

APR 14 2000

South Plainfield Observer

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50 CENTS

APRIL 14, 2000



Middle School Drama Club Presents "Kokonut High"

By Patricia Abbott

The Middle School Drama Club proudly presents Kokonut High as their annual production. The comedy revolves around a family desperate to earn some money after a hurricane has hit their island. The solution to their problems is also the beginning of big-

ger problems. The plan is set into action as they open Kokonut High, a private school that has a hefty tuition fee, but ultimately guarantees a diploma to all. Add a few 'students', note the lack of faculty, add a crime syndicate, a ghost, the arrival of an accreditation team and a wild assort-

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Vision 2001 Art Auction, 50/50 Drawing Tonight

The Vision 2001 Fifth Annual Art Auction will be held tonight at SPHS. Preview begins at 6 p.m.; the auction starts at 7 p.m.

This year's honorary chairman, Georgeann DeGrazio, owner of Mohn's Flowers and Fancy Foods, is well known for her support of South Plainfield's youth and for her generosity.

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.

Since 1994, the foundation has awarded 48 scholarships valued at over \$64,000 and scholarship endowments of \$62,500. It also donated over \$25,000 for student curriculum programs and almost \$20,000 for academic incentive programs.

Refreshments will be served and a door prize will be awarded. During the evening the winning ticket for the Vision 2001 50/50 raffle will be drawn. Last year the winner received \$3,700. Major credit cards are accepted. Tickets are \$5. Everyone is welcome.

Ponytail Softball Seasons Kicks Off

Last Saturday over 250 girls, along with their coaches, parents and town officials joined in the official opening day ceremonies for Ponytail Softball. Unlike last year's heavy rains that flooded Pitt Street Park, the weather this year was cooperative and the playing fields were in great shape. Softball parents have been spending the past few weekends cleaning up the area and installing new equipment around the park.

The girls wore their bright colored new shirts and hats and even managed to play a few scheduled games in the morning before the ceremonies began.

Ponytail Softball League President Steve Senz officially welcomed players, parents and special guests. Councilman Raymond Petronko had the honor of throwing out the first ball to A League player Jessa Jones. The guest speaker was Norm Chadwick, who ran a pitching clinic for the girls earlier this year.

Along with Petronko, Councilpeople Vinnie Buttiglieri and Darlene Pinto attended the opening ceremonies. Recreation Director Mike English, also on hand to witness the opening of the season, noted the record number of girls participating this season.



Ponytail Softball veteran Jessa Jones gets set to catch the season's first ball from Councilman Ray Petronko at the league's opening day ceremonies last Saturday.



Ponytail Softball League President Steve Senz officially welcomes players, parents and special guests to Opening Day.

School Board Candidates Debate Issues Election and Budget Vote Next Tuesday, April 18

The seven candidates for the upcoming school board election were at Riley School Monday evening to participate in a candidates' forum sponsored by the district PTAs/PTOs of South Plainfield. This was the only occasion all candidates gathered to discuss the issues. Voters go the polls next Tuesday to choose three candidates.

Frank Mikorski is the lone incumbent running for re-election. (Both Pat DeSantis and Doris Haley, board president, did not seek another term.) Candidates Carol Byrne and Loretta Cooper both have served previously on the board. Four candidates, Sue Peck, Rich Gumina, Tom Delaney and Robert Podlovits are running for board seats the first time.

School Board ELECTIONS

Questions were submitted by an audience of about 100. Topics covered included school overcrowding, split sessions, the condition of Jost Field track, the boilers in the middle school and the school budget.

Another issued which arose more than once was the fact that several of the candidates have relatives who are teachers and members of the local teachers union (SPEA). Those candidates explained they would not be allowed to discuss or vote on anything that would deal with the teachers union

and their issues. All candidates oppose implementing split sessions in the schools.

The candidates were asked how they voted on the recently defeated bond referendum. Candidates who voted in favor of the referendum were Carol Bryne, Tom Delaney and Frank Mikorski. Those not supporting the referendum were Robert Podlovits, Sue Peck and Loretta Cooper. Rich Gumina said he would not disclose how he voted.

At next Tuesday's election, voters will also be asked to vote on the 2000/2001 school budget. This proposed budget will not increase school taxes. Polls are open from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Exercise your right—VOTE NEXT TUESDAY!



Letters

In My Opinion

Dear So. Plfld. Residents,

On Saturday April 1 and Sunday, April 2, the Sacred Heart School Athletic Association held its Annual Canning Fundraiser. Athletes representing all our teams, basketball, cheerleading, softball and track, grades K through 8, were posted in front of local businesses to collect donations.

Thank you South Plainfield for your generous response! You opened your hearts and your wallets to help make our fundraiser a success financially as well as a pleasant experience for our athletes.

Thank you A&P, Hadley Center, Bruno's, Ciccios, Eckard's, Haische's, McDonald's, Party City, Pathmark, Sears Hardware, 7/11, Sherban's and White Star, for allowing our athletes to be posted in front of your businesses. We appreciate the support and cooperation we received from all of you this weekend.

**SINCERELY,
SACRED HEART SCHOOL
ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**

To the Editor,

It is a unique person who is willing to give of her time, particularly when they know from first-hand experience how long and hard the job is. Carol Byrne is this unique person.

When Carol told me of her decision to run, I was extremely happy. She has served before, with distinction, for four terms and South Plainfield is lucky Carol is ready to do it again.

Carol has two children who attended our schools and is well aware of the educational needs of our children and the financial constraints of our citizens. Now that her daughters are out of college and she has the time to give, she is willingly throwing her hat in the ring. There is nothing for her to gain, no relatives to hire, no intimidation that can be used against her.

More than ever, South Plainfield needs people on the Board who are fair-minded and have integrity. Please take the time to vote on April 18. Join me in support of Carol Byrne, Line I for the South Plainfield Board of Education.

CHRISTOPHER R. SWEIGART
To the People of So. Plfld.,

I am writing this open letter to give you an inside look at candidate Frank Mikorski. Though I have only recently been introduced to this board member, I was inspired by the visible transparency of his character.

At board of education meetings I have attended, the demonstration of Frank Mikorski's integrity was displayed on more than one occasion. When the going got tough, Mr. Mikorski got going.

There is a saying that bad choices thrive when good men do nothing. Well, I can tell you that Frank is a man who will do everything he can to assist the people of South Plainfield to make good choices. He is not afraid of being pressured by the unpopular masses. With the support of his wife, Mikorski has brought to board education members tireless effort and enthusiasm. He is not looking for validation with his position. You will find him talking to the students, fighting for them on all fronts and respecting the position he considers an honor to serve.

Parents have consistently been willing to confide their concerns to him because of his approachable character, displaying that he really cares and listens. He does not consider any person of position or power unreachable, seen by his persistent need to accomplish something of value for the children, parents and educators he values so highly.

Wisdom comes from a balance of life experiences and learning from every challenge that comes along. I believe Frank represents that wisdom from his years in the business community, educational instruction and being a husband and father. He considers children our greatest gift, to be nurtured and cherished.

My children personally have given me their candid input on Frank Mikorski. They see genuine strength and truth in the time spent observing him in action. After all one cannot hide political agendas or personal motivation from the observation of a child. Frank has made his mark and the girls have graded him A+.

So let's support a man of such integrity and unselfish purpose. We, the community of South Plainfield, can offer our vote of confidence to Frank Mikorski to the position he deserves

to serve. Evidence demands a verdict and he has given us proof of his willingness to see our children be successful in their gifting and talents.

**RESPECTFULLY,
CHRISTINE LYSZCZASZ**

Letter to the Editor

I am writing this letter to tell you about a special person who has decided to run for the Board of Education election. He is someone you can trust. Tom Delaney is a true family man. He loves his wife and children and has dedicated himself to attending the meetings of the board of education and those for the school referendum. I know Tom Delaney will work hard for our children and grandchildren so they can get the best education they deserve. He will be a great asset to the Board of Education of South Plainfield and for all who reside in our wonderful town. We need people who will be responsible and be our representatives when we can't get to the meetings. Tom has also been willing to volunteer in other community projects in the past.

I would also like to thank Frank Mikorski for running again as he has dedicated himself unselfishly for our community as well as Carol Byrne. Please take a few minutes on April 18 to get out to vote for Tom Delaney, Frank Mikorski and Carol Byrne.

DEBORAH VOKRAL

To the Editor,

Public service is an action, an attitude and an aptitude. Positive direction on all three levels is not easy to attain; it is almost impossible to maintain. Clearly, one candidate for a seat on our board of education has not only attained this positivism in her life, more importantly, she has maintained positivism in all she has done for our community. This one candidate is Loretta Cooper.

Loretta has raised children with a sense of service and responsibility to society. She has been, and will continue to be, a model of citizenship and dedication. Many parents have become involved in serving as a volunteer for a team or a community group because their children were participating. Generally, such involvement ends when their children stop the activity. This has not been the case with Loretta Cooper.

We can look back at Loretta's history in South Plainfield. Her service to our children began with her active participation in the Eagles' cheerleading, through her dedication as a PTA member and leader, with her six highly productive years as our school board member, on to her present voluntary assistance at our high school. Here is someone who can speak for the students' needs because she is with them every school day. There are no board of education members nor candidates our students choose to call "Grandma," only Loretta Cooper.

MARIA LA SALVIA-SELIGA

To the Editor,

I would like to support Rick Gumina in his bid for the board of education. I have known Rick for 12 years and have seen his dedication throughout the years toward

Submit Letters to the Editor:

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Editorial Dept.,
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Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the *Observer*.



