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# South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 3, NO. 30

50 CENTS

MARCH 31, 2000

## Bomb Threat Suspect Arrested

By Patricia Abbott

South Plainfield Police Detective James Foran have arrested Gregory Yates of Farimont Ave., a former SPHS and charged him with Terroristic Threats and False Public Alarms. The arrest was the result of a cooperative effort between school officials and the South Plainfield Police Department.

It all started on Monday morning when High School Principal Anthony Massaro arrived at school to a voice mail detailing a bomb threat. The warning was called in to his office at 12:12 p.m. on Saturday, March 25. A garbled male voice left a threat laced with foul language explaining a bomb would be planted in the school and it would go off sometime between

Monday and Friday of this week. Massaro retrieved the message at 6:15 a.m. and by 6:30 police had converged on the school. Along with custodians, police began the search.

The building has tight security and limited access on weekends, so the search began in the areas most vulnerable, then widened until police felt sure the building was secure.

Given the content of the message and the nature of the threat, it was decided the school was safe for the students and no further measures were warranted at that time.

As an additional safety measure Massaro assembled his team leaders and reviewed bomb threat and evacuation procedures. There was no general announcement made to students. Teachers were in-

structed to watch for anything out of the ordinary in the classrooms. Students were instructed in their homerooms to remove any objects or boxes in their lockers that might be mistaken for a potential explosive device. Police patrolled the lot throughout the afternoon. Restrictions were placed on leaving the building. Once a student arrived he/she could not leave without parent permission. Any-one leaving school would also have their name reported to the police. Massaro described the procedure as more of a means of controlling students looking for a way out of school than a fear of a student being responsible.

The building was closed down after the afternoon activities ended. All evening activities were either canceled or moved to an-

other location. The primary purpose of the shut down was to limit access to the building and eliminate the chance of someone placing a device. Massaro said, "We used this opportunity to conduct another search to be doubly sure that we were safe to open on Tuesday morning." He also noted that the adult school classes were canceled for the rest of the week. Rehearsals for the upcoming play, *Tommy*, resumed on Tuesday. Massaro had only praise for the South Plainfield Police Department.

Superintendent of Schools Guy stressed that the school was safe and noted that the restrictions and multiple searches were just an additional precautionary measure. He added that police were on hand in the school and the parking lot for the remainder of the day on

Monday and on Tuesday. A visual sweep was performed every four hours. In addition, a K-9 unit of police dogs (two from the Union Co. Sheriff's Office and one from the Amtrack PD), were brought in at 4 a.m. on Tuesday morning and a locker to locker search was performed.

Ferri stated that the All District Music Festival scheduled for Friday night will be postponed until Friday, April 28. He noted that even without the bomb threat, there was a potential problem with crowds and parking. A Golden Gloves tournament is scheduled to be held at the middle school on Friday night. Parking is always difficult during the music festival and the tournament would have made the situation worse. (Check our webpage for updates on this story).

## Borough Sells Land Valued Over \$1M

The borough auctioned off four parcels of land and sold another three parcels, netting over \$1 million during last week's council meeting.

The largest piece of real estate was purchased for \$645,000 by Drew Robuselli. He was the only bidder for this parcel, located at Tremont Ave., St. John's Place and Smith Street.

Al Pecker had the winning bid of \$70,000 for a piece of prop-

erty on Kenneth Ave. Robert Goldsmith bid \$65,000 and purchased property on Kosciuszko Ave. The final bid of \$65,000 went to Ron Synder for property also on Kosciuszko Ave.

In addition to the public action auction, three pieces of property were sold to contiguous property owners. These three sales totalled \$120,500. The parcels of borough owned land which were sold had been

deemed to no longer have a public use and the offering price was established by appraisal.

When the bidding and selling was over the borough netted a total of \$1,017,500.

When asked what the money would be used for, the mayor indicated that some of the money would be used to purchase new equipment for the fire department and other capital improvements.

## Vision 2001 Names Art Auction Chair

By Patricia Abbott

Vision 2001 is gearing up for their Fifth Annual Art Auction. The auction will be held on Friday evening, April 14 at South Plainfield High School. Pre-viewing begins at 6 p.m. and the auction will commence at 7 p.m.

Vision 2001 Education Foundation supports South Plainfield's students by seeking ways to encourage them and providing new opportunities and challenges. The annual auction offers art in all media by a variety of artists. Refreshments will be served and a door prize will be awarded. Major credit cards for purchases are accepted. Tickets are \$5.

Serving the children of the community is the goal of Vision 2001. The foundation realizes the significance of recognizing South Plainfield residents who exemplify this goal. This year's choice for honorary chairman is Georgeann DeGrazio. The owner of Mohn's Flowers and



Georgeann DiGrazia of Mohn's Flowers and Fancy Foods has been named chairperson of Vision 2001's annual art auction.

Fancy Foods, Georgeann is well known for her support of South Plainfield's youth and for her generosity.

Georgeann purchased Mohn's Flowers and Fancy Foods nine years ago. The small shop with the big heart is known for its

generosity. Behind the big heart is Georgeann. A SPHS graduate, she has remained true to her town. When a fundraiser is in the offing, both children and organizers look towards Mohn's and Georgeann. They are never disappointed.

Friend Marjorie Kopacsi, a SPHS guidance counselor, zeroed in on what makes Georgeann so special to so many. "She is a very generous person, a very community minded, wonderful person. There is nothing she won't do for people. She sends baskets of goodies to teachers for all occasions. She is always doing things for the cheer leaders." With a pause Marge added, "She is one of the unsung heroes of our community!"

Franklin School PTA President Linda Duquette noted that Georgeann supports all their events and fundraisers, often offering before they ask. She has

*Continued on page 12*



Home Depot employees and Ponytail parents spent last Saturday building sand containers on the ball fields and sprucing up Pitt Street Park in anticipation of opening day next Saturday, April 8. More pictures on page 9.

## Billboard Ordinance Passed

The Billboard Ordinance, which had been carried forward for two meetings, was passed at last week's council meeting.

The vote, however, was not unanimous. Councilman Ed Kubala, who said he agonized over his vote, decided he could not vote yes. Kubala said he felt it was taking away the rights of the property owners who adjoin Rt. 287.

Larry Randolph, a member of the Environmental Commission told the council that this was a positive step for South Plainfield and it is supported by the residents.

Last year the council was forced to table an ordinance

which would have allowed four billboards along Rt. 287. Residents objected to permitting any billboards in town. The mayor named a special commission and they wrote a new ordinance, which allows only signs for businesses occupying the property.

Councilman Jim Vokral thanked those who served on the commission for their help and said he felt they had made a good ordinance which can withstand a challenge in court.

Mayor Dan Gallagher explaining how this new ordinance came about said, "We have an obligation to listen to the people and last year they spoke strongly."



## mark your calendars

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**southplainfieldnj.com**  
for the latest  
meeting agenda

### councilmeetings

Meets twice a month  
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-754-9000

**AGENDA MEETING** ..... **PUBLIC MEETING**  
**Monday, April 10** ..... **Thursday, April 13**  
Monday, April 24 ..... Thursday, April 27  
Monday, May 8 ..... Thursday, May 11

### planningboard

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month  
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641

**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

### zoningboardofadjustment

Meets first, third and fifth Tuesday of the month  
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641

**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

### siteplace sub-committee

The fourth Thursday of the month as follows:

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

### recyclingcommission

Meets Thursday, once a month  
Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-561-8280

**April 27**, May 25, June 22, July 27, August 24, September 28,  
October 26, November (to be announced), December 28

### recreationcommission

Meets once a month  
PAL Building, Maple Ave. 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7716

**Mon. April 3**, Mon. May 1, Tues. June 6, Tues. September 12,  
Mon. October 2, Mon. November 6, Mon. December 4

### environmentalcommission

Meets once a month  
Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-561-8280

**April 12**, May 10, June 14, July 12, August 9, September 13  
October 2, Mon. November 6, Mon. December 4

Looking for late  
**dot com... breaking news?**  
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## South Plainfield Observer

The South Plainfield Observer is  
published every Friday

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

(908) 668-0010 • FAX (908) 668-8819

Web page at <http://www.spobserver.com>  
For subscriptions, advertising or  
information, call (908) 668-0010.

The publisher is not responsible for  
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The South Plainfield Observer (U.S.P.S. 018253) is published weekly, except Thanksgiving week, by G&G Graphics Inc. 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080-2004. Second class postage paid at South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080-9998. **POSTMASTER:** Forward change of address orders to G&G Graphics Inc. 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080-2004. Subscription rates \$25 per year in South Plainfield; \$30 per year out of town. To subscribe: 908-668-0010.

### SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in South Plainfield Observer:

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

### To the Editor,

To all those that are interested in the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop. We are engaged our 29th year. The production in August will be "42nd Street." In years past, there were only a handful (if not smaller), group of people to help with the fundraising, programs, tickets, etc. Last year we developed a Summer Drama Workshop Board consisting of 15-20 people. As president of this board, I am very happy to say that last year ran very smoothly. Everyone had a job and not just one person did all the work, as in past years.

We recently held a meeting and decided that a cast of 90 members was just too much. Talking with past directors, they felt that there were just too many children to work with and we should try to cut the numbers down. How do we do this? Do we have auditions? And then only the "best" make the cast? Or do we raise the age and let everyone who tries out, get in? This program is a learning experience in theater. Our board voted to change the age, so that everyone who auditioned would get a part, whether it is a major role or a part in the chorus. How many children would be disappointed if they "weren't good enough" to make the cast by auditioning?

What about the other organizations in town? Soccer, Little League, Cheerleading, Girl and Boy Scouts, Pop Warner, etc.; they all have age restrictions. No one ever questions their age restrictions. And what about the State of New Jersey, who recently raised the age of a full drivers license from 17 to 18. I am sure that those teenagers are very upset. There are reasons for changes, we hope that they are for the better. Sometimes we make mistakes, but we are only human. Of course, there will always be someone who will not agree with changes. What's that old saying "You can't please everyone, all the time."

To address the person who wrote a letter to the editor on March 24. You stated the reasons we changed the age were that "they think that the younger people last year were fooling around too much and the older kids don't want the younger ones involved." You are totally mistaken. Yes, younger people were acting up and so were older kids. I was there almost every night of rehearsal—telling students of all ages to be quiet—so that the cast on stage could hear

their cues and directions from the directors. At no time was the allegation made, at our meeting, that the "older kids" did not want the younger ones to be involved in the production. Personally, I know that some of the "older kid" were very helpful with the younger ones, teaching them dance steps and lines.

What is my biggest concern is, is not your allegations, but that you were misinformed about the facts from a closed meeting. We are trying to make Summer Drama the best that it can be, hopefully with the cooperation of all involved.

**SINCERELY**  
**JAN LAJEUNESSE**  
**PRESIDENT OF SUMMER**  
**DRAMA WORKSHOP**

### School Overcrowding— An Unresolved Issue

#### To the Editor,

Now that the dust has settled, I would like to thank all the people who voted on the bond issue (up or down). The BOE, as it sits now, needs a lot of help on how to buy a building (school). I suggest the "board" invite the mayor and council members, who negotiated with Jack Morris, a builder, for a new senior citizen center, and the building committee for the PAL extension, namely Mike English, to see what can be done regarding school needs.

See, if you can keep in mind that at one time, in this district there were 5,300 seats for students. This was before the "open space" high school was built.

The ratables from the garden apartments on the site of the old golf range will be about \$1,000 per unit; 350 units x \$1,000 = \$350,000. Not much. The new ratables will not cover our expenses for the near future.

4,000 students at \$10,000 per student adds up to \$40 millions. As you can see, we must be careful with our expenses.

We do not need a Cadillac when a Ford or Chevy will do the job.

Try a bond for 8 to 10 million!

