhibit features a number of historical artifacts, including coins, bottles and pottery, from the Barile Family Collection. The displays can be seen throughout the month.

We have to offer a clarification. In the past, we've said that patrons from reciprocal libraries can use their cards from their home libraries without restriction. There's been a slight change in that situation. Our computer system is set up so that only South Plainfield bar codes can access certain functions, mainly the Internet and the Elvis system. Reciprocal patrons who plan on accessing those features can obtain a South Plainfield card (complete with bar code) free of charge. Inquire at the main desk if you're interested.

We'll close out the column now for this issue. Please stop by for more news next Friday, when we move yet another week into the brave new world of 2000 AD.

Recycling Center Holiday Schedule

South Plainfield Recycling Center will be closed on Jan. 18 for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The holiday schedule at the South Plainfield Recycling Cen-

ter on Kenneth Avenue will be:

Open Saturday, Jan. 15, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., closed Tuesday, January 18.

Open Wednesday, Jan. 19, 12 noon-7 p.m.

Regular Winter hours at the Recycling Center will resume Friday, Jan. 21: Tuesday noon-7 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

The Yard Waste Site will be on its normal winter schedule:

Open Saturdays 8 a.m.-3 p.m. For updates, call the Recycling Hotline: (908) 226-7620.

Best Wishes for 2000!



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IF THERE IS SOMEONE YOU KNOW WHO MAKES A DIFFERENCE in South Plainfield? Thank them by letting us know.

USE THE OBSERVER AS AN ADVERTISING TOOL. Introduce your business to the community. Promote your specials or sales. Residents would rather patronize local businesses than travel out of town. It is more convenient and it's good for the local economy.

SUGGEST A BUSINESS FOR US TO SPOTLIGHT. If you have had great service in South Plainfield, share it with your neighbors through the newspaper.

SUBMIT LETTERS TO THE EDITOR to allow readers to discuss and react to issues.

SEND US YOUR PHOTOS. If you have an event, take a photo, write a caption identifying the event and people and send it to us via mail. The best photos record action and don't include so many people that it is impossible to identify anyone. Please don't send us photocopies or laser prints. They don't reproduce well.

HOW TO CONTACT US. By mail: 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080; By phone: 908-668-0010; By fax: 908-668-8819; By email: ggnan@aol.com.

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The Alternative View

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

Dear Dr. DeCosta:

I recently read an Internet article about the rising concerns of children in this country being treated anti-depressants. Do you feel this is true?

- M.G.

Dear M.G.:

Unfortunately, I agree that anti-depressant use among children is on the increase in this nation. In addition, the recent tragedy in Littleton, Colorado, by two teenagers should draw attention to the possible disastrous side effects of anti-depressants. One of the teenage gunmen, Eric Harris, who went on a shooting rampage at Columbine High School was one of the nearly 800,000 children who are on anti-depressants nationwide. In 1998 Kip Kinkel, a youth in Oregon who killed his parents and two school mates had been treated with Prozac, one of the most common anti-depressants given to children under eighteen years of age.

According to a report in the *Washington Times*, Dr. David G. Fassler, a child and adolescent psychiatrist who is chair of the American Psychiatric Association's Council on Children, Adolescents and Families, admitted that more children are being treated with anti-depression medications than ever before.

The following chart from the IMS Health pharmaceutical research firm shows the number of children 17 years and younger using one of the three commonly prescribed anti-depressants—Prozac, Zoloft or Paxil in 1996 and 1997:

Ages	1996	1997
0 - 5	8,000	40,000
6 - 12	185,000	224,000
13 - 17	473,000	528,000
Total	669,000	792,000

What should be of great concern is that not a single anti-depressant has been extensively studied in juveniles. Luvox, which is the mind-altering drug that Harris was taking, is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for treating obsessive-compulsive disorder, not depression in minors, even though it is commonly prescribed as a depression therapy in this age group.

Though doctors deny that drugs trigger the kind of violence as exhibited by Harris and Kinkel, they admit that "anti-depressants can unmask an underlying manic depression in patients predisposed to that type of mental disorder."

According to IMS Health, an independent pharmaceutical research firm in Pennsylvania, in 1997, 792,000 children in the U.S. between the ages of 6 to 18 were taking one of the three anti-depressants - Prozac, Paxil or Zoloft. That was an increase of more than 90,000 children over the previous year. These figures do not include children on the drug, Luvox.

From a survey of office-based physicians, IMS Health also found that in 1998, doctors issued a total of 1,664,000 prescriptions for Prozac, Zoloft, Paxil and Luvox for patients 18 and younger.

What is even more disturbing is that these hundreds of thousands of children on anti-depressants are in addition to the nearly 4 million children who are on Ritalin, a drug which physicians themselves believe is one of the most over prescribed drugs for children in this country.

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.



Valley National Bank Branch Manager Aida Santos, along with tellers Deborah Garcia, Patti Hilpert and Monica Serafin, stand before the hundreds of poinsettia cards they sold this holiday season. The sale is a United Way annual fundraising effort. The cards, which were sold for \$4 each ran the length of the wall of the bank, adding a very festive look. Valley National Bank sold over \$150 worth of the poinsettia cards.

United Way Adds Three Advisory Board Members

Three new members have joined the Board of the United Way of South Plainfield.

New board members include, Jan LeJeunesse, who is active in numerous activities in town, including Summer Drama Workshop and the Labor Day Parade, and high school junior Kyan Bowman, senior Brian Donnally.

Board meetings are typically held at one of the many agencies supported by United Way funds. This month their meeting was held at the United Family and Children's Society in Plainfield, a group which aids in family services, such as counseling, adoption services, a child intensive outpatient program, boarder ba-

bies, teen mothering and sexual abuse victims counseling. They work hand in hand with South Plainfield schools and social agencies.

The United Way of South Plainfield maintains all of its local fundraising dollars and the Board of Directors is made up of local residents and business people.