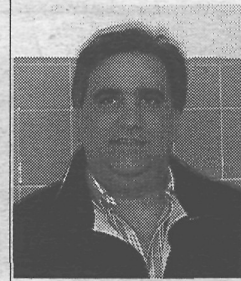
Carol M. Byrne



Loretta Cooper



Thomas E. Delaney



Rick Gumina



Frank A. Mikorski



Susan Peck

**School Board
ELECTIONS**

**VOTE ON APRIL 18
for Three School
Board Candidates!**



Robert Podloviits

the various functions sponsored by the South Plainfield Schools. Rick has always been there to lend a helping hand. He has strong organizational skills and is a definite team player. He shows creativity and leadership skills in all his endeavors.

Most of all Rick puts the students and their needs first. I look forward to seeing Rick Gumina on our board of education. He is a person who will work hard for our school system.

DONNA MACKEY

Dear Editor:

Having grown disgusted with the "government process," it has been many years since I have cast a vote in any election. After meeting Sue Peck, who is a candidate for South Plainfield's Board of Education election, I have since re-registered and will be voting on April 18.

Through conversation I told her about a personal problem I have been enduring for the past fifteen years. Having experience in government, Sue kept her word in helping me by providing me with the infor-

mation I was unable to obtain on my own. She did not have to do this, she owed me nothing.

What made me decide to start voting again was the fact that someone out there cares for the little people. Sue listened to my problem and took the time to search out a solution. As a mother and a taxpayer, I think this is the type of person the board of education needs; someone who listens, searches for solutions and looks for the little person. Please vote with me for Susan A. Peck, Line 4 on April 18.

**SINCERELY,
RONI OSTERHOUDT**

Dear Editor:

The people of South Plainfield have a wonderful opportunity to continue enhancing their schools' academic programs and standards by reelecting Frank Mikorski to the South Plainfield Board of Education. Frank, a dedicated supporter of public education for over 20 years, is a pioneer member of the Bloomfield Career Education Ad-

Continued on page 12

South Plainfield Observer

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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in South Plainfield Observer:

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

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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.



Lions Annual Breakfast Sunday, Apr. 16

This Sunday, Apr. 16, the South Plainfield Lions Club will be holding their annual gourmet breakfast at the high school cafeteria from 8 a.m. to noon.

The breakfast is known for its many gourmet items which in-

clude french toast, pancakes and made-to-order omelettes, all dished up by members of the South Plainfield Lions Club. This year the Lions will also create cholesterol free omelettes for the health conscious person.

The South Plainfield Lions Club is known for helping the visually and hearing impaired.

The cost of the breakfast is only \$5 and it's a great way to start the day on Palm Sunday. See you there!



And They're Off!

Hundreds of kids with baskets in hand came out for the South Plainfield Recreation-sponsored Annual Easter Egg Hunt. The event included egg hunts in several age groups. The Easter Bunny arrived on a fire truck to greet the excited children and posed for pictures. Every child participating received candy.

Borough of South Plainfield

PLANNING BOARD

April 20, 2000 – SPECIAL HEARING

(This meeting was originally scheduled for April 6, 2000)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public meeting will be held before the Borough of South Plainfield Planning Board to review adoption of a Master Plan for the Borough of South Plainfield. A copy of the plan is available for review at the Borough Planning Board office during business hours of 9 a.m. through 4 p.m. The public is invited to attend this meeting, ask questions and offer suggestions.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Here's the latest news from the South Plainfield Library:

We'll start this week with word about two new displays you can see here. Our display wall now features artwork by the young students of local resident Dorothy Miele. The art features media including pastels, colored pencils and watercolors. Meanwhile, our display cabinets have an assortment of unusual and special coins and currency from around the world. They've been provided by the Barile family. Also, Anthony and May Barile will be here tomorrow from 2-4 p.m. to discuss coin collecting, in honor of next week's National Coin Week. They'll also have a limited number of National Coin Week medals and other items for children to encourage them to try this hobby. Both displays can be seen throughout April.

Our children's Storytime programs will follow their usual schedule next week. The programs are held on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. They're for children ages three and over; no registration is needed. Also, as of this writing, there's still space available for this afternoon's Kidcraft program at 4 p.m. It's for children ages six and over. Please call ahead to make sure there's still room. Our number is (908) 754-7885; ask for Children's Librarian Linda Hansen.

The library will be closed next Friday in observance of Good Friday.

While we realize that money may be a sore subject today, since Tax Day is Monday (You did send in your returns, didn't you?), we feel there's a need to review our roster of overdue fines. The normal fine for overdue books is 10 cents. The rate for books on tape and compact discs is 25 cents, while the rate for videocassettes is \$2. All fines are charged on a per day per title basis. If necessary, fines can be paid by check, but we lack the ability to allow payment via credit or debit card. Patrons who owe in excess of \$25 in charges will be prohibited from borrowing until the fine is paid either entirely or by a significant amount. On the plus side, in cases of large fines, we are more than willing to work out some kind of arrangement, like installment payments. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask.

Oh, by the way, for those of you who haven't sent in your returns, extension forms are available at the main desk.

We've just added a new staff member. Last week, Anita Bajpay joined us as our new Reference librarian. Please stop by and pass along a word of welcome.

Though we hesitate to admit it, sometimes the equipment in the library will malfunction or break down. If you find that something isn't working, be it a printer, a screen or whatever; don't automatically assume that we know about it. Let us know at once so we can fix the problem ASAP.

That'll do it for this week. We'll have more next Friday.

Having Trouble Calling Borough Hall?

Residents have been complaining about reaching employees at borough hall by phone.

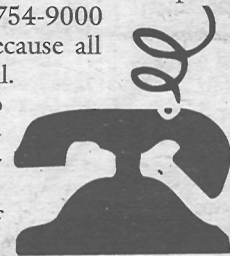
Sometimes calling 754-9000 ends in frustration because all you reach is voice mail.

The best way to reach anyone at borough hall is to call their direct number.

A card with a list of direct phone numbers

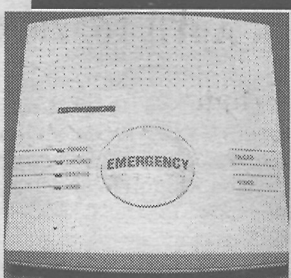
is available at the borough clerk's office in borough hall. The municipal directory card contains the numbers of every board, committee, group and official, along with police, rescue and fire phone numbers.

For all police or fire emergencies, call 911.



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Events

Around Town

Mets vs. Pirates Trip Planned

Sacred Heart Church is sponsoring a trip to see the Mets vs. Pirates on Saturday, June 24.

The cost of \$50 per person includes game ticket in lower loge, transportation and driver gratuity. This is also kickball day and all children 13 and under will receive a kickball. The bus will leave Sacred Heart parking lot at 4:30 p.m. and return immediately after the game.

For additional information and reservations, call Helen at the Parish Center at (908) 756-0633 ext.11 or Mary Ann (908) 226-1222

Project Graduation Auction/Raffle

The South Plainfield High School Auction/Raffle to benefit Project Graduation will be held on Saturday, May 6. Doors open at 6 p.m. Some of the exciting gifts this year are a TV, DVD player, scanner, grill, vacuum cleaner, VCR, Nintendo 64, theater tickets, baseball tickets, dinner gift certificates, theme baskets galore and much much more.

As of this date 41 businesses in town have contributed to this event. Tickets are now on sale, advance tickets are \$7, at the door, \$20. Limited tickets are available. Buy your tickets today by phone or e-mail, 756-6612 (Pat), Anol932@aol.com or Ellen at 756-3731, ELMELI7@aol.com. Please come out and support our high school seniors.

Comedy Show Planned at Elks Club

A comedy show is planned at the South Plainfield Elks #2298 on Saturday, April 29. Food will be served starting at 7 p.m. and the show starts at 8:30 p.m. The cost is \$25 per person. For ticket or information, call 668-9750.

Senior Trip to See The Student Prince

Senior are planing to go 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.

Suburban Woman's Club Flea Market

The G.F.W.C. Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield will be holding a flea market on May 6 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the American Legion Hall on Oak Tree Road.

Vendors are needed and may set up (their own tables) at 8 a.m. Space registration is \$10 and/or \$18 for two spaces.

The Woman's Club will be selling hot and cold beverages and light desserts. Proceeds from the sales will go toward a scholarship, as well as other charities.

For info, call (908) 753-5753.

Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support Meeting

Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support (CHATS) will meet 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. on Monday, Apr. 24, at Watchung Ave. Presbyterian Church, 170 Watchung Avenue, North Plainfield. Joan Crout will share her experiences rearing two adopted sons. Active in local and national adoption-related organizations, Joan has spoken at adoption conferences, seminars and workshops. Six years ago she established and has coordinated, the Employees' Adoption Support Group at Schering-Plough Pharmaceuticals in Kenilworth. Open sharing of adoption-related stories and light refreshments. Call Alyce at (732) 227-0607 or <http://community.nj.com/cc/chats> for information.

Multi-Cultural Modern Dance Concert

The Acrodanse Theatre Company will present "One World Through Dance," a multi-cultural modern dance concert featuring excerpts from "Gospel Gala" and newly choreographed Irish Suite, and several Hispanic pieces on Sunday, April 30, at 7 p.m. at Middlesex County College, Performing Arts Center, 2600 Woodbridge Ave., Edison. General admission is \$5 or free with a MCC Student ID.

For tickets call (732) 548-6000, ext. 528. For information evenings and weekends, call (732) 563-4117.

Rescue Squad Auxiliary Holding Open Houses

The Rescue Squad Ladies Auxiliary is seeking 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.

Meet current members, see how the meetings are conducted and learn what the auxiliary is all about. Interested parties can come out and get answers to questions about the organization, while enjoying some cake and coffee.

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.

Lenten Fish Dinners At Sacred Heart

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul of the Sacred Heart Church will sponsor a Lenten Fish Dinner on April 14 in the Sacred Heart School cafeteria on South Plainfield Ave. from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The menu will feature filet of fish (fried, broiled or parmigana) 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.

Rec Department 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. Call the PAL, 226-7713.

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.

