



SEP 08 2000

South Plainfield Observer

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SEPTEMBER 8, 2000

Central Sixth Grade Ready for Students

Parents, students and teachers attended an open house on Tuesday evening, packing the gym and hallways to see for themselves what the new Central Six Grade School looks like. No one seemed disappointed. In fact, most were delighted with what they observed.

By the time they assembled in the gym, smiles were evident on both students and parents faces. The entire summer was spent on renovating the school and moving many of the administration offices. Some relocated to the high school, the middle school and to other parts of school. The hard work and long hours spent on the renovations paid off, the school looks great.

Principal Robert Doggett welcomed the visitors to the school. The crowd turned out to be much larger than expected. He also tried to answer some of the questions that have been popping up and to give an overview of the new school.

One thing he stressed was that students will be changing classrooms and they will not be with the same teacher all day.

A brand new cafeteria was displayed. At first the plan was to bring food over from the high school, but that will not be necessary. A hot lunch will be served each day with the new kitchen in place. The only difference is lunch hour will be 50 minutes, versus the 43 minutes at the middle school.

Principal Doggett told parents they will be receiving a letter spelling out the basic, but important rules in the school. There will be no vandalism, no disrespect and no violence. Students will be expected to be tolerant,

show acceptance and be willing to help other people.

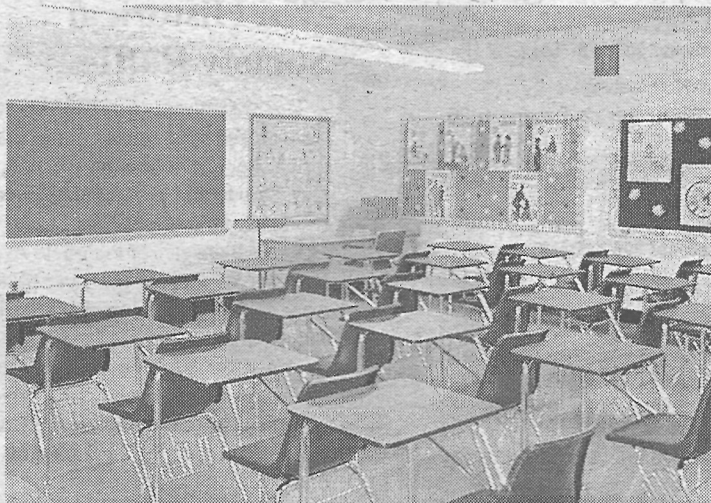
Each student will be assigned a combination locker and will be taught how to use it by their homeroom teacher. He assured parents they will all learn where the gym, cafeteria and classrooms are located.

Unlike the middle school, backpacks will be allowed at the Sixth Grade Central School, because of the amount of students and the size of the school.

Another question asked frequently was answered when Doggett said band will be included in the schools curriculum. Students will also have assemblies, dances and end of the year picnic. Doggett said all the sixth grade students will get to know one another during the school year and when they transfer next year to the middle school, they will go as a family.

Parents and students then toured the classrooms, including new computer, art and band rooms. Classes are all well lit, have new desks and freshly painted.

The teachers were also on hand to greet the students and parents. The teachers have been helping out at the new school during the past few weeks, unpacking boxes and setting up the classrooms, all on a volunteer basis. They volunteered to come in on their own time. According to members of the board the teachers assistance kept the opening of the school on schedule. Marriott workers have also worked countless hours during the summer to see that the school was finished by the first day of school. The board held a thank you breakfast last week to express their appreciation for their work. (See page 3 for pictures.)



Classes are set up for the open house held Tuesday evening and the first day of school. The hallway, pictured above is painted, clean and clear. Picture at right shows what the hallways looked like just a few weeks ago.



Injured Girl Recovering; No Broken Bones

During the Labor Day Parade a mishap along the parade route brought the days festivities to a halt. This is the first time in the 43 year history of the Labor Day Parade that an accident occurred. The parade was temporarily stopped, but continued after a 45 minute delay.

Shakera Jones, a 10-year-old Riley School student, was watching the parade and darted out onto the street, attempting to give water to someone on the Pop Warner float. She apparently slipped beneath the wheels of the float and was run over.

She suffered severe leg injuries and was treated at the scene by members of the South Plainfield and Edison Rescue Squads as well as Mercy 7. She was then taken to Roosevelt School, where a helicopter transported her to Robert Wood Johnson Trauma Center. Shakera did not suffer any broken bones, but needed surgery for a skin graft on her leg. She is due to be released from the hospital today or tomorrow.

The float was on a flatbed truck operated by Mark Tomei. Tomei was not aware that the girl had slipped under the wheels of his truck. After the accident, he was also transported by ambulance to Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center for treatment of chest pains/shock as a result of the accident. Tomei has also been released from the hospital.

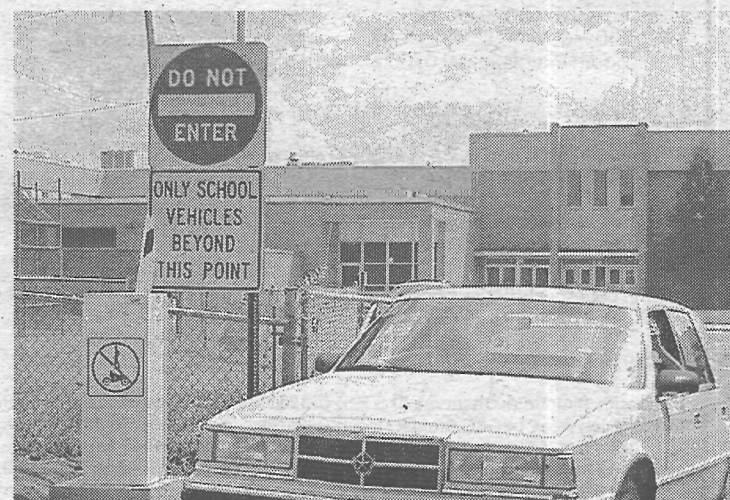
Access Road is Becoming a Speedway!

By Patricia Abbott

The small access roadway that connects the front of the high school and the side parking lot of Grant Central Sixth Grade School (formerly the administration building), was meant to provide school vehicles such as busses and maintenance trucks, with a quick means of travel from one building to another. Instead it has become a small raceway. On any given day you will find the single lane road busy.

Business Administrator Ellen Johnson along with other building personnel are concerned about the potentially dangerous overuse of the small roadway.

With the building once again in use as a school, as opposed to housing a large number of offices, student pedestrian traffic in the area will greatly increase. It has been reported that high school students speed around the circle in front of the school and cut through the access road, often at a high rate of speed. Adults use it as a short cut instead of traveling through the streets. Even school district staff use the road for convenience. It has



Signs, speed bumps and electronic arm is not stopping cars from using this access road.

become a busy road. Last year a series of closely spaced speed bumps were installed but they did little to correct the ongoing problem.

Recently an electronic arm was installed. The gate is operated by a remote transmitter similar to a garage door opener. District personnel with a need to access the area, bus drivers, borough police and fire officials were issued remotes. Power to the barrier

was turned on August 24 and the arm was lowered—the following day, Aug. 25, the wooden arm had been hit and broken off. The police report indicated that the broken piece was not located. The arm has been replaced and should be operational immediately.

Please make sure your children know this is an access road and not a thoroughfare.

WARNING: Motorized Go-Peds are Illegal

Go-peds are motorized scooters not unlike those speedy, silver folding contraptions that can be seen transporting children of all ages. The big difference is a go-ped is powered with a small gas motor and it is illegal to use on our roads. A number of go-peds have been seen around town, ridden in the street by youths. A go-ped with two riders was recently clocked at approximately 25 miles per hour. The following is a message from South Plainfield's Community Policing Officers Allen Lamonda and Joe Papa.

"A go-ped is not intended to be used on a public street or sidewalk. Since the driver of the go ped stand on platform and the vehicle has a motor attached, it would be required to meet all federal and state motorcycle standards in order to be legally registered and operated on a public street. The go-ped does not meet these standards. A go-ped is restricted for use on private property. So before you buy a go-ped for your child as a means of transportation think twice—it is not legal on sidewalks or public roadways. If you have any questions, call the officers at 226-7716.



mark your calendars

Log on to
southplainfieldnj.com
for the latest
meeting agenda

council meetings

Meets twice a month

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

AGENDA MEETING PUBLIC MEETING

Monday September 11	Monday, September 18
Monday, September 25	Thursday, September 28
Tuesday, October 10	Thursday, October 12
Monday, October 23	Thursday, October 26

All meetings of the Governing Body are held in accordance with New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (NJSA 10:4-6 et seq) in the Council Chambers at 2480 Plainfield Avenue.

planning board

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641

September 12, September 26, October 10 (No Meeting),
October 24, November 14, November 28, December 12, December 26

zoning board of adjustment

Meets first, third and fifth Tuesday of the month

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641

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:

September 28, October 26, November (No Meeting), December (No Meeting)

recycling commission

Meets Thursday, once a month

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

September 28, October 26,
November (to be announced), December 28

recreation commission

Meets once a month

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

Tues. September 12, Mon. October 2, Mon. November 6, Mon. December 4

environmental commission

Meets once a month

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

September 13, October 2, Mon. November 6, Mon. December 4

board of education meetings

Board Conference Room at Administration Building, on Cromwell Place

Committee of the Whole, Sept. 12, 7 p.m.; Regular Board Mtg. 8 p.m., Sept. 19, 8 p.m.
Committee of the Whole, Oct. 10, 7 p.m.; Regular Board Mtg. 8 p.m., Oct. 17, 8 p.m.

