

VOL. 3, NO. 22

50 CENTS

FEBRUARY 4, 2000



Franklin School D.A.R.E. winners are: from Mrs. Donahue's Class-Gina Butrico, essay and Tianna Ward, poster. From Mr. Orfan's class-Danny McCreesh, essay and Kyle Corrado, poster. From Mrs. Rogers, class-Crystal Ghanam, essay and poster. Also pictured are D.A.R.E. officers Joe Papa (L) and Alan LaMonda (R).



Kennedy School D.A.R.E. winners are from Mrs. Sosnak's Class-Donna Garcia, essay and Rohanda Sharbash, poster. From Mr. Miller's Class-Lauren Fry, essay and poster. From Mr. Montimuro's Class-Ashleigh Gaspari, essay and Dana Cacciatore, poster.



Bond Referendum Information Meeting Draws Small Crowd

A special meeting addressing the \$22.6 million school bond referendum was attended by only about 30 residents last week. The lack of attendance might be attributed to the cold weather and recent snow storm. Those residents who did attend the informational meeting had many questions, suggestions and opinions about the referendum.

Last December, voters turned down a similar school referendum. The revised referendum on the March ballot again includes plans for construction of a new Roosevelt school, upgrades in technology infrastructure as well as electrical upgrades at the other schools, a new track and a boiler for the Middle School.

In the new referendum, the administrative offices will not be moving into the current Roosevelt School. Instead, the \$500,000 earmarked for the renovations at Roosevelt will be added to the cost for a new structure, at a total cost of \$900,000. The Board feels that due to increased enrollment on the south side of the borough, it will be necessary to maintain the present Roosevelt for additional students.

Meetings are planned for parents, voters and board members to discuss issues regarding the referendum. An effort to encourage the registration of additional voters is also underway.

Board President Doris Haley urged anyone who would like to meet with board members to call the administrative office and set up a meeting. Getting the word

Information Center Opens For Referendum Questions

word out to each and every parent, as well as to all residents, South Plainfield Board of Education members are advising anyone seeking information about the upcoming referendum to contact them to questions.

In addition to their willingness to meet and talk with parents, the board has opened an information center at the Administration Building on

out is imperative in getting voters to come to the polls.

The only losers in this election will be the children," said Haley. Other board members agreed that the decision is up to the voters-vote 'yes' on the referendum or accept the alternative.

Enrollment in local schools continues to rise and the board is seeking ways to meet these needs. One alternative might be split session; busing is another option. The board also plans to redraw the school boundaries in the near future.

Frank Mikorski said school enrollment in 1994-1995 was 3,189; in 1999 it's 3,599 and on the rise. He added that recent construction of apartments on Durham Ave., along with future construction of Copolla Farms

In an effort to get out the Cromwell Place. The information center opened on Feb. 1. Someone is always available between the hours of 2-5 p.m. at the information center to answer questions.

Board members want everyone in the school district to set up a meeting and answer understand how important this referendum is to the students. If this referendum doesn't pass, contingency plans call for busing children to other schools or putting the children on half-day sessions.

> townhouses, will surely push school capacity to their limits.

> Board of Education members and Roosevelt Principal Mario Barbiere attempted to answer residents' questions and encouraged each person present at the meeting to go out and talk to 20 more people to get the word out.

> They said that technology infrastructure upgrades in the other schools are needed because current wiring is outdated.

> Dawn Jeffreys said it was important to include all the schools in the electrical upgrades. She rejected the idea of updating just one school per year, saying it would take years to finish and today's students will have graduated by the time the changes were made to all the schools. She Continued on page 2

Riley School D.A.R.E. winners are: from Mrs. Elster's Class-Ryan Bovee, essay and Megan Boyle, poster. From Mrs. Gaffney's Class-Michael George, essay and Chris Stallone, poster. From Miss Matticola's Class-Michael Stallone, essay and Ryan Egan, poster.

NOTE: See centerfold for additional photos of D.A.R.E graduates. Roosevelt and Sacred Heart schools D.A.R.E. graduations were rescheduled due to the inclement weather and will be reported in the Observer.

Sacred Heart 8th grader Christina Latonio

VFW Essay Contest Awards

Due to a computer malfunction in last week's issue, the photo of Sacred Heart Eighth Grader Christina Latorio, first place winner from her school in the VFW's annual Voice of Democracy Contest, was not pictured. Christina also placed second in the District Competition Finals.

We apologize to Christina.

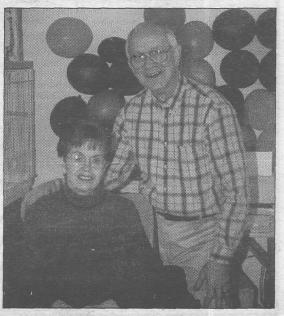
Gauls are Leaving Services Plus

South Plainfield will be saying "good-bye and good luck" to Faith and Tom Gaul, owners of Services Plus located on South Plainfield Ave. The Gauls were forced to sell the business they love because of health problems. However, Services Plus will remain open with a new owner, South Plainfield resident Brenda DeSantis. DeSantis "officially" took over ownership of the shop on Jan. 30.

Tom and Faith have owned Services Plus for over seven years. The store was known for its friendly service and small town atmosphere. The Gaul's were one of the earliest supporters of the Observer. They advertised in our first issue and have supported us ever since.

Faith is a retired South Plainfield teacher. Tom was an independent sales rep for a shipping and packing company before opening the store.

Tom said he is grateful for all the friends he and Faith have made through their store and they will miss the daily communications.



- Photo by William Tuthill

Faith and Tom Gaul of Services Plus

South Plainfield Observer

In My Opinion

.2.

Letters

February 4, 2000

Vets Offer Welcomed **By School Principals**

Dear Mr. Poczak:

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of our students at South Plainfield High School. The Voice of Democracy essay competition provides a valuable learning opportunity for our students. That competitive learning opportunity and the generous monetary rewards for first, second, and third place certainly enrich the total school experience.

During the course of the awards ceremony, there was discussion and an offer concerning the willingness of veterans to speak in our history classes. That is an extremely generous offer which, on behalf of our students and teachers, I gratefully accept. Please call me directly at (908) 754-4620. Ext. 249 so we can work out the details.

Rudy, please extend my appreciation to your membership and the membership of the auxiliary. Again, my thanks for what your members have done for our way of life - and are currently doing for our students at South Plainfield High School.

SINCERELY, **ANTHONY F. MASSARO SPHS PRINCIPAL**

Mark Your Calendars

BOROUGH MEETING DATES

Council Meetings

AGENDA MEETINGS	PUBLIC MEETINGS
Monday, February 7	Thursday, February 10
Tuesday, February 22	Thursday, February 24
Monday, March 6	Thursday, March 9
Monday, March 20	Thursday, March 23
Monday, April 10	Thursday, April 13
Monday, April 24	Thursday, April 27
Monday, May 8	Thursday, May 11

Planning Board

Second and fourth Tuesday of the month, as follows:

February 8, February 22 (No Meeting) March 14, March 28, April 11, April 25, May 9, May 23 June 13, June 27, July 11, July 25, August 8, August 22 September 12, September 26, October 10 (No Meeting) October 24 November 14, November 28, December 12, December 26

Zoning Board of Adjustment

First, third and fourth Tuesday of the month, as follows: February 15, February 29

March 7, March 21, April 4, April 18, May 2, May 16, May 30 June 6, June 20, July 4 (No Meeting), July 18 August 1, August 15, August 29, September 5, September 19 October 3, October 17, October 31, November 8 (Thursday,) November 21, December 5, December 19

Site Place Sub-Committee

The fourth Thursday of the month as follows:

February 24, March 23, April 27, May 25 June 22, July 27, August 24, September 28, October 26 November (No Meeting) December (No Meeting)

Log on to southplainfieldnj.com for the latest meeting agenda.



WAYNE GRENNIER Associate Publisher SUSAN KANEPS Art Director/Associate Editor PATRICIA ABBOTT Staff Writer **CAROL GRENNIER**

To The Editor:

On Friday, Jan. 21, the South Plainfield VFW hosted a dinner for winners of an essay contest which centered on the theme of honoring our country's veterans. Students, parents, teachers and relatives were present as coordinator Rudy Poczak presented cash prizes to the winners from the high school, middle school and Sacred Heart School. In addition, each of the first place winners read his/her essay aloud.

The respective principals from each school also made some brief remarks. Anthony Massaro, South Plainfield High School Principal, made a significant point when he said that those of us who were in attendance should have been the ones giving certificates and recognition to the veterans, not the other way around. Moreover, Mr. Massaro invited the members of the VFW to visit the high school, assuring them that he would personally make all necessary arrangements.

I wish to echo that invitation. Veterans, you are welcome to speak, to our students. We would be honored to have you do so. I know that our students and staff would benefit greatly from anything you could share regarding the many contributions of veter-

Continued from page 1

school seniors.

Recycling

Birthday,

was also against the idea of re-

locating eighth grade Middle

School students to the high

school, making it a five-year

high school. She feels eighth

grade students are much too

young attend school with high

voters that they were elected to

Board members reminded

ans to American society, not the least of which is our very freedom.

My congratulations to middle school essay winners Cassandra D'Urso, first place; Timothy Barkalow, second place and Adam Bianchi, third place.

Finally, I wish to thank the teachers who were in attendance. These include the following: Marianrie Decker, Barbara Hepburn, Barbara Florio, Linda Schwebel, Linda Sausville, and Robert Hoesly.

SINCERELY, **ROBERT. DOGGETT. MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**

Vote 'Yes' on School **Bond Referendum**

Dear Editor,

Bond Referendum Meeting

Draws Small Crowd

My husband and I are the parents of two children who attend Kennedy School. I am also a former Kennedy School student and South Plainfield High School graduate.

We have been attending the special board meetings regarding the additional space needed for our current and anticipated new students. We fully support this referendum. South Plainfield has a lot to offer, our family is very happy here. However,

port by voting 'yes' on the bond

The board will hold another

special meeting to discuss the

referendum on Thursday, Feb.