Vision 2001 Car and Truck Show

Vision 2001 Education Foundation, along with the Northwest Jersey Camaro Club, will hold the Annual Car and Truck Show to benefit South Plainfield Vision 2001 Education Foundation on Sunday, May 21 (raindate, May 28) at 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 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. Deadline is April 30. Vendor cost is \$20 and the Car Corral is \$15.

For info, call Tom, (908) 755-6276; Dorothy, (973) 584-1542 or Ed, (609) 586-5222.

Easter Sunrise Service in Spring Lake Park

The South Plainfield Ecumenical Clergy Fellowship invites one and all to celebrate Easter together at the annual community-wide Sunrise Easter Service beginning at 6:30 a.m. in Spring Lake Park. Residents are invited to gather at the gazebo overlooking Spring Lake Park to pray and sing.

A highlight of the service will be the combined choirs from Sacred Heart Roman Catholic, Wesley Methodist, Saint Stephen's Lutheran, Rescue House of Prayer, First Baptist and Pilgrim Covenant churches.

In the event of rain, the celebration will be held at 6:45 a.m. at Wesley Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Avenue.



Photographic Exhibition by Anton Juttner

Nature's World Through the Artist's Eye, a photography exhibition by Anton Juttner is on display at South Plainfield Boro Hall through the month of April. Juttner, a former South Plainfield resident specializes in nature and outdoor photography as well as cityscapes. Many of his works depict scenes with intense and unusual sky and cloud formations with dramatic colors. His works also include numerous New York skyline photographs, up close botanicals, and fireworks. For further information call 732-563-4117 or 732-563-0855.

Future Kindergartners To Visit Kennedy

The John F. Kennedy School PTSO will be holding Get Acquainted classes for all students entering kindergarten at the school in September. The purpose is to familiarize the students with the school and staff. Some of the activities during the program are visits to the school nurse, the principal and taking a none-bus ride.

The sessions for Get Acquainted are as follows: Tuesdays, May 2, 9 and 15 from 9:30-11 a.m. and Wednesday, May 3, 10 and 17 from 9:30 to 11 a.m.

Parents may register for this program during the month of April in the school's main office between 9 and 11 a.m. or 1 and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Registration must be completed by Apr. 30. For information, call Rosann Copi at (908) 757-8174.

Litter Clean-Up Week, Apr. 29-May 1

Are you 'Bitter About Litter'? The Clean Communities Advisory Board will sponsor a borough-wide cleanup at the end of April. The main clean-up event will be held Saturday morning, April 29. Volunteers will meet from 9 to 10 a.m. in Borough Hall parking lot on Plainfield Ave. to collect equipment and clean-up assignments.

The effort will target roadsides, parks, streams and vacant lots. All volunteers will be invited back to Borough Hall at noon for a pizza pickup picnic, complete with environmentally friendly door prizes.

This year's free raffle will include a multi-band radio, donated by Pathmark. Residents are welcome to organize a crew, or come on their own.

Call Alice Tempel, Clean Communities coordinator at (908) 226-7621 for more information.

Friends of the Library Sponsoring Annual Book Sale

The Friends of the South Plainfield Library will hold their Annual Book and Bake Sale on Saturday, May 6 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the South Plainfield Library.

Residents are requested to bring

donations to the library starting on Monday April 24. We are requesting books in good condition (no mildew or water damaged books) including children's books, fiction, non-fiction and PLEASE NO TEXT BOOKS.

Come and browse among our books, books on tape, records, videos, etc. and take home dessert.

Kindergarten Orientation At Roosevelt School

Children entering kindergarten in September, 2000 are welcome to join us to explore Roosevelt School and meet the teachers and staff.

The purpose of this program is to help your child become familiar with the school. Our hope is that this visit will ease some of the anxieties your child may have about coming to school in September.

The orientation program will meet on Wednesdays, May 10, 17, 24 and 31. There will be two sessions offered, mornings from 9:30 to 11 a.m. and afternoons from 1:15 to 2:45 p.m.

Registration for the program will be held on Tuesday, April 25 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. and Wednesday, April 26 from 1:15 to 2:45 p.m. in the front lobby of Roosevelt School.

If you have any questions, please contact Denise Kelly at 753-3714. Thank you!

Cruise on Big Red Boat II Planned

Dunellen Recreation is sponsoring a cruise on the NEW Big Red Boat II to New England and Canada. A seven nights cruise leaves New York on Aug. 5 and returns Aug. 12, with ports of call of Newport, Boston, Halifax and St. John New Brunswick Canada.

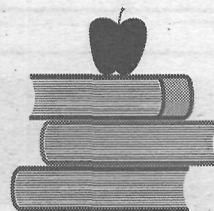
Rates for the cruise range from \$875 per person for an inside stateroom to \$1,075 for an ocean view stateroom. Cost includes port charges, transportation to and from the pier in New York from South Plainfield, driver and stevedore gratuities. Third and fourth passengers sharing cabin rate is \$565 per person.

For additional information and reservations, call Mary Ann at M.H.A. Travel at (908) 226-1222 or Clem at Dunellen Recreation (732) 752-2466.

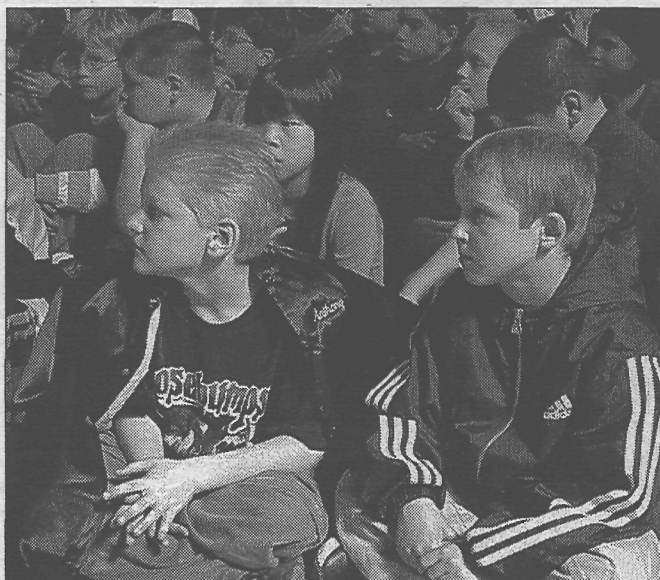
Submit your Events Around Town

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.

In School



Kennedy School students enjoy a hot air balloon demonstration by Carroll Teitworth



“Up & Away” at Kennedy School

By Patricia Abbott

School students had their minds in the clouds, their feet in the air and for once their teachers approved. The reason, a cultural program called “Up & Away with Hot Air Balloons,” sponsored by the PTSO. The program was presented by Mr. Carroll Teitworth, owner and chief pilot of the Liberty Balloon Company, Groverland, NY.

Ballooning is presented as a “natural high,” an exhilarating experience that comes as close to free flight as possible without wings. The educational program is presented in two phases. Phase One, a teaching session conducted by Teitworth, was supplemented with slides to illustrate the lessons. It covers the science and technology of ballooning such as weather, basic physics, what fuels the balloon,

lift, safety, piloting and navigation. The students learned the history of ballooning and much more.

Phase two was designed to create excitement that rivals the best of any adventure movie or cartoon. Students were able to examine a balloon that sat on the floor of the gym.

Two sessions were held to accommodate all of the Kennedy School students.

southplainfieldpeople Milestones

Peterson on Honor Roll at Fishburne Military

Waynesboro, VA.- Kevin J. Peterson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Peterson of South Plainfield, has been named to the Honor Roll at Fishburne Military School for the third marking period. In order to qualify for this honor, Kevin maintained a 2.5 grade point average and did not have any grade below a C.

Kevin is also the grandson of Donald Koperstynski of Spring Hill, Fla., and Marie Koperstynski of Merritt Island, Fla.

Deadline for Voter Registration

The Municipal Clerk's Office will be open until 9 p.m. Monday, May 8, 2000 for anyone wishing to register to vote for the June 6 Primary Election.

Anyone requesting an absentee ballot for the Primary Election must do so no later than Tuesday, May 20, 2000.

If you need further information, call Mary Blue at (908) 226-7606.

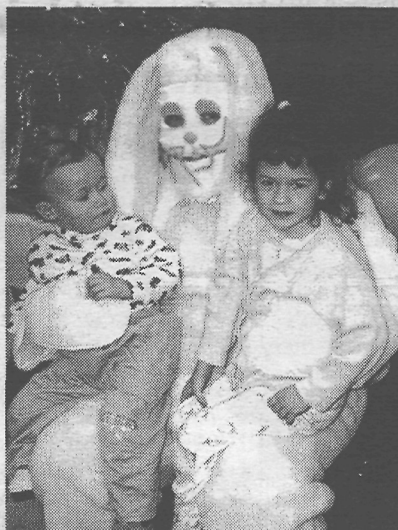
Police Holding Property Auction

The SP Police Dept. will hold a property auction on May 6 at the D.P.W. Yard on Spicer Ave. located on the corner of Belmont and Spicer Ave.

Property viewing will begin at 9:30 a.m. Auction starts at 10 a.m.

The property consists of bicycles found or unclaimed, other items found or confiscated and unclaimed jewelry. All sales are final. Only cash will be accepted. There is no rain date.

For info, call (908) 226-7670.



Easter Bunny Visits Kennedy School Kids

Kennedy School students got a jump start on Easter with a visit from the Easter Bunny during their Breakfast with the Easter Bunny. The event, sponsored by the PTSO, offered a continental breakfast of cold cereal, bagels, fruit, juice, coffee, tea and more. The star of the event, the Easter Bunny, held court at the end of the gym where children lined up for photos with the large white rabbit. A sunflower bedecked assistant offered the children plastic eggs filled with goodies. The morning culminated with the calling of the raffle tickets.