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.

Thank You

I would just like to say thank you to all of my friends, co-workers, Mayor Gallagher and the Democratic Party for all of their care and support at this very difficult time for me.

And a very special thanks to my family for all of their love and support.

Thank you again,
MARK A. TOMEI

Local Residents Win Historical Society Raffle

The two winning raffle tickets were picked by members of the Historical Society following the Labor Day Parade and both winners were residents.

Karen Flanagan, of Plainfield Ave. was the winner of the first place prize, a handmade log cabin quilt, valued at \$800.

Jim Connaughton of Randolph Ave. won of the second place prize, a brunch for two cruise on the Cornucopia Princess. Congratulations!

Calling All Candidates

The political season in South Plainfield officially begins with the Labor Day Parade. Local candidates for Borough Council, as well as candidates for state and national seats marched in our parade and visited Veterans' Park, greeting the residents.

We hope all residents will have the opportunity to get to know the four local candidates and then make an informed decision on election day.

Two council seats are open this year. Running for those seats are incumbent Councilman Ray Petronko (D) and first-time candidates Robert Cusick (D), David Guoth (R) and Ed Lyons (R).

We welcome letters and comments from the candidates and residents alike. We will try to publish any and all letters we receive from the candidates as well as letters from residents. Several state and national candidates have also been sending us press releases and we will publish them when space is available.

Our letter policy states that letter submissions must include a name and telephone number for verification. Upon request, we will publish letters anonymously (as long as they comply with the above request). We also reserve the right to edit letters for clarity and length.

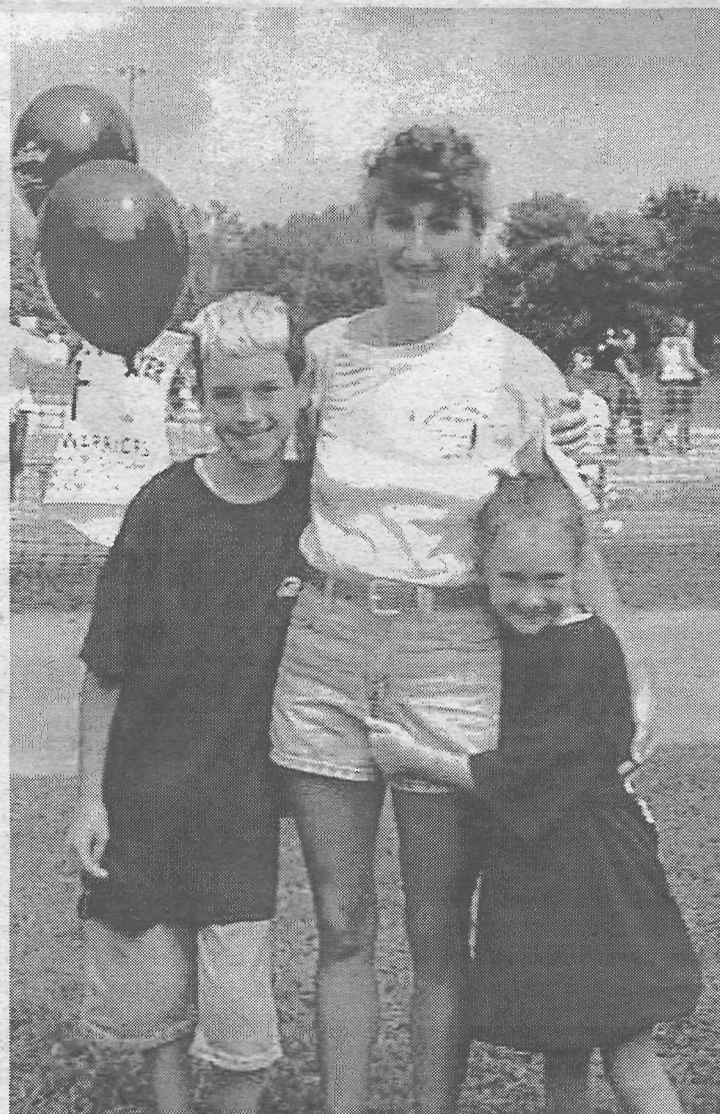
We hope all residents will make sure they are registered to vote. It's very easy to register, just stop in the Municipal Clerk's office and fill out an application. Don't wait until the last minute. If you don't vote, you have no voice in democracy. It's a lame excuse to say your vote doesn't really count and believe me, every vote does counts!

AIDA SANTOS
ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT
BRANCH MANAGER

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CONGRATULATIONS!!!! Erik and Allison White, pictured with their mom, Carolyn, dropped by our booth at the Labor Day Parade and picked up their Observer t-shirts. They collected all the police trading cards and had them signed. If you get yours signed, drop by the Observer office and we will present you with a t-shirt.

In My Opinion Letters

To the Editor:

Why you SHOULD be a Girl Scout Volunteer?

During the month of September Girl Scouts will be holding their registration for all new and returning Girl Scouts. We are anticipating a large registration this year and will be in great need of Girl Scout Leaders and Co-Leaders.

Girls is a very rewarding experience and we believe that this is a perfect way for parents/guardians to participate in quality time with their girls in a variety of activities and trips.

You and your girls(s) will have fun together while creating wonderful memories with her and her friends.

The South Plainfield Girl Scout Council has a great support team that will work with any volunteer. We need volunteers, adult women,

men, senior citizens and grandparents to share in the Girl Scout experience. Please help to make your community a better one by giving a little of yourself and in teaching our girls the same. Like the saying goes, it takes a whole village to raise a child.

**JILL GORMAN,
SOUTH PLAINFIELD GIRL
SCOUT TOWN ORGANIZER**

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southplainfieldpeople Milestones



Four Generations of First Born Daughters in South Plainfield

Kevin and Kelly-Ann Dunn of South Plainfield are proud to announce the birth of their first child, a daughter, Hanna Leigh Dunn, born on July 10 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center. She weighed 6 pounds, 4 ounces and was 20 inches long.

Her maternal grandparents are

Linda and Archie Dean, III from South Plainfield.

Her great maternal grandparents are Ann Campanelli and the late John Campanelli of South Plainfield.

Her paternal grandparents are Henry and Ermenia Dunn of Sayreville.

Eva Marie Ludewig and Matthew Schulte Announce Their Engagement

Mrs. Patricia Rosenberger and Mr. William Ludewig of Follansbee, West Virginia have announced the engagement of their daughter, Eva Marie Ludewig to Matthew Schulte, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Schulte of South Plainfield.

Eva Marie is a 1997 graduate of Carlow College in Pittsburgh, Pa., earning a BA degree in Secondary Education, English. She is currently employed by Sylvan Learning Centers and travels the East Coast as a franchise operations manager.

Matthew is a senior at Central Connecticut State University, where he is close to completing a BS degree in Manufacturing Engineering Technology. He is currently on co-op assignment as a quality engineer at Teleflex-Automotive Division, of Waterbury, Conn.



Matthew Schulte and Eva Marie Ludewig become engaged.

An October, 2001 wedding is being planned, after which the couple plan to settle either in the Connecticut or Baltimore areas.

Jonathan D. Wolek Completes Law Enforcement Training

On July 27, Jonathan D. Wolek, son of Rita and Jack Wolek of South Plainfield, graduated from the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glynco, Georgia and was sworn in as a United

States Park Police Officer.

Jonathan is a graduate of South Plainfield High School and Rutgers University. He will be based in the New York/New Jersey Metropolitan area.

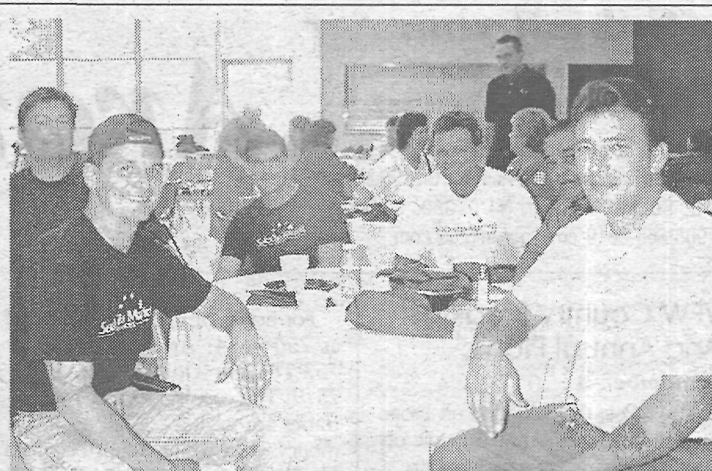
Registration Beginning for So. Plfd. Girl Scouts

Fall registration has begun for those who want to join the girls and adults already participating in South Plainfield Girl Scouts.