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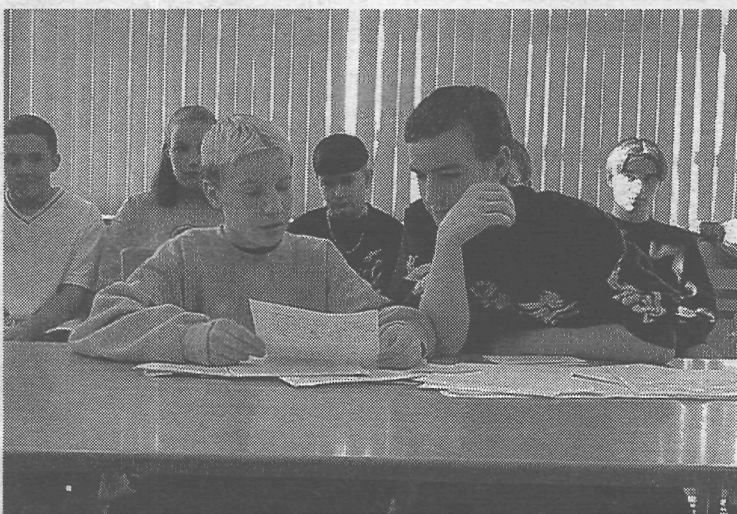
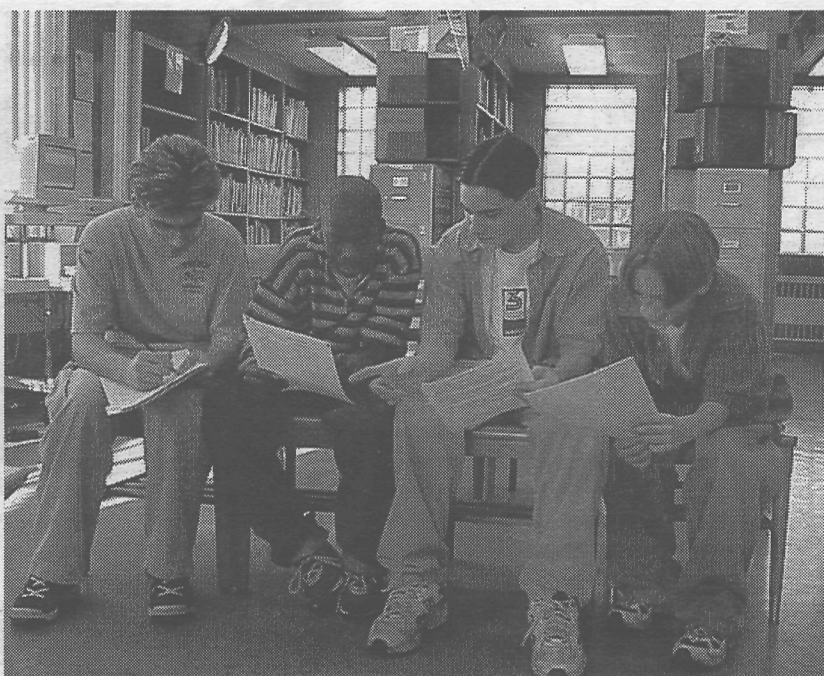
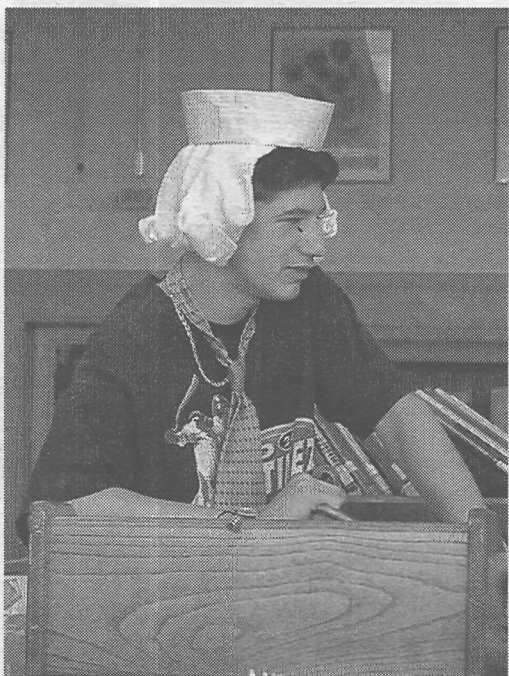
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IN SCHOOL



Middle School Teachers Bring Lessons to Life

Continued from page 1

aged to "get into character." Extra credit was awarded for costumes or for dressing up, skirts for the girls and ties for the boys. Many of the boys wore ties. Some went a few steps further and rolled up pant legs to represent the britches worn in the 1700s. Some wore hats similar to those of the colonists. Two of the witnesses fashioned the white wigs worn by the British out of white socks attached to a white hat.

The court room was sent up in the library for the duration. Mr. Blondo manned a video camera when he wasn't representing a judge. Blondo said, "The goal of the trial was to teach students a hands on view of the American Judicial System while learning about the Boston Massacre and the sentiments of the colonists towards the occupying British army in and around Boston. The students learned by recreating history rather than just reading and discussing in the usual environment.

The entire reenactment and summary questions counted as one test grade. Students were assessed on preparation; memorization and delivery of testimony, posture, confidence, voice projection and sincerity, as well as written summary questions

based on the massacre and the mock trial.

Mr. Blondo said the students had a lot of fun and learned what Miss Allen and he had hoped. He noted that many of the lawyers were very competitive. The verdicts, which did not always match the actual historic results, were discussed in hallways and other classes. They were very similar verdicts to those determined by last year's classes; however, two of Miss Allen's classes found the British Captain

Preston guilty. This has never happened in the nine trials over the past two years. The actual verdict for Captain Preston was "not guilty." All the soldiers were found "not guilty" in 1770, but for a few of their 2000 counterparts the verdict of the students was "guilty."

Next year they plan to recreate the Boston Massacre Trial again, but are considering the possibility of a trial/military court martial based on the confederate prisoner of war camp, Andersonville.



Golden Acres Renovations

Continued from page 1

Bradlees for many years was hopeful for the success of the renovations but said she had heard many rumors. The renewal of the Bradlees lease was news to several employees. One of several rumors had the store closing within three months to three years. Management declined to respond saying they were prohibited from commenting. Larry Darrow of Lenscrafters condensed his excitement and expectations of the work to a few simple words, "I can't wait!"

When questioned about Oak Park Commons, the new mall that sits across the road, Okun noted that he believed both shopping centers will continue to be successful. He said, "We will have a number of tenants that will complement those at Oak Park and some that will be competitive. This is good for the community. It provides the widest variety of services at the best price."

The work on the mall is scheduled to be completed by Autumn of 2000. Skyline owns a number of highly successful shopping centers and office buildings up and down the east coast, including Long Island, Pennsylvania and Maryland.

Next Tuesday evening, Skyline Management is scheduled to appear in front of the South Plainfield Board of Adjustments with their renovations plans.

The Middlesex Mall is also undergoing renovations and currently houses only a handful of the original 55 businesses it once had. With construction signs at every turn, South Plainfield shoppers may have to hop from mall to mall, but by Autumn of 2000 Golden Acres Shopping Center will no longer be the site of darkened stores and a sparsely populated parking lot. Location and a revamped appearance may well make it THE place to shop once again.