10 at 7 p.m. In the meantime,

anyone with questions should call

or come to the business office

located on Cromwell Place,

Monday through Friday, be-

tween the hours of 2 and 5 p.m.

referendum on March 15.

ing in our schools. We feel this referendum is the first step in making our school system more competitive. The referendum has a lot of positives: our class sizes will stay at a minimum (for maximum education); more computers with the latest technology (obviously important in today's society); continued strong real-estate value (people look for a good school system when looking for a place to live).

one thing that is of concern to

us is the potential overcrowd-

The longer we wait, the higher the taxpayer cost will be and the quality of education will decrease due to overcrowding. There is even a possibility for split sessions in the future (which would be a nightmare for those families with both parents working). Let's also remember that the current teachers' negotiations have nothing to do with our town needing an additional school.

We are urging all parents and residents to get out and vote 'Yes' for the bond referendum on March 14. If you are not a registered voter, voter registration forms can be picked up at Borough Hall. For the cost of less than two pizzas a month we could give our children and our town what they deserve - a school system we can all be proud of. After all, what's more important than our children's education??

SINCERELY, JOHN AND KATHI QUAIL

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.



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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in South Plainfield Observer:

Type (double spaced) the article you wish published. Mail, fax or drop it at: Editorial Department South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NU 07080 or drop it in the box at Mohn's Flowers on Plainfield Autor Exists in Nu 57085 for the structure of (000) 6469 8900 ere area 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 nu nber.

President's Day

Center Closed

for Lincoln's

The South Plainfield Recycling Center on Kenneth Ave. will be closed on Friday, Feb. 11, which is a Borough holiday in honor of Lincoln's Birthday. The Recycling Center will also be closed on Feb. 22 because of the Presidents' Day holiday.

Recycling will be open instead on Wednesday, Feb. 23, from 12-7 p.m.

The Recycling Center and the Yard Waste Site will both be open every Saturday from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. in February. Feb.15 will be paint recycling day.

Regular winter hours at the Recycling Center are: Tuesdays noon-7 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays 8 a.m.-3 p.m. and at the Yard Waste Site are: Saturdays 8 a.m.-3 p.m. For updates, call the Recycling Hotline: (908) 226-7620.

February 4, 2000

South Plainfield Observer •

Borough Notes

Council Notes

The borough will enter into an agreement with Middlesex County for the improvement of Hamilton Blvd. from Schevchenko Ave. to New Market Ave. The cost to the borough will be limited to the acquisition of any required right-of-way, right-of-entries, construction of new sidewalks requested by the borough and any changes to the project design requested by the borough.

The mayor, police chief, financial officer and municipal clerk have been authorized to make an application for the 2000/2001SFY Safe and Secure Communities Program funded by the State of New Jersey. This state grant provides funding for a crime prevention and community oriented policing unit in the police department. The total cost of the program is \$171,460, of which the grant funds \$60,000.

Timothy Morgan has resigned from the Land Management Advisory Committee and will be appointed to the Board of Adjustment to fill the vacancy by resigning member William Nagy.

Frank Walko has resigned from the Land Management Advisory Committee.

Cynthia Ockay will serve as an Alternate Deputy Local Registrar of Vital Statistics. This appointment was made by the local registrar to provide services when necessary or during the absences of the Local or Deputy Registrar.

Planning Board

The Planning Board appointed CME Associates as outside engineer and THP, Inc. as Planning Board Planner.

The Board appointed John Jorgensen, Esq. as Planning Board Attorney.

Battle of the Classes Set for Friday

The South Plainfield Middle School will hold the annual 'Battle of the Classes' on Friday, Feb. 4, 7 p.m. in the Middle School gym.

Each class will have three representatives and an alternate. The teams engage in competition against each other as well as the clock. The battle is a fundraiser for the seven-year-old Tiger Gold program. Tiger Gold rewards positive behavior.

Certificates are given to stu-

dents who exhibit kindness, cooperation, school spirit and general civility. The certificates can be turned in for various prizes. Staff members can give a Tiger Gold certificate to students who are "caught being good."

The 'Battle of the Classes' and Tiger Gold were brought to the Middle School by Principal Robert Doggett. Tickets are \$2 for spectators and \$1 for senior citizens and are available at the door. Refreshments will be sold.

Blood Donors Needed

and Kristina Latonio sang the post communion song.

The American Red Cross (ARC) is the largest humanitarian organization in the United States. Blood services is one of ARC missions. To accomplish this mission of providing a safe and adequate supply of blood to all those in need the ARC has partnered with New Jersey Blood Services.

Due to an alarmingly low blood inventory, The American Red Cross is making an emergency appeal to all donors and the general public to become a donor. The current shortage is due to the winter season and the flu epidemic.

To qualify to give blood, a donor must be over 17, (in NJ parent's permission is required), weigh a minimum of 110 pounds and be in general good health.

For information, please call (908) 353- 2500 or (732) 220-7000.

· Feb. 14 at Knights of Columbus in Dunellen, 3-8:30 p.m.

• Feb. 22 at Dunnellen High School, First St. and Lincoln, Dunellen, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

• Feb. 26 the South Plainfield Girl Scouts will sponsor a blood drive at Sacred Heart Church on South Plainfield Ave., from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

New Billboard Ordinance Introduced

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The council introduced a new ordinance concerning billboards at last week's meeting.

The ordinance will allow only signage (billboards) or advertisements that related soley to the business or profession conducted on that property.

Last year the council introduced an ordinance to regulate billboards along Rt 287. There was tremendous opposition to the ordinance, especially by environmental groups.

The council tabled the ordinance and appointed a board to work together on writing a billboard ordinance. The committee came up with the proposed ordinance.

The ordinance is scheduled for a vote on Feb. 24 and a public hearing will be held at that time.

BOE Meeting Rescheduled

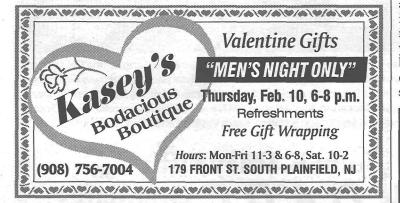
Please be advised that the Special Public Meeting originally scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 3, to discuss the building program has been rescheduled for Thursday, Feb. 10, at 7 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administration Building on Cromwell Place.

Please Note: The Singing Valentines will be performing their songs on Monday, Feb. 14, not Friday, Feb. 12 as advertised. Please call to make your reservations by Friday, Feb. 11 by noon.

Michael's Kitchen Opening Supper Club at the Elks

The South Plainfield Elks are pleased to open Michael's Kitchen, serving the South Plainfield Elks Supper Club on Saturdays from 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. The menu features choices of appetizers, entrees and assorted cheesecakes for dessert. A quick call to Michael at 732-287-4363 or John Muller at 908-822-0687 will get you the upcoming offerings for Saturday's dining.

Call now and ask about Michael's "Sweetheart Deal" for Valentine's Dinner on Saturday, Feb. 12, for an all-inclusive \$19.95! There will be roses for all the ladies, a special and exciting Valentine's menu, but seating is limited. So call early save a place for yourself and someone special. The bar opens from 6 to 9 p.m. Reservations and tickets are required in advance. See you there!



February is National Pet Dental Health Month

Perhaps one of the most neglected items of dog and cat general health care and maintenance is care of the teeth-dentistry.

Veterinarians are frequently asked why a pet has such a foul odor emanating from its mouth. In almost all cases, an oral examination reveals dental problems.

After a pet is a few years of age, tartar begins to accumulate and build up at the junction of its gums and teeth. If this tartar is not periodically removed by your veterinarian, it increases, becoming heavier and heavier, eventually undermining the tissue and causing receding gums.

1. YS

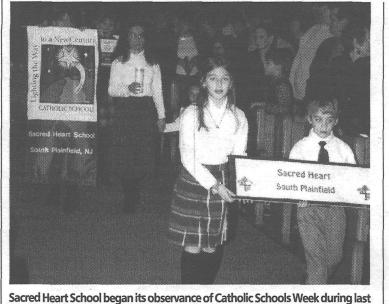
Pets Need

The area then becomes an excellent medium for inflammation and bacterial infection, which of course, causes the foul odor as well as a constant unsavory taste. If not attended to, severe gum infections, abscessed teeth and cheek ulcers may soon develop.

As a concerned pet owner, be aware that chronic infections of the teeth and gums can result in the same complicating problems in dogs and cats as in human beings. These include diseases of the liver, kidney and the heart, as well as contributing to the development of arthritis and other

hibit dental problems more frequently and much earlier in life than do the larger breeds. Cats also produce dental tartar and subsequent gingivitis. Felines appear to have more sensitive gums than dogs and as a result of poor dental conditions, will stop eating, show weight loss and nutritional disturbances.

As in people, pets require periodic teeth cleaning. Preventive medicine is always better than treating a resultant infection. It is strongly recommended that dentistry become an essential part of your pet's total health care plan with periodic examination



Sunday's 9:30 mass. Parents, faculty members and staff of Sacred Heart School,

along with students and parishioners, participated. The mass was celebrated by

Rev. John Primich, associate pastor of Sacred Heart. The school's principal, Sister

Cornelia Ramirez, RVM, provided the introduction to the Catholic Schools Week

liturgy. Gerianna Pinto and Joseph Landry carried the school banner. Parents

Babette Lipnick and Marian Reilly did the readings, and students Calvin John

Smiley and Marisa Palma read the responsorial psalm. Carol Ray, Gail DelNegro

and Shirley Abel brought the gifts to the altar. The Sacred Heart Children's

Choir, under the direction of Sister Josie Tanudtanud, RVM, led the singing.

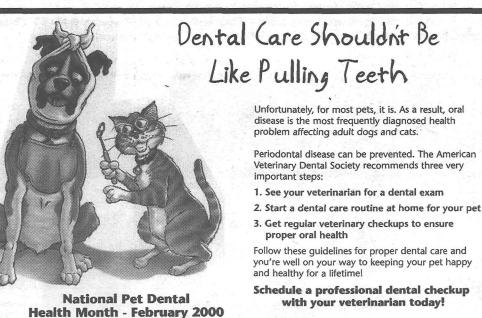
Elix Colon, soloist, sang the responsorial psalm. Juliet Fryszczyn, Philip Campos

Fr. John invites you to worship with him at

Our Lady of Czestochowa R.C. Church

> 807 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield

Masses Daily at 8 AM Saturday evenings 5:30 PM Sunday mornings 8:00 and 11:00 am functional disturbances. Miniature and toy breeds ex- of the teeth and gums.