Holocaust Survivor Honored at Middle School Luncheon

By Patricia Abbott

Each year Middle School sixth graders do an in-depth study on the Holocaust and its horrors. The study includes films, books and always concludes with an assembly. The guest speaker this year was Holocaust survivor Jay Sommer, author of *Journey to the Golden Door*.

Sommer highlighted some of his experiences for the students. He described his early years, the hardships and frightening events of the war; his arrival in America and his eventual climb to success. His words created pictures for the students that no text book could provide.

An autobiography, Sommer's book depicts his life beginning with his childhood of dire poverty in Czechoslovakia. The book balances high moments and moments of devastation, including the death of his mother and witnessing his brother's murder as he tried to es-



Holocaust survivor Jay Sommer (left) enjoys a luncheon in his honor at South Plainfield Middle School.

cape the Nazis. He tells of a very different experience from many Holocaust survivors. He worked as a Russian interpreter during his time in a Nazi labor camp. He was able to make a narrow escape just before being sent to a concentration camp. The book chronicles the early days of the war and Sommer's increasing fear of the Nazis and their plans for those of Jewish heritage, his family and friends before and after the war. It touches on the lives of many people. His tale of survival does not end with the war. It continues with his arrival in America—uneducated with no knowledge of English. His climb from poverty to success, his marriage, family and the hard work and dedication that eventually garnered him the 1981 Teacher of the Year Award.

Prior to the assembly Sommer joined Principal Robert Dogget, Assistant Principal Bill Beegle, Mary Ellen Martko, District Staff Development Coordinator and sixth grade Social Studies teachers Rosemary Fiorillo, Terry Allen, Camille Deutsch, Virginia Cocco and Barbara Florio in a luncheon. The luncheon gave those in attendance a chance to meet and speak with the author before he spoke to the students.

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notes from SPHS

by Dave Johnston

- South Plainfield residents will be going out to vote on their selections for the Board of Education, next Tuesday, April 18.
- The All District Music Festival which was originally scheduled for Friday, March 26 has been moved to Friday, April 28. The Festival will take place at the high school starting at 7 p.m.
- The South Plainfield High School Student Council will be sponsoring a Volleyball Tournament sometime in May. Details are yet to be dispersed, but keep reading this column for weekly updates.
- The South Plainfield High School Prom will take place on June 2, at the Sheraton Hotel in Woodbridge. Prom bids are currently on sale after school for \$100 per couple, \$50 for a single.
- Other high school activities scheduled in the future is a first ever 'Powder Puff Football Game' and a third blood drive. Both of these events are Student Council sponsored.

Dave Johnston is a senior at the SPHS and also writes for the South Plainfield Tiger Times. Dave will be contributing news from the high school. If any high school student or teacher would like to submit an article in the Observer, contact Dave and he will be glad to submit it us.

Franklin Students Complete Math-A-Thon

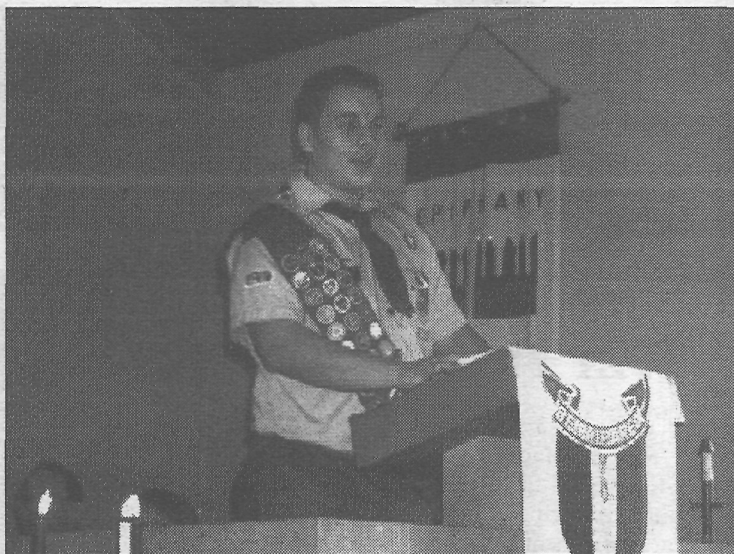
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital has announced the successful completion of Math-A-Thon at Franklin Elementary School in South Plainfield. Math-A-Thon, now in its 21st year, is an educationally based fundraising program in which students obtain sponsors for the number of math problems completed in special workbooks provided for students in grades K-9. The program is sponsored nationally by Six Flags Theme Parks, who provide free passes to their parks for every student raising \$35 or more.

The students who participate in the program learn to do more than just math problems; they also learn the importance of helping children who are less fortunate than themselves. Through the Math-A-Thon, they are able to help provide a future for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Children with more than 200 forms of cancer and other catastrophic diseases find hope at St. Jude. Since its founding

in 1962 by the late entertainer, Danny Thomas, the survival rate for most forms of pediatric cancer have risen dramatically. In fact, today more than 70% of all children with cancer will survive their bout with the disease. St. Jude fully credits those successes in treatment to the generous support of people around the world, including the students at Franklin Elementary School.

"We are very proud of our students for working so hard on the Math-A-Thon," said Mary Ann Stavina, volunteer coordinator. "With their help, St. Jude Hospital will be able to create new treatments that may one day lead to a cure for many forms of cancer that will benefit the children of our state, our country and around the world. I also want to extend our thanks to the South Plainfield community for supporting our students. It takes all of us to make a difference in the lives of children with cancer and we can all feel proud of our response."

Chris Lamberti Awarded Eagle Scout



Eagle Scout Chris Lamberti

Chris Lamberti of South Plainfield earned the Boy Scouts of America's Eagle Scout Award. In a ceremony held Saturday, March 25 at St. Stephen's Church on Park Avenue. The ceremony was attended by members of Troop 324, their families and representatives from various scouting and civic organizations. South Plainfield Councilman Raymond Petronko presented an Eagle Scout Award and special acknowledgment from the Mayor and Council. Also presenting awards were Commander Joseph Penyak of American Legion Post #243 and Louis Peralta, Chairman of B.P.O.E. Lodge #2298 of South

Plainfield.

Eagle Scout is the highest award that the Boy Scouts of America can bestow. It is awarded to those young men who are self-reliant, who accept responsibility and leadership in the troop, who give service to their homes, churches, schools and communities who are good outdoorsmen.

The Eagle Scout has to earn twenty-one merit badges to equip him to be of service to others, to stand on his own and to do his share as a future citizen. In addition, the scout must carry out an Eagle service project. He must plan, develop

and give leadership to a project helpful to his school, religious institution or community.

For his Eagle Project, Chris worked with the Eyes for the Needy in Short Hills, NJ. Chris planned, organized and directed an eyeglass and hearing aid drive in South Plainfield during April, 1999. This project resulted in the collection of 502 pair of eyeglasses and five hearing aids. The items collected were sent to medical missions and hospitals in countries such as Honduras, Mexico, Brazil, the Philippines and Africa.

Chris is a sophomore at South Plainfield High School, where he participates in football and spring track.

Letters of Congratulations and Citations were received from President Bill Clinton, President Gerald Ford, President Jimmy Carter, Vice-President Al Gore, Senator Frank Lautenberg, Senator Robert Torricelli, Speaker J. Dennis Hastert, Governor Christine Todd Whitman, State Senator Donald DiFrancesco, Middlesex County Freeholders, Knights of Columbus, Bob Hope, State Assembly Speaker Jack Collins, State Assemblyman Bob Smith, Representative Bob Franks, State Senator John Lynch, State Assemblyman Jerry Green, Pope John Paul II and Bill Parcells of the New York Jets.

AARP Chapter Meeting Rescheduled for April 14

The regular meeting of AARP chapter 4144 has been changed to April 14 because of Good Friday. It will be held in the PAL Building at 12:30 p.m.

The speaker this month is Ms. Lynn Kuran, community educator, who is with "New Jersey Citizen Action." She will discuss the deregulation of the utilities, particularly gas, which is the next one we can look forward to.

The chapter will be manning a booth on May 20 at Piscataway's Street Fair. Information about the many AARP Chapters and what they do in the community will be available.

On May 25 and 26, the chapter will be hosting a defensive driving course, 55 Alive, which is open to any licensed driver. This is a refresher course with no driving or exam. The cost of \$10 gives you a certificate good, by law, for a three year discount on your automobile insurance and the removal of two points, if you have any for traffic violations. Call Mary at (732) 752-3764.

July 10 to 14 a trip is planned to the Raleigh Hotel in the Catskills. The hotel features indoor and outdoor pools, superb dining, entertainment, both day and night. Call Mary for all further details at (732) 752-3764. Rooms are limited, so call now.

New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra Performs April 16

The New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestral will hold its annual spring concert devoted to American music at 3 p.m. on Sunday, April 16 at Cranford High School, 201 West End Place.

Featured will be the world premiere of composer Mario Lombardo's "Early Spring." Composer Lombardo will be the guest conductor. The NJIO will also feature 15-year-old violinist Richard Motitas and conductor Lorraine Marks, playing "When I Fall In Love" arranged and conducted by Mario Lombardo.

Jazz pianist Rio Clemente will also be featured playing piano in a Duke Ellington suite.

A special pre-concert "meet the performers" session will take place at 2:30 p.m.

The NJIO is made up of musicians aged from 6-87 from 31

communities.

Admission is free and handicapped access and large print programs are available.

On April 29 the NJIO will be performing at Lincoln Center in the Plaza Outdoor Court Series in New York City.

The NJIO is funded in part by the Cranford Public Schools, The Rotary Club of Cranford, The New Jersey Council on the Arts, Dept. of State through a grant administered by the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs and the Recording Industries Fund in whole or in part, the instruments music performances as arranged by Local 151 of American Federation of Musicians.

For further information, contact conductor Lorraine Marks at (908) 709-0084 or web site <http://www.bobdevelin.com/orchcs.html>.