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HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Bowling Team Winning Streak Up to 12 in a Row

January 4 vs. Middlesex—The boys team jumped out to a 200 pin lead in their first game against Middlesex, but had to withstand a rally by the scrappy Blue Jays. The Tigers escaped with a closer than it looks 3-1 triumph. Leading the way were: Eric Gaub with a 234 high game, Paul Larisch a 216, Doug Lauckhardt with a 192, Ray Tomei with 190-192, Matt Square with 199-198 and a 547 high set. The boys remained undefeated (10-0) and lead the White Division.

The girls improved to a 7-2-1 record as they clobbered Middlesex and registered their seventh shutout. Sabina Montenegro's 175 game led all scorers. Also contributing were Jacquie Herzog with a 161 game and Amanda Smith with a 155 game.

Freshman Alexis Montenegro bowled a 199 in the Jr. Varsity match. **January 5 vs. South River**—The boys team, despite dropping the third game, coasted to a 3-1 victory over South River after building up a 400 pin cushion in the first two games. High scorers were: Doug Lauckhardt with 216-198 and a 582 high set, Eric Gaub's 235 and Matt Square's 202 game. Chipping in were Dan Wallis with a 213 and Ray Tomei with a 191. The Tigers stayed undefeated and stretched their streak to eleven in a row.

The girls team recorded their eighth shutout and improved to 8-2-1 at the expense of South River, who they defeated by 225 pins. Jacquie Herzog bowled a 177 and a 480 high set. Also contributing were Melissa Jamieson with a 171 and a 477 set and freshman Alexis Montenegro with games of 168 and 160.

Brett Snyder's 151 game led the Junior Varsity. **January 6 vs. Bishop Ahr**—After splitting two close games, the girls bowling team prevailed in the final game to post a 54 pin victory over a vastly improved Bishop Ahr squad.

Melissa Jamieson bowled games of 174-179 and a solid 521 set and combined with freshman Alexis Montenegro's 179 game, led the Tiger charge. Sabina Montenegro chipped in with a 161 game as the Tigers stayed on course in division play, with a 9-2-1 record.

The boys bowling team earned a hard fought triumph as they overtook Bishop Ahr in the later frames of an otherwise close match, paving the way for the green and white with solid performances were: Ray Tomei bowled a 220 high game and a 594 high set, Doug Lauckhardt with a 201-202 and 591 set and Matt Square with a 215 game and 591 set. Also contributing were Eric Gaub with a 192 game, Paul Larisch with a 190 and Danny Wallis with a 204. The win was the 12th straight for the undefeated Tigers. Rebecca Horn's 157 game led all scorers in the Jr. Varsity match.

Boys Basketball at .500 After 2-1 Week

By Brian Cochrane

The South Plainfield Tiger boys basketball team completed their longest road trip in many years by taking two out of three and moving their record to 4-4 last week. The Tigers, who haven't played a home game since Dec. 22, started the trip in Spotswood and were able to win a real nail biter by a score of 49-47.

The game was a real seesaw battle throughout, as each team was never down by more than five points. Thanks to the hot hands of senior guard, Justin Benford's game high 13, along with our other senior guard, Dominique Pender's 11, the Tigers were able to outscore the Chargers in the decisive fourth quarter and grab the victory. Carlo Estonactoc added 10 on the night.

Next it was off to Metuchen and the boys had an easier time pulling this one out coming away with the 49-34 win. After seeing the first quarter end tied at seven, the Tigers exploded with 24 second quarter points, thanks in part to senior Carlo Estonactoc's four three-pointers, to blow the game open and lead by 14 at the half. The defense did the rest as the Bulldogs were thoroughly out rebounded and overwhelmed down the stretch. Carlo was game high with 14 with Justin scoring 13 and Dominique chipping in 10.

The Tigers tallied a season high nine three-pointers on the night.

The final stop on the trip came in Highland Park and the Tigers just missed stretching their streak to three in a row as the 5-2 Owls prevailed 50-48. After scoring just 16 points in the first half to trail by one, South Plainfield came out hot once again to almost match that two quarter output by netting 14 in the third. But the Owls were hotter and their 18 put them up by five with

the fourth quarter left to play. The Tigers could get no closer as Highland Park slammed the door with just under two minutes to play. Three point specialist Carlo Estonactoc hit four more this game and led all scorers with 14. Clint Robinson, Jr. was the only other scorer in double figures with 11.

The Tigers finally return home on Jan. 14 to face South River and then on the 18th against New Brunswick.

Lady Tigers Basketball Stretch Streak to Five

By Brian Cochrane

The South Plainfield Girls Basketball Team continues to roll on after two more wins last week extended their winning streak to five games.

Tuesday at home against Sayerville, the Tigers showed no mercy in their pounding of the Bombers by holding Sayerville to just four first-half points and coasting to a 46-18 victory. Sheryl Cwiekalo had the hot hand this night netting a game high 14 points, while teammate Kelly Ritchie scored 10 of her own.

Coach Schulte continues to enjoy the diversity they've been afforded as eight different girls were able to score enroute to the win.

Two nights later Perth Amboy came to town and they too fell victim to our hot Tiger team, as South Plainfield notched win five of their current streak by a score of 44-33. Senior point guard Kim Wilcox and sophomore three guard, Kelly Ritchey, shared game highs with 11 points, as the Tiger defense continued to make a name for itself.

In the last three games, the girls have held opponents to single digits in 10 of 12 quarters.

Next up.... Tonight (Jan. 13th) the Tigers are home against a 5-1 Piscataway team.

Must See Game: Sat., Jan. 22 at 1 p.m.—to avenge our only defeat versus Bishop Ahr.

By Cyrus N. Moon

Weekly Horoscope 1/14-1/20

CAPRICORN 12/22-1/19 This week too much perfectionism or lack of time hampers organization and planning. Even if you are usually very efficient and organized, you cannot locate the very document, book, or other item you need. During this time you may be required to redo or complete a task you thought was done.

AQUARIUS 1/20-2/18 Watch out for some changes going on this week! Slow transformative along with hard work can have you breaking down and rebuilding structures in your life. You have the stamina and the power to take on the responsibility, although serious pressure may come from above.

PISCES 2/19-3/20 This week it may be hard to grasp the true meaning or accuracy of information. Trying to get to the bottom of a situation ends in confusion and raises more questions than answers. Be careful as keys, reading material, papers, and correspondence can be misplaced.

ARIES 3/21-4/19 Your opportunities cover a variety of possibilities. Your ideas become physical realities, theories are given physical application, or travel may be on your agenda in the future because of an advantage you gain now. Remember what you are learning use it to your advantage!