**PAT CRILLEY**

#### To the Editor,

In light of the situation with the Board of Education, may I suggest that instead of building more buildings and wasting the ones they have in South Plainfield, there are quite a few empty buildings that can be made into an administrative building or even classrooms. Some owe the

Borough of South Plainfield tax money. The town should take over these buildings and then the Board of Education should consider making classrooms out of them or use as administrative offices.

There is a building on Montrose Ave. that was once used to count money for banks, etc. It has been empty for a while and it is a secure building that you might be able to make into a Kindergarten. Or if you do not wish to bus small children to that building, use it for older classrooms!

Or make that an administrative building and use Cedarcroft School again for a middle school. To build more buildings and cause tax hikes is not the way to go. We don't have the minds behind this operation to look for alternative ways of attacking this situation made worse by the Board of Education weeks before the March 14 vote by cutting down on classroom size to cause over crowding!

I think the Borough of South Plainfield should look into buildings in town or old warehouses and factories not being used anymore and owe the town tax money; take those buildings and turn them into either classrooms or an administrative building and again re-use Cedarcroft School. The bottom line is, we still don't know how many children will be in town or not. The Board of Education loves to spend money and push the cart way before the horse on this one! You have to learn to overcome and adapt. I also think at this time the mayor and council should get involved helping the Board of Education find a building in South Plainfield suited to be used for classrooms if needed or administrative offices and have just one administrative office instead of having them all over town!

I have seen many old schools turned into offices, professional buildings etc.; why don't we do the opposite and turn empty buildings into classrooms or administrative offices. I think the offices should be in one building! It was a shame Cedarcroft School was ruined, as was the selling of Grant School and then wanting to buy some of it back.

That school is better then Roosevelt School, that is old news. The new word is trying to find a building already standing to use, save money and no new taxes.

**THANK YOU.**  
**TONY PISANIELLO**

See page 7 for more letters.

### Submit Letters to the Editor:

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](http://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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## From the South Plainfield Library

## Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Time for one last column from the South Plainfield Library this month:

The country (this part of it, at least) will switch to Daylight Savings Time on Sunday morning at 2 a.m. Be sure to set your clocks ahead one hour. Also, please take this into account, if you plan on renewing or returning items this weekend; our computers are real sticklers on the whole time issue.

Next week, we'll follow our usual schedule of children's Storytimes. The programs are held on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. These programs are for children ages three and over and last about an hour. You don't need to sign up in advance. Linda Hansen, the children's librarian, can provide more information.

The Friends of the Library will hold their next meeting on Tuesday at 7 p.m. The public, both members and non-members, is welcome to attend.

There have been a few changes in our Circuit collections. First, the April group from the Video Circuit should be ready for borrowing by Monday. Meanwhile, we're between groups on the Large Print circuit; the next group will be available very shortly. Finally, Monday will be the last day you can borrow from the present group of Circuit Books-on-Tape. The next group will be ready later on in April.

There are some new additions

to our permanent video collection. The general section includes replacement copies of "Ghostbusters" and the original version of "Star Wars," as well as "Monty Python Live at the Hollywood Bowl," the science fiction thriller "Alien," the original "King Kong" and the milestone horror movie "Halloween." Over in the juvenile section, we now feature "Elmo in Grouchland," "Free Willy 3," the Pokemon tape "Poke-friends" and a replacement copy of "Billboard Dad" with the Olsen Twins. Videos can be borrowed, four at a time, for two days.

Sometimes, people leave more than borrowed items at our main desk. We've had patrons leave glasses, keys, notebooks, wallets and paychecks. Since the odds are they these aren't donations to our collection, we try to keep a modest-sized lost and found. Unfortunately, space is at a premium in our building, so we can't hang onto everything forever. Furthermore, we don't have the time or staff to do serious detective work to track down who left what by mistake. So, please be careful about what you leave in our bookdrop. If you're missing something and think we might have it, contact us immediately and we'll check. As always, we appreciate your cooperation.

That's all for now. Be sure to stop by tomorrow when reps from the U.S. Mint will be passing out free samples of their product.

Consider that last bit a pre-emptive strike for April Fool's Day.

## Rescue Squad Auxiliary Seeking New Members, Hold Open Houses

The South Plainfield Rescue Squad Ladies Auxiliary is reaching out to the community in an effort to seek individuals who may be interested in joining their organization.

There will be open houses on April 19 and May 17 at the Rescue Squad building on Plainfield Ave., starting at 8 p.m.

Guests will be given an opportunity to meet current members, see how the meetings are conducted and learn what the auxil-

iary is all about. We would really enjoy having any interested parties come out and let us answer any questions you may have about our organization, while enjoying some cake and coffee. Auxiliary members hold various fundraisers throughout the year in an effort to help defray the expenses incurred by your "volunteer" rescue squad. Can you help by donating one evening a month (the auxiliary meets on the third Wednesday of every month)?

## Golden Gloves Tournament Coming

The South Plainfield Policemen's Benevolent Association (PBA) and the Plainfields' Chapter of Unico are sponsoring an extravaganza, "The New Jersey State Golden Gloves Tournament."

The "Quarter Final Bouts" of the New Jersey Golden Gloves Championship will be held at the middle school this Friday, March 31 at 8 p.m. This event promises to be a spectacular evening to be

held in South Plainfield to a sell-out crowd of over 1,200 spectators. The "Quarter Finals" represents the best amateur boxers throughout the state who participate in the New Jersey State Golden Gloves Tournament and along with a full card of boxing, as well as special guests attending the event at ringside.

For ticket sales contact either Detective Paul Wylam at 226-7662 or Frank Licato at 757-5500.

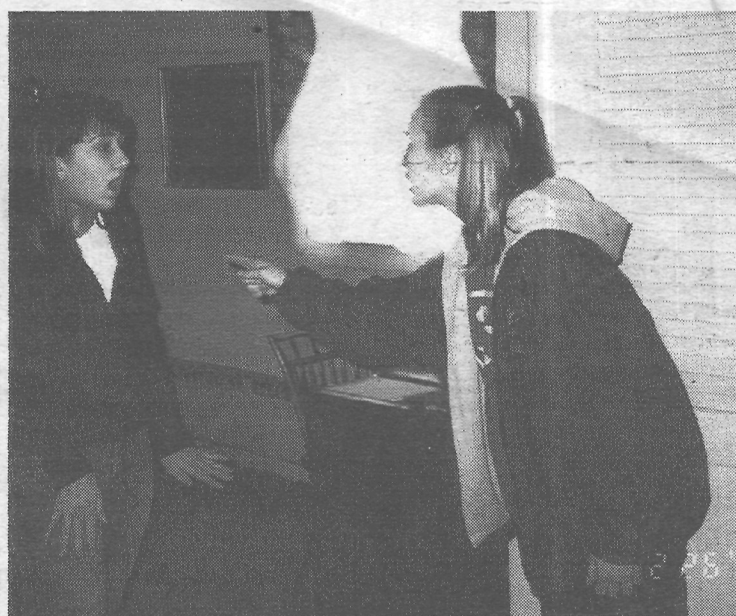
## Domestic Violence/Dating Workshop Held

Members of the South Plainfield Girl Scout Community may be the first Girl Scout Community in the nation which has created a badge concerning domestic violence.

On Feb. 26 and March 18, Girl Scouts from troops 109, 117, 167, 259, 351, 792, 819 and 843 and their respective leaders met at Wesley United Methodist Church from 9 a.m. until noon to participate in a workshop which addressed the topics of domestic violence and dating relationships.

The workshops were held, and the badge was created, in conjunction with the members of the Domestic Violence Educational Outreach Committee.

Each of the three-hour sessions was dedicated to educating girls to be aware of the signs



Girl scouts Amanda George and Jackie Noonan perform a skit on abusive behavior at a recent workshop on domestic violence and dating relationships.

and indicators which could lead to unsafe home, school and dating situations.

Those who participated agreed that the workshop was very timely. The presentations, which used skits and real life

situations, were very well received.

This is just another example of Girl Scouting in the 21st Century, "where girls grow strong." We're not just cookies anymore you know!

## boroughnotes

## Council News

■ Mayor Dan Gallagher read a proclamation declaring April Lions Club Awareness Month.

■ Councilman Ray Petronko was appointed to serve as the mayor's representative to the Housing Committee Development (HCD).

■ Sharon McGrath will become a full-time communications operator, replacing David Ramos who has submitted his resignation as a full-time communications operator. Ramos will stay on as at a part time communications operator. McGrath had been employed as a part-time operator.

■ Kevin Miesnest has been hired as a part-time groundskeeper at the Yard Waste Site at an hourly rate of \$7.50.

■ The council authorized the purchase of computer related software and hardware to upgrade the email and required servers at a cost not to exceed \$4,000 from ATC Computing.

■ Four desktop computers from Gateway Corp. will be purchased by the police department's detective bureau at a cost of \$4,124. Funding for these computers will come from the "forfeiture funds" awarded to the South Plainfield Police Department recently.

■ The Fire Prevention Bureau will lease a 2000 Ford Crown Victoria for their use. Lease payments will be funded from fines collected by the bureau for violations.

■ Michael Sikanowicz has resigned as a member of the Recreation Commission. Billy Ashnault was sworn to fill his seat, which expires Dec. 2001.

■ Councilwoman Darlene Pinto said new benches are starting to appear in the downtown area, more are on the way. Two benches placed were also placed in front of Borough Hall. The planters were purchased by the borough with grant money. Planters will also be placed in the downtown area in the near future. Pinto also asked residents should stop by

and welcome, Brenda DeSantis, the new owner of Services Plus, located on South Plainfield Ave.

■ Councilman Ray Petronko reported the construction of new swings at Shadyside Park has begun. Residents are asked to keep clear of the construction, marked by the yellow tape. Petronko also reminded residents that the early bird prices for the community pool will only be available until April 15.

## Board of Adjustment

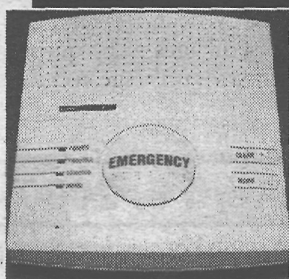
■ Skyline Management Corp. was granted final site plan approval by the Board of Adjustment at last Tuesday's meeting to renovate the Golden Acres Shopping Center. Skyline Management Company is part of the Polimeni Organization, which purchased the shopping center almost two years ago.

Golden Acres, on the corner of Oak Tree Ave. and Park Ave. is one of the oldest shopping centers in town. In recent years, many of the stores have relocated across the street to the newly constructed Oak Commons Mall. Others have closed their doors and gone out of business.

The remaining store owners have been anticipating this new facelift. They have been waiting for the day when their parking lots will be filled with shoppers again. Both Kohl's and the Burlington Coat Factory have recently opened new stores, revitalizing the Middlesex Mall and Hadley Center Mall.

Renovations include tearing down the area where McDonald's was once located, adding additional parking spaces, constructing a new Wendy's in the corner of the shopping center and expanding the store where Maxim's was once located. Some of the stores in the center include Bradlees, Shoppers World, Sportsworld, Opti-Care and Here's the Scoop. All storefronts in the shopping center will be getting a facelift. Work is expected to begin this summer and will be completed by Thanksgiving.

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# events

## Around Town

### Boy Scout Garage Sale

Boy Scout Troop #324 will be holding a multi-scout family garage sale on Apr. 1, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at St. Stephen's Church, 3145 Park Ave.

All kinds of items will be for sale. Come and shop.

### Spaghetti Dinner at American Legion

There will be a Spaghetti Dinner on Apr. 2, 1-6 p.m. 40/8 Cabane #128. Adults are \$7, children (under 8) are \$3. 243 Oak Tree Rd. Proceeds go to Nursing Scholarship. Tickets available at door.