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Schedule of Services

- Palm Sunday, April 16.....** Palms blessed & distributed 5:30 p.m. Saturday & 8 and 11 a.m. Sunday
- Holy Thursday, April 20....** 7 p.m. - Liturgy of the Holy Eucharist. Church will be open until 10 p.m. for adoration.
- Good Friday, April 21.....** 3 p.m.-Liturgy of the Word, Veneration of the Cross & Communion Service
- 7 p.m. - Stations of the Cross by Pope John Paul II
- Holy Saturday, April 22....** Blessing of Easter Food: 10am, 11am, 1pm, 2pm at parish hall
- 7 p.m. - Easter Vigil Mass & Services
- Easter Sunday, April 23....** 8 a.m. - Easter Sunrise Mass
- 11 a.m. - Easter Day High Mass
- 12:15 p.m. - Easter Late Day Mass

Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave. South Plainfield, NJ
Very Rev. Michael A. McGuire, Pastor

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Monday, April 17th • 9 a.m. Mass & Novena
7:30 p.m.. Chrism Mass at The Cathedral, Metuchen

CONFESSIONS

Tues., Apr. 18 • 7-8 p.m. • Wed., April 19 • 7-8 p.m.

HOLY WEEK MASSES

Palm Sunday - Vigil, Saturday, April 15, 5:45 p.m.

(Simple Blessing of Palms at all Masses)

Sunday, April 16, 8 a.m. - 9:30 a.m., & 11:15 a.m..

(Solemn Blessing of Procession at 9:30 A.M. Mass)

HOLY THURSDAY April 20 - 7:30 PM

Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper and Procession

ADORATION AT REPOSITORY

9 a.m. until Midnight

GOOD FRIDAY (No Mass Today)

April 21 - Stations of the Cross at 3 p.m.

Solemn Liturgy of the Passion and Death of the Lord - 7:30 p.m.

HOLY SATURDAY

April 22 - Blessing of Easter Food at 12 Noon

Solemn Easter Vigil Ceremonies and Mass at 8 p.m.

EASTER

Mass of the Resurrection

April 23. 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.

Sports

Tiger Wrestlers Help Team New Jersey Win Title

By Bob Hunter

South Plainfield wrestlers, Matt Anderson (103), Roberto Ramos (119), Dave Fiore (152) and John Foscolo (215) helped Team NJ win the Red Team USA Wrestling Kellogg's Scholastic Duals Championships held at the Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek, Mich. this past weekend.

The Red Team went 5-0 in the tournament while the Blue Team

finished with a 5-2 record and earned fourth place honors. Twenty-five teams from around the country participated in this three-day tournament. New Jersey, who entered two teams, were the only state to have two individual teams finish in the top four. Dave Fiore was 6-1 on the trip while Matt Anderson went 4-1. John Foscolo went 1-2 and Roberto Ramos who wrestled up at 130 went 0-2.

Mike Wagner Claims Title At Southern Regionals

Mike Wagner, a Recreation wrestler, won the Middle Atlantic Wrestling Association Southern Regional Championships in Salsbury Maryland. Wagner who qualified by winning a district tournament in North Burlington advanced to the Southern Regional.

Wagner, a 73 pound Bantam, won his first match over Alex Zwier of Delaware 11-2. In the semi finals Wagner defeated Karch

Connors of Washington Twp. 7-2. In the finals Wagner claimed his title by scoring a major decision over Dalton Nuneville of Delaware 14-2. Wagner will now advance to the Eastern National Tournament in Scranton, Pa.

Also wrestling were Corey Hay, Bantam (55), who lost by decision 1-0. Mark Wagner, Junior (85), lost his opening match 1-0 and Billy Ashnault, Junior (70), lost his match 4-2 in OT.



Sacred Heart Varsity Team: Back row (left to right) Coach Barletta, Alex Barletta, Tyson Johnson, Ken Abel, Calvin John Smiley, Dino Cruz, Matt Kopf, Andres Marquetti, Coach Sikanowicz. Knelling are Malcolm Armstrong, Mario Campo, Derek Smith, Kevin Hohner, Kyle Thomas.

Sacred Heart Varsity Basketball Wins Second Place Trophy in Diocese League

Sacred Heart School's Varsity Basketball Team finished the season winning a Second Place Trophy in the "B" Division of the Diocese of Metuchen League. Under the direction of Coach Mike Sikanowicz and Assistant Coach Alex Barletta, the seventh and eighth graders had a 7-win

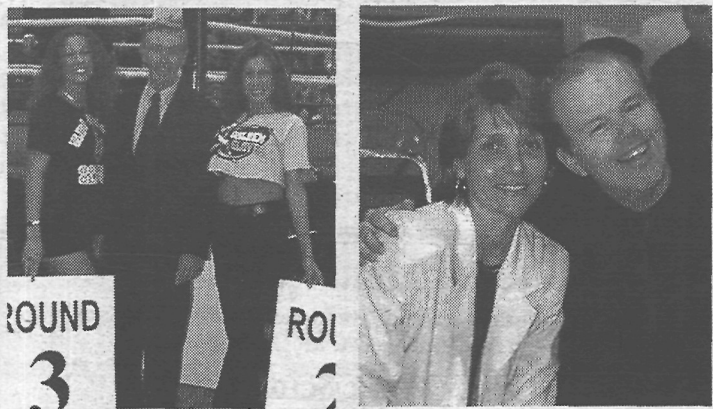
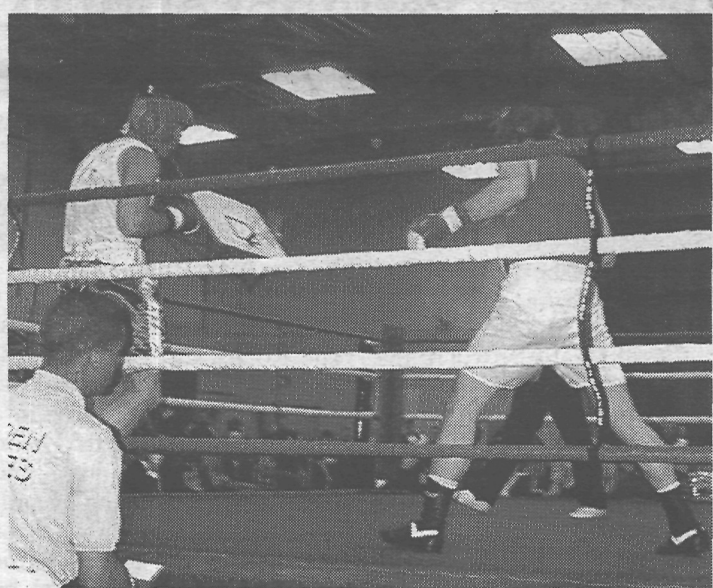
3-loss season making them eligible for the "B" Division.

In the play-offs, the Hawks defeated the Immaculate Conception Blue Team, but lost to St. James who took the first place trophy.

During the season, the Hawks also won the First Place Trophy in the Father Sico Tournament and

third place in the St. Matthias Tournament. On Friday nights, the team played against "parish teams" in the St. Cecilia League in Iselin. Playing against these difficult teams have helped develop the team's playing skills.

— Submitted by
Cheryl Nagel-Smiley



The South Plainfield Police Benevolent Association (PBA) and the Plainfields' Chapter of Unico recently sponsored "The New Jersey Golden Gloves Tournament." The event was attended by the mayor, council and many special guests.

Under-11 Girls Soccer Team Wins!

So. Plfd Blaze vs. Montgomery Starters

Going into our away game vs. Montgomery and after losing our first two we knew we had to play tough to be in this game. Three of the girls had prior commitments and could not make it to the game and one was not feeling well. As we approached game time, it became clear that two more of our girls were not going to make the game. We were missing six of our players! With only nine players, we approached the referee and the opposing team to discussed our situation. It was agreed that the opposing coach would allow a 9v9 for the first half, giving our no-show girls a chance to get to the game. He also stated that at half time he would exercise his right to play 11 in the second half. Blaze had their work cut out for them. Not only were we short players, but Maria Lipnick and Ashley Gaspari are not 100%, with ankle injuries.

In the first half the defense was stacked with Becky Keller in as keeper stopping a strong attack,

Kate Hardy as sweeper clearing the ball, Tiffany Roth playing one of her best games ever as a full-back, Allison Huffsmith dominating the left side with power and Ashley Gaspari controlling the right side with her usual toughness and determination.

On offense the scoring attempts were so close, with breakaways from Denise Lopez; her shots just missing the right and left corners of the goal. Lauren Fry and Maria Lipnick controlling the middle with skills which had improved immensely and Katie Baldassarre kept bouncing back from injuries, having to leave the field twice. Half-time produced a score of 0-0.

At the start of the second half, as he had stated earlier, the opposing coach exercised his right to play his 11 vs. our nine. Making adjustments at halftime, our defense seemed to struggle for the first part of the second half, allowing Montgomery the first score of the game. Blaze quickly bounced back as the offense got a lucky break, with a penalty kick by Kate Hardy scoring to tie the

game. Then Blaze exploded! After Kate Hardy had a few breakaway shots blocked by their keeper, she finally blasted a tipped and dropped ball through to take the lead with a score of 2 to 1.

We quickly made adjustments and stacked our defense as we did in the first half. Pulling Kate Hardy and Lauren Fry back as fullbacks and moving Tiffany Roth up front, Becky Keller still in as keeper and playing tougher then ever, Ashley Gaspari again dominated the right side with such determination, Katie Baldassarre playing her heart out on the left and the middle being controlled masterfully by Allison Huffsmith, Maria Lipnick and Denise Lopez. We were unstoppable! The final score was Blaze 2 - Montgomery 1.

Given the odds against them, these nine girls played the best game I have ever seen them play. Congratulations girls!