TAURUS 4/20-5/20 Get out this week! This is an excellent period to dine socially with others. If you want to take a chance on a plan you been kicking around, now is the time to do it. Trust your instincts and intuition they will lead to some fortunate as well as pleasurable situations. Improvements in relationship will also happen.

GEMINI 5/21-6/20 Self-esteem and will power prompt you to express yourself. Communications and travel at this time are closely linked with the dictates of your ego and personal goals. Increase self-focus in your intellectual endeavors. And do not present others ideas as your own.

CANCER 6/21-7/22 What ever is going

on this week should flow smoothly and successfully. Dissension is not likely to disrupt meetings and discussions. Make your requests, others will be happy to help out. Just the same anything that is requested of you should be followed through. It will be to your advantage.

LEO 7/23-8/22 This is a week to travel, to communicate, and to present ideas and opinions with confidence and enthusiasm. Pay attention to those in charge for it will be possible to benefit in some way from their knowledge. Also be ready for any questions that come your way from superiors.

VIRGO 8/23-9/22 This week if you found yourself irritable and nervous, try to find a moment to slow down and perhaps meditate for a bit. Watch what you say as you will be ready in no uncertain terms speak what is on your mind, minus the tack that you would have prefer to handle it.

LIBRA 9/23-10/22 There is no telling what good things will happen to you this week. This week try your luck in Atlantic City or couple of dollars in the lottery. Those of you in the theater may be coming upon a part in a play. Any court decisions or judgement will be in your favor. Avoid Laziness.

SCORPIO 10/23-11/21 Mellow out this week. Guilt, jealousy, overpossessiveness, or simply the desire to control another's emotion can take possession of you. Be sure if you need to express your feelings now, that you know the inner workings of such a relationship, or the encounters will otherwise be fruitless.

SAGITTARIUS 11/22-12/21 Hey this week be careful about your exaggerated social status or professional position. Tell those little white lies now and you may have some explaining to do later. Work hard now, you can change some of those boasts into reality. You can impress those in charge.

QUOTE: Here comes the New Year knocking.
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SPORTS

Ed Niemczyk's Youth Basketball League Scores

The Ed Niemczyk's Basketball League consists of 420 boys and girls who play 24 games each Saturday at both the Middle School and the PAL Building.

A LEAGUE STANDINGS

Spurs	4	1
Cavaliers	4	1
Grizzlies	4	1
Bucks	3	2
Supersonics	2	3
Warriors	1	3
Rockets	1	4
Nuggets	0	4

A LEAGUE SCORES-JAN 8

Spurs	26
Cavaliers	40
High scorers —Spurs: Nick Green-10, Mike Weiczorek-6, Steve Janiszak-4; Cavaliers: Justin Toth-8, Andy Cupido-8, Jon Buggiey-7, Chris Horn-6.	
Rockets	26
Grizzlies	45
High scorers —Rockets: Christine Strani-8, Tom Haus-6, Tom Holowka-6, David Cacciatore-4; Grizzlies: Chris Sanchez-12, Danny Pollin-11, Kyle Predergast-6, Tim Keller-8.	
Supersonics	45
Bucks	33
High scorers —Supersonics: Mike Espin-20, Danny Melick-14, Steven Sobel-7; Bucks: Gary Houston-14, Philip DeRosa-8, Mike Salerno-7.	
Nuggets	Cancelled
Warriors	Cancelled

B LEAGUE STANDINGS

Jazz	5	0
Magic	4	1
Nets	4	1
Heat	4	1
Timberwolves	3	2
Bulls	3	2
Hornets	2	3
Raptors	2	3
Lakers	1	4
Knicks	1	4
Cavaliers	1	4
Pistons	0	5

B LEAGUE RESULTS JAN. 8

Heat	39
Knicks	35
High scorers —Heat: Nick Cesare-14, Andy Miller-10, Peter Peregain-7, Coral Willis-6; Knicks: Keith Dezmin-20, Erika Blaszk-3, Phu Huynh-10.	
Nets	38
Lakers	26
High scorers —Nets: Nick Jefferys-10, Mike Downes-9, Melissa Hansen-4; Lakers: Allan Mazurak-10, Chris Bojarski-8, Jeff Pollin-8.	
Cavaliers	15
Bulls	30
High scorers —Cavaliers: Robert Strani-7, Nick Grego-4; Bulls: Mike Benak-12, Danielle Arndt-11, Vincent Velez-4.	

Pistons	5
Raptors	43
High scorers —Pistons: Matthew Fabino-3; Raptors: Joe Jaghab-12, Kyle Lendach-10, Zack Gray-6, Preet Dhaliwal-5.	

Jazz	23
Magic	15
High scorers —Jazz: Dip Patel-12, Dan Piwowar-12, Chris Bakazan-4; Magic: Nick Curcio-6, Mike Richard-5.	

Hornets	22
Timberwolves	25
High scorers —Hornets: Jonathan Lazar-8, Kevin Siedenbug-5, Justin Basillone-5; Timberwolves: Adam Bianchi-7, Joe Stasio-6, Dona Garcia-4, DJ Maglis-4.	

C LEAGUE STANDINGS

Grizzlies	5	0
Wizards	5	0
Cavaliers	4	1
Rockets	4	1
Trail Blazers	4	1
Warriors	4	1
Kings	3	2
Suns	2	3
Hawks	2	3
Spurs	1	4
Bucks	1	4
Supersonics	0	5
Nuggets	0	5
Mavericks	0	5

C LEAGUE RESULTS JAN. 8

Suns	18
Nuggets	14
High scorers —Suns: Matt Seider-12, Nuggets: John Christ-6, Matthew Ramos-6.	
Mavericks	16
Grizzlies	23
High scorers —Mavericks: Scott Hunterton-6, Justin Panzarella-6; Grizzlies: David Alston-6, Tim Williams-6, Jake Bayak-3.	
Trail Blazers	29
Spurs	12
High scorers —Trail Blazers: Grey Coppi-12, Brendan O'Shea-12; Spurs: Kevin Reviello-8.	
Wizards	35
Supersonics	18
High scorers —Wizards: Garrett Lake-11, Chris Pollin-10, Brian Wieckowski-10, Danny Hubner-4; Supersonics: Brain Fabino-9, Bard Martin-7.	
Rockets	35
Kings	18
High scorers —Rockets: Tommy Smith-8, Lauren Fry-8; Kings: Blaire Houston-8, Vinnie Paudla-6, Kelly Downs-4, Joe Turrisse-4, Charles Loiacono-4.	
Bucks	26
Warriors	30
High scorers —Bucks: Scott Barton-6, Andy Gray-6, Tony Cassano-4, Greg Watts-4, Tim Durnak; Warriors: Mike	

Stallone-4, Chris Stallone-6, Zack Olim-4.