Both girls and adults are encouraged to join the largest organization for girls in the world. Through Girl Scouting, girls experience outdoor skills, educational enhancements and friendships. Volunteers receive training and access to a multitude of resources.

Registration is being held at the gymnasium at John E. Riley School on Sept. 15, from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. Registration forms will also be available in the Girl Scout box found in each school's main office.

Anyone interested in more information regarding registration or volunteering, please call Jill Gorman at (908) 753-7916.



A special breakfast, sponsored by the Board of Education was held last week to say thank you to the many workers and volunteers who have put in tireless hours converting the former administration building into the new Sixth Grade Central Grant School this summer.

Mosquito Precautions Should be Continued

Since last week's story on the West Nile Virus, there has been one reported case of the virus in New Jersey, however no mosquitos have tested positive in South Plainfield.

Meanwhile the Middlesex County Comprehensive Mosquito Control Program will continue its program of larviciding, adult mosquito surveillance, collecting dead crows, actively surveying local hospitals, testing mosquito pools and sentinel chickens for the West Nile Virus and distributing educational materials to the public.

Middlesex County residents are urged to continue eliminating areas of standing water around their homes:

1. Drain water from pool covers
2. Change water in birdbaths once a week.
3. Put fish into ornamental pools.

4. Make sure roof gutters are not clogged.

5. Empty flowerpots and containers that may hold water.

6. Maintain swimming pools.

7. Eliminate standing water that may be on your property.

8. Talk to neighbors about eliminating mosquito sites on their property.

Precautions that can be taken by Middlesex County residents to avoid getting bitten are:

1. Wear protective clothing, long pants, long-sleeved shirts and socks, if outdoors during the periods of peak mosquito activity, dawn and at dusk.

2. Consider using a repellent. Always follow the label directions.

3. Make sure window and door screens are in good condition to exclude the entrance of mosquitoes

into your home.

Residents may contact the Middlesex County Mosquito Commission at (732) 549-0665 or the Middlesex County Public Health Department at (732) 745-3100 for further information.

Board of Ed Departments Change Locations

Many of the offices of the central administration formerly located in Grant School have been relocated.

Accounting, Staff Development, Special Services and Technology have moved to the High School.

The Enrollment Center, Adult School and Transportation are now located in the Middle School.

Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.
South Plainfield, NJ

Father John
Alvarado, Pastor

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Evening Mass 5:45 p.m.

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

Weekdays 9:00 a.m. (church)

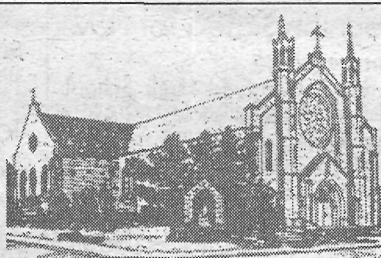
Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m.

Holy Days 7 p.m. (Vigil); 7 and 9 a.m., 12:10 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 11 a.m.- 12 noon, 5:15 -5:45 p.m.

and after 5:45 p.m. Vigil Mass



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Mail or drop off stories and photos to South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, or fax (908)668-8819; email ggnan@aol.com.

Around Town

VFW Country Breakfast And Annual Picnic

September 9

VFW Post 6763 located on Front St. will hold their Annual Picnic on Sept. 9. Festivities scheduled are a moon walk, live music and games.

The menu will include a pig roast, chicken, hamburgers and hot dogs, kielbasa and sauerkraut, sausage and peppers, corn on the cob, baked beans, watermelon, coffee and cake. Clams will be available at an additional fee.

Admission in advance is age 13 and over, \$10; 6 to 12 years, \$5; and under 5, free. At the gate prices are adults \$12 and children \$6.

For more information, call (908) 668-9751 after 3 p.m. daily and after 12 noon on weekends.

Italian American Club to Hold Members' Picnic

September 9

The Italian American Club of South Plainfield will hold its members' picnic on Saturday, Sept. 9 at 1 p.m.

Hamburgers, hot dogs, corn, clams, free tap beer and more will be served. Members with paid-up dues will be free of charge. Guests of members, which include wife and immediate children, will be \$5 each. Non-members will be \$15 each. Call the club at (908) 668-0865 to let us know if you will attend, or stop at the club to get your free ticket.

Republican Org. to Hold Fashion Show & Brunch

September 10

The South Plainfield Republican Organization will be holding their Seventh Annual Fashion Show and Brunch on Sunday, Sept. 10 at the Metuchen Country Club from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Fashions will be presented by B.J.'s Dressing Room in Scotch Plains and The Answer in Menlo Park.

Tickets, \$35 per person, may be reserved by calling Maryellen at (908) 755-4014 or Linda at (908) 756-6519.

Concert by Fr. Alphonse Stephenson Planned

September 17

Sacred Heart Rosary Society tickets are on sale for Father Alphonse Stephenson and his 45-member symphony orchestra, *St. Peter by the Sea*. The performance will be at Sacred Heart Church on Sunday, Sept. 17 at 4 p.m. The concert will consist of light classics and seasonal favorites.

St. Peter by the Sea consists of 45 members who have 750 years of study and performed over 57,000 concerts and recitals.

General admission is \$25; students and seniors are \$20. Members of the Sacred Heart Rosary Society are selling tickets after all Sunday masses. Ticket information can be obtained by calling either (908) 756-0632, ext. 10, (908) 755-6416, or (732) 549-9633.

Cruise Planned on the Cornucopia Princess!

September 17

South Plainfield Historical Society will sponsor the Second Annual Brunch Cruise on the Cornucopia Princess on Sunday, Sept. 17 at 12 noon out of the Perth Amboy Smith Street Dock. Boarding begins at 11 a.m. and cruise returns at 2:30 p.m.

A buffet-lunch will be served with a selection of food, such as broiled salmon, a carving station with roast beef and chicken, cooked to order—omelets, shrimp, a variety of salads, fruits, pastries, coffee, tea and cash bar.

For tickets or info, call Bill Tuthill at 756-9654; Arlene Anthony at 753-7852 or Dot Rotola at 753-2519. The cost is \$49; tax and gratuities are included. Mail check or money order to the South Plainfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 11, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Cultural Arts Plans Sopranos Concert

September 17

On Sunday, Sept. 17, the South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission will present two of America's finest Sopranos in a concert entitled "A September for Sopranos".

The concert, which features Ms. Florence Lazzeri and Ms. Lias Daltirus will be held at 3:30 p.m. sharp, in the Fellowship Hall at Wesley Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave.

Admission is free and refreshments will be served. Come out and enjoy a couple of hours of wonderful music, a little opera, some Broadway show tunes and many popular songs.

For more information call 561-9557 or 754-8451.

Rescue Squad Ladies Auxiliary Fashion Show

October 22

The South Plainfield Rescue Squad Ladies Auxiliary will be hosting their annual Fashion Show/Brunch on Sunday, Oct. 22, at the Italian American Club, Somerset St., North Plainfield, at 12 noon.

Fashions will be presented by Dress Barn and Fashion Bug, and the Answer Store in Menlo Park. Come out and join your friends and neighbors for an afternoon of food, fun and fashions. Raffles include our traditional holiday baskets, a weekend at the Doubletree Suites, luggage and more exciting prizes.

Tickets are \$25. and can be purchased from any auxiliary member or by calling Joan at (908) 754-8275. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

SPHS Class of 1980 Reunion Slated for Nov.

November 25

South Plainfield High School Class of 1980 will holds a 20 year reunion on Sat., Nov. 25 at 7 p.m. at The Martinsville Inn in Martinsville. We are presently trying to locate the following classmates:

Susan Ashford, Laura Carron, Aaron Calland, Dawn Calland, Gary Cox, Steven Davis, Melissa DiBattista, Susan DiDonato, Thomas Donovan, Debbie Egan, Gary Galloway, Gary Gorski, Scott Gregersen, Margaret Keane, Rexford Kinney, James Hughes, Karen Kraft, Kathy Kraft, Donna Krawczyk, Kevin Leather, James Lubach, Joseph Machos, Dale Mahowski, Carrie Makowski, James Massa, Sharon Nargi, Peter Neuhaus, Michael Noonan, Kenneth Northup, Robin Northup, Christian Olson, John McAtee, Jill McDonough, James McHugh, Brian McMillan, Charles Meriwether, Elizabeth Merkle, Donald Miller, Joseph Moleski, Joseph Scotti, Kathleen Sheedy, William Simmons, Jean Stadnik, Paul Strand, Cynthia Surniak, Tammy Tharp, Tim Thiel, Rene Thomas, Kevin Woodring, Robert Witting, William Williams, Kathleen Weingart, Debra Jo Timpson, Diane Vandriel, Louis Ventura, Liese Viola, and Stephen Vitale.

Invitations will be sent out in late Sept. Contact Jim Insel at (908) 713-0193 or Susan Graves Metz at susanmetz@worldnet.att.net.

Multi-Class Reunion Planned

An invitation has been extended to all SPHS graduates from Sandi Spisso Connelly and Bobby Cobb,

SPHS Class of 1969.