Submitted by Tom Hardy, the proudest Head Coach in town! Visit South Plainfield Soccer Club's Web site at www.sopfldsoccerclub.com



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Sports

By Frank Hanley

juniorbaseballclubnotes

OPENING DAY 2000—The 2000 season is here!! The club starts the 2000 season Saturday morning with a parade through town and ceremony the complex. The parade will start at 10 a.m. with a march from Borough Hall to the Baseball Complex. A brief ceremony will be held at the complex. Games will start at noon and continue throughout the day. Small Fry players and coaches should assemble behind the Library at 9:30 a.m. Players are reminded to wear your uniform, dress warmly, wear sneakers and do not bring any playing equipment.

Team Pictures—Individual and team photos will be taken throughout the day this Saturday. Picture information and schedules were distributed to all team managers last week.

Booster Weekend—The club's annual booster was held last weekend. Players were out at local businesses collecting donations for the club. This was a major fund raising event for the club. Monies raised go right back into facilities and equipment for the children. The club thanks everyone for their generosity and the local business owners for their continued support.

SPJBC Scholarship—All applications have been received. The Scholarship Committee met this week to review the applications.

Snack Stand Captains—The club is looking for a few additional snack stand captains. There are several shifts that still require a captain. 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 ready the complex for the 2000 playing season. A work detail will be held on Friday night and Saturday morning to prepare for Opening Day. Anyone who can spare some time is asked to help out.

Somerset Patriots—Over 100 tickets have already been sold for this year's outing 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.

Woman's Auxiliary—The '2000 Little Miss Baseball' will be announced on Opening Day. The Woman's Auxiliary will be on hand Opening Day holding a bake sale and a flower sale. The flowers featured this year are hanging baskets and perennials. SPJBC logoed items will also be available.

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.

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

Events at a Glance—*Work Detail*-Friday night April 14 and Saturday morning April 15 at the complex; *Opening Day*-Saturday April 15

South Plainfield Girls' Junior Varsity Softball Results

By Denise DiMeglio

The South Plainfield JV softball team opened up their season with a 22-0 win over Metuchen. Sophomore Janelle Kenny pitching for South Plainfield, earned herself a no-hitter. Jessica Irber and Kelly Eustice lead the Lady Tigers' offense. Jess recorded four hits and two runs and Kelly got two doubles and a triple.

**South Plainfield 1
Watchung Hills 11**

Going into Saturday's game against Watchung Hills, South Plainfield was 2 and 0. Denise DiMeglio, the starting pitcher for the Tigers, held Watchung to no runs until the third inning, when a series of errors allowed Watchung Hills to score eleven

runs, all of which were unearned. At the end of five innings, the final score was 11-1 in favor of Watchung.

**South Plainfield 12,
Perth Amboy 1**

After a devastating loss, the Lady Tigers came back strong with a 12-1 victory over Perth Amboy. South Plainfield's offense was led by Candace D'Aleo, who had two hits, two runs and two RBIs, and Julie Palmer, who also had two hits and two runs. Meghan Schweers and Janet Golen contributed as well, each with a double.

Pitching for South Plainfield was Janelle Kenny, who held Perth Amboy to one hit, while striking out eleven during the five inning game.

HIGH SCHOOL By Brian Cochrane

Tiger Girls Pound Rival Chiefs in Softball

The South Plainfield high school girls softball team continued their double digit assault, once again scoring 11 runs to blank crosstown rivals Piscataway last Thursday in Piscataway. Alison Barrett yielded just three hits while striking out five and walking none to move to 2-0. Kelly Ritchie and D. Schweers each went 2 for 4 with a couple of RBI as Christine Stranni's three run double in the sixth inning ended the game on yet another "mercy" victory.

The ladies home opener took

place last Saturday afternoon as Watchung Hills came to town. The Tigers got to work early as both Kerri Howells and Kim Wilcox erased a one-run deficit with a pair of RBI singles in the bottom of the first inning. Add an unearned run in the same inning and that's all the lead the Tigers would need, as Alison bore down, scattering seven hits and getting stellar defense behind her to win 3-1.

The Tigers continued their offensive explosion as Perth Amboy came to town last Monday and

were convincingly sent home with a 12-0 loss. In yet another mercy shortened game, Alison struck out eight while walking none and only yielded two hits. Both Alison and Danielle Schweers had run scoring doubles in the game, which saw the Tigers record their third shutout in four games. The girls have outscored their opponents 37-1 as they head into the weekend with a pair of home games...Friday against Colonia and Saturday morning against the Canucks from North Plainfield.

Boys Baseball Team Take Two Straight

The South Plainfield Tiger boys baseball team bounced back from their opening day loss to win their next two at home. Last Tuesday in a nine-inning marathon, the Tigers were able to plate Andrew Fyffe after North Brunswick gambled on Victor Kurilew's sacrifice bunt and went for the play at third. The throw sailed high and Fyffe scored easily for the 3-

2 win. Sam Alexander earned his first win with three innings of late relief.

The following Saturday the boys opened the North Plainfield tournament in dramatic fashion, coming from down a run in the bottom of the sixth to beat Westfield 12-10. Gary Lafontaine provided the late game fireworks, with a three-run dinger in the decisive

sixth to propel the Tigers into the finals against North Plainfield. Bob Merkler also crushed his first homer of the season as Shawn Kenny added a clutch double. Sam Alexander picked up his second straight win with two innings of perfect relief.

The finals are slated for Saturday night at Krausche field in North Plainfield at 7:45.

High School Golf Team Off to 5-0 Start

The South Plainfield high school golf team has once again established themselves as a force to be reckoned with in the Greater Middlesex Conferences White Division. After posting a 14-8-1 record last season, the worst in coach Mike Kavkas storied career, the Tigers look to have regained that "we're unbeatable" attitude that they've carried into many of coach Kavkas 18 seasons at the helm.

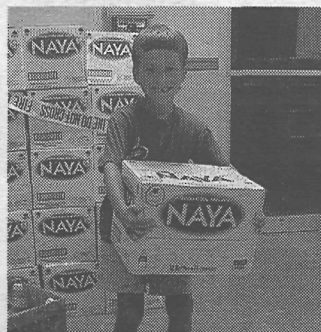
This years nucleus once again

begins with last years N.J. State Golf Association "William Y. Dear Jr." Tournament winner, junior Jason Bataille. Joining Jason in the starting rotation is junior Matt Kurilew, sophomore Matt Peloquin, freshmen phenoms Frank Gaspari, Frank Wrubleski and Mike Jankoski. Along with junior Paul Hermann and reserves Jon Fredricks, Joe Nicolay, Tom Siniscak and Tim Keller the Tigers were able to open their season with five straight victories.

The boys defeated Union by 14, Old Bridge by 8, crushed Colonia by 29, embarrassed Bishop Ahr by 43 and squeaked past North Brunswick by three, all within a week. The boys have 22 total matches on their schedule, along with sectionals and the GMC tournament in May and an eighteen win season is not out of the question for this talented array of "underclassmen" who start the year without a senior.



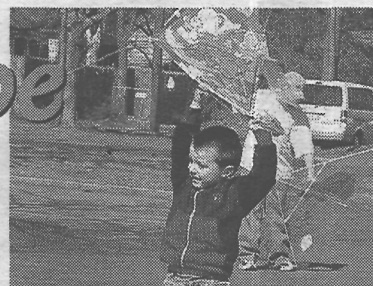
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going on....



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Last Chance for Early Bird Discount at Pool

Residents can still take advantage of the early bird discount at the Community Pool. These discounts are in effect only until April 15, then the price goes up. A brochure explaining the pool's fees, discounts, hours of operation, guest fees and info about lessons and recreation programs is available by calling 226-7713, or stop by the Recreation office.

Sign ups for pool memberships will take place only at the Recreation office—no applications will be taken at the pool facilities.

The community pool will be opening on a part-time basis starting on June 3. Summer hours will be starting on June 25.

This year's members will receive 10 free passes. This offer also expires on April 15.

Guest pass books which contain 10 daily passes may be purchased by members at \$50 per book. There is a limit of one book per month. This offer also expires on April 15.

General daily admissions are permitted into the pool. Everyone must provide proper identification.

Obituaries

Thomas M. Tighe, 68

Thomas M. Tighe, died on Thursday, April 6, at his nephew's home here.

Born in Jersey City, Mr. Tighe had resided in Rahway before residing in Roselle for most of his life and recently settling in South Plainfield.

Mr. Tighe was employed by United States Postal Service at the New Jersey International Bulk Mail Distribution Center in Jersey City for 25 years before his retirement in 1991. Prior to the United Postal Service Mr. Tighe had been employed as an accountant for Emerson Radio & Phone Co. of Jersey City.

Mr. Tighe was a 1960 graduate of Rutgers University in Newark, where he earned his bachelor's degree in accounting.

Mr. Tighe enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1951 as an Air Man First Class before his separation in 1955. He was also a former member of AmVer's of Jersey City.

He is predeceased by his sisters, Alice Milby, who died in

1980; Kathryn Reagan, who died in 1981 and Margaret Byrnes, who died in 1998 and his brothers, William Tighe, who died in 1990 and James Tighe who died in 1998.

Surviving are his sister, Virginia DiFilippo of St. Petersburg, Fla.; 14 nieces and nephews with numerous great nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

Mary Olga (Stranahan) Soos, 81

Mary Olga (Stmahen) Soos died on Thursday, April 6, in her home in Belleair, Fla.

Born in Sidney, N.J. she had resided in South Plainfield for 55 years before moving to Florida in 1976.

She was a retired bookkeeper.

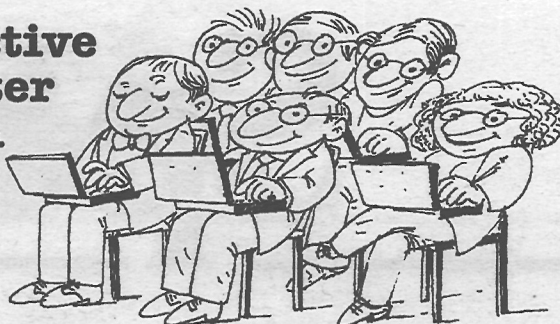
She was a member of the First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Clearwater, and a member of St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church in North Plainfield. She was also a member of the Leading ladies P.A.C.T. (Performing Art Theater) and a 50 year member of the Order of the Eastern Star, Lydia Chapter #41 & the Aborvita Court, Amaranth Chapter, both of Plainfield.