Cavaliers	20
Hawks	10
High scorers —Cavaliers: Ryan Curtis-10, Bennie Gibson-6; Hawks: Stephen Richard-4.	

D LEAGUE STANDINGS

Lakers	5	0
Raptors	5	0
Cavaliers	5	0
Knicks	5	0
Nets	3	2
Heat	2	2
Magic	2	3
76ers	2	3
Timberwolves	2	3
Hornets	1	3
Bulls	1	4
Jazz	1	4
Pistons	0	5
Celtics	0	5

D LEAGUE RESULTS JAN. 8

Celtics	14
Bulls	26
High scorers —Celtics: Chris Hartje-6, Stephen Wagner-6; Bulls: Greg Herbster-10, Ryan Harrington-6, Timmy Yuill-6.	
Magic	38
Jazz	8
High scorers —Magic: Riley Hubner-18, Tramane Miller-10; Jazz: Christopher Fulton-4.	
Timberwolves	6
Nets	36
High scorers —Timberwolves: Ian Collins-4; Nets: Kelvin Randolph-14, Dontae Johnson-12, Mike Jefferys-6, Elizabeth Martin-4.	
Knicks	20
Heat	16
High scorers —Knicks: Mike Dezmin-8, Matt Galinsky-6, Vincent Stark-4; Heat: Mark Benak-8, Matt Cesare-4.	
Hornets	20
Cavaliers	40
High scorers —Hornets: Mike Muglia-8, Steve Wieczorek-6; Cavaliers: Nick Jeglinski-18, Chris Ascencio-8, Ken Breslaw-6.	
76ers	32
Raptors	34
High scorers —76ers: Kyle Quail-12, Dominic Papa-10, Allen Garcia-6; Raptors: Jalil Williams-30.	
Lakers	18
Pistons	8
High scorers —Lakers: Jordan Petriello-4, Garrett Kelly-4, Lyndsey Murtagh-4; Pistons: Mike Simone-4.	

Rec to Sponsor Softball Leagues

The South Plainfield Recreation Dept. is sponsoring Adult Softball Leagues.

5 p.m. League: Tuesday and Wednesday: First Six Teams Will Make Up Leagues—Fee: \$165 before 3/15/00

Women's League: Tuesday Evenings: First Six Teams Will Make Up League—Fee: \$155 before 3/15/00

Sunday League - First Eight Teams—Fee: \$200 before 3/15/00

5:30 p.m. League - Monday through Thursday—Fee: \$220 before 3/15/00

To register, call the Pal, (908) 226-7714, or register in person at 250 Maple Ave.

Junior Baseball Club Notes

By Frank Hanley

REGISTER TODAY!!—Registration for the 2000 season is being held this Thursday, Friday and Saturday at the clubhouse. Registration is 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. 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 through 16. New players must turn 8 years old before August 1, 2000, and must present a copy of the child's birth certificate. Late registration fees are \$60 per player with no discounts.

TRYOUTS—Tryouts will be held on Saturday, March 4 at the PAL Building on Maple Avenue. All registered players will receive notification by mail indicating their tryout time. Players should remember to wear sneakers and bring your glove.

2000 SEASON LEAGUE DIRECTORS—The following Executive Board members were named as this year's League Directors ... Chris Hubner-Small Fry C, Tom McCreesh-Small Fry B, Dan Wasnick-Small Fry A and Kurt Ullom-Pony.

SIGN SPONSORS—The Sign Sponsor program is again being offered to local businesses. This program provides businesses with advertising space at the complex. Businesses interested in becoming or continuing as a sponsor or should contact the club as soon as possible. Businesses that renew their sponsorship by Feb. 29 will be entitled to a discount.

JANUARY MEETING NOTES

- Construction of the Pony Building is moving along. The floor had been poured and the walls are almost complete.
- The club has reserved 200 tickets to see the Somerset Patriots vs. the Long Island Ducks on Friday night May 26th. Complete details will be published next week.
- A Coach's Clinic is being organized... Details to follow.
- The next Men's meeting will be held on Monday, Feb. 7 at 7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY—The Woman's Auxiliary will be on hand during registration to take orders for clothing and other logoed items. New items include mouse pads and keychains. Now available 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...mail: SPJBC99@aol.com...Web Site: members.aol.com/spjbc/spjbc.html

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

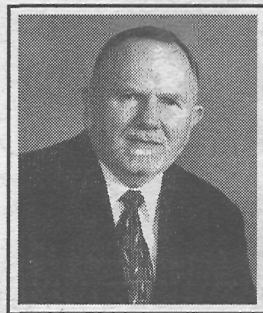
- Registration** - THIS WEEKEND - Jan. 13, 14, 15 at the clubhouse
- Tryouts** - Saturday, March 4 at the PAL
- Opening Day** - Saturday, April 15

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SPORTS

Junior Tigers Crush Westfield 61-9

The Rec wrestling team posted their second blowout victory of the season with a 61-9 victory over Westfield in league action this past Saturday.

Ryan Sacco (50) wasted little time scoring the takedown and fall at 0:20 over Patrick Bergin. Robert Gentile (53) won by forfeit. Patrick Hunter (57) jumped out to an early 8-0 lead before pinning David Fishman at 1:41. Nick Heilman (60) gave up the first takedown, but scored eleven unanswered points to win by

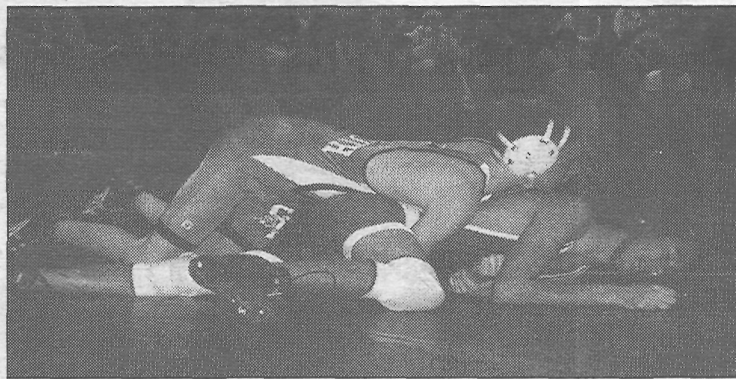
major decision 11-2 over Drew Bergin. Jimmy Conroy (67) wasted no time scoring the fall at 0:11 over Brandon Rolnick.

Billy Ashnault (70) took an early 5-0 lead over John Martoglio before pinning him at the 0:59 mark. Bryan Hunt (73) gave up the early takedown, then he reversed Jimmy McManus and went on to win by a 7-2 decision. Nick Dorey (77) and Danny Bayak (80) both won by forfeit. Sam Martin (90) score a tech fall over Mike McCrea 15-0 at 2:13. Brad

Martin (95) took an early 5-0 lead and went on to win by major decision 14-2 over Matt Leonard.