### Lenten Fish Dinners At Sacred Heart

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul of the Sacred Heart Church will again be sponsoring Lenten Fish Dinners on March 31, April 7 and 14.

Dinners will be served in the Sacred Heart School cafeteria located on South Plainfield Ave. from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The menu will feature filet of fish (fried, broiled or parmigiana) or pizza; fresh garden salad, french fries or macaroni and cheese, cole slaw, coffee, tea, or cold drink, plus dessert. Take out orders are available.

Admission is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors and \$4 for children. Pay at the door. For information, call the Parish Center at 908-756-0633. Stations of the Cross will be held in the Church at 7 p.m.

### Easter Bunny is Coming to the PAL!

South Plainfield Recreation Department is happy to announce the annual Easter Egg

Hunt will take place on Saturday, April 8 at 1 p.m.

All South Plainfield children ages new born to nine years old should meet behind the PAL building. Harvey the Bunny will be present.

### Country Breakfast At Polish Home

The Polish National Home located on New Market Ave. will be serving a Country Buffet Breakfast on Sunday, April 9, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Eggs, bacon, sausage and other breakfast items will be served. Prices are \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors, \$3 for kids 6-12, children under five are free.

A portion of the proceeds will go to SP Volunteer Fire Dept. and DARE. Please call (908) 668-9442 for questions.

### Tourette Syndrome Support Meeting

The Tourette Syndrome Association Family Support Group of Middlesex County will meet on May 9. For more information, contact Debbie at 732-283-1439 or www.tsanj.org.

### Riley School Kindergarten Orientation

Registration for children entering kindergarten in September, 2000. You are welcome to join us to explore Riley School and to meet the teachers and staff during orientation.

Register on April 3 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. and April 5 from 12:30 to 2 p.m. Bring a copy of your immunization records for the school nurse and \$2 for a snack. If you have any questions, call Diane Hunteerton at (908) 575-5142.

### Charity Basketball Game at Franklin

The Franklin fifth grade parents will face off against the DARE officers and their friends in a fundraising basketball game on April 13, at 7 p.m. The event will be held in the SPHS gym.

Proceeds benefit the Fifth Grade Stokes Trip. There will be plenty of food and drinks on hand, along with raffle prizes. Prizes include tickets to the Nets, an AT&T cellular phone, autographed pictures of Jennifer Love Hewitt and Christina Applegate, sports equipment package and much more.

### Columbiettes Sponsoring Dance and Lunch with the Easter Bunny

The South Plainfield Columbiettes are sponsoring a Country Western dance and lunch with the Easter Bunny.

The Country Western Dinner Dance will be held Saturday, April 1 at Bobby and Mary's Restaurant on William Street in Piscataway. Doors will open at 7 p.m., with a buffet dinner served at 7:30. Dancing with Boot Scootin' Slim and Pam will run from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Tickets are \$20 and include the buffet dinner, soda and bottled water. For tickets and information, call Helen at (908) 757-8332.

Sunday, April 9, the Easter Bunny will visit the Knights of Columbus Hall on Hamilton Blvd. Doors will open at 12:30 p.m. Following lunch the bunny will distribute Easter baskets filled with goodies to all children seven and under. There will also be gifts for all ages and door prizes for each age group.

Tickets are \$7 for children

### Say Goodbye And Thank You To Jim Eckert

A farewell party to say thank you and goodbye to Jim Eckert, retiring borough clerk, is planned for Thursday, April 20 at Flanagan's from 5 to 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$20 per person and includes a buffet dinner and soda.

Reserve your place by March 31. Pay at the PAL Building on Maple Ave.

seven and under and \$6 for all others. For tickets and info, call Mary Ann at (908) 226-1222. Reservation deadline is Apr. 1.

### Senior Trip to See The Student Prince

Senior are planing on going to the Papermill Playhouse to see *The Student Prince* on Thursday, May 25. The bus leaves from the PAL building on Maple Ave. at 11:30 a.m. Tickets are \$35 per person. Purchase tickets at the PAL. Only 12 tickets left.

### Rec Sponsors Atlantic City Trip

On Sunday, Apr. 30, join the Recreation Department on a trip to Atlantic City. Bus leaves PAL at 11 a.m.

Cost of trip, \$13 per person, includes \$16 worth of free coins.

### Recreation Dept. Sponsors Yankee Trip

The South Plainfield Recreation Department is sponsoring a trip to Yankee Stadium to see the N.Y. Yankees vs. Boston Red Sox on Tuesday, June 13. Bus leaves the PAL lot at 4 p.m..

Ticket price is \$37 per person. PAL phone number is 226-7713.

### Vision 2001 Art Auction Date Set

The South Plainfield Vision 2001 Education Foundation will be holding their Annual Art Auction on Friday, Apr. 14 at South Plainfield High School. Previews start at 6 p.m. and the auction will begin at 7 p.m.

Donation is \$5 per person. There will be door prizes and hors d'oeuvres, cake and coffee. Major credit cards are accepted. The auction features framed art in all media and price ranges. Major credit cards accepted. For tickets or info, call (908) 756-8038.

### Old Time Contra-Dance Planned

Saturday, April 1, the South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission proudly presents Old-Time Contra Dancing from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Enjoy a lively evening of dance and fun at the PAL Building, located on Maple Avenue.

Traditional, American and English Square and Line Dances will be taught. Come alone or with a partner; beginners are definitely welcome. Please dress comfortably. The Caller is Sue Dupree, who will teach each dance with backup of Live Music.

Admission is free, refreshments will be sold during the evening.

### Flea Market/Fair Vendors Sought

South Plainfield Girl Scouts of Washington Rock Girl Scout Council are seeking vendors for their Family Fair and Flea Market planned for Apr. 29 (rain date, May 6) at the Middle School.

Registration fee is \$15 for a 15x5 foot area. Each additional space is \$10. You must supply your own table. Set up is from 7:30 to 9 a.m and clean up is 4-5 p.m. Sorry no food vendors.

For further information, call Cindy Bosse at (908) 756-9257.

### 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. Fee is \$15 per person. Register at the PAL, or call 226-7713 for information.

### 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.

# HOLLY PARK MOWER SHOP



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Sharon Margulies of Tumi, Inc. located on Durham Ave. presents Pat Owens of the Red Cross with an assortment of clothing. The donation is for the Welfare to Work Program, called "Winning Wearables." It assists people entering into the workforce by providing them with clothing that can be worn to work.

## southplainfieldpeople Milestones

### Area Student on Hartwick Dean's List

Elizabeth Serago, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Serago of South Plainfield, has been named to the fall term Dean's List at Hartwick College.

Inclusion on Hartwick's Dean's List is an indication of excellent academic work, including the completion of a full course load with at least a 3.50 grade point average.

Hartwick College is an innovative, private, coeducational liberal arts institution of 1,450 students. It is located in Oneonta in the western Catskill Mountain region of New York State.

### Conservationist/Ecologist to Speak at Suburban Woman's Club

The Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield will have as its guest speaker, Dr. Emile DeVito, Director of Conservation Biology with the New Jersey Conservation Foundation. The meeting will take place on Apr. 6 at 2 p.m. at the American Legion Hall in South Plainfield.

Dr. DeVito, making his second appearance at the Woman's Club meeting, is a resident of South Plainfield. He is a member of the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center's Advisory Board and has

authored a number of papers dealing with the ecological aspects of the Pine Barrens of New Jersey. Dr. DeVito is a graduate of Rutgers University with the highest honors and distinctions in the Department of Zoology. He was awarded a Garden State Fellowship by the State of New Jersey and received a doctorate in Ecology from the University of Wisconsin.

The *Star Ledger* named Dr. DeVito as one of its Extraordinary People (Sept. 14, 1997).

### Riley P.T.S.O. Offering Scholarships

John E. Riley School P.T.S.O. is taking applications for its annual college scholarships.

Applications are available at South Plainfield High School, Riley School or by calling 753-8522. The P.T.S.O. offers two \$500 scholarships. Applicants

must be residents of South Plainfield graduating from high school (private or public) this June and must have been promoted from fifth grade, Riley School.

The filing deadline for these scholarships is Apr. 28.

### 2001 Borough Budget Hearings Scheduled - Public Is Invited

Hearing for the Borough's 2001 budget will begin next week. Ed Kubala asked that residents please attend the planned budget meetings and give their opinions. "The public's input is an important part of the budget process," said Kubala.

The first meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 3. All meetings take place in the evening in Borough Hall either in the council chambers or the conference room. Come down, ask questions and become a part of the process. Additional meetings will be listed as they are scheduled.

#### Monday, April 3—Council Chambers

- 6:00 Assessment of Taxes
- 6:15 Financial Administration
- 6:30 Collection of Taxes
- 6:45 Borough Clerk
- 7:15 Legal Services & Costs
- 7:30 Administration & Purchasing
- 7:45 Computer Services
- 8:00 Borough Council

#### Tuesday, April 4—Conference Room

- 6:00 Board of Health
- 6:30 Administration of Public Assistance
- 6:45 Public Works Director
- 7:00 Public Buildings & Grounds
- 7:15 Vehicle Maintenance
- 7:30 Solid Waste
- 7:45 Road Repairs & Maintenance
- 8:00 Snow Removal
- 8:15 Operation of Compactor Facility

### Girl Scouts Adopt New T-Shirt Design

The members of the South Plainfield Girl Scout Community will soon be sporting new T-Shirts thanks to Julianne Bosse of Junior Troop 91.

Julianne created the winning design for the T-Shirts in a contest sponsored by the South Plainfield Girl Scout Community and received movie passes to Regal Cinema for her efforts.

She was recognized at the South Plainfield Girl Scout Community Leaders' meeting held at the Elks Lodge on New Market Ave. on Thursday, March 9.



Julianne Bosse, who created the winning design for the Girl Scouts t-shirt.

### Ponytail Assn. Accepting Scholarship Applications

The South Plainfield Parents' Ponytail Association is now accepting applications for their college scholarships. Applicants must be a South Plainfield resident graduating high school this June and must have participated in the South Plainfield Recreation Ponytail Softball Program for a minimum of three years.

Applications can be picked up at the South Plainfield High School Guidance Department. Applications can also be obtained by writing the South Plainfield Parents' Ponytail Association at P.O. Box 441, South Plainfield, NJ 07080. The filing deadline for applications is May 1, 2000.

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

Please mail, fax or email your copy, Send to South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, So. Plfd., NJ 07080. Fax to (908) 668-8819, email us on our web page at spobserver.com.



### interactive computer column

By Briggs Longbothum

Can you actually believe it that Motorola et al who made up the Iridium worldwide satellite phone system is actually going to de-orbit and burn up dozens and dozens of those perfectly functional satellites? This was the system that first provided worldwide telephony without any blind spots (outside the government and military of course) for civilian use. So they went bankrupt. They were pretty cool to watch when they flew overhead. As the satellites rotated in orbit, sunlight was reflected off the solar panel and you could see these super bright flashes of light moving quickly overhead (sometimes in daylight too) then fading out within seconds. These were the Iridium Flares I know I've mentioned before. Hope you had a chance to see them.

**TIP:** The night sky is full of satellites worth looking for. Check into this website and bookmark it for future visits. [www.heavens-above.com](http://www.heavens-above.com). You can manually enter your latitude and longitude or find yourself in their huge database of worldwide locations.

There are loads of other great sites for sky watchers too and I'd like to hear any that are your favorites. With the warm evenings just around the corner, the internet is really the best place to check out what's up.

I've got an idea to share with you, but I need you to do something too. I've been thinking of (in addition to my written column here) maybe publishing it also on the OBSERVER website too. This would be a fun thing to do because I could also offer live links to the sites I'm always mentioning. Beyond that, I could run some interactive content as well, maybe even some .wav files too. But, you have help sell this idea to my editor. Despite my requests, I don't get replies from you readers and I'm just hoping some of you are still alive. It won't work for me to ask for the server space, you have to ask for me. I'll be happy to do the work here and send it in for site publication, but if nobody wants it, you won't get it, get it? Remember, this is supposed to be an "interactive col-

umn" and that means the dialog needs to flow both ways here. You know, as in RSVP.