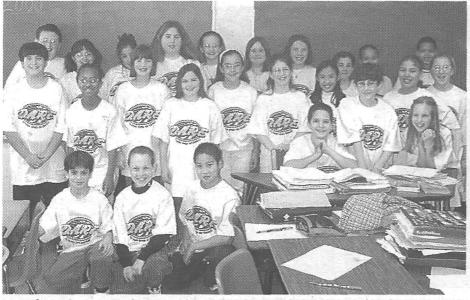


Plainfield Animal Hospital, PC 2201 Park Avenue . So. Plainfield, NJ 07080 908-755-2428

ed by the American Veterinary Medical Association, American Veterinary Dental Society and Hill's Pet Nutrition, Inc

www.petdental.com

February 4, 2000



Mr. Orfan's Class—Irvin Abrego, Amber Berkowitz, Brandee Brown, Dorothy Cameron, Kyle Corrado, Desirae Davis, Nicholas DeSimone, Jessica Hill, Cassandra Hoffman, Nicholas Hogan, Sara Holbrook, Trucly Huynh, Joseph Lammi, Hannah Levine, Kimberly Marin, Daniel McCreesh, Sara Margotta, Erin McGill, Valerie Moreno, Tabatha Mosher, Jessica Pryor, Matthew Ramos, Carly Ross, Ceaphas Stubbs, Toan Tran, Sean Walsh and Ashley Woodel.

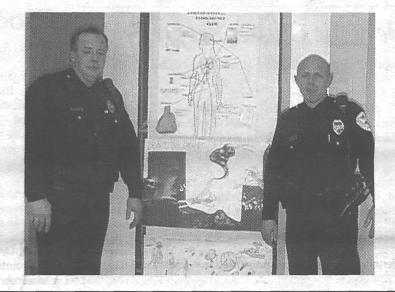


Mrs. Roger's Class—Paige Berkowtiz, Sarah Brooks, Chistopher Burke, Katelyn Conrad, Ryan Curtis, Harrison Donahue, Kelly Downes, Matthew Emery, Jerold Geczy, Robert Gentile, Crystal Ghanem, Nicholas Giannakis, Amber Hartman, Steven Joaquim, Ronald Loyo, Amanda Makowski, Susan Mott, Mike Nguyen, Jennifer Okuszki, Marjorie Restrepo, James Rivas, Jessica Ross, Amanda Sailb, Esmeralda Silvonek, Cherise Turner.



Mrs. Donahue's Class – William Ashnault, Gina Butrico, Angela Carney, Melissa Carryl, Anthony Cassano, Jack Duong, Angela Furka, Raul Garcia, Kelly Tovannai, Taylor Mandel, Carrie Moore, Ashley Mosher, Gabrielle Nilla, Lelosa Ogbroen, Tara O'Keefe, Victoria Plasse, Lauren Primavera, Thomas Pryor, Kate Reichert, Colin Slattery, Lauren Stoeckel, Anthony Valle, Tianna Ward, Brittanie Wong, Alyssa Woodel, Eric Gonzalez.

Franklin School Fifth Grade D.A.R.E. Graduates





Mrs. Elster's Class—Kimberly Barletta, Stephanie Bartfalvi, Samanth Bowser, Megan Boyle, Ryan Bovee, Jesse Butynski, Jeffrey Cianfrocca, Lauren DiFrancesco, Alexandra Fodor, Frank Fugazzi, Michael George, Carolina Guardado, Jennifer Herrera, Fred Hooks, Jason Joy, Benjamin



Mrs. Gaffney's Class— Julianne Bosse, Derika Catalano, Louis DeLosSantos, Tina DeStefano, Mathew Doell, Jessica Flood-Crisitello, Melissa Franzson, Michael George, Matthew Gigantino, Matthew Krupit, Christine Lanza, Jennifer Little, Samuel Martin, Nicole Mathew, Kyle Mathews, Robert Mathis, Jennifer Mocerino, Krista Natale, Phi Nguyen, Justin Panzarella, Nicole Scott,

Milcarek, Roxana Morilla, Travis Noll, Leslie Quichua, Stephen Parello, Kelly Piwowar, Heather Prokopiak, Tabitha Ramnath, Jessica Rousseau, Michael Troia and Lauren Vanderhelm.



Miss Matticola's Class (pictured left)–Ryan Egan, Karla Dubon, Stephanie Falzarano, Ryan Fredericks, Nicole Freitas, Kimberly Galinsky, Crystal Gorman, Mathew Gross, Ronald Guancione, Meghan Hartmann, Allison Harty, Nicholas Haupt, Christopher Herbster, Stephanie Holowka, Lalchan Jainarine, Ryan Kamen, Ashley Little, Kyle Lykes, Nicole Miglis, Sherif Moharem, Katheryn Noonan, Robert Parillo, Karla Reyes, David Sangster, Maria Soto, Michael Stallone, Geovana Toca and Lina Toca. Christopher Stallone, Gary Stark, John Sullivan, Jessica Vasquez and Brian Wieckowski.

John E. Riley Fifth Grade **D.A.R.E.** Graduates

Three grade schools held Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) graduations last week. Due to the inclement weather Roosevelt and Sacred Heart graduations were postponed. These ceremonies honor students who have completed the 17-week course taught by Officers Joe Papa and Allen Lamonda. The D.A.R.E. program helps students who are entering their teenage years to make the right choices.

The ceremonies were attended by Police Chief Steven Merkler and members of both the Board of Education and the Borough Council as well as parents.

At the end of the course, students submit an essay and a poster. Officers Papa and Lamonda have the honor of declaring a winner for best essays and posters from each class. A medal and calculator were presented to the poster winners and Darren The Lion was given to each essay winner. Winners read their essays at the ceremonies and the winning posters were on display. Officer Papa said each year it gets harder to chose the winners, since they all entries portray unique messages.

Upon completion of the course, each student receives a D.A.R.E. tee shirt, a hat and a certificate. The tee shirts, hats and awards were donated by the South Plainfield Alliance for Substance Awareness (SPASA).

South Plainfield Observer





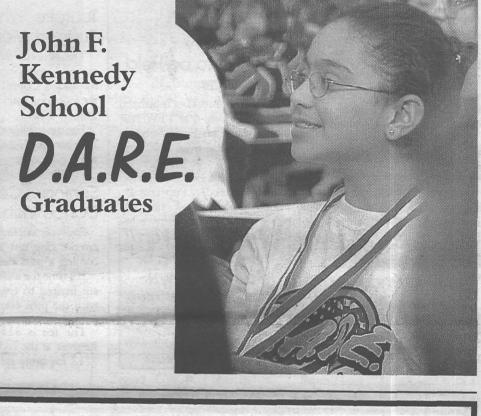
Mr. Montermurro's Class—Quran Ali, Dorian Bishop, Dana Cacciatore, Matthew Fabino, Ashleigh Gaspari, Katie Hardy, Amanda Harzula, Britney Hollaway, Rebecca Keller, Devin Kile, Kory McGovern, Chintan Mody, Sonali Patel, Justin Pauls, Jessica Ranger, Kyla Rouse, Joseph Scarpitto, Lori Sepkowski, Steven Tran, An Vo.



Mr. Miller's class—David Alston, Jake Bayak, Daniel Becker, Stephanie Brizak, Kristina Cursi, Jenna DeLillo, Kathleen Eder, Lauren Fry, Garrett Gianneschi, Samantha Granski, Stephanie Hansen, Barney Johnson, Maxwell Johnston, Gauri Joshi, John Lopez, Jaliz Marrero, Joy Maszczak, Jacquelyn Miller, Ryan Miller, Brittney O'Brien, Elizabeth Pisack, Tiffany Roth.



Carlson, Jennifer Copeland, Samantha Corveleyn, Kathryn D'Aleo, Stephen Dvorak, Anthony Ettore, Donna Garcia, Jennifer Garzon, Charles Loiacono, Philip Luzny, Stephanie Mazurak, Tricia Merryman, Sampson Nguyen, Nicholas Pasquale, Selene Rayho, Kimberly Russell, Rohanda Sharbash, Alexandra Viscosi, Timothy Williams.





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(Benefits South Plainfield United Way)

Two songs by a quartet at your Valentine's location* AND candy, a flower and a picture for \$50 on Monday, February 14 - - By appointment only

Call for your quartet appointment today at: (908) 753-2200; ask for Marge



Please make your reservation by Friday, Feb. 11-12 Noon

Be

ine

*within the South Plainfield area

February 4, 2000

AROUND TOWN

EVENTS

Juniorettes Sponsoring Prom **Fashion Show**

The South Plainfield Juniorettes invite you to enjoy an entertaining evening while supporting Project Graduation. The Juniorettes, a community service organization, will sponsor a prom fashion show, Now and Forever on Friday, March 3, 2000 at 7 p.m. at the South Plainfield High School.

All proceeds will benefit Project Graduation. Formal wear fashions from Bezee's and Ducoffs Formal Wear will be featured at in the show. The opening act is Neworld. Music will be provided by DJ Breeze & DJ Cream. Tickets are \$5 for students and senior citizens and \$7 for adults. Tickets may be purchased in advance or at the door.

Chinese Auction at **Roosevelt School**

Roosevelt School PTA will be holding a Chinese Auction on Feb. 4 at the VFW Post 6763 on Front Street.

Rec Sponsors Trip to "The King and

The Recreation whyt, is spon-soring a trip to the New Jersey Performing this Center to see "The King and F" on Thursday, March 29. Senior Citizens only.

Bus leaves at 12 noon from the PAL. The cost is \$25 per per-668-9751. son. Sign up at the PAL Build-

ing on Maple Ave. **Rescue Squad Auxiliary Plans**

Evening at Races The South Plainfield Rescue Squad will hold an "Evening at the Races" on Saturday, Feb. 26, at 7:30 p.m. at the Arbor Firehouse in Piscataway.

The event is a fundraiser for the rescue squad.

For information, call 732-393-1887 or 908-757-7399.

VFW Country Breakfast to be Held on Sunday

A Country Breakfast is planned for Sunday, Feb. 6 at VFW Post 6763 located on Front Street in South Plainfield from 8:00 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Donation is \$4.00. The breakfast is sponsored by Pup Tent 41, Military Order of the Cootie. For

Spread the Word! Submit your events for AROUND TOWN

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.

further information, call (908)

Recreation Plans Ski Trip to Montage

The Recreation Department invites you to ski Montage on Monday, Feb. 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 Feb. 14.