The 1969 alumni are planning a special "Golden 50th Birthday" Class Reunion for May of 2001, to be held as an all day outdoor event at Forest Lodge in Warren. Many people from a diverse range of graduating classes find the idea of a *multi-class* reunion appealing. It offers an excellent way to renew old friendships. Some classes lack either reunion coordinators, sufficient number of alumni or both.

In view of this interest, we, of the Class of 1969, have opened the invitation for the event to *all* SPHS alumni. The 60's Boardwalk theme will not only celebrate the class of 1969, but all those who once walked the halls of South Plainfield High School.

Please pass the word to any and all alumni you have contact with. If they have an interest, please contact either Sandy Spisso Connelly or Bobby Cobb at the following email addresses: spdcon@aol.com or racobb@cpix.net.

Events In Surrounding Towns

Habitat For Humanity Offers Workshops

September 12

Retirement is an emotional time. Happiness, joy, apprehension, anticipation and concern are felt by all retirees to varying degrees.

The Greater Plainfield Area Habitat for Humanity is sponsoring a free seminar that will address many of these issues. Entitled "Choices—Making them Count for Retirees," the seminar, which will be led by Marvin Chasak and Cliff Bekkedahl, will help people plan for what can be the most exciting time of their lives. Chasak will lead attendees through the questions that will help develop strategies for a happy retirement.

The seminar will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 12 at 7 p.m. at Scotch Plains Baptist Church, 333 Park Ave. (corner of Park and Mountain Ave.), Scotch Plains. Coffee and dessert will be served.

Reserve your seat by calling Maggie Savoca at (908) 889-0096 or email at gphabitat@home.com.

Tourette Support Group Sets Meeting Dates

September 12 & November 14

The Tourette Syndrome Association-Middlesex/Union County Family Support Group Meetings will be held at JFK Medical Center's Neuroscience Institute in Edison, from 7-9 p.m., on Sept. 12, and Nov. 14.

The speaker for the Sept. 12 meeting, Adam Pearlman, a physician with extensive expertise in conventional and complementary medicine, will present an overview of both and its application for Tourette patients.

The scheduled speaker for the Nov. 14 meeting will be Adam Bloom, a psychologist who specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of tourette syndrome and related disorders.

For more information, contact Debbie after 6 p.m. at (732) 283-1439 or www.tsanj.com

Ship Model Exhibit and Workshop Planned

September 12

The Ship Model Society of Northern New Jersey will be presenting a model exhibit and workshop free to the public at the Federal Aviation Administration Building, 200 Fred Wehran Dr. at Teterboro Airport from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 23. Anyone who is interested in joining the Society or is just interested in ships, ship models and other nautical topics is invited to attend.

The exhibit will feature ship models of all types, from all eras, crafted by the Society members. In addition, members will be present working on current projects and demonstrating ship modeling techniques and tools.

The Ship Model Society of Northern New Jersey has more than 70 members. It meets at the Milburn Free Public Library on the fourth Tuesday of every month from 7:30 to 10 p.m.

For more information about the Ship Model Society of Northern New Jersey or the Sept. 23 exhibit and workshop contact one of the following: Dave Watkins at (973) 822-1312 e-mail: david-watkins@worldnet.att.net; Jeff Herne at (973) 586-6666 e-mail: jherne@hotmail.com or Nick Starace at (973) 376-9026 e-mail: nstarace@aol.com.

Information is also available at the society's website at <http://www.smsn-nj.simplenet.com>.

Mind, Body, Spirit, Holistic Expo

September 17

Fall Equinox, Mind, Body, Spirit, Holistic Expo is set for Sunday, Sept. 17 from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. at Middlesex County College in Edison. Open to the general public, the Expo offers 150 exhibits covering a comprehensive array of holistic products and services including practitioners, healers, vendors, bodyworkers

and psychics. Mind, Body, Spirit, Holistic Expo reaches those interested in learning and experiencing an enhanced quality of life by raising the consciousness of holistic living.

The Expo will also have a free lecture series, diverse workshops and will feature nationally known speakers.

Over 150 juried exhibits will be on hand to discuss and sell products and services.

For directions, call (732) 548-6000 or (732) 906-2500. For information, call (732) 748-0298. Admission fees are \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors and students with photo ID.

Alliance Bible Church to Sponsor 5K Run

September 23

Registration is now being accepted for the Alliance Bible Church "Run To The Son" 5K and one mile fun run to be held at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 23. The run is the kick off event for Fall Frolic Weekend, a weekend of free family entertainment sponsored by the church located on Mt. Horeb Rd in Warren.

Both races are slated to begin at 9 a.m. and will be held rain or shine.

Advanced race registration is \$10 and must be postmarked before Sept. 10. Race day registration will be \$15 and will begin at 7 a.m. Participating runners will receive a long sleeved race T-shirt and chance to win a 25" Sharp color TV.

To obtain race registration forms, additional information or directions, please contact the church office at (732)469-1425.

Reunion Planned for Crew of Seven Ships

October 19-22

A reunion is being planned in Newport News, Virginia, for Oct. 19-22, for the former crew members of the seven ships of the DeSoto/Suffolk County Class LSTs. The ships are the USS DeSoto County, LST-1171, USS Suffolk County, LST-1173, USS Grant County, LST-1174, USS York County, LST-1175, USS Graham County, LST-1176, USS Lorain County, LST-1177, and the USS Wood County, LST-1178.

An effort is underway to acquire the USS Lorain County as a memorial by the Ohio War Memorial, Inc. of Lorain, Ohio. For further information contact: Charles C. Patton, Ohio War Memorial, Inc., P.O. Box 307, Lorain, Ohio 44052. (440) 284-2621 or OWMIM@excite.com

Come Out and Join Us at the Annual V.F.W. PICNIC

Rain or Shine

**September 9, 2000
12 Noon to 6 pm**

- Moon Walk
- Live Music
- Clowns
- Food & Beverages
- Pig Roast



Advance Tickets: Adults \$10.
Children 6-12 yrs. \$5. Under Six, Free
At the Gate: Adults \$12, Children \$56



Local Resident Opens New Physical Therapy Center

By Patricia Abbott

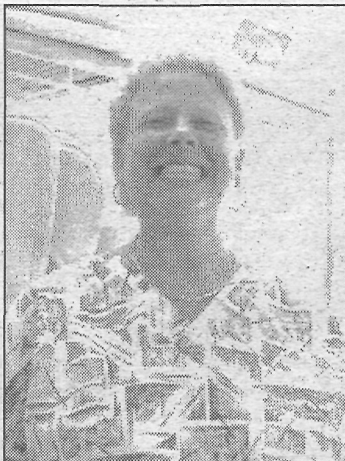
On July 6, South Plainfield resident Lynne Glasser-Sward, Physical Therapist, opened the Physical Therapy Center of South Plainfield. The center is located near Roosevelt School across from the Corner Deli, right next door to the *Observer* office.

The physical therapy center is the result of an intense study of the area for a perfect location, combined with Lynne's 20+ years working in this highly specialized field. The new location is spacious, well lit and cheery. Lynne's concern for her patients and her natural enthusiasm are a winning combination.

Lynne began her studies at Ithaca College in New York and then Fairleigh Dickenson, where she received two degrees, a BS in Biology and an Associate of Science in Physical Therapy. She began as a PT Assistant, then returned to school, attending NYU to get her BS in PT and her Master of Arts. Her specialty (a word that can barely be pronounced, much less understood by most), is Pathokinesology. Quite simply it is the study of abnormal movement.

She also worked at Kessler Institute For Rehabilitation. Her Masters Thesis involved a study of stroke patients at Kessler. The title of the thesis is something to behold, *The Effects of Isokinetic Training on the Rate of Movement During Ambulation in Hemiparetic Patients*. The paper was published in the May, 1986 *Journal of American Physical Therapy Association*.

Lynne was a faculty member of the Department of Restorative Dentistry at UMDNJ, where she taught students the specialty area of TMJ dysfunction and disorders. Lynne also was an Assistant Professor at UMDNJ/Kean College program for Physical Therapy for three years. She then went from



Lynne Glasser-Sward, owner of the Physical Therapy Center in South Plainfield.

teaching into private practice in May of 1988.

Her next step was a big one. Lynne purchased a private practice, The Physical Therapy Center of Woodbridge. Her first steps involved taking over the business, as well as expanding it. She contracted services to nursing homes and performed home care for physical therapy patients. She now treats 20-30 patients a day in her Woodbridge location. Lynne saw a need for an independent PT in the South Plainfield area. The new South Plainfield office treats 10 patients a day and that number is increasing rapidly.

Running a PT center takes more than medical knowledge. It requires management, office and organizational skills, areas that Lynne openly confessed she dislikes. Luckily her EMT husband, Ron Sward, was the perfect person for the job. Ron handles the billing, employees, PR work and more, allowing her to concentrate on her patients.

Lynne pointed out that most people are unaware of physical therapy until they are injured and it becomes a necessity. She feels it is important to educate people about physical therapy and all it can offer. On a recent visit next door the *Observer* watched a professional friend pop in to say hi. Without missing a beat she worked with and encouraged patients and chatted with guests.