Danny Pompilio (102) got caught early and was down 5-0 before coming on late in the third period to score on a 5 point move to win 7-5 over Joey Coreia. Billy Daley (110) won by decision 5-1 over Joe Kania. Kevin Crilley (Hwt) closed the scoring with a fall over Tom Wansay at 0:59.

Also wrestling for the Tigers were Mark Wagner (85) and Elizabeth Martin (63)



Pictured above is Dave Stoeckel versus Kyle Hunsicker.

High School Tigers Tame East Brunswick 59-15

By Bob Hunter

The South Plainfield High School wrestling team won its second straight dual match with a convincing 59-15 with over Red Division rivals East Brunswick Bears. Matt Anderson, 103, got the Tigers on the board with a 5-0 decision over Jaime Guido. Rich Gebauer, 112, caught the early takedown and held on to beat Keith Ritchings 2-1. Roberto Ramos, 119, took early control before pinning Tony Ruperto at 5:12. David Butrico, 125, pinned Brian Ackerman at the 1:03 mark to give the Tigers an 18-0 lead.

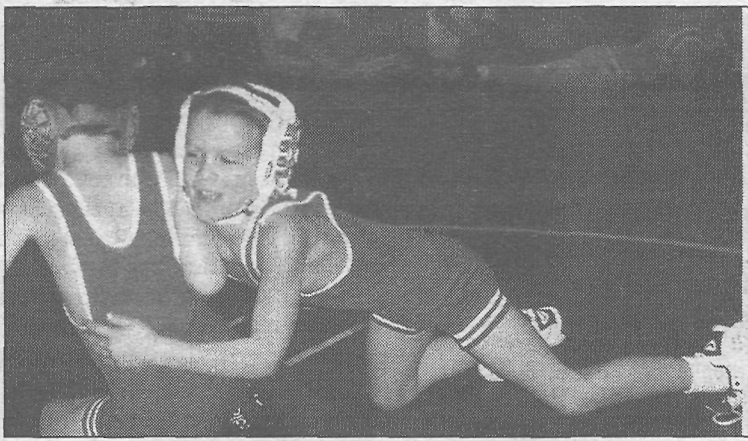
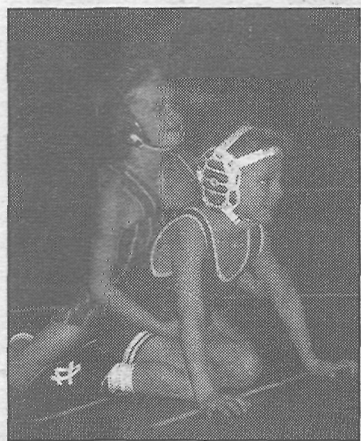
Dave Stoeckel, 130, kept the onslaught going by pinning Nick Yannazzo at 1:56. Glenn Gross, 135, faced Justin Gottlieb and needed only 1:07 to pin him to increase the lead to 28-0. Scott

Doerr kept things going with a fall over Jay Silitsky at 1:48, putting the Tigers up by 32.

Matt Gatti, 145, needed only 28 seconds to finish off Paul Mascatello by fall. Dave Fiore 152 went to work and scored a tech-fall at 5:27 over Sam Mull. Mike Buteas 160 faced Matt Kolbeck in tough match pulling out a 10-8 decision.

Chris Francis, 171, faced long time nemesis Tom Corio in a rematch of the two top 171 pounders in the county. Corio beat Francis at the recent Hunterdon Central Tournament and was looking for an upset. It was not to be—Corio hung on to 9-6 decision.

John Foscolo, 189, ended the scoring for the Tigers with a fall at 1:09 over Jimmy Gagnon. The Tigers forfeited 215 and Heavyweight.



Pictured left are Jeffrey Conroy and Taylor Hunt and (above right) Joey Cornelius and Jeremy Strausser.

PeeWee Wrestlers Have Fun At Clinic

The recreation held an in clinic for first and second year wrestlers. They are matched up in size and wrestle each other for their first live wrestling experience. Thirty-five future var-

sity wrestlers participated with each kid wrestling three thirty-second periods in front of a packed house at the PAL on Sunday.

Coach Jim Conroy explained,

"This gives the kids the opportunity to wrestle and have some fun. Its important that they have a good time and to get a little experience at the same time."

Tigers Rough Up High Point 48-10

The Tigers improved to 3-0 with an impressive win over a tough High Point team. Matt Anderson, 103, got the Tigers off to a roaring start when he pinned Steve Paluzzi at 3:00. Rich Gebauer, 112, decisioned Kevin Beltri 12-6. Roberto Ramos, 119, decisioned Tony Pendisatt 9-3.

Dave Butrico, 125, added some bonus points when he pinned Vic Fletcher with one second left in the match. David Stoeckel faced Kyle Hunsicker at 130 pounds and scored a major decision 10-0. Glenn Gross, 135, dropped the first match of the night against Bob Rohel 10-2.

Scott Doerr, 140, won a close 7-5 decision over Tom Perry. Matt Gatti, 145, kept things going with a 12-6 decision over Alden Lain.

In the 152 pound match, Dave Fiore scored his second tech-fall of the year over John Macraig 26-10.

Chris Francis coming off a tough loss to Tom Corio again had his hands full with Jake Perry High Point's top wrestler. With 22 seconds remaining in regulation Francis got an escape and took Perry down for a 5-4 lead with seven seconds left when Francis's headgear came off and the action was stopped.

Perry then escaped at the buzzer to tie the score. In overtime Francis scored the takedown and got the decision 7-5. In the 189 pound match John Foscolo won by major decision 9-1 over Tom Klosterhoss.

The Tigers forfeited 215. In the heavyweight match, Colin Hunter made his return after missing the first month of the season due to knee surgery and had an impressive outing when he scored a fall over Mitar Rudanovic at 1:47 to end the match.

Got News??
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Very Rev. Michael A. McGuire, Pastor

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Evening Mass 5:45 p.m.

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

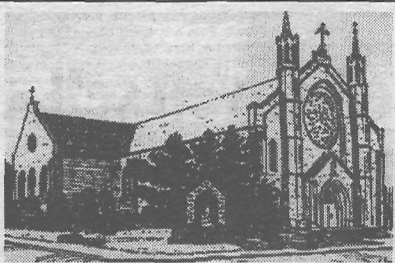
Weekdays 9:00 a.m. (church)

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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Obituaries

Mary Dolores Morgan, 85

Mary Dolores Morgan died on Monday, Jan. 4, in St. Joseph's Hospital, Paterson.