I've been enjoying life out here in Indiana for the last two months, and I do miss my old pals in town there. The real fun part is that even though I'm now 600+ miles away, I still hear from friends and relatives every day. I think it just confirms what was shown years ago, that the biggest use of the internet is still for email. Of course, email has grown beyond just plain text copy being sent back and forth. With webcams and better computers available for cheap, sights and sounds are being sent as readily as typeface content. It's fun to click on a message from my nieces and see a picture of their dog and sounds of him barking at the same time. I'm sure most of you have received and sent multimedia greeting cards from places like hallmark and blue mountain arts, but it isn't difficult to make you own from scratch either. I would hope that several of you have tried and done these things already. This is the type of contact I'm hoping some readers would be sending back my way. And this is the stuff I'd like to post on the newspaper's site too. It would make for some creative graffiti and chance to show your stuff. Do I have any takers? Take a moment and let's do the feedback thing and see if we're going to keep this column alive and do something with the paper's website. If we can drum up some interest here we could get really get this off the ground. What do you think? I'm here waiting to hear from you.

Till next time, I'm still Bruggo@home.com (Briggs Longbothum, ed.).

### CORRECTION

In last week's issue the picture caption stated that Father McGuire was being buried at Hillside Cemetery. Father McGuire was laid to rest with the rest of priests and nuns in Holy Redeemer Catholic Cemetery right here in South Plainfield. We regret the error.

### How You Can Be a Part of the South Plainfield Observer.

**ENCOURAGE YOUR ORGANIZATION TO SEND US THEIR UPCOMING EVENTS.** We want to add them to AROUND TOWN. It can make your event more successful. Send them to us by mail, fax or e-mail.

**SEND US INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR MILESTONES,** i.e., promotions, births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, graduations. Include photos. Share your good news with the community!

**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](mailto:ggnan@aol).

**SUBSCRIBE.** It's \$25. per year for 52 issues!!



## Help Middle School Earn Free Computer Hardware

The South Plainfield Middle School is participating in the AT&T Points for Schools program. The more AT&T residential long distance customers talk, the more points the middle school can earn toward free computer hardware and educational software packages.

It's simple, the middle school earns five points for every dollar a supporter spends on qualifying AT&T Residential long distance phone calls. Then, the school redeems its points for free educational technology products con-

tained in the AT&T Points for Schools Catalog.

Participation does not impact a supporter's rates, calling plans or services and the students receive the benefit of something a supporter does every day—talk. AT&T keeps all of the records and manages all of the program administration. All the registered school has to do is get AT&T residential long distance customers to enroll and support their school.

So talk to your friends, relatives and community members and tell them about the AT&T Points for

schools program and how they can help the middle school get free educational technology products for all of its students.

To enroll, call 1-800-232-8200 and follow the prompts in the automated voice system. Be sure to have the school account number: 00900861 ready to enter.

If you have any questions about the AT&T Points for Schools program or how you can help, please feel free to call the AT&T Points for Schools Program Coordinator, Bill Beegle, assistant principal at 754-4620, ext. 310.

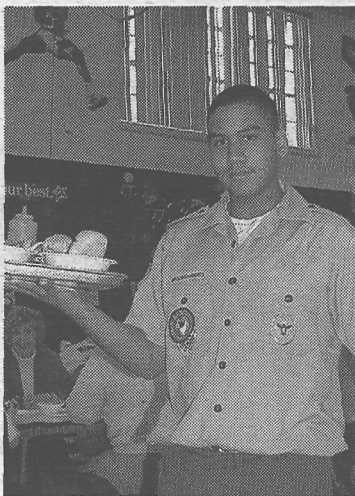
## Boy Scouts Serve up Chili at Fest

By Patricia Abbott

Boy Scout troop 207 recently held their first annual Chili Fest. The event is sure to become a new tradition in South Plainfield. Tickets were \$4 and included unlimited chili, bread, salad and soda for just \$4. Desert of ice cream was offered at just 50 cents per bowl.

Chairperson Angela Uffer noted that all the parents helped make the Chili Fest a success. Parent Dawn Toth ran the kitchen the day of the event. From 10:30 a.m. till nearly 2 p.m. the high school kitchen were filled with parent volunteers chopping and cooking to create the many stages that would become the 1st annual Boy Scout Chili Fest.

Scout master Randy Gemenden found an article about a scout troop in Montana that has held annual Chili Fests for 15 years. They decided to try this unusual fundraiser. The Chili Fest was an



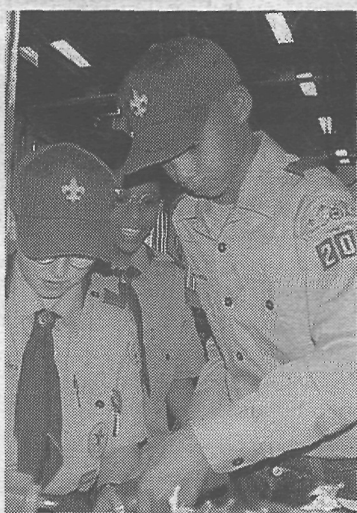
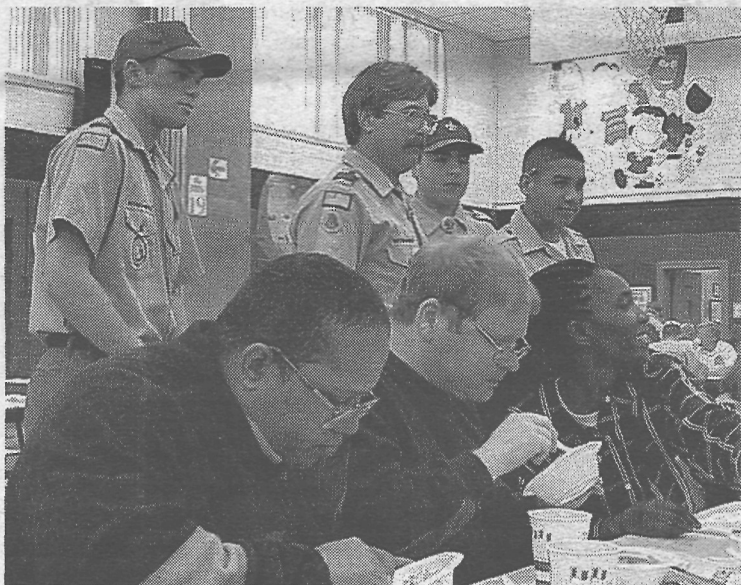
immediate success. The scouts served all guests at their tables, they were very conscientious always making sure the guest's needs were attended to immediately. They refilled soda and replenished chili and salad throughout the evening.

The fundraiser was declared a

success before it ended. Two dollars of each ticket sold went into the personal camp fund of the scout selling the ticket. The scouts determine where the funds go. It might be towards summer camp or towards monthly trips. An additional two dollars of each ticket went to the general fund for gear and trips.

Residents of Keystone were special guest of the scouts. Nineteen residents and five adults from the facility attended. The boys mingled and talked to their guests and posed for a picture.

Twenty five boys worked hard alongside their leaders and parents. They noted that the town is very supportive of the boys and they could not have done this without their sponsors. Randy Gemenden said there was a sense of community at the event and this is something they want to impress upon the boys. He said "Everyone left smiling and full. We ask that everyone that attended this year tell 2 people for next year.



## SPHS Students Performing Tommy Next Week

The WHO is coming to South Plainfield next week, as South Plainfield High Students perform the Broadway musical *Tommy*. From the director and producer of "Godspell" and "Little Shop of Horrors" this year the drama staff picked a show they knew not only the students would like, but the parents would love.

"Tommy" is a story that takes place in London and is about a boy who witnesses the man he knows as his Father murdered by his true father. The Mother and Father tell Tommy he did not see or hear anything. This truly has an impact on the four-year-old Tommy and he becomes blind, deaf and dumb. It is not until his peers find out he can play pinball that he becomes a "Sensation."

One of the central focal points of this show is the mirror that Tommy turns to throughout the show. It is not until Tommy's Mother breaks the mirror that Tommy is "Free." Tommy finds out



how fake people are and everyone else finds out that superstars are people just like they are.

The role of Tommy is played in three ages, four-year-old Tommy (Jake Butinski), ten-year-old Tommy (Chris Imbrosiano), and twenty-year-old Tommy (Jason Kollarik). Tommy's parents, Mrs. and Mr. Walker are played by Laura Walters and Matt Pulomena. Other members of

Tommy's family and fans include, Cousin Kevin (Tommy Doyan), Uncle Ernie (Brad Teirney), Sally Simpson (Kristyn Ciarillio) and The Gypsy Queen (Nicole Scavone). Director Shayne Austin

Miller adds, "Out of all my productions at South Plainfield High School, Tommy will be the one to take down the walls and pump up the town." Tracy Murray, producer and musical director further states, "The Choreography this year by our new choreographer Ammie Andrews will be a Sensation."

Tommy will be performed in the South Plainfield High School Auditorium on Thursday and Friday April 6 and 7 at 7 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, April 8 and 9 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for students and are available at the door.



## Riley Scoops Up Dinner For Fifth Grade Stokes Class

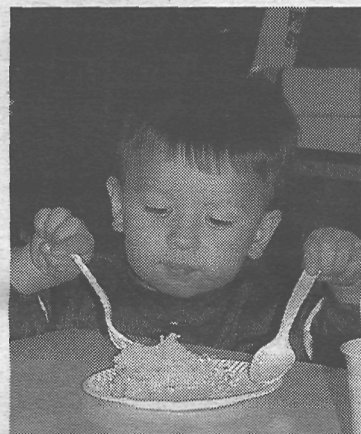
Story/photos by Patricia Abbott

Riley School's annual scoop dinner saw a steady flow of people arrive throughout the evening.

Parent volunteers in the kitchen, served the food with a smile and kept the line moving quickly. Chicken nuggets and pizza bagels seemed to be a favorite with the younger set.

The event offered a wide variety of food as well as deserts. As one dish after another was depleted food continued to arrive. Late comers were not disappointed by a lack of selection or cold food. Each class provided different items.

The fourth grade students helped with the set up and clean up as well as working in hour shifts during the dinner. Chairperson Debbie Seider offered a huge



thank you to Marriott for their donation of rolls, salad and two sheetcakes. Debbie also noted that all the parents came through with food.

The successful event organized by the Riley School Stokes Committee was a fundraiser for the fifth grade Stokes trip.

## Vision 2001 Car/Truck Show

Vision 2001 Education Foundation, along with the Northwest Jersey Camaro Club, is planning to hold their Annual Car and Truck Show to benefit of the South Plainfield Vision 2001 Education Foundation. The show is planned for Sunday, May 21 (raindate is May 28) from 9 a.m. in the high school parking lot.

Donation is \$2 for spectators. Door prizes, 50/50 drawings, food and beverages will be available. Miss New Jersey and Wacky Wayne the DJ will be there.

Reserve your space early. All show cars must be in the parking area by noon. Preregistration is \$12 and \$15 on the day of the show. Registration closes at noon on the day of the show. Registration Deadline is April 30. Vendor cost is \$20 and the Car Corral is \$15.

For further information call Tom at (908) 755-6276, Dorothy at (973) 584-1542 or Ed at (609) 586-5222. No alcoholic beverages, pets, bikes or skateboards are allowed.