Tourette Syndrome Support Meeting

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

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

Seniors - Come Dance With the Pros

Are you starting to feel your arteries clog up? Your waist becoming a past memory?

It's time for a change. Seniors, are invited to come and dance with the pros every Wednesday, 1:15 to 2:15 p.m

The fee is \$15 per person. Register at the PAL, or call 226-7713 for more information.

Health Care Management at Towson State University in Maryland. She is assistant to the C.E.O. of Sands Brothers and Co. LTD in New York City. Her fiance is a graduate of St. Joseph's High School in Metuchen and Monmouth Uni-

MILESTONES

Datz and Hnatiuk to Wed

versity in West Long Branch. David holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in TV Broadcasting. He is a music supervisor and music features producer for Fox News



David Hnatiuk and Danielle Datz

in New York City and recently received Emmy Awards honors for his musical contributions to ABC TV's All My Children for 1999.

The couple plan a November, 2000 wedding.

From the South Plainfield Library Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Engagement

Linda and Theodore Rakowski of Holdan, Pa. and Alan and Alyson Datz of South Hampton,

Pa., announce the engagement

of their daughter, Danielle Beth

Datz, to David Jason Hnatiuk,

son of Mary Ellen and Gregory

The future bride, a graduate

of Council Rock High School

in Newtown, Pa., earned a

Bachelor of Science Degree in

Hnatiuk of South Plainfield.

If you can take a moment's break from digging out from the last snowstorm, here's news from the South Plainfield Library:

The Library Roard of T ees will meet on Tuesday night at 7:30. Members of the public are invited to attend this informative meeting.

Next week, we'll have only two of our usual three children's Storytime programs. They'll be held on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. They're for children ages three and up. The Wednesday Storytime has been replaced by a special program featuring puppeteer Dayle Friedman. She'll be at the Library at 6:30 p.m.; the program will feature puppets, songs and audience participation. In order to have a good idea about attendance, we'd like kids to register in advance. If you'd like more information, talk to Children's Librarian Linda Hansen.

The Library will be closed next Friday, Saturday and Sunday (Feb. 11, 12, and 13) in observance of Lincoln's Birthday. Be sure to take this into account if you're borrowing videos, CD's, etc. If you need to renew items when we're closed, call our Elvis system at (908) 757-3280. Now, let's turn to adult programs. Our Basic Internet class, scheduled for last week, got called on account of snow. It's been rescheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 22, at 7:30 p.m. We'd like people who signed up the first time around to give us a call at (908) 754-7885 to confirm their availability for the new date. We've also got another program coming up. We'll host a Black History program on Sunday, Feb. 27. More details on that ASAP. Ask, and ye shall receive. In response to patron requests, we've added some word processing computers. Specifically, we have three terminals, one

Mac and two IBM's. The Macintosh and one IBM also handle spreadsheets. Patrons may use their own floppy discs; printouts are 10 cents a page. One advisory: these computers may take a few moments to warm up, boot up and keep with your typing speed. After that, they'll work OK. If you'd like to use a computer, ask at the Circulation desk.

We've just added a whole bunch of new videos to our collection. In our adult section, we've now got both Austin Powers" movies, four movies with Cary Grant (His Girl Friday, North by Northwest, Holiday and I was a Male War Bride), Bride of Frankenstein, The Thin Red Line and several episodes of Monty Python's Flying Circus. The nonfiction section now includes documentaries about Paul Robeson Norman and Rockwell, a tape on Tai Chi, and "The Adventures of the Library Cat". Our new juvenile videos include Prince of Egypt, Lassie Come Home, Inspector Gadget, Muppets from Space, The Iron Giant and Passport to Paris, with Mary Kate and Ashley Olsen. And if that wasn't enough, we've got the Video Circuit group for February in place. Titles this month include You've Got Mail, Lady and the Tramp, Scream, The Spy Who Came in From the Cold and Happy Gilmore. This group will be available until Feb. 23. Videos can be borrowed, four at a time, for two days. That's about all for this issue. Thanks for reading. And now let's get ready for the next snowstorm.

Tell your love the secrets of your heart. Shout it, whisper it, write it....

Just tell your....

...Best Friend... Kids... Girlfriend... Husband... Sweetheart... Mom... Boyfriend ... Secret Admirer ... Grandkids ... "You're my ...

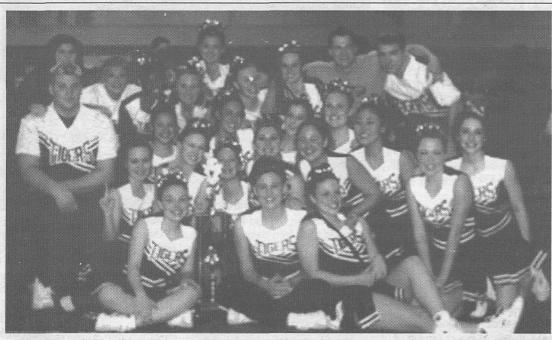
In a special Observer alentine's Day

We will publish your Valentine's Day message in the Feb. 11 issue for \$10. Say it in 20 words or less and we'll enclose it in Valentine's Day border. Deadline: Feb. 7, noon.

Mail, fax, or email your ad to South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080; fax 908-668-8819; email ggnan@aol.



Sports



The South Plainfield High School Competition Cheerleading squad poses for a photo after winning the First Place Trophy in their first competition this year. The event was held in Jackson, NJ. The squad competed against five other teams. The squad is under the direction of coaches Larson and Roudi. The squad's members are as follows: Dave Freidland, Kristen Turner, Brielle Anderson, Kristin Anderson, Jessie Spayder, Theresa Vitelli, Daniel Czaplinski, John Tempe, Jen Butrico, Veronica Zappi, Lacey Walter, Kim Waton, Tina Santoro, Kellee Werrlein, Jennifer "JenRen" Reynolds, Kristyn Ciarlariello, Erica Levendusky, Jill Stokes, Kelly Doerr, Gina D'Urso, Adina Ramos, Lorrianne Waton, Jen Infante and Annette Papa.

WRESTLING – Middle School

Middle School Wrestlers Take Two Matches

The South Plainfield Middle School Wrestling team tacked on two more victories last week with wins over Delaware Valley and Voorhees.

In what was certainly the most entertaining and closest scoring match of the year, the Middle School team defeated a very determined Del-Valley team 33-30. After falling behind 27-9, South Plainfield's upper weight wrestlers took control and outscored Delaware Valley 24-3.

Leading the way for the Middle School were Jimmy Conroy, Danny DeAndrea, Kyle Bostick, Kevin Crilley, Guy Severini, Joe DeBiase and Frank Demarest.

In the second match of the day the Middle School team defeated an equally determined Voorhees team by a score of 37-22. Once again, after falling behind early, the middle school team rallied behind its upper weights take control of the match. Leading the way for the Middle School was Danny Bayak, Danny DeAndrea, Kyle Bostick, Rob Mastickle, Guy Severini, Joe DeBiase and Frank Denwest.

T-Ball /Teener Ball Registration Underway

Registration is open to all South Plainfield resident boys and girls in grades K-2 for both T-Ball and Teener Ball.

T-Ball is open to children who were five as of Oct. 1, 1999; Teener Ball is open to children who were 6-7 as of Oct. 1, 1999. Birth certificates are required for registrants who have not participated in a recreation-sponsored Youth League in the past year.

Teener Ball has two divisions, girls play softball and boys play baseball. The fee is \$15 per participant before April 3, 2000 and \$20 after that date.

Register in the PAL Build-

WRESTLING – Recreation

Junior Tigers Win Three in Quad Match, Now 7-0

By Bobby Hunter

The South Plainfield Recreation Wrestling Team posted three more wins over the weekend, upping their record to 7-0. In a quad match held at the PAL, the Tigers hosted Bridgewater, Flemington and Middlesex.

The Tigers wrestled Bridgewater first and went on to crush them 59-16.

Ryan Sacco (50) got the Tigers rolling and won a 8-1 decision. Robert Gentile (53) scored a fall at 1:50. Corey Hay (57) won a 9-2 decision, while Nick Heilman (60) won by forfeit.

Bissy Martin (63) won by major decision 13-0. Jimmy Conroy (65) won by a fall at 0:30. Billy Ashnault (70) followed with a fall at 0:37. Bryan Hunt (73) scored his fall at the 2:36 mark.

Nick Dorey (77) won his match by major decision 14-0. Danny Bayak (80) won by decision 5-0. Sam Martin (90) won his match by a fall at 2:34. Billy Daley (110) won by forfeit.

Also wrestling tough were Mark Wagner (85), Brad Martin (95), Danny Pompilio (102) and Kevin Crilley (117).

Tigers Crush Flemington

In the second match the Tigers faced league rival Flemington and the Tigers cruised to a 72-9 victory.

Ryan Sacco (50) won the opening match by a 4-2 decision. Robert Gentile (53) took an early lead then scored the fall at 0:44.

Cory Hay (57) followed with a fall at 0:56. Bissy Martin (63) won by forfeit. Jimmy Conroy (67) won by a fall in just 10 seconds. Billy Ashnault (70) won his match by a fall in 0:31. Nick Dorey (77) won his match by a 4-0 decision.

•7•

Winning by forfeit were Mark Wagner (85), Sam Martin (90), Brad Martin (95), Danny Pompilio (102), Billy Daly (110) and Kevin Crilley (Hwt).

Also wrestling for the Tigers were John Wylam (60), Bryan Hunt (73) and Danny Bayak (80).

Tigers Beat Middlesex

The Junior Tigers faced their stiffest competition of the year when they squared off against undefeated Middlesex in a battle of the unbeaten's. The Tigers prevailed 36-25.

South Plainfield started out with Robert Gentile (53) who scored a fall over Anthony Bozzomo in 0:59 to give the Tigers the lead.

Patrick Hunter (57) faced Eric Norgard who controlled the match and scored a major decision 12-0. Bissy Martin (63) won a 7-1 decision over Phil Mazza. Jimmy Conroy (67) scored sixteen unanswered points to score a tech fall over Mike Doessmano 16-0.

Billy Ashnault (70) scored a 5-0 win over Tiny Dispenziere. Bryan Hunt (73) followed with a 5-2 decision over Nick Natoli. Nick Dorey (77) won by forfeit.