Her husband, Frank Soos, died in 1983.

Surviving are a daughter, Carol L. Stranahan-Jones, Dunedin, Fla.; and a brother, Albert Ladish of South Plainfield.

Funeral services were held in McCriskin Home For Funerals.

interactive computer column



Yikes!

Microsoft has been judged to be monopolistic in their business practices. While I do understand how it's easy to automatically dislike a huge corporation and rejoice in its hardship, I don't often agree that big is bad. However, I should also state for the record (Oops! For the *Observer*) that I am not a knee-jerk Microsoft fan even though I do use and recommend their products widely.

What really bothers me about the recent ruling against Microsoft is that there seems to be an absence of consumer harm. I don't see where or how the consumer is damaged or why there is an issue at all. I do see a few sore-heads from Sun Microsystems and a few other competing businesses, but that's about all. I do not see any monopoly, certainly not near the extent that Cisco or Apple holds in their respective markets. Jeez, for all that Microsoft does to help outside developers create software products that will run on Microsoft OS's, it boggles my mind that this issue has gone so far without somebody telling the sore-heads to go get lost! I see an ex-

tremely effective organization benefiting consumers in so many ways, while a few have to cry and whine over their special interests.

I'm sure there are many readers of this column who would happy to explain to me the nuances of this issue which I admittedly do not fully understand or even care to fully understand. This is only my point of view while any and all are invited to jump in and take a shot too. I'll give space to anyone who cares to share.

On a different note, a frequent drum I like to bang has to do with security both that of your PC and the network to which you may be connected (the Internet). I've recently discovered a terrific site that everyone should visit just to see how well they're bolstered against an untoward attack.

TIP: Go to <http://www.grc.com> to test your vulnerability to hack attack and also to learn much more about how to "up your shields" when you discover that they're down.

By Cyrus N. Moon

Weekly Horoscope 4/14-4/20

ARIES 3/21-4/19 Be careful this week. Circumstances may put you into such a tense or aggravated state as to make you do something you would not ordinarily do. Caution is advised. And also keep in mind that not only are your actions unpredictable but so are their consequences.

TAURUS 3/20-4/20 Observing others, especially in social settings, will give you a clear idea of what is meant by body language. If you happen to see someone at a club or social affair that you are smitten by, you are the one who will have to initiate the conversation.

GEMINI 5/21-5/20 You may have some pressing need or urge to travel at this time. Business transactions are apt to include the sale or purchase of an automobile or other vehicle, communications equipment and computers. Also anything that you hear or read can motivate you to physical action.

CANCER 5/21-6/22 You will feel very warm and friendly to the people around you, and you are willing to offer emotional or physical support to anyone who needs it. And for this, people will warm to you. You can get exactly what you are looking for, basically happy and positive people.

LEO 7/23-8/22 Try to use this week to get a clearer idea of where you are in your life and how well you have fulfilled your spiritual and material needs. It is a good week for quiet study, especially of metaphysical or spiritual subject. Someone may put in a request

for your help, or call to help others.

VIRGO 8/23-9/22 Any information, ideas, or methods can seem very interesting and even valuable this week. But trying to use or apply them proves to be difficult or restricted in some way. And even if you cannot at this time apply your ideas. At a later time perhaps it will come in handy.

LIBRA 9/23-10/22 This is a time of stability and conservatism in matters of love, affection, finances and the arts. It may be time for a serious talk with a loved one and do so willingly. A relationship that starts at this time is most likely to be a stable one. And artwork will be disciplined and productive.

SCORPIO 10/23-11/21 Investigation and research yields satisfying results. If digging for buried treasure you are liable to bring rewards for yourself. Something you lost may be found. Debts owe to you should be paid off or a favor owed to you can be asked for now. You can learn self-discipline now!

SAGITTARIUS 11/22-12/21 This week you have the opportunity to gain some power in your job and after all that's what you have been striving for these last few months. Now! There is a right way and a wrong way to do this. You need to do this with integrity!! If you don't, struggles will follow.

CAPRICORN 12/22-1/19 Now is the time to do any work that requires extreme precision of thought and planning. And it will

This is a truly great site with real Public Service value. I strongly recommend that everyone check it out. I was surprised to learn (even a bit embarrassed) to discover that my office network security was somewhat less than I had thought. My port 139 was open although the test hack still couldn't communicate with my machine. Kinda like leaving your fly open, but with your shorts still buttoned up, I should've been doing better (now I am, thank you very much). The trick is to be checking your security profile regularly, because even though you may not directly allow or leave access open, many running programs can and will. It is up to you to make sure the guards aren't sleeping in their foxholes!

I'm also wondering if anyone has tried running Windows2000 either at the office or at home yet. The feedback I've gotten is that this is very stable OS and though it may have some bugs yet, it is pretty darn solid right out of the box. Sure would be nice if some of you offered feedback so we can decide if this is something we want to use now or maybe later. And how about you Linux fans, what's the late word from the world of open source? Drop me line or two and let me hear how you feel about what's what out there in ComputerLandville. I'm always anxious to hear from you.

Briggs Longbothum, ed. (You can still reach me: Bruggo@home.com)

work out fine if you have previously outlined the general plan and left the work for now. Also there is the possibility you may have to say farewell to someone leaving.

AQUARIUS 1/20-2/18 Meetings of any kind can be difficult to organize and coordinate. Although a spirit of generosity and togetherness may be encouraged by current circumstances, accomplishing group projects is difficult in spite of everyone's good intentions.

PISCES 2/19-3/20 This is a time to expand your spiritual awareness, improve artistic sensitivity, and develop intuitive skills. If you take advantage of the information and ideas that come your way during this period, you can profit. A meeting with a physic may be beneficial also.

FREE: A one-month free horoscope. Just like you read in the paper, based on the DATE, TIME, and PLACE of your birth. All are vital! If no time available then specify 12am or 12pm. Send one-dollar to cover shipping to Cyrus N. Moon, P.O. Box 863, South Plainfield, NJ 07080. You give me any start time, example 4/1/00 to 5/1/00 or pick any time in the past, example 7/1/94 to 8/1/94 and compare it to a diary or journal. You have a special occasion happening in 7/13/01 to 8/13/01. So give it a try, nothing to lose, and the best part it's free. Also include town that you want your horoscope to be done in or I will default it for South Plainfield. And I will also include a wheel chart.

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Take notice that application has been made to the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield to transfer to Joseph B. Stavish, Sr. the Plenary Retail Consumption License No. 1222-33-013-002 heretofore issued to the Hideaway LLC., for the premises at 605 Tompkins Avenue.

The person who will hold an interest in this license is Joseph B. Stavish, Sr.

Objections, if any, should be made immediately, in writing, to James V. Eckert Municipal Clerk, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, N. J. 07080

Joseph B. Stavish Sr.
404 Decatur Ave.
Middlesex, N. J. 08846

\$60.00

2T 4/14-4/21/2000

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

April 5, 2000

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment at its meeting held on April 4, 2000.

Case No. 2-00/S-Bell Atlantic-New Jersey, Inc.-Block 528; Lot 46.08; Hadley Road & Corporate Blvd.-Applicant's request for a use variance and 2 front yard set back variances, to construct two primarily underground concrete pre-cast vaults, and preliminary and final site plan, was hereby GRANTED with conditions.

Case No. 7-00/I-Lynne Glasser-Sward-1110 Hamilton Blvd.; Block 425; Lot 6-Applicant's request for an interpretation that a physical therapist is a professional office is hereby GRANTED with conditions.

Case No. 38-99/S-Skyline Management Corp.-Block 254; Lot 2.02; Oak Tree Road and Park Ave.-Applicant's request for two use variances, bulk variances and preliminary and final site plan was hereby GRANTED with conditions.

Janice J. Muccilli
Secretary Zoning Board of Adjustment
\$24.00 1T 4/14/2000

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policereport

• Spring Lake Texaco reported a burglary. Someone smashed the glass window of the center bay door and the front office door lock was pried off. The suspects rummaged through the office, then entered the back office by prying the lock off the door jamb. A locked closet was entered as well. Six cartons of cigarettes were reported missing. The motion sensor had not been armed.

• A Warren St. resident reported the theft of her purse from her vehicle. The unlocked car had been parked in the driveway of the Corner Deli, Hamilton Blvd. The purse contained a wallet, credit cards and cell phone.

• Dunkin Donuts, Park Ave. reported a burglary. Upon arrival the day manager noticed a back door ajar, then had trouble getting the key in the door to the office. Once inside the office the manager noticed that the monitor which shows four camera angles throughout the shop was different and deposits that had been left in the office for the owner were missing. A coin box had been opened and rolled quarters were removed, other rolled coins remained. Approximately \$5,000 was missing. The owner noted that two employees who had quit had

not turned in their keys.

• Jack Dillard of Elizabeth reported his car was damaged while parked in a lot at 30 Cragwood Road. The car had been scratched, the fender dented and a tire was flattened. There are no suspects.

• An employee of Getty Gas Station, Park Ave., was robbed. The suspect stepped out of the car and spoke with the attendant then followed the attendant into the booth and sprayed him with mace. The attendant handed the money to the suspect and the suspect fled. The victim's eyes were flushed out at the station. The suspect's vehicle matches descriptions that of prior crimes committed at scene.

• A Piscataway resident reported that the lock on her car door had been punched out while parked at Radiant Communications, 5001 Hadley Rd. The suspect had attempted to start the car with a screw in ignition. The car was alarmed but the system failed for unknown reasons.