## Going Out of Business Liquidation Sale

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## In My Opinion

Continued from page 2  
Letter to the Editor

It is my great honor to introduce to you, Board of Education candidate Loretta Cooper. Loretta has lived in South Plainfield for over forty-eight years. In the 1960's, Loretta and eight fathers brought Pop Warner Football to our town, and for over thirty-five years she has worked with the Pop Warner Eagles Cheerleaders. Loretta has raised her family to be caring, contributing members of our society, and they have flourished because of her example.

She has been active in the diligently meeting the needs of the children of the original Grant School for many years as volunteer, officer and president. For six years (1983-1989) Loretta Cooper served all of South Plainfield's students as an active, positive force on the Board of Education. During her two terms on the Board, she attended all meetings, unless ill, and availed herself of all state conventions and workshops. It was during her tenure as a board member that the high school was reconfigured from its open space into a more traditional format. We must point out that that process took three years to complete, with much direct input from students, staff and community members before Loretta would vote to proceed with changing our high school. After her two-term service on the board of education, Loretta's family commitments required her full attention, but she attended every public meeting she could. For over two years Loretta has volunteered her time at South Plainfield High School, serving as an unpaid hall monitor/substitute grandmother to all of the kids on all of the school days. She is a widowed senior citizen who is well aware of the issues of "fixed income," but is a senior citizen who recognizes that the needs of our children must come first.

**JERRY LIMA**

### To the Editor,

I am running for reelection as a member of the South Plainfield Board of Education. I have served for two terms and one year and during this period I have made conscientious efforts to insure students were provided with resources that would provide them the opportunity to be the best they can be. My efforts were directed to insuring that non-instructional costs were controlled and where possible reduced in recognition of the taxpayer impact. Last year budget taxes were reduced by three tax points and this year's budget has no tax increase. These results were achieved not only by controlling costs but also making frequent and constant requests for the state to increase state aid for our district and we have achieved some success in this regard.

I have always believed the road to quality education does not mean more money alone. It requires performance, accountability and achievement of definitive educational objectives. We must be certain that those who are paid and responsible for delivery of the educational product return value to the students and taxpayers. That means we must insure those in administration, instruction and related activities are held accountable for quality, effective performance and commitment to achieving measurable educational objectives. The education of all students should be and must be Job One. I ask for your support.

Vote Line 3 Frank Mikorski in the election on Apr. 18—and I commit to continue to stand for quality, accountability, performance and effective use of your hard-earned tax dollars. I further commit that I will not be influenced by special interest. I will also continue with efforts to influence the legislature to provide our district with its fair share of state aid and to pass legislation to require developers to pay educational impact fees. This is particularly important because of the impact that the approximately 800 units of apartments, townhouses and condominiums that have been approved as well as the many individual homes being built in our community. This level of new construction will have a substantial impact on our infrastructure and the need for additional educational facilities.

It is important that you vote and to exercise this right. I also ask you to vote Line 1 Carol Byrne.

**FRANK A. MIKORSKI**

### To the Editor,

I'd like to introduce myself; my name is Tom Delaney and I am a first time candidate for the South Plainfield School Board. I have decided to run for the school board because now is a time when difficult decisions are to be made that will affect the future quality of education in the South Plainfield Public Schools. This next School Board must formulate the necessary plans to face the future needs of our district. We need to ensure that our children are competitive in the global marketplace of the twenty-first century while being fiscally responsible to the taxpayers.

We need to acknowledge the desires of the administration, staff, and the parents to develop a forward-looking program for the future of our public school system.

The overcrowding at Roosevelt School needs to be addressed. The school was overcrowded when my daughter attended kindergarten. This fall, she starts high school. My mother, Virginia Phillips, went to Roosevelt School in the '30s. I will work to see that we replace it with a quality place

of learning, not a wasteful monument. The amount of residential development, plus the transition from empty nesters to growing families throughout the district will stretch most of our schools past their capacity.

My wife, Ann, and I moved our family from the south side back to Chambers St. where I grew up. Our son now attends Riley School. My knowledge and experience with those two schools leads me to believe that all the schools have needs that require our attention. Lack of foresight and planning has left the facilities in a state of disrepair that must be addressed.

There is the possibility of split sessions for the elementary schools to meet state-mandated class size limits. All throughout my years at South Plainfield High School in the early 70's, we had split sessions. It was very difficult to learn in that atmosphere. At an elementary level, that scheduling would be deplorable and disruptive. We, as a community, need to do all we possibly can to avoid this possibility.

Those who know me will tell you that I am deliberate and open-minded in reasoning a common sense answer in the decisions I make. I don't claim to have all the answers, but I will work hard to find them, so that all our children and the community as a whole will benefit, so I respectfully request your vote on Apr. 18.

**THANK YOU,  
THOMAS DELANEY**

### Letter to the Editor

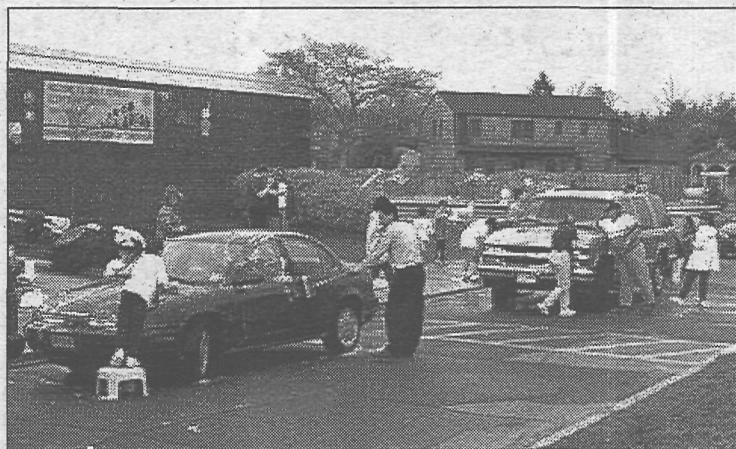
Every once in a while, we are provided an opportunity to send someone to our board of education who truly can make a difference! Such a moment exists with the candidacy of Loretta Cooper. Experience is only one of many significant qualities Loretta will bring to the board. A longtime South Plainfield resident, Loretta can be trusted to do what is right for all concerned—kids, parents, staff, community. Best of all, Loretta cannot be lured away by special interests. She helped this district through troubled times before, and now the time is right for her to do it again. I served two terms on the board of education with Loretta, and I personally know her to be a woman of her word. Please join me on Apr. 18, and cast your vote for Loretta Cooper.

**SINCERELY,  
ALBERT MILLER  
PAST VICE PRESIDENT  
SP BOARD OF EDUCATION**

### To The Editor:

I am writing to endorse Richard Gumina as a candidate for the upcoming board of education election. Rick and his family have been personal friends of my family for over twenty years. As such, I have come to know him quite well. Rick is an open, personable

*Continued on page 12*



## Cub Scouts Clean Up

Cub Scout Pack 324 held their second annual car wash at Kennedy School last weekend. Parents manned the hoses while the youths scrubbed and dried cars.

## Franklin Students Celebrate Brotherhood Month



Enjoying the festivities are: (front row from left) Danny Alligier, Arielle Armand, Briant Colocho, Richard DeLeon, and Meghan Murphy, (rear from left) Wilfredo Rosado, Maria Munoz, Tyler Whalen, Carlos Loyo, and Breeana Hatcher.

Franklin School students in Mrs. Stemmler's and Mrs. Furka's class celebrated Brotherhood Month by sharing multi-ethnic dishes. The children and their parents prepared food indicative of their native backgrounds.

Although it is not a large

class, it is a veritable melting pot of cultures, as was evidenced by the wide array of desserts, main dishes, and side dishes. Some of the countries (and continents) represented were Mexico, Africa, Italy, Honduras, Guatemala, Ireland, Jamaica and Hungary.

## Lions Palm Sunday Breakfast

Sponsored by the South Plainfield Lions Club  
Helping the Visually & Hearing Impaired Since 1947....

When: **Palm Sunday, April 16, 2000**

Where: **South Plainfield High School Cafeteria**

Time: **8:00 am to 12:00 noon**

Ticket Price: **\$5.00**

Tickets may be purchased at the door or through a Lions member.  
For information, please call 755-2289.



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# Sports

## South Plainfield High School 2000 Spring Schedule

### Varsity & Junior Varsity Baseball

Fri., March 31	New Providence (scrimmage)	Home	3:45
Sat., April 1	Perth Amboy	Home	11 a.m.
Tues., April 4	North Brunswick	Home	3:45
Fri., April 7	Sayreville	Home	3:45
Sat., April 8	North Plainfield Tournament	Away	2:00
Mon., April 10	Perth Amboy	Away	3:45
Wed., April 12	Monroe Township	Home	3:45
Fri., April 14	Colonia	Away	3:45
Sat., April 15	North Plainfield Tournament		4:15/7:45
Sat., April 15	Roselle Catholic (JV only)	Home	10 a.m.
Mon., April 17	South Brunswick	Away	3:45
Tues., April 18	Bishop Ahr	Home	3:45
Sat., April 22	Somerville	Home	11 a.m.
Tues., April 25	Sayreville	Away	3:45
Wed., April 26	North Brunswick	Away	3:45
Sat., April 29	Wardlaw-Hartridge (varsity only)	Home	11 a.m.
Tues., May 2	Monroe Township	Away	3:45
Thurs., May 4	Colonia	Home	3:45
Fri., May 5	J. F. Kennedy	Home	3:45
Sat., May 6	J. P. Stevens	Away	2:00
Mon., May 8	Bishop Ahr	Away	3:45
Wed., May 10	South Brunswick	Home	3:45
Sat., May 13	GMC Tournament		
Mon., May 15	Johnson Regional	Home	3:45
Fri., May 19	Old Bridge	Away	3:45
Wed., May 24	Edison	Away	3:45
	State Tournament		

### Varsity & Junior Varsity Softball

Sat., April 1	Metuchen	Away	11 a.m.
Tues., April 4	North Brunswick	Away	3:45
Sat., April 8	Watchung Hills	Home	2:00
Mon., April 10	Perth Amboy	Home	3:45
Wed., April 12	J. F. Kennedy	Away	3:45
Fri., April 14	Colonia	Home	3:45
Sat., April 15	North Plainfield	Home	11 a.m.
Tues., April 18	Bishop Ahr	Away	3:45
Wed., April 19	Bridgewater-Raritan	Away	3:45
Sat., April 22	Carteret	Home	11 a.m.
Tues., April 25	Sayreville	Home	3:45
Wed., April 26	North Brunswick	Home	3:45
Fri., April 28	Perth Amboy	Away	3:45
Sat., April 29	Bishop Eustace/ Union/Bound Brook	Home	10/12:30
Tues., May 2	J. F. Kennedy	Home	3:45
Wed., May 3	Ridge	Away	3:45
Thurs., May 4	Colonia	Away	3:45
Mon., May 8	Bishop Ahr	Home	3:45
Tues., May 9	J. P. Stevens	Away	3:45
Fri., May 12	Sayreville	Away	3:45
Sat., May 13	Piscataway	Away	11 a.m.
Mon., May 15	Old Bridge	Away	3:45
Wed., May 17	GMC Tournament		
	State Tournament		

### Boy's Track

Wed., April 5	North Brunswick	Home	3:45
Wed., April 12	Colonia	Home	3:45
Wed., April 19	Perth Amboy	Away	3:45
Wed., April 26	Bishop Ahr	Home	3:45
Tues., May 2	GMC Relays		
Wed., May 3	GMC Relays		
Thurs., May 11	Monroe Township	Away	3:45
Wed., May 17	J. F. Kennedy	Away	3:45
Sat., May 20	GMC Championships		
Wed., May 24	Sayreville	Home	3:45
Fri., May 26	Sectional Meet		
Sat., May 27	Sectional Meet		
Fri., June 2	Group Championships		
Sat., June 3	Group Championships		
Wed., June 7	State Championships		
	Holmdel Relays		
	Penn Relays		
	Millburn Relays		
	Matawan Relays		
	Monmouth Invitational		

### Girl's Track

Wed., April 5	North Brunswick	Away	3:45
Wed., April 12	Colonia	Away	3:45
Wed., April 19	Perth Amboy	Home	3:45
Wed., April 26	Bishop Ahr	Away	3:45
Tues., May 2	GMC Relays		
Wed., May 3	GMC Relays		
Thurs., May 11	Monroe Township	Home	3:45
Wed., May 17	J. F. Kennedy	Home	3:45
Sat., May 20	GMC Championships		
Wed., May 24	Sayreville	Away	3:45
Fri., May 26	Sectional Meet		
Sat., May 27	Sectional Meet		
Fri., June 2	Group Championships		
Sat., June 3	Group Championships		
Wed., June 7	State Championships		
	Blue Devil Classic		
	Holmdel Relays		
	Penn Relays		

### Boy's Tennis

Mon., April 3	St. Mary's	Away	3:45
Wed., April 5	Middlesex	Home	3:45
Fri., April 7	Spotswood	Away	3:45
Fri., April 14	South River	Home	3:45
Mon., April 17	Metuchen	Home	3:45
Wed., April 19	Bound Brook	Home	3:45
Mon., April 24	Highland Park	Away	3:45
Wed., April 26	Metuchen	Away	3:45
Fri., April 28	GMC Tournament		
Sat., April 29	GMC Tournament		

## Golden Gloves Tournament

The South Plainfield Police-men's Benevolent Association (PBA) and the Plainfields' Chapter of Unico are sponsoring an Extravangaza, "The New Jersey State Golden Gloves Tournament".