As she dashes from Woodbridge to South Plainfield, Lynne notes that she is more than happy with her new location in South Plainfield. "The community welcomed me with open arms and I look forward to offering my services to the community," she said.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Well, summer didn't last too long, did it? Or, at least, that's how it seems. In any case, as you adjust to the change of seasons, here's news from the South Plainfield Library.

First of all, remember that we're back to our regular hours on Saturdays: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

We won't be holding children's Storytime programs in September to allow Miss Linda to plan and organize programs for the fall and get a much-needed breather after the hectic summer.

The next meeting of the Library Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday night at 7:30. The public is invited to attend and learn more about the Library's present and future plans and comment on them.

We hope you haven't gotten used to the present arrangement of books in our adult section, because we've changed it again. Adult biographies are now found downstairs, just past the books in the 900 section. If you need help finding something, don't hesitate to ask for assistance.

Here's somewhat of a serious note. Recently, we've had some problems regarding our Internet terminals. Specifically, some patrons have been misusing them to the point of overloading the system and jamming the terminals up. To be blunt, this is a real pain for our staff, as we have to take extra time to get things running again for our other patrons. If you should cause a problem like this by accident, we understand; just let a staff member know right

away. Don't just leave the terminal as it is. And, if you should do something like this on purpose, don't think you're going to get away with it. We have ways of finding out who's been fouling up our equipment. At best, you'll be barred from using our stuff in the future and, at worst, you'll be presented with a bill for the necessary repairs. And we're not kidding on this, people.

And here's an advisory: South Plainfield Library borrowers' cards, through our MURAL agreement, are accepted at the majority of the other libraries in the area. However, we don't share the same computer system. As a result, you may have some problems checking items out of these other libraries; their information may be outdated or inaccurate. If there's a problem, just have them call us for the correct data.

Speaking of other libraries, the MURAL agreement allows our patrons to return our items to other libraries, should the need arise. But, please be advised that it's not that easy. The other library will send the items back to us via a courier service, but it can take a couple of days. This may cause a problem for you, since the items are officially marked as returned until we receive them. This could cause you to incur an overdue fine that you probably didn't plan on. So, if you have to take advantage of this courtesy, leave yourself enough time so that we get things back on time.

That's about all for this week. Please stop by next time for more.

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self-motivate children, design rules effectively, explain why rules are important, understand why having discipline is important and much more. You can attend this important seminar absolutely FREE, courtesy of the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center Auxiliary, on September 15, from 7-9 p.m. in Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center's Centennial Hall, Park Avenue and Randolph Road, Plainfield. Call us at 732-321-7089 to reserve your seat.

It will be an entertaining and inspiring night. Don't miss your chance to learn about this highly successful child-rearing program.

September 15, 7-9 p.m.

Centennial Hall, Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center
Park Avenue and Randolph Road, Plainfield

Sponsored by the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center Auxiliary

www.solarishs.org

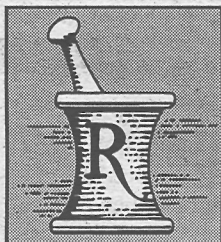
SOLARIS HEALTH SYSTEM

Recreation Plans Shopping Day in Reading, Pa.

The South Plainfield Recreation Department is sponsoring a day of shopping in Reading, Pa. on Oct. 14 from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m..

The cost is \$15 per person. Only 45 tickets are available.

Call the PAL for more information at 226-7613.



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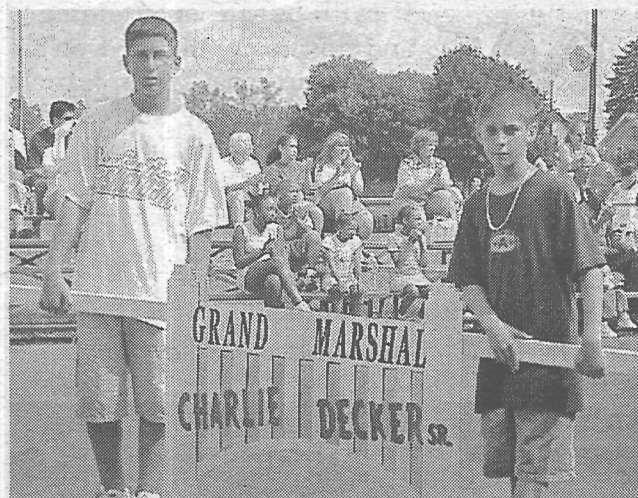
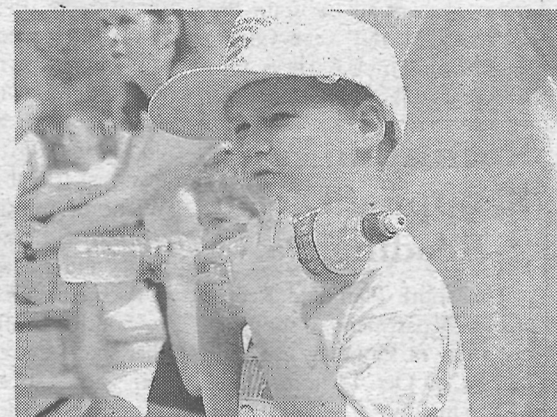
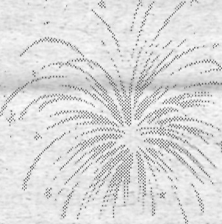
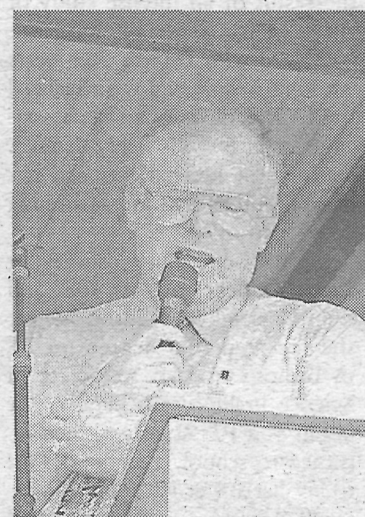
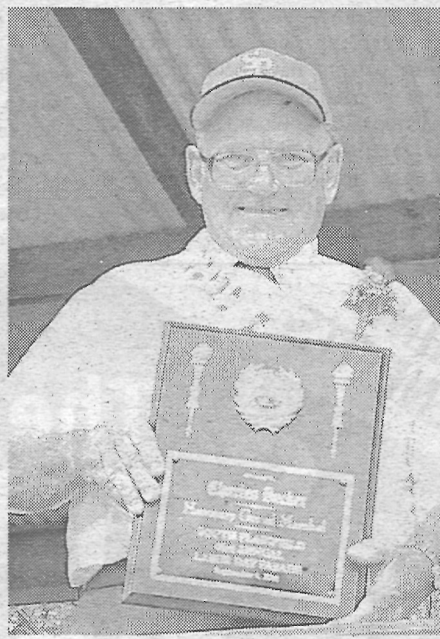
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LABOR DAY PARADE BRINGS OUT



PUBLIC CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEE

In last week's issue, we incorrectly listed one of the co-chairmen on the parade committee. John Sorrentino, co-chairperson, put in many hours of work on the parade. We are publishing all the committee members again in recognition for all the hard work they did to make this year's parade a success. Great Job!!

The following people worked behind the scenes to make this year's parade a success. They deserve our thanks for all the work and time they have put in. Everyone on the committee is a volunteer. The only compensation they receive is the satisfaction of putting together this once-a-year parade. (What would this town be without our volunteers.)

John Sorrentino, Co-chairperson

Don Alexa, Co-chairperson

Darlene Pinto, Concessions & Participation

Marion Gallagher, Concession & Participation

Pat Vargo, Concessions & Participation

Debra Krawiec, Fireworks

Mike English, Recreation Department Activities

Joe Scrudato

Linda Zushma

Ray Petronko, Council Liaison

Also working very hard on the parade are members of the police department, rescue squad, fire department, R.A.C.E. radio operators and the public works employees.

THE BEST OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

By Patricia Abbott

Once again Mother Nature smiled on our parade. The few drops of rain that fell during a brief sun shower only served to cool off the crowd gathered to watch the parade and the participants. As if by some unspoken agreement the clouds held off until after the festivities of the 43rd annual South Plainfield Labor Day Parade were concluded.