• A wrestling belt was stolen from the boys locker room of SPHS. The belt was in a duffel bag in the locker room. Money and jewelry in the bag were not taken. A reward is being offered for the return of the belt.

Drama Club Presents "Kokonut High"

Continued from page 1

ment of other characters and the result is a hilarious show.

Director Mrs. Gina Capizola has a cast of approximately 37 students, who have been in rehearsal since February. School performances began on Wednesday for sixth grade students and two shows were held on Thursday for the seventh and eighth grades. An evening performance is scheduled for Friday, April 14 at 7:30 p.m..

The cast includes Alex Tierney, David Allara, Yorka Ralwins, Chelsea Falato, Danny Sierzega, Jackie Muglia, Shari-Laine Sangster, Brittany DeNitzio, Patrick Pryor, Nicole Carlson, Charlyn Magat, Joe Bundy, Rosanna Mootoo, Marissa Judd, Joe Rodriguez, Jordan Lynch, Chris Kelly, Katie Mott, Lori Cushner, Shannon

Rivers, Alexa Reha, Vinnie Carubia, Claire Dowling, Adam Tamzoke, Paul Nicolosi, Mike Fry, Nicole Aguilar, Jay Leahy, Lesley Sideck, Danielle Tonkin, Ashlen Udell, Tristan More, Danielle Noble, Lauren Smithline, Storm McDonald, Chris Patti and Gina Severini.

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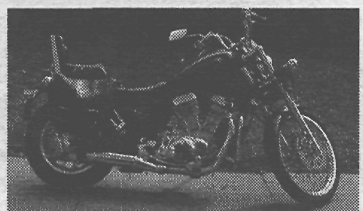
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The Abbington Apartments, presently under construction on Durham Road in South Plainfield, is now accepting applications for their Affordable Housing Program. Please review the income parameters below to determine if you pre-qualify for an apartment 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				Moderate Income			
Floorplan	Qty	Rent	Sq. Ft.	Floorplan	Qty	Rent	Sq. Ft.
1 Bdrm	3	\$600	898	1 Bdrm	3	\$925	898
2 Bdrm	11	\$745	1,106	2 Bdrm	12	\$1,100	1,106
3 Bdrm	5	\$825	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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sured items, and a drop down section that can be used as a bar. Plenty of storage for all electronic/video/audio needs. 8 feet wide x 7½ 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. Pic avail. 732-699-3227.

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Letters

Continued from page 2

of public education for over 20 years, is a pioneer member of the Bloomfield Career Education Advisory Council established in 1977. Recognized nationally in 1988 as a model Advisory Council, Frank helped guide the Bloomfield system to numerous national program recognitions under his leadership.

Frank was honored as a "Business Person of the Year" and received national recognition in Washington, D.C. for his service and contributions to the youth of Bloomfield in the Future Business Leaders of America program. Over the past five years, Frank guided Bloomfield's School to Career and College Initiative program under a federal grant distributed through the New Jersey Departments of Education, Labor and Commerce. Mr. Mikorski's contributions to workforce development under the School to Career grant complement his long history of economic development activities in New Jersey.

Frank Mikorski is such a unique individual leader whose diverse background and contributions are essential to leading educators and business in the 21st century. The Bloomfield Education Career Advisory Council unanimously endorses his re-election to the South Plainfield Board of Education.

**SINCERELY,
GENE F. NAPOLIello, D.D.S.,
PRESIDENT, BLOOMFIELD
EDUCATION CAREER ADVISORY
COUNCIL**

To The Editor:

As our board of education election approaches, we find ourselves in the position of having to select three new members to the board. I would like to take this time to urge the voters of South Plainfield to elect Richard Gumina to one of those seats.

I've known Rick for many years. He is an honest man with strength, integrity and intelligence. Rick has had an active and strong interest in our school system since his children started in Future Stars. Since both are now in the high school, Rick has been personally involved in our schools for years. He is familiar with our school system. Rick wants the best for the students in South Plainfield.

One of Rick's strongest personal traits is his tendency to consider all aspects and impacts of an issue before forming his own opinions and decisions. Rick knows the value of hard work and is willing to go the extra mile to get the job done right. He has the professional background in both management and technology to be an asset to the decisions our next board of education will need to make.

The people we elect to the board of education represent us, the general public. I think it is important to elect

a person who respects our views and our right to express them. I also feel it is important to elect a person who makes it a point to become fully informed on issues before making decisions. Rick Gumina is that person.

I encourage the voters of South Plainfield to vote for Rick Gumina, line 7 on April 18.

**SINCERELY,
JOHN DIDOLCE**

Dear Editor,

We would like to voice our support of Thomas Delaney for a seat on the board of education. We feel that he will make a positive contribution to our school system as a board member. Tom has a common sense approach toward dealing with problems.

His calm, thoughtful and decisive manner will serve him and the board as a whole very well. Our school board needs a new approach to solving the issues it now faces. Tom is our choice for this important job. Please join us in voting line 6 on April 18.

**SINCERELY,
JANIS AND TOM SMITH**

To the Editor,

Vote for Frank Mikorski and Carol Byrne to the South Plainfield Board of Education on April 18. They have the knowledge and experience to be excellent leaders.

For leadership and expertise, vote for Frank Mikorski and Carol Byrne.

WALTER KALMAN

To the Editor,

It is board of education election time again. Time for you to go vote and hopefully to support a lean budget that maintains what our students are receiving, at no increase to you, the taxpayer.

You will also have the opportunity to elect three members to the board of education. Please take a moment to remember what these members are elected to do. Nine members of your community are elected to represent the taxpayers and children of this community. The current board has two members who must leave the room when any discussion revolves around negotiations, benefits and personnel issues, reducing the discussion to only seven participants. This year two of the candidates running for the board of education have the same conflict. If this community continues to elect conflicted members to the board, soon there will be fewer and fewer of us in the room to discuss and make decisions about a large part of the business end of your school district.

On April 18, I will vote for those who do not march to the beat of the South Plainfield Education Association (SPEA) drummer. Given my recent experience with contract negotiations, I have no doubt in my mind why conflicted candidates are com-

ing forward. Is this good for the children and taxpayers of our community? Our educators have wonderful representation, I can assure you, with the SPEA. Can our children afford to lose theirs? Can the taxpayers afford to have their unbiased representation watered down by members who cannot vote or participate in such a large part of the board of education's business?

Please join me on April 18. Elect non-conflicted candidates to be your board of education members. I will be casting my vote for Frank Mikorski, Tom Delaney and Carol Byrne. I will also be voting yes to the budget question.

**SINCERELY,
DAWN JEFFERYS**

To the Editor,

Coming to grips with the situation facing South Plainfield's schools is not an easy task. We have an increasing enrollment, retiring teachers, shortages in qualified candidates for teachers positions, new mandates from the State Department of Education and a multitude of other concerns.

How these duties are handled and who is there to make sure they are done correctly is extremely important. Do you want experienced personnel who know what is needed? Do you want someone who owes nothing to anyone? Do you want a proven board member? Then I urge you to vote for Carol Byrne.

In my opinion, Carol has served South Plainfield well. During her time on the Board of Education, she has proven herself to be a caring, hard working person who can get things done. We need more people like her.

Vote for Carol Byrne, line 1 for the board of education on April 18.

ROBERT AUER

To the Editor,

We are writing to show our support to Frank Mikorski and Carol Byrne for the board of education election.

Frank and Carol have shown outstanding leadership skills and experience as community leaders by serving on the board of education, Land Management Committee and hospital boards.

Frank and Carol are here to serve the students of our schools and have no special interests dictating their decisions. Frank and Carol have no spouses or children working as teachers in our schools. Their motivation is to serve the best interest of the children in our schools.

Are you aware that Frank Mikorski has helped our district by pursuing national aid from the State of New Jersey? It was through Frank's legislative visits and contacts that made the difference for South Plainfield schools in getting the much needed aid for our district.

Carol has served the children of

South Plainfield as PTA president on the elementary, middle and high school levels. Although Carol's children have graduated from the system, she has continued to show the interest and desire to continue her involvement in our schools.

We feel South Plainfield voters are fortunate to have two such worthy candidates to serve on your board of education.

**SINCERELY YOURS,
THOMAS D. AND
MYRA M. STILLMAN**

To the Editor,

Vote on April 18.

It is now in your hands. Be sure to exercise your right and obligation to vote on Tuesday, April 18 and vote Line 3 Frank Mikorski. Increased voter participation will insure that candidates of well organized interest groups do not gain control of the system and how your dollars are spent.

I have served for two terms and am seeking reelection. I am not committed to any special interest group and have not sought their endorsement. I firmly believe that individuals employed by the district, who are well compensated and are responsible for the delivery of the educational programs, must be accountable for results. The students (customers) and

taxpayers (shareholders) are entitled to the best return for their efforts and tax dollars. For this present school year taxes were reduced by three tax points and for this coming budget that you will vote on, there is no tax increase.

We have an obligation to be sure that all students are afforded the opportunity to be the best they can be. Our district faces many challenges now and in the future. Some issues are the infrastructure and the facilities needs to meet the projected increases in student population due to the significant increase in construction of new housing units, the state requirements for standardized testing and state requirements for staff development hours.

If reelected I make a promise of commitment, competence and objective representation to meet those challenges. I feel that as board members we have an obligation to look at not only what happens in our community but also what the state can do to help. I will continue to keep abreast of legislative issues that impact on our state aid and state mandates so we can receive our fair share.

If you believe as I do then I ask you to vote for me, Frank Mikorski Line 3 on April 18. Also, vote YES for the budget which has no tax increase.

FRANK A. MIKORSKI

**PRESS 7-5-4
ON APRIL 18TH**

**LINE 7 - GUMINA
LINE 5 - COOPER
LINE 4 - PECK**

PRESS 7 5 4 ON APRIL 18TH

B.O.E. ELECTIONS

Paid for by Jan LaJeunesse



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