Danny Bayak (80) won a 4-2 decision over Matt Ellery. Mark Wagner (85) got the takedown and a reversal to win a 4-0 decision over Joey Bozzomo to round out the scoring.

Also wrestling for the Tigers were Ryan Sacco (50), Sam Martin (90), Brad Martin (95), Danny Pompilio (102) and Billy Daly (110).

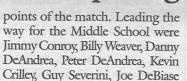
Send your events to Around Town, The South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield, NJ 07080, or fax to (908) 668-8819, or email to GGNAN@aol.com.

Wrestlers Defeat Phillipsburg

The South Plainfield Middle School Wrestling team got off to a great start in the new millennium by taking both ends of a tri-match with Phillipsburg and Hopatcong. With a reputation as one of New Jersey's finest wrestling programs, Phillipsburg had beaten South Plainfield for the last four years.

That streak came to a halt on Jan. 8, as the Middle School team defeated Phillipsburg by a score of 47-27.

The seesaw match wasn't detided until South Plainfield



and Frank Demarest. In the first match of the evening the Middle School team beat Hopatcong by a score of 46-22.

Leading the way for South Plainfield were Billy Weaver, Anthony Costante, Kyle Bostic, Kevin Crilley, Rob Mastickle, Guy Severini, Joe DeBiase and Frank Demarest -Wrettling sub-



Tare welcome KUNIET SIZES AN

South Plainfield Observer •

Sports

Ed Niemczyk Youth Basketball League Scores

The Ed Niemczyk 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

Contraction in the local division in the loc		C. C. C. D. C.
Cavaliers	7	1
Grizzles	7	1
Spurs	5	3
Bucks	5	3
Rockets	3	5
Warrriors	2	5
Supersonics	2	5
Nuggets	0	7

A LEAGUE SCORES-JAN 29

Grizzlies 51 Supersonics 17 High scorers—Grizzlies: Danny Pollin-13, Kyle Prendergast-10, Chris Sanchez-10, Tim Keller-8; Supersonbel-4,

Michael Alvarez-3.	OL
Warriors 32	
Spurs 24	
High coorpre_ Warriero:	1

igh scorers—Warriors: Jessa Jones-11, Dan Laverne-8, Alexander Ferraris-6, Brian Acrin-3; Spurs: Mike Wieczorek-10, Chris Czaplinski-8.

Bucks	51	
Nuggets	31	
High scorers-		Gary
4 6 6 1 1 1 1 1 1	10 11	11 001

Houston-14, Ankit Patel-12, Matt Finn-9, Alan Dummett-9, Philip Derosa-4; Nuggets: Alain Amazan-15, Dani-Jo Dimaria-9, Amanda Fugate-5. **Cavaliers**

Rockets	23	
High scorers-	-Cavalie	rs: /
7 0		

Adam Toth-7, Sean Kean-12, Justin Toth-6, Kyle Kazimir-6, Jason Cosma-6, Chris Horn-6; Rockets Christine Strani-10, Tommy Haus-6, Jaclene Prongay-4.

B LEAGUE STANDINGS

12, Billy Daly-4, Anthony Romano-4,
Travis Noll-4, Phy Huvnh-4:
Timberwolves: Brett Morris-6, Adam
Bianchi-5, Matt Jeglinski-4.
Lakers 28
Raptors 39
High scorers-Lakers: Jeffrey Polin-
8, Allan Mazurak-6, Chris Bojarski-5.
Michael Hanley-5; Raptors: Kyle
Lendach-22, Michael Williams-6, Zach



Gray-4, Preet Dhaliwal-4.
Bulls Cancelled to be
Pistons Played 2/3/2000
Nets 39
Hornets 17
High scorers-Nets: Melissa Hansen-
13, Nick Jefferys-10, Michael Capella-
8, Michael Downes-6; Hornets: Kevin
Siedenburg-7, Justin Basilone-3,
Jonathon Lazar-3.
C LEAGUE STANDINGS

<u>C LEA</u>	GUE STAND	INGS
Wizzards	8	0
Cavaliers	7	1
Warriors	7	1
Grizzlies	7	1
Rockets	.6	2

-cayue ocores	
Turrise-5, Nick Giannakis-4.Spurs11Grizzlies19High scorersSpurs: Troy Russell-5, Samantha Harvath-4; Grizzlies:Daivd Alston-8, Danny Espin-5.Suns16Bucks24High scorersSuns:AnthonyMoretti-6, Matt Seider-4, JoseCharneco-4; Bucks: Greg Watts-8,Anthony Cassano-6, Kyle Darr-4, An-	
drew Gray-4. Nuggets 7	
Kings 36	F
High scorers-Nuggets: John Christ-	k
6; Kings: Blaire Houston-18, Vinnie	E
Padula-12, John Mills-4, Darren Kaczowski-4.	
Wizzards 45	
Mavricks 4	,
High scorers—Wizards: Garrett Lake- 14, Chris Pollin-13, Danny Hubner-6, Brian Wieckowski-6.	
	(

D LEAGUE STANDINGS

8	0
8	0
7	1
6	2
5	3
5	3
4	3
4	4 .
3	4
2	6
2	6
1	7
0	8
0	8
SCORES-	JAN 29
	8 7 6 5 5 4 4 3 2 2 1 0 0

Lakers 11 Cavaliers 15 High scorers-Lakers: Jordan Petriello-6, Shawn Mack-3; Cavaliers: Nick Jeglinski-7, Taylor Curtis-4, Jurrien Kratz-4. Pistons Knicks 26 High scorers-Pistons: Mikey Pryor-4; Knicks: Michael Dezmin-20, Matthew Galinsky-6. Raptors 18 Celtics 6

High scorers-Raptors: Jalil Williams-14, Bobby Sachs-4; Celtics: Chris Hartje-4. Magic 76ers 50 High scorers-Magic: Tramane Miller-18; 76ers: Dominic Papa-16, Kyle Quail-14, Allen Garcia-14, Erik White-4. Jazz 20 Heat 24 High scorers-Jazz: Christopher Lesniak-12, Ricky Walter-4; Heat: Mark Benak-10, Matt Cesare-6, Dylan

Papa-4.



Pictured are the 10- and 11-year-old winners of the Knights of Columbus boys and girls free throw tournament. They are Amber Hartman, Julia Dougherty, Daniel Hubner and Kyle Ledach.

Knights of Columbus Holds Free Throw Basketball Tournament

Last Saturday the Knights of Columbus sponsored a Free Throw Basketball Tournament at Riley School. Boys and girls ages 10 through 14 competed and a winner in each group was chosen.

To compete, contestants were given three free throws and then allowed 15 attempts at making a basket. The highest basket count was declared a winner. Each contestant was given a certificate for participating. The winners will return to Riley School on Feb. 26 to compete in the District Finals along with tournaments winners

from the district. The finals will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Winners in the 10 year old group were, Daniel Hubner and Amber Hartman; 11 year old: Kyle Ledach and Julia Dougherty, 12 year old: Kevin Siedenburg and Daniel Arndt; 13 year old: Jason Grieb and Jessa Jones and 14 year old: Jimmie Batille.

The tournament was sponsored by the local Knights of Columbus. Al Musmanno, with the help of Jim Shea, Mike O'Brien and Steve Belinger ran the tournament.

High School Bowling Teams Keep Rolling On

The SPHS Boys Bowling Team improved to a 15-1 record as they pounded Franklin Township, sweeping all three games by a total of over 600 pins. Junior Eric Gaub fired the high game of 247 and a high set of 610. Senior Doug Lauckhardt added a solid 597 set on games of 192-211-194. Matt Square chipped in with 193 and 209 games and Danny Wallis had a 200 game.

The girls bowling team shut out Franklin, winning their match by over 300 pins. Melissa Jamieson's 194 high game and Amanda Smith's 183 game and 477 high set topped the individual scoring. Also helping out a solid team effort were Kristen Herzog, with a 170 game and Rachel Feller with a 170 game. The girls record now stands at 11-3-2.

NOTE: The boys bowling team has been seeded third in the Greater Middlesex Conference Tournament which began preliminary rounds this week. The girls team was seeded fifth.



Jazz7Magic6Nets6Heat6Raptors5Bulls4Timberwolves4Knicks3Hornets2Lakers2Cavaliers2	2 2 6 3 3 4 5 6 6 6	Hockets62Trailblazers53Kings44Hawks44Suns26Supersonics26Bucks26Spurs17Mavricks17Nuggets08C LEAGUE SCORES-JAN 29	Nets34High scorersBulls: Justin Ditmars-4; Nets: Dontae Johnson-22, KelvinRandolph-6, Michael Jefferys-4.Hornets36Timberwolves20High scorersHornets: MichaelMuglia-12, Steve Wiezorek-14,Alfonse Muglia-8; Timberwolves: MattMiceli-10, Ian Collins-6.	A real estate professional can determine the value of your home so it sells when you want it to. An informed seller	Wayne Grennier
Pistons 0 B LEAGUE SCORES-J/ Cavaliers 15 Magic 29 <i>High scorers</i> —Cavaliers: El 7, Robert Stani-6; Ma McKnight-8, Ryan Taylor Dietzold-6, Mike Richard-4. Heat 37 Jazz 39 <i>High scorers</i> —Heat: Nick C Dotar Desparia 2, Andrew	rik Vesper- gic: Cris -8, Doug Cesare-14,	Warriors24Hawks22High scorersWarriors: MikeStallone-8, Robert Hoffman-4, ChrisStallone-4, Jonathan Curisi-4; Hawks:Danny McCreesh-4, Nick Desimone-4, Brian Hanley-4, Chintan Mody-4.Cavaliers26Supersonics8High scorersCavaliers:8High scorersCavaliers:10, Ryan Curtis-10, Amber	Computer Classes only \$49.95	is a satisfied seller. Weichert, Realtors We Sell More Because We Do More	SALES REPRESENTATIVE Resident of South Plainfield for over 30 Years METUCHEN OFFICE 640 Middlesex Ave., Metuchen, NJ 08840
Peter Peregrin-7, Andrew Coral Willis-6; Chirs Bakzan- Piwowar-12, Dip Patel-5. Knicks 31 Timberwolves 17 High scorers—Knicks: Erik	20, Daniel	Hartman-4. Trailblazers 15 Rockets 19 High scorers—Trailblazers: Bobby Harrington-8, Brendan O'Shea-6; Rockets: Tommy Smith-8, Joey	www.cecnj.com 1110 Hamilton Blvd. South Plainfeild, NJ 07080 908-757-9085	For a complimentary call Wayne Grennier a Eves: (908) 755-8565 • Pager: 888-346	t 732-906-8200.



HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

By Brian Cochrane

Tiger Boys Notch Three Straight Wins

The South Plainfield High School Boys Basketball Team is back on track recording three straight wins over division opponents which has jumped them up to second place. Ever since the Bound Brook tournament the boys have been in a "win two... lose one" cycle, while stuck in the bottom half of the division standings.

Following a crushing defeat to Carteret on the 20th, the Tigers strung together three tough wins beginning at home on the 24th against J.F. Kennedy. The Tigers jumped out to an early lead, thanks in part to Dominique Penders two early threes that sent the Tigers into half-time up by 13 points. South Plainfield was never threatened after that, easily outscoring JFK 2 to 1 the rest of the way and coasting to a 75-47 victory. Dominique led all scorers with 24, Clint Robinson had 16 and Carlo Estonactoc added 10 points. Junior big man Paul Gross was all over the glass grabbing 10 rebounds.

Two nights later they took a trip to Middlesex in what turned out to be a very entertaining game. Middlesex jumped out to an early lead only to see the Tigers battle back and turn the game into a see-saw battle for the last three quarters. Dominique scored 9 of his game-high 24 points in the fourth quarter, as the game went into overtime. The battle continued right up to the final buzzer, with the game tied 54-54 Clint Robinson went to the free throw line with :01 left on the clock and a chance to

win it and that's just what he did, sending the Tigers to 8-5 overall with the 55-54 win.

The trifecta was complete two nights later as the Tigers defeated yet another division foe, the Chargers from Spotswood, by a score of 68-48. The 2-10 Chargers actually came out fast and had the Tigers back on their heels, taking a 17-14 first quarter lead. South Plainfield came to life after that and proceeded to thoroughly pummel Spotswood into submission and win going away. Dominique had 19 on the night including threethrees. Clint dog and Justin Benford poured in 10 a piece.

Next up for the boys: Tonight home vs. Monroe; then a Saturday matinee (1:00) versus division rival Highland Park.

Junior Baseball Club Notes

By Frank Hanley

Late Registration - Late registration will be held prior to the regular monthly meeting on Monday, Feb. 7, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse. Registration fee is \$60 per player. New players (those registering for the first time) must present a copy of their birth certificate.

Snack Stand Captains - The club is seeking volunteers to be snack stand captains and assistants. Contact the club for details.

Tryouts - Tryouts will be held on Saturday, Mar. 4, at the PAL Building on Maple Ave. All registered players will receive notification by mail indicating their try-out time. Players should remember to wear sneakers and bring their glove.

Umpire Classes - Classes for umpires will begin next week. The first meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 8, 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the clubhouse. All umpires are required to attend this session. A complete class schedule will be distributed at the meeting, and will be posted on the SPJBC web site.

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.

Woman's Auxiliary - The women are once again holding a Gertrude Hawk Candy Sale. This is a major fundraising event held by the auxiliary each year. Proceeds from the candy sale are put right back into the club in form of equipment for the players and improvements to the complex. All registered players should be receiving a brochure shortly. The Woman's Auxiliary is also sponsoring the annual Little Miss Baseball Contest. Contact Cindy Eichler at (908) 769-4047 for details. There are still some of the new custom SPJBC outdoor flags left. The flags are 2 x 3 feet, white, black and green, with the new SPJBC logo. The cost is \$21 per flag. Contact Carolyn White at 561-8723 for information.

Web Site - The SPJBC web site is down for maintenance. It should be back soon. Contact the SPJBC clubhouse phone: (908) 754-2090... email: SPJBC99@aol.com... Web Site: members.aol.com/spjbc/spjbc.html

Events at a Glance

Monthly Meeting- Monday, Feb. 7, 7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse Umpire's Meeting - Tuesday, Feb. 8, 7 p.m. at the clubhouse Woman's Auxiliary Meeting - Wednesday, Feb. 9, 7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse

South

Source

Tryouts - Saturday, Mar. 4, at the PAL Opening Day - Saturday, Apr. 15

Bishop Arh Trojans Clip Tiger Girls Again

The South Plainfield High School Girls Basketball Team suffered only their third loss of the season when division foe Bishop Ahr came to town on Feb. 22 and walked out with the 48-39 win. This marks the second time this season the pesky Trojans were able to knock off the Tigers, once again due to a slow South Plainfield start.

The Tigers were only able to muster eight first half points until Sheryl Cwiekalo turned it up a notch scoring eight of her team high 13 points after the break. Kelly Ritchey hit doubledigits with her 11. The division loss dropped the Tigers (8-3/5-

2) to third place behind Colonia (6-3/4-1) and Bishop Ahr (12-3/9-0).

After a five day lay-off the Tigers came out fresh against Sayerville last Thursday and bullied the Bombers out of 44-27 win. Early in the second quarter the Tigers had their first double-digit lead and they never looked back as the defense took over, forced numerous turnovers and stymied any hopes of a Sayerville comeback. Kelly Ritchey (averaging 12.5 per game) led all scorers with 17 as the Cwiekalo sisters bagged six points apiece.

An out-of-conference trip last

Saturday saw the Tigers travel to Cranford, who are currently residing in first place in the Watchung (American division) conference. This was a classic see-saw battle as neither team was able to go up by more than four points until the Tigers turned it up with just under 2:00 to play and tip toed home with the 47-42 victory. Kelly Ritchey continued her hot streak by pouring in another 17 points and Sheryl Cwiekalo added 10 to move the Tigers to 9-3/5-2 overall with lightweights Perth Amboy (31st) and Monroe (3rd) waiting around the corner.

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBER

Ponytail Parents Association Sponsoring Free Pitching Clinics

The South Plainfield Parent/ Ponytail Association and the South Plainfield Recreation Department are offering pitching clinics in March. Girls registered for Spring 2000 Recreation Ponytail Softball Program are eligible to sign up for these clinics.

Two clinics will be offered, one for beginners (those girls with

some pitching experience. Each clinic consists of three sessions to be conducted on March 13, 20 and 27 at the PAL Building. The beginners clinic will run from 7 to 8 p.m. and the advanced clinic will run from 8 to 9 p.m.

We are pleased to have Norm Chadwick as head instructor. Mr. Chadwick has been coaching softball pitchers for over ten years. He has been affiliated with the Clark Wildcats for over five years and has coached many allcounty and all-state pitchers. One highlight in his career was working with U.S. Olympic star pitcher, Michelle Smith. Mr. Chadwick has played fastpitch softball for over twenty years. He has been extremely successful as a pitcher, winning numerous championships in leagues in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Maryland. Each clinic will be limited to a maximum of 20 girls. The Recreation Department will be taking registrations at the PAL Building on a first-come, firstserved basis.



little or no experience) and an advanced clinic for those with

Pop Warner Football and Cheerleaders Registration

Pop Warner will be holding registration for football and cheerleading at the Eagles Field House on Kenneth Ave. (across from the recycling area) on Friday, Feb. 25 from 6 to 8 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 26 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Registration is open to all South Plainfield children ages five to 14 (by 8/1). Coaches are welcome. Roster sizes are limited. Register early. A registration fee is due at sign-up.

Got News?? 908-668-0010

To start home delivery, enclose your check or money order for \$25. for 52 issues (out of Town-\$30) **Plainfield's** payable to: South Plainfield Observer. **Official NEWS** 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. Please send me home delivery of the South Plainfield Observer. ansenb

South Plainfield Observer

Obituaries

Peter P. Yednak, 78

· 10 ·

Peter P. Yednak died on Monday, Jan. 31, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield

Mr. Yednak was born in Jersey City and came to South Plainfield as a child with his family and has lived here ever since.

By trade, he was a machinist for 51 years. He had worked from 1941-1959 at the Walter Scott Co. and from 1957-1965 he worked with Woods Newspaper Machinery Co., both of Plainfield.

From 1965 until his retirement in 1992 he had worked for the Man Roland Co. of Middlesex.

Mr. Yednak served with the US Navy during WWII. He was in the submarine service as a torpedoman and had served in the Asiatic-Pacific Theatre. He had been stationed on the Sea Devil SS 400 and the Sea Fox SS 402. In 1946, the Yednak Family had received a commen-

By Cyrus N. Moon

Navy for having all five Yednak brothers serving in the US. Armed Forces at the same time.

He was a member of the Storr Richie VFW Post 506 of Plainfield, where he had served as commander in 1993 and 1994. He was also a life member and long time director of the Polish National Home in South Plainfield.

His wife, Dorothy M. Yednak died in 1988. He was also pre deceased by his brother, John Yednak and his sister Ann Burachyunski.

Surviving are his daughter, Janet R. Salek of Phoenix, Arizona; two sons, James P. of South Plainfield and David P. and his wife Linda, of Sayreville; his sister, Helen Petresky of South Carolina, and three brothers, Andrew of Missouri, Michael of Metuchen and Joseph of South Plainfield and two grandchildren, Carrie Salek and James Yednak.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

dation from the Secretary of the Elizabeth (Bette) Kersting Adams, 75

1.4.

Elizabeth (Bette) Kersting Adams died on Wednesday, Jan. 26, at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

She was born in Dunellen and was a former resident of Raritan before moving to South Plainfield 53 years ago.

Mrs. Adams was the switchboard operator at the JFK Medical Center in Edison for 30 years, retiring in October 1999.

She was predeceased by her husband, John Adams, who died in 1972.

She is survived by two sons, John of Bridgewater and Frank Adams of South Plainfield; a daughter, Gail Bori of South Plainfield; three sisters, Marie Vdorick of Belleville, Kay Ciancia of Tarpon Springs, Fla. and Virginia DeLello of New Port Ritchey, Fla.; a brother Raymond Kersting of Myrtle Beach, SC and 10 grand children.

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

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1531 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #801 ENTITLED "ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, 1978 be adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, February 4, 2000 and that a public hearing be held Thursday, February 24, 2000 at 8:00 PM in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey.