Born in Jersey City, she had resided in Linden for many years before moving to Clearwater, Fla. She and her husband returned to Linden before moving to South Plainfield five years ago.

Mrs. Morgan had been employed as a medical secretary for Dr. Robert Lewis of Elizabeth for five years. Previously, she had been employed by Dr. Mal Partido of Clearwater, Fla. She had also been employed as a legal secretary for the Ford Motor Company of Newark. Mrs. Morgan retired 20 years ago.

She was a member of Sacred Heart Church, 5th Ward Democratic Club and secretary of the Ceramic Club, both of Linden. Mrs. Morgan was an avid Yankee fan.

Her brother, George Gillen, died in 1998. Surviving are her husband, Richard E. Morgan; two daughters, Eileen Butler of South Plainfield, Mary D. Morgan of New York City; a son, Richard E. Jr. of Fresh Meadow, NY; and a sister, Gertrude Steinroeder of Ridge, NY. Also surviving are seven grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held in McCriskin Home For Funerals.

James Patrick (Pat) Bergen, 80

James Patrick (Pat) Bergen of South Plainfield died on Monday, Jan. 3, at his home.

He was born and raised in Plainfield and moved to South Plainfield 52 years ago.

Mr. Bergen was a supervisor of clerks for the Central Jersey Railroad which later became Conrail in Metuchen for 49½ years before retiring in 1984. He then worked at Peter Pan Pharmacy in South Plainfield as a delivery man.

He was a 1956 graduate of Rutgers University in New Brunswick with a BS in Education.

He was a Air Force veteran of WWII and the Korean War. He was a former member of the VFW Storr Ritchie Post 506 in North Plainfield where he served as treasurer and quartermaster and was a former member of the VFW Memorial Post 6763 in South Plainfield. He was a member of the Central Jersey Railroad Veterans and was currently on the board of directors. He was a member of the Friends of the South Plainfield Library and the AARP South Plainfield chapter. He was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church and a former member of the South Plainfield Rescue Squad.

He is survived by his wife, Natalie Ciccone Bergen; two daughters, Jean Tietjen of South Plainfield and Marie Reed of Holister, CA; four sons, Peter Bergen of Cloverdale Ca.; Thomas Bergen of South Plainfield, Patrick Bergen of Lucerne, CA. and Richard Bergen of Bordentown; and his grandchildren, Alison and Steve Tietjen and James Reed.

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

Memorial donations in his name can be made to the Friends of the Library, c/o South Plainfield Public Library, 2484 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Carole J. Kuchera, 60

Carole J. Kuchera died on Thursday, Jan. 6, in Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center, Plainfield.

Born in Newark, she had resided in Roselle Park and Perth Amboy before moving to South Plainfield 34 years ago.

Mrs. Kuchera was an office manager for Mandel Graphics in Piscataway for many years.

She was a member of Our Lady of Czestochowa Church.

Surviving are her husband, Robert C. Kuchera; a daughter, Diane L. Gualano of South Plainfield; a sister, Evelyn MacDonald of Roselle Park; two brothers, Paul and Robert Bongard, both of Roselle Park; and two grandchildren, Kristen and Christopher Gualano.

Funeral services were held in McCriskin Home For Funerals.

James J. Pellegrino, 88

James J. Pellegrino of South Plainfield, died on Saturday, Jan. 8, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

He was born in New York and has resided in South Plainfield for the last 83 years.

Mr. Pellegrino was a carpenter for Pellegrino's Better Built Homes in South Plainfield for 25 years. He then worked as a foreman for Alloy Fab in South Plainfield for 10 years before retiring in 1980.

He was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield and a member of the South Plainfield Senior Citizens. He was a member of the Windy Ridge Rod & Gun Club in Baptistown.

He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Ida Benicassa Pellegrino; two brothers, Thomas and Tony Pellegrino, both of South Plainfield; a sister, Mary Durnya of South River and many nieces and nephews.

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

He was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield and a member of the South Plainfield Senior Citizens.

He was a veteran of the US Navy, during WWII serving in the Sea Bees. He was a life member of the VFW Memorial Post 6763 in South Plainfield.

His wife, Mary Toth Greany, died in 1992.

He is survived by his daughter, Frances Greany of Bridgewater; two sisters, Helen White of Brewster, Mass. and Adele Widin of Watchung.

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

Elizabeth S. "Betty" Hunterton, 82

Elizabeth S. "Betty" Hunterton died on Saturday, Jan. 8 at the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

She was born in Stillwater, NJ and grew up in Newton. She had resided in Newark before moving to South Plainfield in 1949.

As a young girl, she had worked as a secretary for various employers. After moving to South Plainfield, she had worked for 18 years as a floor lady for the former Knickerbocker Toys Co. of Middlesex before her retirement in 1983.

She was a member of the Amalgamated Industrial Toy Novelty Union Local #223 of New York.

She was predeceased by her sisters, Minnie Dudgeon and Carne Chammings and by her brother, Andrew J. Kithcart.

Surviving are her husband of 53 years, Herbert Hunterton; a daughter, Patricia Cirigliano and her husband Tony of South Plainfield and by her step daughter, Peggy Canfield of Torrance, Cal.; a stepson, Herbert J. Hunterton of Sutherlin, Oregon and a daughter-in-law, Carol Hunterton of South Plainfield; nine grandchildren and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Henry John Kuligoski, 81

Henry John Kuligoski died on Monday, Jan. 10, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Bayonne, Mr. Kuligoski had resided there until he settled in South Plainfield 44 years ago.

He was a World War II veteran of the United States Army where he was inducted in 1943. He served with the 745th Tank Battalion, acting as tank commander. One of his most visible memo-

ries is one in 1945 where he directed a tank across perilous terrain in the vicinity of Somnorshof, Germany to an exposed vantage point and with accurate fire, neutralized a hostile emplacement. He also served in the Ardennes, Central Europe, Normandy, Northern France, and Rhineland Campaigns. He received a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star for his actions.

Mr. Kuligoski was employed by General Motors in Linden for 35 years as a materials coordinator before his retirement in 1975. He was a member of the United Auto Workers Local # 595 of Linden.

He was a communicant of Sacred Heart RC Church in South Plainfield, a member of the South Plainfield Veteran of Foreign Wars Memorial Post #6763 and a member of the National Council of Senior Citizens.

He is predeceased by his first wife, Harriet, who died in 1973; two sons, Robert who died in 1989 and Henry L., who died in 1993 and his brothers, William, Alfred, Raymond and Edward.