The "Quarter Final Bouts" of the New Jersey Golden Gloves Championship will be held at the Middle School on Friday, March 31 at 8 p.m. This event promises to be a spectacular festive evening to be held in South Plainfield to a sellout crowd of over 1,200 spectators. The "Quarter Finals" represents the Best Amateur Boxers throughout the state that participate in the New Jersey State Golden Gloves Tournament and we will have a full card of boxing, as well as special guests attending the event, that evening at ringside.

For questions and ticket sales contact either Detective Paul Wylam at 226-7662 or Frank Licato at 757-5500.

## Pro-Wrestling Spring Breakout Coming to Town

The South Plainfield High School Athletic Booster Club are sponsoring the Pro-wrestling Spring Breakout, featuring superstars from the WWF and the National Wrestling Alliance on Saturday, April 8 starting at 7:35 p.m. in the South Plainfield High School gym.

Tickets can be purchased at B&C Deli on Belmont Ave., Sal's Spirit Shoppe on Park Ave, the PAL Building on Maple Ave. and Learning Express in Oak Park Commons.

All proceeds benefit the Booster Club.

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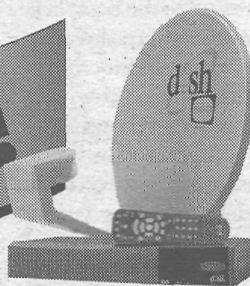
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# Sports

By Frank Hanley

## juniorbaseballclubnotes

**SPJBC Scholarship**—Applications for the club's annual scholarship are due this weekend. The filing date for applications is April 1, 2000. Each year the club offers up to two \$1,000 scholarships. Applicants must be residents of South Plainfield graduating this June and have participated at the SPJBC for a minimum of five years. Applications are available at the High School Guidance Department or contact the club.

**Snack Stand Captains**—The club is looking for a two additional snack stand captains. The captains are needed for the Tuesday and Saturday evening shifts. The captains are responsible for the operation of the stand. Contact Tom Curtis or Bob Golon at the clubhouse for more detail.

**Around the Complex**—The work continues to get the complex ready for the 2000 playing season. Work details are scheduled for Saturday, April 1 and April 8 starting at 8:00 a.m. Anyone who can spare some time is asked to help out.

**Registration**—Anyone still interested in playing should contact the club ASAP, as there are only a few openings remaining.

**Somerset Patriots**—This year, the club is offering tickets to see the Somerset Patriots. The club has reserved 300 tickets for the game scheduled on Friday night, May 26. The tickets are \$8 each and are being sold on a first come-first serve basis. Contact John Rayho at 754-8904 for more information.

**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.

**Woman's Auxiliary**—The Woman's Auxiliary is sponsoring their annual Little Miss Baseball contest. The voting boxes are out at local businesses, so please remember to cast your vote. The '2000 Little Miss Baseball' will be announced on Opening Day. Contact Cindy Eichler at 769-4047 for more information.

**SPJBC Annual Dance**—The SPJBC annual dance will be held on Saturday, June 3, from 7:00 p.m. to midnight at the VFW Hall. We will be holding a "Casino Night." The activities will include black jack, roulette and dice tables and a DJ will provide music. Tickets are \$45 each, which includes open bar and buffet. Tables of 8 to 10 people may be reserved. Contact Cindy Eichler at 769-4047 for tickets. A limited number of tickets are available.

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

### Events at a Glance

Scholarship Application Deadline - April 1

Work Detail - Saturday, April 1 and April 8 at 8:00 a.m. at the complex

Monthly Meeting - Monday, April 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse

Booster Weekend - April 6, 7 and 8

Opening Day - Saturday April 15

## Pro-Wrestling Spring Breakout Coming to Town

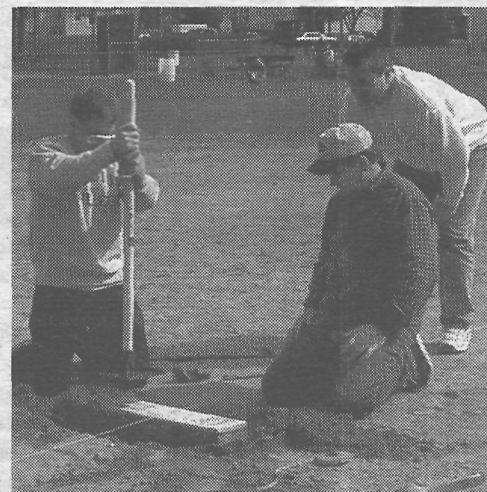
The South Plainfield High School Athletic Booster Club are sponsoring the Pro-wrestling Spring Breakout, featuring superstars from the WWF and the National Wrestling Alliance on Saturday, April 8 starting at 7:35 p.m. in the South Plainfield High School gym

Wrestling stars include The Mean Street Posse, Gilberg, Extreme Stars, Axl Rotten, Fronus, Pitbulls, Equilizer and 911. A

women's NWA title match will feature Nicole Bass. Also appearing will be as special guest manager, South Plainfield's own, The Tuna and many more celebrities.

Tickets can be purchased at B&C Deli on Belmont Ave., Sal's Spirit Shoppe on Park Ave, the PAL Building on Maple Ave. and Learning Express in Oak Park Commons. All proceeds benefit the Booster Club.

## Ponytail Softball Fields Get Spruced Up For Opening Day, Saturday, April 8



Last Saturday Pitt Street Park was a beehive of activity as parents, with the help of volunteers from Home Depot, built sand containers behind the back stops on each field. The fields and the area around them were also spruced up in preparation for opening day, Saturday, April 8, just a week away. Home Depot donated the material for the containers and also were on hand to help in constructing them. Home Depot volunteers from the Mid-Atlantic, Canada and New England, as well as the local area were Mark Boehm, Ed Dvernachuk, Deane' Croce, Melissa Corforte, Ari Levine, Lisa Huewetter, Nicole Lomba, Bob Boehm, Steve Castro, Mike MacDonald, Nathalie LaLumiere and Ciarra Hamill.

## High School Baseball and Softball Teams Set to Open the Season

By Brian Cochrane

The South Plainfield Tigers season on the diamond begins this weekend, as both the boys and the girls open their schedule on Saturday, April 1.

The Lady Tigers Softball Team will be out to defend their 1999 Greater Middlesex White Division title, as well as improve on last years 19-7 record. Once again Alison Barrett (19 wins, 13 shutouts in 99), will anchor the mound for the Tigers in their quest to break the 20 win mark.

The girls play their home games next to the high school tennis courts. Their first game is scheduled for Saturday, April 1 at Metuchen at 11 a.m.

On the boys side, Coach Ray Ciewicz starts the season with a very young team which includes only two seniors and not a lot of experience underneath. Matching last years 17-10 mark will take hard work and a lot of focus.

Their work begins Saturday with the first of three straight home-games to open the season.

The first home game is against Perth Amboy and starts at 11 a.m. The boys home games are played behind John F. Kennedy School on Norwood Ave.

### UPCOMING HOME DATES

#### Boys

April 1 vs. Perth Amboy @ 11 a.m.  
April 4 vs. No. Brunswick at 3:45  
April 7 vs. Sayerville at 3:45

#### Girls

April 8 vs. Watchung at 2:00  
April 10 vs. Perth Amboy 3:45

Complete Schedule on page 8

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# Obituaries

## Jean (Jenny) Endyk, 78

Jean (Jenny) Endyk of South Plainfield died on Tuesday, March 21 at Franklin Health Care in Franklin Twp.

She was born in Waterbury, Connecticut and was a former resident of Franklin Twp. before moving to South Plainfield 52 years ago. Mrs. Endyk was an assembler for Matel Toys in South Plainfield before her retirement.

She was a member of St. Andrews Ukrainian Orthodox Church in South Bound Brook.

She is survived by her beloved husband, Peter Endyk; her loving children, Robert Endyk of Denver, Col.; Peter Endyk of Scottsdale, Az. and Patricia Bowers of South Plainfield; a sister, Theresa (Chet) Dohanyos of South Plainfield and five grandchildren.

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

## Elaine Voorhees Phillips, 73

Elaine Voorhees Phillips died on Monday, March 27 in her home.

Born in South Plainfield, where she has been a lifelong resident. Mrs. Phillips was a homemaker. She had attended St. Mary's Grammar School and graduated from North Plainfield High School.

Mrs. Phillips was a member of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield, where she had been a girl scout leader and had worked for the church's bazaar, making many articles for the craft booth. She was the secretary of the Morning Star Bowling League at Stelton Lanes in Edison. She had also bowled in the Early Morning Bird League in the Strike n Spare bowling alley in Greenbrook. She was an avid golfer and had been the 1970 Club Champion of the Women's Group of the Plainfield West 9 Golf Course and was very active with the Rutgers Women's Golf League.

Surviving are her husband of 55 years, Albert R. Phillips; three sons, John of Annandale, Richard of Whitehouse and Allen of Coventry, Conn.; a daughter, Nancy Feraro of St. Louis, MO; three sisters, Alice

Siegelin and Margaret Appolioni, both of Clairmont, Fla. and Virginia Popik of South Plainfield. Also surviving are 11 grandchildren.

Funeral services were held in McCriskin Home for Funerals.

## A. Clifford Vail, 21

A. Clifford Vail died at Bloomsburg University from a fraternity house fire, where he was a senior and a member of the Tau Kappa Epsilon, majoring in business.

Born in Plainfield, Cliff had resided in Dunellen all of his life. He attended the St. John's Elementary School and served as an altar boy.

Cliff played for four years in little league baseball, winning Rookie of the Year. He also played for one year on the All Star Team and Pop-Warner football for Washington Rock for two years.

He was a 1996 graduate of Dunellen High School, where he played football, basketball and baseball throughout his high school years. He lettered in his junior and senior year. He was captain of the football team during his senior year where he was also was the recipient of the Bill Denny Scholar Athlete Award.

Cliff also was a member of the Key Club and served on the Mistletoe and Prom Committees.

During his high school years, he was employed by Dunellen Bagel. He also worked during the summers at United National Bank and for Hardy Brothers Carpet and Vinyl Flooring.

His maternal grandparents, Harold and Anita Robinson have predeceased him.