ORDINANCE #1531

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #801 ENTITLED "ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, 1978"

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield, 1978, be amended as follows:

SECTION I - Article VIII. Section 801.4 (General regulation/signs) is amended to add the following:

- 1. All signs advertising a product or service not sold on the premises, advertising or directing attention to another premises, or any other signs not relating to the premises on which the sign is erected shall be prohibited. Such signs are commonly referred to as billboards and/or offadvertisement.
- 2. All advertisements shall relate solely to the business or profession conducted on the premises and shall advertise only:
 - A. The name of the owner or le
 - B. The name of the establishment, the type of establishment, goods or services or the trade name of the establishment and goods manufactured or sold or services rendered

SECTION II - Severability

In the event that any portion of this ordinance is held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the other valid portions of the ordinance

SECTION III - Effective Date This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon

final passage and publication, as provided by law. Approved January 27, 2000

Daniel J. Gallagher/Mayor ATTEST:

James V. Eckert/Municipal Clerk

\$35.00

1T February 4, 2000

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1502A entitled: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE #1502 ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A COMMERCIAL FACADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR BUSINESSES LOCATED IN THE DOWNTOWN **BUSINESS ZONE WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF** SOUTH PLAINFIELD be adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, February 4, 2000 and that a public hearing be held Thursday. February 24, 2000 at 8:00 PM in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey.

ORDINANCE NO. 1502A

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE #1502 ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A COMMERCIAL FACADE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR BUSINESSES LOCATED IN THE DOWNTOWN BUSINESS ZONE WITHIN THE **BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD"**

WHEREAS, Ordinance #1502 established a commercial facade improvement program for the downtown business zone also known as the OBC2 zone within the Borough of South Plainfield and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield wish to expand said program to include other retail and commercial businesses throughout the Borough of South Plainfield,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY, THAT the commercial facade improvement program is hereby expanded to include the OBC1 zone and the OBC2 zone as set forth on the official zoning map of the Borough of South Plainfield.

All other provisions of Ordinance #1502 shall remain in full force and effect.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon publication and adoption in accordance with New Jersey Law.

Approved January 27, 2000

Daniel J. Gallagher/Mayor ATTEST: James V. Eckert/Municipal Clerk

WE WANT YOUR NEWSII

If you have near about South Plainheld people

or events, send us a note or give us a call

(908) 668-0010. We would like to

1T February 4, 2000

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1530 entitled: AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF MUNICIPAL LAND KNOWN AS BLOCK 370, LOT 1 IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY TO CLEM APPROVATO AND DOROTHY APPROVATO FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$64,000.00 be adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, February 4, 2000 and that a public hearing be held Thursday, February 24, 2000 at 8:00 PM in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey.

ORDINANCE #1530

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF MUNICIPAL LAND KNOWN AS BLOCK 370.

LOT 1 IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY TO CLEM APPROVATO AND DOROTHY APPROVATO

FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$64,000.00.

Whereas, the Borough of South Plainfield is the owner of property known as Block 370, Lot 1, said property being situated on Kenneth Avenue, in the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as set forth in Appendix A attached hereto, and

Whereas, Clem Approvato and Dorothy Approvato are the owners of a contiguous parcel, and

Whereas, the Borough of South Plainfield by and through its governing body has deemed that Block 370 and Lot 1 is not needed for public purposes or use, and

Whereas, New Jersey Statute provides for the sale of said parcel to a contiguous owner without the need for public sale.

Now therefore be it ordained by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that the said property shall be sold to said contiguous owners on February 24, 2000 at 8:00 PM in the Municipal Building of the Borough of South Plainfield, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, w Jersey and will be made subject to the following conditions:

- 1. That conveyance by the Borough of South Plainfield shall be by Bargain and Sale deed without covenants and without representations as to the marketability of title. In the event that the purchaser shall determine that title of the property in question shall not be good and marketable any questions as to the marketability of title shall be submitted to the Borough Clerk's Office within forty-five (45) days of the date of sale. In the event said questions have not been raised with said forty-five (45) day period, then and in that event all questions relating to the marketability of title shall be deemed waived and this matter shall proceed to closing of title within ninety (90) days of the date of sale.
- 2. Easements, both of record and not of record.
- 3. Restrictions of record.
 - 4. Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield as presently constituted without representations as to the use to which said property can be put.
- In the event that the purchaser is unable to close title within ninety (90) days of the date of sale, they shall forward to the Borough of South Plainfield a check representing the balance of the purchase price to be placed in the general fund of the Borough.
- 6. In the event that the purchaser fails or refuses to In the event the platficial reason lates to the dose title and/or pay the consideration therefore within the ninety (90) day period, then in that event, the Borough of South Plainfield, may, by resolution of the Mayor and Council, declare the transaction null and void and the purchas-are deposite healt be reasoned by the Borough of er's deposit shall be retained by the Borough of South Plainfield as liquidated damages.
- 7. At the time of second reading of this Ordinance, ten percent (10%) of the purchase price plus \$1,000.00 shall be paid by the purchaser representing the cost of advertising, legal fees and associated costs incurred by the Borough. The purchaser shall be credited the cost of any appraisal previously paid by the purchaser as required by the Land Management Committee.
- 8. The purchaser shall make application for any required approvals, including but not limited to subdivision approval, on site and site improvements as required by appropriate Borough Boards, Agencies and Officers, and all costs shall be paid by the purchaser.
- 9. It is expressly agreed by the purchaser that if the subject parcel does not require Planning Board or Board of Adjustment review, then in that event, the purchaser will make all required improve-ments as determined by the Borough Engineer. The necessary performance guarantees shall be posted for same prior to the issuance of any building permits.

Weekly Horoscope 2/4-2/10

AQUARIUS 1/22-2/18 To be or not to be will be a burning issue with you. You probably will not want to be involved with groups just for the reason of stubborn pride or any reason of your own. But think twice before you turn down an offer. People show interest in you because of uniqueness. PISCES 2/19-3/20 Pay attention to information that may be coming your way from sources you would least likely expect. This is a good time to carry your small pocket recorder so you can retain what you hear. The opportunity to profit from this can be high. And how about a seafood dinner this week?

of conflict this week but it will be with yourself. What you want to do, structures in your life right now can prevent this from happening. Look for an alternate way! Constructive, disciplined work is favored this week. Stick with it, one way to avoid stress. TAURUS 4/20-5/20 Well this is a

golden opportunity to have a talk with someone you love. Both of you, most likely will not see eye to eye but with careful and purpose thought behind what you say and a sprinkle of compromise you can express yourself better than usual. Write a letter! GEMINI 5/21-6/20 Advancement can

come your way, but be ready! Contacts and travel these days will relate to business or other serious pursuits. Also have ready information you just learned, your advice will be sought. So have an open mind for ideas, information and communication.

CANCER 6/21-7/22 This week you may find yourself a bit more irritable than usual and a bit snappish with others. You may not notice this, "you are aware now". One cause of this anger may be about something that happen a while ago. If you need stand up for yourself, you can do it with confidence.

LEO 7/23-8/22 This week is a recharge for you for both mind and body. Relations with the opposite sex will run very smoothly. This is a good time for second opinion. HARMONY.

you this week or at least a pad! Ideas

LIBRA 9/23-10/22 This is not a good week to be boasting. You can easily be tempted to overstate your sentiments or overdo generosity when you cannot afford it. Shameless social climbing is a potential to avoid. People will admire you. Do not ruin their image of you by immodestly agreeing.

SCORPIO 10/23-11/21 You may seek out intense love experiences. I think you hope to find escape from every day life through love, but this can cause problems if you are not careful in an otherwise happy relationship. You need to figure things out! Are you willing to accept things as they are? Jealousy is a no no!!!!!

SAGITTARIUS 11/22-12/21 This is the week to become more organized and better prepared. Information and activities that come along fit neatly into whatever organization or plans you have already laid out. Some restrictions may ease at this time and provide some opportunity that will be useful to you later in life.

CAPRICORN 12/22-1/19 This is a time for serious thinking. You can really concentrate on studies, research and any detailed mental work. Organize whatever needs organizing. Straighten out those files. Catch up on correspondence. Travel is possible that is associated with work or educational purposes. QUOTE: I am the camera of your life, You are the photograph I hold dear.

ARIES 3/21-4/19 You may have a bit

Voter Registration is an Easy Process

Members of the Board of Education are asking parents of children in the school district to make sure they are eligible to vote. Many parents aren't even registered and thus not elibible to vote in the upcoming school referendum.

Voter registration is a simple process. Registration forms can be picked up at any New Jersey agency, such as the Division of Motor Vehicles located in the Middlesex Mall or the post office on Oak Tree Avenue. Forms are also available at the clerk's

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office in Borough Hall. All you have to do is fill out the form and mail it in the self addressed envelope that is on the reverse side. You don't even need a stamp. Just remember, in order to vote in the bond referendum election, you must register by

February 14.

James W. Convoy

Euneral Home

Perving the Area Pince 1949

"Because We Care"

The school bond referendum is on March 15 and getting more people to vote is a top priority. In the last referendum only 2,000 people came out to vote, less than $\frac{1}{2}$ parent per student.

ROBERT HUNTER JR.

Owner-Manager

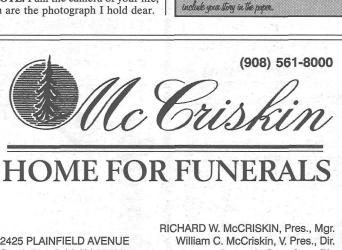
756-2800

2456 Plainfield Ave.

South Plainfield

conferences on a project that needs to come to a conclusion. If you have any surgery planned make sure you get that VIRGO 8/23-9/22 Take a recorder with

will flash through your head at amazing speed. If you can keep up with the pace, your thinking seems sharp, clear and very fast. However, it is also inclined to be sloppy, so be sure to check out everything you have done.



\$31.00

Purchaser recognizes that the sale is subject to development standards to be set by the Planning Board, Board of Adjustment and/or the Borough Engineer in addition to the Middlesex County Planning Board, if applicable. This sale is made without representation as to same and is subject to same.