Surviving are his wife, Theresa (Chizmarik) Kuligoski; a daughter, Mary Ann Southard; a grandson and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Elizabeth Shallmann Reincke, 95

Elizabeth Shallmann Reincke of South Plainfield died on Monday, Jan. 10, at the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

She was born in Austria and came to the United States in 1909 settling in Union City. She was a former resident of Haverstraw, New York and Bogota before moving to South Plainfield 60 years ago.

Mrs. Reincke was a secretary and bookkeeper for the former Niagara Rubber Corp. in South Plainfield for 20 years before retiring in 1974.

She was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield and was a former president and secretary of Roosevelt School PTA in South Plainfield.

She was predeceased by her husband, Ernst P. Reincke, who died in 1955 and her daughter, Nancy Deppold, who died in 1981.

She is survived by a son, Rodney P. Reincke of Grapevine, Texas; a brother, Rollin Schallmann of Phoenix and six grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

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

Because We Care



by Robert Hunter

THE PEOPLE IN OUR LIVES

There can be no question that the influence exerted by some people on others lives beyond death. In this very important respect, people do indeed live on in the thoughts and deeds that they leave behind. As David Quammen once wrote: "People come into our lives and then they go out again. The extropy law, as applied to human relations. Sometimes in their passing, though, they register an unimagined and far-reaching influence There is no scientific way to discern such effects, but memory believes before knowing remem- bers. And the past lives coiled within the present, beyond sight, beyond revocation, lifting us up or weighing us down, sealed away - almost completely - behind walls of pearl."

When we think of stability, we tend to think of structures, versus such volatile things as people, yet, it is just those capricious beings who are responsible for the grand edifices that surround us. Just so, each of us carries memories that continue to exert their influence, long after their initiator has passed away. At the JAMES W. CONROY FUNERAL HOME, located at 2456 Plainfield Avenue in South Plainfield, we're committed to helping you to honor your loved ones. To learn about our wide range of services, including cremation services and financing, please call 756-2800.

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— Wendell Berry

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Thomas J. Greany, 89

Thomas J. Greany of Bridgewater, formerly of South Plainfield, died on Sunday, Jan. 9, at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

He was born in Jersey City and was a former 47 year resident of South Plainfield before moving to Bridgewater two years ago.

Mr. Greany was an engineer for Arlen Trophy in North Plainfield for 25 years before retiring in 1965.

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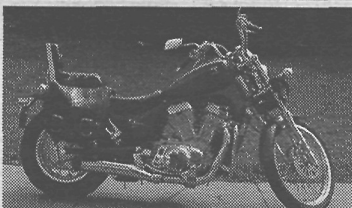
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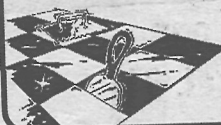
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POLICE REPORT

• South Plainfield Auto Salvage, Ryan St., reported an unknown suspect had climbed a fence to gain access and pried open the soda machine and removed the coin box.

• A construction worker at Abington Apartments, Durham Rd. sustained an injury when he fell approximately 25 feet from a make-shift wooden equipment carrier that was being raised by a forklift. The carrier had not been secured to the lift. South Plainfield Rescue Squad and police responded. The worker, who landed on his back, was transported to Robert Wood Johnson trauma unit by MERCY 6. OSHA noted that the construction company had been cited for a similar incident one month before. OSHA will conduct an investigation.

• An A&P bookkeeper reported a woman had cashed three bad checks with three different cashiers. When the manager approached her, she fled. An investigation turned up a woman whose credit cards and checks had recently been stolen from her place of employment. The woman's em-

ployer was able to provide a description that matched the woman who had used the checks.

• Rahway resident Crystal M. Goodwin reported her car had been keyed, the rear tire flattened and what appeared to be oil had been poured over the vehicle while she was parked at Bennigans. A similar incident had occurred at her place of employment. The victim believes the suspect may be her ex-boyfriend's girlfriend.

• A tenant residing in a New Market Ave. house reported an unwanted person had entered the premises. A former tenant, who allegedly gained entry by smashing the basement window and kicking out the bottom panel of the basement door, was leaving the premises when police arrived. He said he had returned for his property.

• First Class Shipping, Hamilton Blvd. reported someone had broken into a boarded up window in an overhead door at the rear of the building. The suspect entered the premises and ransacked the office. Removed were two computers, a printer, a fax and various disks.



This month's display at the library features a collection of over 30 photographs by longtime South Plainfield resident Ellis William. The photos span several decades and depict everything from his birthplace and boyhood home to the groundbreaking of the current high school. A number of the photos are aerial shots taken from a plane. Local photos are mixed in with scenic shots from various locations. Photos are numbered and correspond to an identifying list. The display includes a diploma, circa 1926, for a course in Advanced Handwriting. A number of photos are those of William's friend, Bill Tuthill. Williams, who taught science at SPSHS, was chairman of the Math/Science Area for 16 years. He retired in 1973 and now resides in North Plainfield. The display runs through January.

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Awards TV to
Contest Winner

Bagel Pantry located on Plainfield Ave. held a contest for a free TV on Christmas Day. Any customer who ordered bagels to be delivered to their house Christmas morning was entered into the contest to win the TV. Pictured are Bagel Pantry owner Munib presenting Lorie Winzenried with the color TV she won at their Christmas drawing. (She also had her bagels delivered on Christmas morning.)



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	31	1
2	3 Recreation Comm. Mtg 7 pm PAL	4 Board of Adjustment 8 pm	5 Business Advisory Group 5:30 pm Court 9:30 am	6 Taxpayers Advisory Group 8 pm	7 Publication of So. Plfd.Observer	8
9	10 Borough Council Agenda Mtg 8 pm	11 HS Boosters 7 p.m. High School Cafeteria Library Board 7:30 pm Planning Board Mtg 8 pm	12 Environmental Comm. 8 p.m. Cultural Arts Comm. 8 pm Court 9:30 am & 7 pm	13 Borough Council Mtg 8 pm	14 Publication of So. Plfd.Observer	15
16	17 Land Management Advisory Comm. 7:30 pm	18 Board of Adjustment 8 pm Board of Health 7:30 p.m.	19 Court 9:30 am & 7 pm	20 Republican Comm. Mtg. 7:30 p.m. American Legion on Oak Tree Rd.	21 Publication of So. Plfd.Observer	22
23	24 Borough Council Agenda Mtg 8 pm	25 Planning Board Mtg 8 pm Recycling Comm. 8 pm	26 Traffic Safety Adv Comm. 7 pm Court 9:30 am & 7 pm	27 Borough Council Meeting 8 pm Recycling Commission meeting 8 pm	28 Publication of So. Plfd.Observer	29

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