Surviving are his parents, A. Clifford, Jr. and Diane Vail of Dunellen; a sister, Alyssa Vail, a freshman in University of Scranton in Pa.; a brother, Andrew Vail of Dunellen; his paternal grandparents, A. Clifford, Sr. and Rose Vail of South Plainfield.

He is also survived by many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral services were under the direction of McCriskin Home For Funerals. Memorial contributions in his memory may be made to the A. Clifford Vail, III Scholarship Fund, c/o Dunellen Lions Club, 235 Columbia St., Dunellen, NJ 08812.

## Vision 2001 Names Auction Chair

*Continued from page 1*

donated to the Harvest Festival and the spaghetti dinner and much more.

Georgeann's daughter, Georgeann Larson, quietly added her praises, offering insight into this phenomenal woman. Her description of her mother, portrays a woman who always been involved in people oriented activities. Georgeann is a past president of Pop Warner Football and currently serves on the Recreation Commission. She is recovering from breast cancer and speaks to women in the early stages of the disease, providing them with much needed support. The younger

Georgeann noted that her mother raised her and her brother, Nicholas, as a single mom for many years.

Neighbor Mary Sacks had only positive things to say about Georgeann. Whenever Mary's children had fundraisers for school, they would run to Georgeann's house and she always supported them. Mary repeats a favorite phrase of her neighbor's, "Anything for the children!" She said Georgeann always gives to the Secret Santa program, and added that sometimes she would just show up with donations. Mary noted that Georgeann had special advice for those who turned to her, "Always stay involved with your kids." Georgeann's kids may be have grown up, but Georgeann is still involved with all the kids of our town.

Vision 2001 is a non-profit organization created to seek financial support of the business community for scholarships and other motivational programs for South Plainfield students. Founded in 1991, the fifteen member group is comprised of nine business leaders, five educators and one PTA/PTSO representative. Among the Vision 2001 projects are the Gold Card program at the high school, Tiger Gold at the middle school, endowment funds for scholarships and co-operative work opportunities for high school students. Their support of Project Graduation is in the form of the annual 50/50 raffle that has been in progress since the beginning of the school year. The winning ticket will be drawn on the night of the auction.

By Cyrus N. Moon

## Weekly Horoscope 3/31-4/6

**ARIES 3/21-4/19** Balance between your needs to assert yourself and your needs to relate to others will be examined this week. Relationships benefit from your warmth and comfort. Love relationships bloom, and new friendships can form. Be with people this week and enjoy.

**TAURUS 4/20-5/20** This is a good week for pleasure and sociability. Also as long as there are no other challenging transits, it might also be a good time for financial investments or a legal matter. Plan a social event. If you are starting a vacation, it will be a good one. You may receive a gift.

**GEMINI 5/21-6/20** Attendance at meetings and other group activities brings valuable contacts as well as an exchange of ideas and information. Travel is also heightened and whether it involves running errands in your neighborhood or taking trips for business and pleasure, they will be fully charged.

**CANCER 6/21-7/22** This week is a good time in communicating with others, you express your feelings openly and sincerely. You leave no doubt about where you stand, but do not offend others needlessly. So any project that you have going will have the back-up help you need to make it succeed.

**LEO 7/23-8/22** It is a good time to get in

touch with friends and to welcome the opportunity to make new ones. Respond positively to the invitations or advice of friends. Favorable situations come through children and there activities. Joining an organization can lead to future opportunities.

**VIRGO 8/23-9/22** This week you'll thrive on satisfying curiosity, on discovery, on showing your unorthodox ideas to emerge. You'll be mentally quick, cleverer than usual, and problem-solving skills are enhanced. Try a new approach on whatever project that you are working on.

**LIBRA 9/23-10/22** Oh boy! Be careful in shopping this week, or you will be spending more money than you originally intended, and if you must stay within a budget, I would advise you to postpone shopping till later. And if you are feeling a little amorous, don't feel shy about showing it.

**SCORPIO 10/23-11/21** Your ambition may well be high on the agenda this week. You have the chance to gain some power; this would be a good play at this time. But any intention you have of doing this with no integrity on your part, conflicts, and challenges will set you back, and make you look bad.

**SAGITTARIUS 11/22-12/21** You will have loads of confidence. So here in lays

your challenge. Your exuberance may lead to overlook details that should cause problems later, or your confidence may come off as arrogance and create opposition. Be flexible, pay attention and be sure to listen.

**CAPRICORN 12/22-1/19** Great time this week to focus in on becoming more structured and organized. If you plan things carefully, wisdom and experience will allow you to act accordingly in financial dealings. Wear appropriate clothing, as there is an increased chance to suffer the cold or flu.

**AQUARIUS 1/20-2/18** There is the potential for excitement in romance, so enjoy! But stability will be in question if you are going to pursue this any farther, so take care. This is also a good time to apply any risk to projects that you are thinking about, and this could apply to finances. Watch impulsiveness.

**PISCES 2/19-3/20** You have an acute sensitivity to the needs and feelings of your loved ones. You are willing to put your own needs second to theirs and will derive satisfaction from their happiness. This would be a good way also to indulge yourself. So how about a surprise gift to your love one?

**QUOTE:** You are not able to disguise your astonishment, When love is shown to be real.

## LEGAL NOTICES

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

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

Ordinance #1538 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$50,000 FOR THE ACQUISITION OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MORE SPECIFICALLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE INTERSECTION OF HAMILTON BOULEVARD AND STELTON ROAD** be adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, March 31, 2000 and that a public hearing be held Thursday, April 27, 2000 at 8:00 PM in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey.

### ORDINANCE #1538

**AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$50,000 FOR THE ACQUISITION OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MORE SPECIFICALLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE INTERSECTION OF HAMILTON BOULEVARD AND STELTON ROAD.**

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, by not less than two thirds of the full membership thereof affirmatively concurring that:

SECTION 1. That there is hereby authorized pursuant to the applicable statutes of the State of New Jersey, as a general improvement, the acquisition of land for improvements to the intersection of Hamilton Boulevard and Stelton Road in the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, New Jersey.

SECTION 2. That the improvement described in Section 1 hereof shall be authorized as a general improvement for the Borough of South Plainfield in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey.

SECTION 3. It is hereby determined and declared by this Mayor and Borough Council as follows:

A. That the maximum estimated

amount of money to be raised from all sources for the purpose stated in Section 1, hereof, is \$50,000.

B. That the cost of said project shall be financed by Developer Contributions for Off Site Improvements in the amount of \$50,000, which said sum is now available for said purpose.

SECTION 4. That the total amount of the appropriation to be expended for architectural and inspection costs, legal costs, advertisement of ordinance and other expenses as provided in Section 48-20 of the Revised Statutes, is not exceeding \$5,000.

SECTION 5. This ordinance shall take effect after final passage and publication in accordance with the law.

Approved March 23, 2000

Daniel J. Gallagher, Mayor

ATTEST:  
James Eckert, Municipal Clerk

\$70.00 1T March 31, 2000

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

#### LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Matthew S. Ross requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the erection of an addition of a 20' x 20' bedroom and an 11' x 24' garage attachment. Proposed addition lacks required 8' side yard set back, 6' 9" being proposed. Said property being located on Block 152 Lot 22 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 2, 2000, in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

The maps and documents pertaining to this appeal are available for public inspection in the Building Inspector's Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

\$35.00 1T March 31, 2000

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Ordinance #1532 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF MUNICIPAL LAND KNOWN AS BLOCK 363, LOT 3.12 IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY TO GUY MORETTI AND ELIZABETH MORETTI FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$35,000.00** was presented and adopted after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Borough Council on Thursday, March 23, 2000 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ATTEST  
James Eckert, Municipal Clerk

\$15.00 1T March 31, 2000

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

#### LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Rose Marie and Michael Joe requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit an 8' x 10" deck. Proposed deck lacks the 30' front set back from Monmouth St, 19' being proposed. Said property being located on Block 143 Lot 6 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 2, 2000 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

The maps and documents pertaining to this appeal are available for public inspection in the Building Inspector's Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

\$35.00 1T March 31, 2000

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Ordinance #1533 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF MUNICIPAL LAND KNOWN AS BLOCK 346, PART OF LOT 5 IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY TO LEONARD AND DEBRA CURSI FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$52,500.00** was presented and adopted after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Borough Council on Thursday, March 23, 2000 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ATTEST  
James Eckert, Municipal Clerk

\$15.00 1T March 31, 2000

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Ordinance # 1534 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF MUNICIPAL LAND KNOWN AS BLOCK 78, LOT 14 IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY TO JWV, INC. FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$33,000.00** was presented and adopted after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Borough Council on Thursday, March 23, 2000 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ATTEST  
James Eckert, Municipal Clerk

\$15.00 1T March 31, 2000

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Ordinance # 1531 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #801 ENTITLED "ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, 1978"** was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Borough Council on Thursday, February 24, 2000 and continued to March 9, 2000 and March 23, 2000 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ATTEST  
James Eckert, Municipal Clerk

\$15.00 1T March 31, 2000



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## policereport

• An Oakland Ave. resident called police after finding a back window open on her father's house on Grant Ave. She was checking on the residence during his vacation. Unknown suspects gained entry by removing a fan in a rear window of the house and climbing into a window. Bedroom drawers were ransacked and the perpetrators left via the same window.

• Christopher John Nelson of Bernardsville was arrested for shoplifting \$63.75 worth of saw blades from The Home Depot.

• Yan F.Wu of Edison was arrested for changing price tags on comforters at Bradlees, Oak Tree Rd. The total of the theft amounted to \$117.

• Terry P. Alexander of Plainfield was arrested for shoplifting \$20.90 of various food items from A&P on Park Ave.

• A Ralph Ave. resident reported the theft of her cell phone. She had placed it on a table at Red Lobster and left the restaurant without it. When she noticed it missing, she contacted Red Lobster, but they had not recovered it. Bell Atlantic reported to her that several calls had been made to Perth Amboy and Dunellen. Service has since been turned off.

• A Geary Dr. resident reported the theft of two credit cards from her pocketbook. The bag was in her car parked at Spring Lake Park. When she returned to the vehicle she found the passenger side lock damaged.

• A Bergen St. resident reported an unknown suspect had entered her

back yard and had smashed the glass on her picnic table. The table was on the patio. Her daughter had heard a noise around midnight the night before.

• A Meister St. resident reported the theft of a cell phone from his home. He stated that many people had been in and out of his house that day for a funeral. The phone had been in a charger. At the end of the day he went to remove it and realized it was gone.

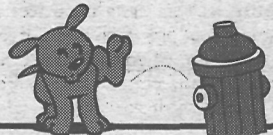
• Danielle Marie Thompson of Middlesex was arrested for shoplifting and assault at Sterns, Middlesex Mall.

• A Church St. resident reported damage to two doors to his home. The bottom of the outside screen door had been kicked in. The front door had been kicked open causing damage to the lock and molding. The suspects did not enter the home.

• Thomas I. Hammond of Highland Park was arrested for shoplifting a \$55 surge protector from Home Depot.

### Attention Pet Owners! Curb Your Dogs -- It's the Law.

The fine for failure to clean up after pets is \$50.  
*Please be considerate to all borough residents.*



## South Plainfield Observer

To place an ad call 908-668-0010  
or fax 908-668-8819.

# Classifieds

Rates -- 3 line minimum-\$10, \$1 ea. additional line.

### FOR SALE

**EXCELLENT CONDITION-ALMOND** color wall unit. Three (3) units totaling 96" wide. Trimmed in brass, this unit can hold up to a 36" TV. Enhanced by two (2) lighted/glass units for displaying all of your treasured items, and a drop down section that can be used as a bar. Plenty of storage for all of your electronic/video/audio needs. 8 feet wide x 7 1/2 feet high x 1 ft, 9 in. deep. Purchased for \$3,500 (have original receipt) but willing to sell for \$1,500 or best offer. Picture available. Call 732-699-3227.