- 11. The subject parcel shall merge with and become a part of the contiguous parcel owned by the purchaser and shall not be subdivided at any future date.
- 12. Purchaser will take any action required by the Borough Engineer and/or the Borough Environmental Officer to protect any designated wetlands or flood plane existing on the subject parcel.
- Certain properties within the Borough of South Plainfield may be designated as contaminated sites by the Environmental Protection Agency and/or the Department of Environmental Protection. One such property is the "Cornell Dubilier" facility now known as the "Hamilton Blvd. Industrial Complex" located at the intersection of Hamilton Boulevard and New Market Avenue which has been designated as a Super Find site. The purchaser acknowledges knowledge of such locations and the existence of same will not be a basis for avoidance of buyer's obligations.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon publication and adoption in accordance with New Jersey Law.

Approved January 27, 2000 Daniel J. Gallagher/Mayor ATTEST: James V. Eckert/Municipal Clerk \$90.00 1T February 4, 2000

"Consult the Families We Serve"

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

James A. Gustafson, Dir. James F. Connaughton, Assoc. Dir.

John Brembt Awarded Full Retirement Pay

The state pension board has approved full retirement benefits for John Brembt, who recently resigned from the South Plainfield Police Department.

As part of a plea bargain Brembt pleaded guilty to a disorderly persons offense and simple assault. Brembt was involved in an altercation with another man outside a restaurant in Readington in December of 1998 and during the argument his gun was fired.

Originally charged with aggravated assault, official misconduct and obstruction of justice, Brembt, a 25-year veteran, pleaded guilty to the lesser charge and resigned from the police department. He was also put on probation for two years.

Because he pled guilty to a misdemeanor Brembt was allowed to keep his full pension, which amounts to about \$59,300 a year.

Plainfield Police Officer Charged In Sex Assault

A five-year veteran of the Plainfield Police Department has been charged with sexually assaulting a 10-year-old-girl in a home in South Plainfield.

Officer Eric Taylor, 29, has been suspended with pay. He was arrested on Jan. 13 and released on bail on Jan. 14.

The incident allegedly occurred on Jan. 11 at the home of a friend of the girl's mother. The girl was treated and released at Muhlenberg Medical Center after she told her mother about the alleged assault.

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ASSIFIFDS



POLICE REPORT

 Associated Builders reported a locked storage trailer had been broken into. Upon gaining entry, the perpetrator(s) removed a large number of tools and equipment including generators and compressors weighing 220 pounds or more. The security company covering the site will be questioned. The tools belonged to two separate contractors.

• Three employees of K-Line, Cragwood Rd., reported the theft of their wallets from their purses. The thefts occurred while they attended a meeting. The purses were left in their work area. Two co-workers reported seeing a black male in his 70s wearing a black coat and hat in the vicinity of the office.

 An employee of BP gas station, Durham Rd. reported a robbery. A suspect, wearing a wool hat pulled over his face, entered the office area and demanded money. After taking money from the cash register and several boxes of cigarettes. the suspect threw the victim to the floor and stepped on his head.

 Two members of Ricochet Racquet Club reported that money (\$240 and \$680) was stolen from their lockers while they used the facilities. The locks were either cut or forced open. A third member found damage to his locker as well.

 Police responded to the report of a fire on New Market Ave. When they arrived, they found junked vehicles on fire in an abandoned warehouse. A larger fire was located in the main building and two smaller fires were burning in a another building. Three sets of footprints were found.

 A Piscataway resident reported the theft of her vehicle while she was visiting a friend on Lakeview Ave. The car had been parked on Elm St. at the corner of Lakeview. The only keys were in her possession. There was no broken glass or other evidence found at the scene.

 A North Plainfield resident reported the theft of her vehicle from in front of the Hunan Wok Restaurant, W. 7th St. The victim stated she went into the restaurant to use the ATM machine and left

Fohruger

her car running and unlocked out front. When she returned it was gone. The vehicle was found approximately 15 min. later at the intersection of Stelle and Arlington Ave. in Plainfield. It had been involved in a collision with a tree. A witness called in the accident on a cell phone. Another witness reported seeing a teenaged black male running from the vehicle towards Plainfield High School.

• Summit Bank in Pathmark, Middlesex Mall, reported an attempted theft. Upon arriving for work the assistant bank manager and an employee noticed that the brochure table had been moved. They found a key bent inside the key insert. Several other unlocked drawers were found disturbed as well. The coin vault was found to have scratches on it possibly made with a key that did not fit. A videotape of the area showed a white male moving in and out of camera range. He may be an employee fired from another branch two weeks earlier.

 A Harvard Ave. resident reported someone had attempted to gain entry to her vehicle by prying off the driver's side door handle. The car had been parked on Maple Ave. at the time of the incident.

 A Pennsylvania resident reported items were stolen from the back seat of her vehicle while it was in the parking lot of Middlesex Mall near Sterns. When she returned to the car she found the items missing, but the vehicle was still locked.

 A loss prevention representative for A&P contacted headquarters after being notified of an employee giving \$30 off a food bill to a friend and failing to ring up \$150 in merchandise. An inventory service employee observed the transaction. The suspect was arrested and provided police with information on the friend who had left the store before police arrived.

 A Page Court resident notified police after receiving several calls from an unknown male named "Steve". The male called the resident twice and stated that the resident had been entered into a "publishers sweepstakes". The suspect told her he needed her American Express or Discovery card account number and/or two other credit cards numbers. She was advised to document the incidents.

· A New York Ave. resident reported that her fiance's ex-wife pulled up alongside her car while she was parked near Shopper's World, Golden Acres Shopping Center. The father of the ex-wife exited the vehicle and approached the victim's driver side window. He told the victim to "stay out of my grandson's life" or he would "punch her lights out". The victim stated that a friend intervened and removed the suspect from her car. Police questioned the suspect. He denied that anyone intervened but admitted to the confrontation. He stated that he did not threaten to hit the victim. He claims that the victim had telephoned him at his home and harassed him.

 A resident of Brenan Ct. apartments reported jewelry missing from her bedroom dresser drawer. She stated that she had not had any company. The victim told police that the building superintendent had come into the apartment in the past and left a note stating that he had let an electrician in while she was not at home. This was done without her consent or knowledge. Police dusted for prints.

 A Madison Ave. resident reported credit card fraud. He was notified by Fleet credit card services of several suspicious purchases on his card. There are no suspects.

INTERACTIVE COMPUTER CORNER

Remember the www.aol

sucks.com address I gave out some time ago? Here's another one for you. Try www.aolwatch. org for more insight into the workings of this behemoth of a company. From a constitutional standpoint, I'm pretty strong on things like Freedom of Speech and the Bill of Rights-freedoms that most people just take for granted. That AOL actively controls the content you access (yes, including your email!) bothers me greatly. That so many AOL users don't seem to care (simple ignorance, I'm sure!) bothers me even more. Perhaps it's just me, but if the sheep of this country are willing to be shorn, then maybe it's time for me to put the Brooklyn Bridge up on ebay!

Pve got some more "user tips" for you, and I know I've been lax in offering them lately. Truth is, the Internet is full of these little goodies and I would hope you'd be finding them for yourselves. I subscribe to several daily and weekly emailings that offer all kinds of handy tips, and you should too. It's a great way to learn more about the software and hardware you use.

TIP: When working in a word

Meetings

Mayor Seeking Volunteers for Traffic Safety Advisory Commission

Mayor Dan Gallagher is seeking two residents to fill the vacancies on the Traffic Safety Advisory Commission. If you would like to serve on this commission, please call Mayor Gallagher at 908-226-7601.

document, or in most any applica-

tion, don't forget to save your work early and often. As soon as you start, use "save as" to create a saved file in a convenient format. Get in the habit of saving your new work often; [Cntrl]Z should do it. In Word, you can also go to the Tools menu, select Options, click on the Save tab and then check the box that says "Save Auto-Recovery every:" and then can choose from 1 to 120 minutes. Take it from one who's learned the hard way: do this, and live long and prosper!

TIP: With billions of pages of stuff on the net, it really is impossible to search through it all, but you can do a better job of it by learning and using good search techniques. Go to SearchEngine Watch.com for some real help and insight. This is one class where it pays to stay awake.

TIP: Instead of clicking one by one to close or minimize windows on your way to you desktop, you can press the "windows" key +M, or the windows+D. You can undo by pressing shift+ windows +M or pressing windows+D again. Also, you can "tab" through open windows via Alt+ tab.

www.about.com and www. zdnet.com are two good sites to sign up with for a free subscription to their emailed newsletters. Don't try to read everything on a page, just scan for the good stuff that applies to you. At least you'll get good at speed reading!

In our next column, I want to take a look at antivirus steps you should be taking and how to handle a virus situation when you think you have one. How about dropping me a note in the meanwhile and let me hear what viruses have struck systems you use. I'm still at Bruggo@home.com.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Editorial copy deadline: Friday, 5 pm	in the second	1	2	3	Battle of the Classes 4 Middle School 7pm	5
Advertising copy deadline: Monday, 5 pm		Board of Adjustment 8 pm	Business Advisory Group 5:30 pm Court 9:30 am	Taxpayers Advisory Group 8 pm	Publication of So. Plfd.Observer	
VFW Country Breakfast 8-11 am 6	7 Recreation Comm. Mtg 7 pm PAL Borough Council Agenda Mtg 8 pm	B HS Boosters 7 p.m. High School Cafeteria Library Board 7:30 pm Planning Board Mtg 8 pm	9 Environmental Comm. 8 p.m. Cultural Arts Comm. 8 pm Court 9:3 0 am & 7 pm	Seniors Valentine Lunch at PAL Borough Council Mtg 8 pm Public Meeting on Referendum-Bd Rm. 7pm	11 Publication of So. Plfd.Observer	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Land Management Advisory Comm. 7:30 pm	Board of Adjustment 8 pm Board of Health 7:30 p.m.	Court 9:30 am & 7 pm		Publication of So. Plfd.Observer	
20	• 21	22	23	24	25	26
	Borough Council Agenda Mtg 8 pm	Planning Board Mtg 8 pm Recycling Comm. 8 pm	Traffic Safety Adv Comm. 7 pm Court 9:30 am & 7 pm	Borough Council Meeting 8 pm Recycling Commission meeting 8 pm	Publication of So. Plfd.Observer	Evening at the Races, at Arbor Firehouse 7:30 p.m.
27	28	29	MARCH 1	2	3	4
		Board of Adjustment 8 pm	Business Advisory Group 5:30 pm Court 9:30 am	Taxpayers Advisory Group 8 pm	Publication of So. Plfd.Observer	

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