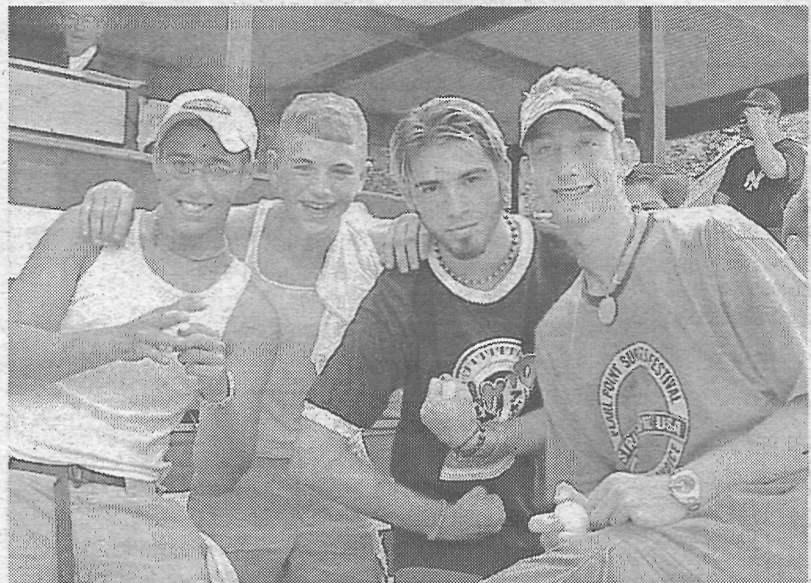
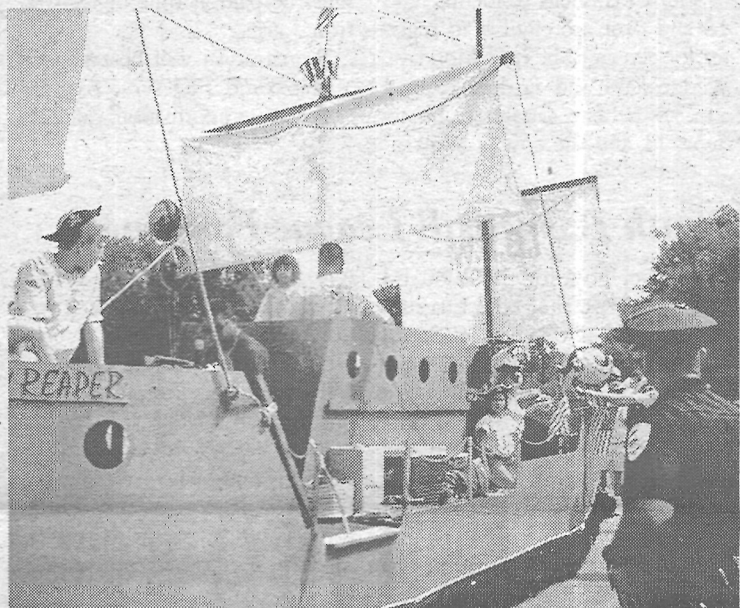
Bill Cochrane did another great job as our announcer; keeping up with all the activities going on, introducing the performers in front of the reviewing stand.

The only dark spot of day was the frightening accident that injured 10-year-old Shareka Jones sending her to Robert Wood Johnson Trauma Center in New Brunswick. Truck driver Mark Tomei, a volunteer driver with the parade for many years, was also hospitalized with chest pains and suffering from shock.

The Parade Committee provided the town with an amazing array of diverse units for the annual event and the many contests in Veterans Park. Their months of planning and hard work were also evident in the concert and fireworks display at Spring Lake Park in the evening. This year's fireworks were spectacular and the finale seemed to mark the end of summer and the chill in the night air hinted at the coming fall days.

The day flowed smoothly from the first light of dawn when the parade committee, police, fire and rescue squad and roads dept. began preparations and continued right up to the last car leaving the park, the clean up and South Plainfield slowly returning to normal.

As always, all the volunteers and safety officials are to be commended for their part in making this South Plainfield Tradition a memorable event. Can't wait until next year!



Parade Trophies Winners

HONORARY GRAND MARSHAL TROPHY—IBEW LOCAL UNION 44 ELECTRICAL WORKERS
Presented by Honorary Grand Marshal to best overall entry in his/her opinion.

JUDGES' TROPHY—MISS MIDDLESEX COUNTY-PAMELA JANISZAK
Best overall entry as determined by judges

GEORGE W. L. PAGE TROPHY—SENIOR CITIZENS
Presented to the best civic entry

BEST YOUTH MUSICAL GROUP—WESTFIELD FIFE & DRUM
Awarded by judges to the best youth (high school and under) musical performing group

BEST ADULT MUSICAL GROUP—RAGTIMERS
Awarded by judges to the best adult musical performing group

BEST APPEARING MARCHING GROUP—SOUTH PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL BAND

BEST MUNICIPAL GROUP—SOUTH PLAINFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT
Given to the best overall entry connected to the borough government

BEST NON-INSTRUMENTAL PERFORMING GROUP—SO. PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADERS
Awarded to the best appearing drill team, twirling group, gymnastic group, etc.

BEST YOUTH GROUP—FEIGLEY'S SCHOOL OF GYMNASTICS
Awarded to the best appearing youth (high school and under) entry

MOST OUTSTANDING FLOAT—BOY SCOUTS & CUB SCOUTS
Best overall float

BEST YOUTH GROUP FLOAT—SOUTH PLAINFIELD GIRLS PONYTAIL LEAGUE
High school and under

BEST CIVIC FLOAT—SOUTH PLAINFIELD ELKS LODGE #2298

MOST PATRIOTIC FLOAT—VFW MEMORIAL POST #6863 & AUXILIARY

MOST OUTSTANDING VISITING ENTRY—SALAAM TEMPLE ORIENTAL BAND
Awarded to the best appearing entry from out of South Plainfield

BEST ANTIQUE VEHICLE—1926 FIRE ENGINE - HK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT.
Awarded to the best appearing antique vehicle entry of any kind entered as a separate unit

MARIE D. PAGE MUSICAL PERFORMANCE AWARD—THE FUNNY FACTORY CLOWN BAND
Awarded to the best overall instrumental musical performance entry

HONORARY MENTION—CARUSO PHOTOGRAPHY-CHARLIE CHAPLAIN & HIS DOG SHANNON

Pie Eating & Largest Zucchini/Tomato Contest

WINNER—MACK MACINTOSH, AGE 12
Second Place—REBECCA IVEY, AGE 9
THIRD PRIZE—ANDREW FAGUCCO, AGE 16
LARGEST ZUCCHINI—NICOLE ESPOSITO
LARGEST TOMATO—LORY JACKSON-ALCARO

Pop Warner Results

Last Saturday the South Plainfield Pop Warner Football League participated in a Friendship Bowl with Somerville. All the players did an outstanding job. The results were as follows:

Mighty Mites-Lost 12-0. Despite the outstanding defense and offensive play by Ryan Sacco (23), James Gorman (60), Kyle Hughes (16), Mike Wagner (36) and Shawn Parisi (58).

Junior Pee Wees-Won 12-0. Thanks to the outstanding play by Billy Ashnault (2), Mark Wagner (18), Robert Gentile (22), Garrett Lake (77), Scott Barton (78), Tim Gaughan (44), Troy Russell (16) and Matt Kopcnak (48).

Junior Midgets-Won 12-6. The standouts in this game were Justin Huffsmith (12), Tommy Deschaine (8), Derward Smith (31), Nick Dory (3), Anthony Costante (12), TJ Brown (20) and Kevin Graham (5).

Midgets-Won 34-24. The standouts were Marquis Jones (41), Jamar Beverly (2), Bryant Draper (51), Charlie Leon (50), Bill Merkler (4) and Ryan Kenny (28).

Flag-Standouts were Tyler Herriott (3), James Gerber (5), Dylan Dory (11), Kenneth Calderoni (28) and Kenneth Kacza (35).

Aerobics and Body Toning Classes offered through PAL

Shape up beautifully with exercises and dance routines choreographed to popular music. Aerobics is designed to condition the heart and lungs and body toning will trim and fit the body, as well as promote flexibility.

South Plainfield residents, ages 18 and over are eligible to register for classes to be held Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Classes begin on Sept. 11 and the cost is \$35. In-

structing the class will be Maureen Noll, certified aerobics instructor.

Registration forms can be picked up and returned to the Recreation Office, located in the PAL Building on Maple Ave. Fees must be paid at time of registration.

Registration will be taken on a first come, first serve basis.

For more information, call 226-7714.

Youth Basketball League Forming

Register now for the 2000 Ed Niemczyk Basketball League. Registration is open to all South Plainfield residents ages 7-14 (as of Oct. 1, 2000). Games are played Saturdays at the Middle School, practices are at the coaches discretion, weekday afternoons and evening at various locations.

Register at the Recreation Office in the PAL Building on Maple

Ave., Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Registrations will be taken until 8 p.m., Oct. 16. The Recreation Office will also be open from 6 to 8 p.m. on Sept. 18, Oct. 2 and 16.

Birth certificates are required for registrants who have not participated in a recreation-sponsored youth league in the past six months. For more information, call 226-7714.

Adult Basketball League at the PAL

The Recreation Department is offering adult basketball on Thursdays at the PAL beginning on Nov. 16. Players must be 18 years of age or older. Game times are 6, 7, 8 and 9 p.m.

Register at the PAL starting Sept. 18. Deadline is Oct. 27. Fee is \$550 per team (15 members per team). First eight teams will be accepted.

Questions? Call 226-7714.