### CEMETERY PLOTS FOR SALE

Two plots-Somerset Hills, Basking Ridge. \$1,500 or best offer. (732) 572-7126 after 2 p.m.

### AUTO FOR SALE

**92 MAZDA PROTEGE, 4/DR, 5/SPD**, new brakes, exhaust system, radiator. Extremely reliable. \$3500. 732-545-3132.

### MOTORCYCLE

**MOTORCYCLE FOR SALE 1994** Suzuki Intruder 800 w/ Saddle Bags & pouch. Under 1500 miles. Mint cond. Must see. \$4100. 908-668-0010.

### PHOTOGRAPHY

**COPIES OF OBSERVER PHOTOS** for sale. Call Pattie at 756-8011 or 668-0010.

### WANTED

**DOG RUN, THIS END UP FURNITURE** and Little Tykes twin size car bed. Call 732-786-1306.

**The Abbington Apartments**, presently under construction on Durham Road in South Plainfield, is now accepting applications for their Affordable Housing Program. Please review the income parameters below to determine if you pre-qualify for an apartment home. Occupancy will be between May and December 2000.

### Low Income

1 Person ....	1 Bdrm ....	\$21,600-\$26,845
2 People ....	1 Bdrm ....	\$21,600-\$30,680
2 People ....	2 Bdrm ....	\$26,820-\$30,680
3 People ....	2 Bdrm ....	\$26,820-\$34,515
3 People ....	3 Bdrm ....	\$29,700-\$34,515
4 People ....	3 Bdrm ....	\$29,700-\$38,350

### Moderate Income

1 Person ....	1 Bdrm ....	\$33,300-\$42,952
2 People ....	1 Bdrm ....	\$33,300-\$49,088
2 People ....	2 Bdrm ....	\$39,600-\$49,088
3 People ....	2 Bdrm ....	\$39,600-\$55,224
3 People ....	3 Bdrm ....	\$47,340-\$55,224
4 People ....	3 Bdrm ....	\$47,340-\$61,360

### The Abbington Rental Rates

### Low Income

Floorplan	Qty	Rent	Sq. Ft.
1 Bdrm	3	\$600	898
2 Bdrm	11	\$745	1,106
3 Bdrm	5	\$825	1,106

### Moderate Income

Floorplan	Qty	Rent	Sq. Ft.
1 Bdrm	3	\$925	898
2 Bdrm	12	\$1,100	1,106
3 Bdrm	4	\$1,315	1,106

APPLICATIONS ARE PRE-QUALIFIED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD AND WILL BECOME AVAILABLE ON APRIL 3, 2000. You may pick one up at South Plainfield Borough Hall, 9am to 5pm, Mon through Fri; South Plainfield Public Library, Mon-Wed-Thurs 10am to 9pm, Tues and Fri 10am to 6pm, Sat 9am to 5pm, and Sun 1:30pm to 5pm. You may also call The Abbington for further details at 877-263-8100. An application fee of \$25 is required for the Pre-Qualification process. Additional fees are necessary for final application, security deposit, and amenity fee.

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**DIRECTIONS TO THE ABBINGTON:** From 287 North-Take Exit 4 - Durham Ave, South Plainfield. Make a Right onto Durham Ave, the property is on the left. From 287 South-Take Exit 5 - Stelton Road. Bear Right off exit ramp onto Stelton Rd. At the light make a Left onto Hadley Rd. Follow Hadley Rd. to Durham Ave, make a Left. The property is on the left.

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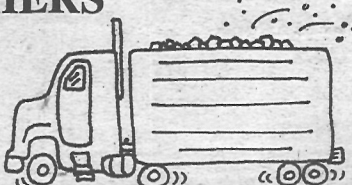
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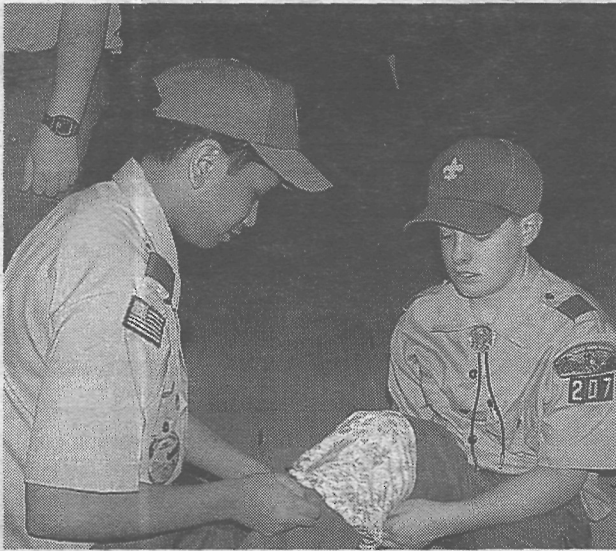
White Zinfandel 1am-7pm

(750ml) ..... \$3.49 Sundays

(1.5 liter) ..... \$5.49

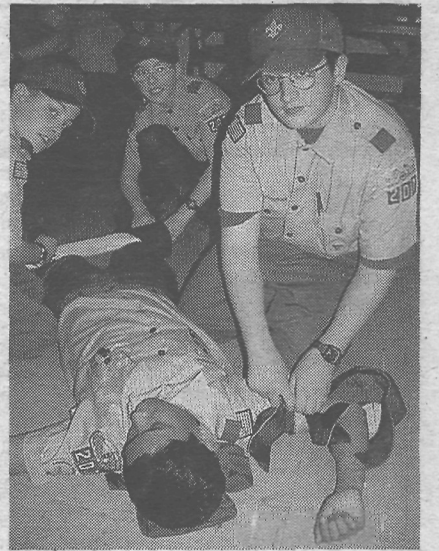
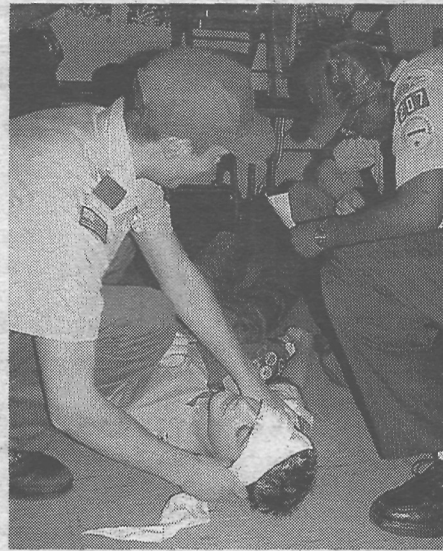
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## Local Scouts Attend District First Aid Rally

Eight patrols and four packs of scouts from South Plainfield recently attended a District First Aid Rally held at Our Lady of Fatima School in Piscataway. The local scouts displayed their first aid knowledge along with scouts from several other towns.



## In My Opinion

Continued from page 2

man who has had a genuine interest in both our town and school system for as long as I have known him. He is an intelligent person of high integrity who would be a true asset to our board of education.

This board election is important because one of the tasks of the people we elect will be improving and expanding the technology capabilities of our school district. It would be a great asset to have someone with his expertise in technology and all its components. Rick is a highly respected engineer with over 23 years experience in the field of technology. I would feel very comfortable knowing someone on the board had the ability to review and provide guidance into the district's technology plans as we move forward.

Rick is also a parent of two South Plainfield High School students. His children began their education in the Future Stars program and have progressed through our elementary and middle schools. Rick is very familiar with our schools because of his active participation as a parent himself. I fully support Rick Gumina (Line 7) as a candidate. I will be voting for him in the April election and I recommend him to all other South Plainfield voters.

SINCERELY,  
NATALIE PALAZZO

To The Editor,

I am writing to introduce myself as a candidate for the upcoming Board of Education election. My name is Richard Gumina and I am seeking the support of the voters of South Plainfield.

My wife Margie and I have lived in South Plainfield for almost twenty years. We have two children, Ricky and Kristi. I am a graduate of NJIT and hold a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering, along with post-graduate credits in engineering and business management. My past work experience includes design, development and management in aerospace electronics and software for large complex systems. I am currently a Program Director for Telcordia Technologies, a major telecommunications software systems supplier located in Piscataway. My wife Margie is a third grade teacher at Riley School. Ricky and Kristi began their educations at Future Stars Preschool. They continued through our elementary and middle schools and are now both students in the high school. I have held a strong interest and support of our school system for as long as I've lived in town. In fact, the reputation of our schools was one of the reasons Margie and I initially chose to move here.

I am running for a seat on the Board of Education because I feel that I have the skills, background, and initiative to help our district successfully meet the challenges and decisions it now faces. Everyone

knows our district must deal with some major changes as both the population of the town increases and the need of technology spirals forward. I believe we all agree that our schools and our children need to stay competitive. A strong Board of Education, with members committed to cooperating and openly communicating with one another, with the public, and with the staff is essential to our success.

I also believe that change is a positive component within any organization. I have often found that viewing the same problems, but with different eyes, produces a positive result. We need some fresh thinking and new perspective in approaching a solution to our problems of overcrowding, maintaining and refurbishing existing facilities, and upgrading our technology.

I am hoping I can get your support in the upcoming election. I offer my skills, experience and commitment to help our district meet future challenges. I ask for your vote on Line 7 on April 18.

SINCERELY, RICK GUMINA

Dear Editor,

As a long time resident of South Plainfield I've seen many school board meetings and elections, it is always refreshing to see different people getting involved and running for the school board. But what is not so refreshing is that the school board elec-

tions seem to bring out the same old candidates who the voters have previously rejected.

On Apr. 18, seven individuals will be vying for three seats on the school board and the public will decide which three will get those seats. After careful consideration I have decided to support Frank Mikorski, Tom Delaney and Robert Podlovitz. Because of Frank's experience and performance and the refreshing newness of Tom Delaney and Robert Podlovitz, they will get this vote. As to why I would not support the other candidates, it is simple. Carol Byrne has been rejected by the voters twice before, it's time to go. Loretta Cooper, Rich Gumina and Sue Peck are supported by the SPEA and have spouses and children teaching in the district. After the recent contract dispute do we really want the SPEA running the school board?

On Apr. 18 support Mikorski, Delaney and Podlovitz.

WILLIAM ROSSI

To the Editor,

Making a difference. That is a sentence that is used a lot, but it never loses its impact. Doing what's right for the schools in South Plainfield, ensuring that every student gets the tools to succeed, providing the "extras" like art, music and sports makes a difference. Working hard to keep our schools safe, proper lighting in the classrooms and a

clean healthy environment, those are some of the things a school board member has to do. It isn't just two meetings a month, it's working on committees with your fellow board members and administrators, going to classes to become a better board member, listening to people in the supermarket, answering questions reporters ask, reading reports, checking basements and roofs and making decisions, sometimes difficult ones, to provide our children and our staff with the best we can.

Sometimes it seems that it's an up-hill battle, sometimes everything just falls into place, but it is always fulfilling to serve the community. Taking pride in South Plainfield isn't only a slogan you see on the signs coming into town, it is a feeling you get when you watch graduation, or the All-District Festival, or the kindergarten children dressed up for Halloween.

Be sure you know who you vote for on April 18. Put people on the Board of Education who are looking out for the best interests of all of South Plainfield. Although Frank Mikorski and I are running separate campaigns, we both believe in doing the right thing for our schools, our students and our citizens.

I would like to serve you again in this capacity, please let me.

Vote for Carol M. Byrne, Line 1 and Frank Mikorski, Line 3.

CAROL M. BYRNE

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\*The APY shown for the 8, 14 and 24-month CDs includes .15% and .10% bonus interest respectively payable if you have a Columbia Savings Bank Advantage PLUS Checking Account. If at any time during the term of your CD, your checking account is not maintained, you will earn the regular CD Annual Percentage Yield.

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