SOUTH TOURNAMENT PLAINFIELD CHAMPIONS — 11 YEAR-OLDS: Pictured are: (back-row) from left to right, Coaches, Tom McCreesh and John Stallone, Managers Tony Casano and Bill Ashnault; (standing) Garrett Lake, Anthony Niemczyk, Kevin Criley, Chris Stallone, Justin Basilone and Anthony Cassano; (kneeling) Billy Ashnault, Nick Dorey, Chris Polin, Mike Stallone, Danny McCreesh and Joey Turrisse; (bat boys) Anthony Ashnault, Dylan Dorey and Eric Lake.

News at Eleven

By Tom McCreesh

Thirty-two kids went out for the team.

The first tryout was 4 to 7.

Hitting, throwing, catching and running, Would be needed to make "News At Eleven."

The competition was evident, the talent pool deep. To pick the team was no easy task.

For each child had many strengths.

And they all did what Coach Stallone asked.

Twelve were selected, new players were added,

No team year to year, stayed intact.

Mental toughness was as key as ability

That they would soon learn was fact.

Piscataway early, shorthanded and injured,

Two losses and maybe some sorrow.

A lasting impression, one rainy June night,

Where the team played into tomorrow.

Three more round robins, a game every night,

In warm-ups they surely did work us.

Tonight's game in Linden, or was that Carteret?

It felt like a travelling circus.

Their positions were sealing, roles were established,

Our confidence started to grow.

The wins began mounting, before they were finished,

They would win nineteen in a row.

The streak was tremendous, each night different heroes.

Their young motors surely were revvin'.

The tournament season now in full swing.

They began to make "News At Eleven."

Linden their first final, down five after one,

To come back would be a test of nerve.

When you hear Ted yell your number,

Edison's Pitcher is throwing a curve.

We got five in the fourth, we showed our resolve,

And kept all the S.P. fans clapping.

The game remained tied, from the fourth to the eighth,

As the bugs did some serious zapping.

Back to back doubles, two outs, top of nine,

Gave them the run needed to win.

A popup to second, emotions let loose,

The waiting was over, let the celebration begin.

Because the long game ended close to midnight,

There wasn't much time to enjoy.

Another semi-final tomorrow at nine,

We forget they're eleven year old boys.

Try as they might, they went down to defeat,

Their only loss during July.

Next day they came back, and won third place,

Be proud, and hold your heads high.

Nick Dorey played second, as a leadoff hitter,

"Yerod" always provided a spark.

Kevin Criley played several positions,

In the final, had one leave the park.

Billy Ashnault caught games much like Munson.

Gritty, his hitting was key.

Anthony Memczyk crushed the ball as well.

His pitching brought teams to their knees.

Garrett Lake tattooed a round tripper.

A warrior, each game pitched three innings.

Anthony Cassano was our mound X factor,

A perfect fit, to continue our winnings.

At shortstop Mike Stallone, played like an Oreck,

Providing hits with a bunt or a swing.

Chris Pollin overcame early arm troubles,

His bat struck the two out lightning.

Joey Turrisse struck the ball with authority,

And made all the plays in right.

Danny McCreesh had defensive gems in left,

Key hits let us play into the night.

Chris Stallone moved smoothly to center field,

Using power and speed to succeed.

Justin Basilone, hit balls to the wall,

And his strong throw kept us in the lead.

The Coaches Cassano, Ashnault and McCreesh,

Each helped the kids in their own way.

Providing them with the confidence to say,

"Put me in coach. I'm ready to play."

At this point there was just one game to play

Our hands were tied by the weather.

While most of us talked to Mother Nature,

One talked to "Mr. Leather."

The grounds crew did a fantastic job.

Only one small part of the field was messy.

The lights went on, Umps said "Play Ball."

Was South Brunswick ready for Pesci?

A see-saw game, both teams battle-tested,

Tied at four after six.

A leadoff double, we shred three in the 7th,

Out of our bag of tricks.

A magical sight as the last pitch was thrown,

Our home crowd let out a big shout.

The kids all piled, on top of each other,

At last, "They let the dogs out."

A final record of 23-3,

Memories, that will last forever.

Michael, Billy, Joey, Nick

A team, you played together.

Two Anthony's and two Chris' too

Garrett, Danny, Justin, Kevin

You gave us thrills, each night we tuned in.

As you made "News At Eleven."

Always
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Best...

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Hair Salon*

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We Sell More
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By Tony Cassano



juniorbaseballclubnotes

****THE ANNUAL SPJBC PICNIC
WILL TO BE HELD THIS
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9
AT 12:00 AT THE COMPLEX****

Upcoming Events

(PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR)

Friday September 8—Coaches Old Timer game @ 6:30. In addition, volunteers needed to help set up for our annual post-season picnic which will be held the next day. Please come support the SPJBC and have some fun watching the coaches “try” to play baseball.

Saturday September 9—Annual Picnic @ 12:00. Our season ending annual picnic starts at 12:00 noon and goes all afternoon. The SPJBC invites all players and their family for a day of fun. Its our way of honoring the players by awarding trophies to all ‘C’ League players along with 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers in all other leagues. Come join in and enjoy the festivities.

**** SCHEDULE CHANGE FOR
SEPTEMBER MONTHLY MEETING
(9/11/00) has been re-scheduled for
TUESDAY (9/12/00) at 7:30 ****

Tuesday September 12—September General Membership Meeting at 7:30. Our regularly scheduled monthly meeting, normally held on the 1st Monday of the Month (excluding a Holiday on the 1st Monday) has been changed from September 11 until September 12 at 7:30. Join in and be part of the club. All men and women are welcomed. Come be part of the decision making process of the club. Your opinion and your vote will count. Get involved and help out, your kids and the youth of South Plainfield depend on you.

LEGAL

**BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF LAND**

At a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, held on August 17, 2000, I was directed to advertise the fact that the Mayor and Council will meet in the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey on Monday, September 18, 2000 at 8:00 PM to expose and sell at a public sale to the highest bidder, according to terms of sale on file with the Borough Clerk, the property described below.

Take further notice that the Mayor and Council have, by resolution and pursuant to law, fixed the minimum price at which said property will be sold together with all other detail pertinent, said minimum price being as shown below, plus \$1,000.00 for costs of preparing deeds, all necessary appraisals, advertising this sale and title search costs.

Take further notice that at set sale or any date or place to which it may be adjourned, the Mayor and Council reserve the right in its discretion to reject any or all bids and to sell said property to such bidder as it may select, due regard being given to terms and manner of payment in case one or more minimum bids shall be received.

Take further notice that in each instance where necessary, I have been authorized to notify all contiguous property owners as required by NJSA 40A:12-13.2.

Upon acceptance of the minimum bid or bid above minimum, by the Council and the payment thereof by the purchaser according to the manner of purchase in accordance with terms of sale on file, the Borough will deliver a Bargain and Sale Deed for said premises.

/s/Mary Blue, Deputy Municipal Clerk

Details of proposed land sale to be advertised in The Observer on Friday, September 8, 2000 and Friday, September 15, 2000, the sale of property known as:

Minimum Bid - \$300,000.00
Block 188, P/O Lot 47
2481 Plainfield Avenue

as well as more particularly described in metes and bounds descriptions on file with the Office of the Borough Clerk, said property being owned by the Borough of South Plainfield and not needed for public purpose or use, sale to be held on in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey and will be made subject to the following conditions:

**CONDITIONS OF SALE
PUBLIC AUCTION**

- Conveyance by the Borough of South Plainfield shall be by Bargain and Sale Deed, without covenants and without representations as to the marketability of title. In the event that the purchaser shall determine that title of the property in question shall not be good and marketable, any questions as to the marketability of title shall be submitted to the Borough Clerk's Office within forty-five (45) days of the date of sale. In the event said questions have not been raised within said forty-five (45) day period, then and in that event all questions relating to the marketability of title shall be deemed waived and this matter shall proceed to closing to title within ninety (90) of date of sale.
- Easements, both of record and not of record.
- Restrictions of record.

- Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield as presently constituted without representations as to the use to which said property can be put.
- In the event that the purchaser is unable to close title within ninety (90) days of the date of the sale, they shall forward to the Borough of South Plainfield a check representing the balance of the purchase price to be placed in the general fund of the Borough.
- In the event that the purchaser fails or refuses to close title and/or pay the consideration therefore within the ninety (90) day period, then in that event, the Borough of South Plainfield, may, by resolution of the Mayor and Council, **declare the transaction null and void and the purchasers' deposit shall be retained by the Borough of South Plainfield as liquidated damages.**
- At the time of acceptance of the successful bid, ten percent (10%) of the purchase price plus \$1,000.00 shall be paid by the purchaser representing the cost of appraisal, legal fees, advertising and associated costs incurred by the Borough.
- The purchaser shall make prompt application for any required approvals, including but not limited to subdivision approval, on-site and off-site improvements as required by appropriate Borough Boards, Agencies and Officers, and all costs shall be paid by the purchaser. In the event said approvals are not received within ninety (90) days of the date of sale, the purchaser shall forward the balance of the purchase price in conformance with paragraph five (5) above.
- It is expressly agreed by the purchaser that if the subject parcel does not require Planning Board or Board of Adjustment review, then in that event, the purchaser will make all required improvements as determined by the Borough Engineer. The necessary performance guarantees shall be posted for same prior to the issuance of and building permits.
- Purchaser recognizes that the sale is subject to development standards to be set by the Planning Board, Board of Adjustment and/or the Borough Engineer in addition to the Middlesex County Planning Board if applicable. This sale is made without representation as to same and is subject to same.
- Purchaser will take any action required by the Borough Engineer and/or the Borough Environmental Officer to protect any designated wetlands or flood plane existing on the subject parcel.
- At set sale, or any date or place to which it may be adjourned, the Mayor and Council reserve the right, in its discretion to reject any or all bids.
- Certain properties within the Borough of South Plainfield may be designated as contaminated sites by the Environmental Protection Agency and/or the Department of Environmental Protection. One such property is the "Cornell Dubilier" facility now known as the "Hamilton Boulevard Industrial Complex" located at the intersection of Hamilton Boulevard and New Market Avenue which has been designated as a Super Fund site. The purchaser acknowledges knowledge of such locations and the existence of same will not be a basis for avoidance of buyer's obligations.

\$290.00

2T Sept. 8 & Sept. 15/2000

**2001 MUNICIPAL BUDGET
of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of
Middlesex for the State Fiscal Year 2001**

Revenue and Appropriation Summaries

Summary of Revenues	Anticipated	
	SFY 2001	SFY 2000
1. Surplus	1,800,000.00	2,206,000.00
2. Total Miscellaneous Revenues	6,202,344.48	6,151,212.05
3. Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	100,000.00	115,000.00
4. a) Local Tax for Municipal Purposes	10,638,726.00	9,854,356.36
b) Addition to Local District School Tax	0.00	0.00
Total Amount to be Raised by Taxes for Support of Municipal Budget	10,638,726.00	9,854,356.36
Total General Revenues	18,741,070.48	18,326,568.41

Summary of Appropriations	SFY 2001 Budget	Final SFY 2000 Budget
1. Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages	7,733,181.00	7,565,576.68
Other Expenses	6,398,887.01	5,896,521.52
2. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations	933,749.47	790,805.36
3. Capital Improvements	350,000.00	499,016.00
4. Debt Service	2,520,188.00	2,806,727.97
5. Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	805,065.00	767,920.88
Total General Appropriations	18,741,070.48	18,326,568.41
Total Number of Employees	136	136

SFY 2001 Dedicated Sewer Utility Budget		
Summary of Revenues	Anticipated	
	SFY 2001	SFY 2000
1. Surplus	220,000.00	220,000.00
2. Miscellaneous Revenues	3,173,213.00	2,731,416.52
3. Deficit (General Budget)	0.00	0.00
Total Revenues	3,393,213.00	2,951,416.52
Summary of Appropriations	SFY 2001 Budget	Final SFY 2000 Budget
1. Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages	315,000.00	305,544.60
Other Expenses	1,939,213.00	1,875,532.03
2. Capital Improvements	300,000.00	96,000.00
3. Debt Service	775,000.00	617,114.49
4. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations	64,000.00	57,225.40
5. Surplus (General Budget)		
Total Appropriations	3,393,213.00	2,951,416.52
Total Number of Employees	6	6

SFY 2001 Dedicated Swim Pool Utility Budget		
Summary of Revenues	Anticipated	
	SFY 2001	SFY 2000
1. Surplus		
2. Miscellaneous Revenues	190,000.00	180,163.40
3. Deficit (General Budget)	83,917.47	56,500.00
Total Revenues	273,917.47	236,663.40
Summary of Appropriations	SFY 2001 Budget	Final SFY 2000 Budget
1. Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages	98,500.00	97,773.32
Other Expenses	63,207.00	61,306.07
2. Capital Improvements	26,400.00	22,000.00
3. Debt Service	55,922.47	58,627.49
4. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations	29,888.00	18,956.52
5. Surplus (General Budget)		
Total Appropriations	273,917.47	258,663.40
Total Number of Employees	2	2

Balance of Outstanding Debt at June 30, 2000 (Includes Debt Service Appropriation Listed Above)				
	General	Water Utility	Sewer Utility	Swim Pool Utility
Interest	749,954.25	n/a	325,000.00	11,922.47
Principal	1,641,327.75	n/a	450,000.00	44,000.00
Outstanding Balance	16,252,577.25	n/a	5,915,000.00	254,200.00

Notice is hereby given that the Budget and Tax Resolution was approved by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex on August 17, 2000.

A Hearing on the Budget and Tax Resolution will be held at the Borough Hall on , September 28, 2000 at 8:00 o'clock P.M., at which time and place objections to said budget and Tax Resolution for the state fiscal year ending June 30, 2001 may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons.

Copies of the budget are available in the office of Mary G. Blue, Deputy Borough Clerk, at Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey, (908) 754-9000, during the hours of 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. each weekday.

\$480.00

1T September 8, 2000

Obituaries

Albert P. Grobe, 91

Silver Beaver Award Recipient.

Albert P. Grobe of South Plainfield, died on Tuesday, August 29 in the Stone Arch Nursing Home in Pittstown.

Born in Plainfield, he has resided in South Plainfield since 1936. From 1946 to 1956 he was employed by the former Kings Market in Bound Brook as the assistant butcher manager.

In 1956, he opened and operated the Concession Market located on Main St. in Bound Brook. He closed that store in 1966 and then opened AP's Market, also on Main St. in Bound Brook. After closing AP's Market in 1976, he became a runner for 1st National Bank of Central Jersey, retiring in 1983.

Mr. Grobe was active in Boy Scouting since 1936. He had served as Troop Chairman of Troop 125 of South Plainfield and

later served as a committeeman for Troop 124, also of South Plainfield. In 1979 he was the recipient of the "Silver Beaver Award."

He was a member of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield, and a member of Our Lady of Fatima Senior Citizens of Piscataway, serving as president in 1986 and 1987.

During his retirement years, Mr. Grobe had assisted many senior citizens in South Plainfield area with various home repair projects.

His wife, Josephine H. Grobe, his son, Richard A. Grobe and his daughter, Patricia Grobe have predeceased him.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Vivian A. and Gene Godby of Lebanon; a son and daughter-in-law, Macy J. Grobe, MD and Teresa Grobe of Sciacca, Sicily; a daughter-in-law, Rosemary Grobe of Rosewell, Ga. Also surviving are nine grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

Funeral Services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the South Plainfield Rescue Squad would be appreciated.

had served in the United States Army during WW II, serving as a Sgt. in the Military Police. He was also a member of the American Legion Chaumont Post #243 of South Plainfield.

His wife, Beatrice F. Saverd, died in April. His brothers, Michael and Douglas Saverd, have also predeceased him.

Surviving are his daughter and son-in-law, Patricia and Paul Meade of Bayville; his grandchildren, Thomas, Patricia and James Meade. Also surviving are his nieces and nephews.

Services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Nicole Margaret Iarrapino, 2

Nicole Margaret Iarrapino of Bridgewater, the two-year-old daughter of Michael and Gail (Ahern) Iarrapino died on Thursday, August 31 in St. Peter's Medical Center in New Brunswick.

Born in Edison, she lived in Bridgewater for two years.

Her maternal grandparents, Robert and Margaret Ahern have predeceased her.

Surviving, besides her parents, are a brother, Michael R. Iarrapino at home; her paternal grandparents, Michael and Rosemarie Iarrapino of Edison; her paternal great-grandfather, Edward Amabile of Toms River and her uncles and aunts, Edward, Donna and Brian Iarrapino and Robert and Karen Ahern.

Funeral Services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

William A. Harkey, 54

William A. Harkey of South Plainfield, died on Thursday, August 31 in his home.

Born in Newark, he had resided in South Plainfield since 1953.

He was employed by the NBS Company in South Plainfield in the shipping and receiving department.

His father, William Harkey has predeceased him.

Surviving are one brother, Alan J. Harkey of South Plainfield; three nieces, Tracey, Amy and Cheryl; two great grand nephews, Tyler and David.

Funeral Services were held privately held under the direction of McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Mayor Proclaims 9-1-1 Emergency Day Sept. 11

By Lt. Michael Grennier

In August, Mayor Daniel Gallagher proclaimed that September 11, 2000 will be designated 9-1-1 Emergency Number Day in the Borough of South Plainfield. People in all facets of the 9-1-1 industry and beyond have observed September 11—which just happens to be 9/11—as National 9-1-1 Day. This day has been recognized since President Ronald Reagan signed a proclamation in 1987 making September 11 (9/11) "9-1-1 Emergency Number Day."

That proclamation recognized the importance of 9-1-1 and its ability to help save more lives and increase the public's confidence of local emergency response systems.

National 9-1-1 Day is a wonderful opportunity for our industry to recognize the people—no matter how big a part they play—who work in 9-1-1 and public safety communications. The 9-1-1 telecommunication operators receive extensive training in police, fire and rescue squad calling and dispatch procedures. For medical type calls, the 9-1-1 telecommunicator provides emergency medical instructions to the caller including CPR instructions when required.

While National 9-1-1 Day has typically been recognized as a day to celebrate the efforts of these people, it also presents a fantastic opportunity to promote public education on 9-1-1 and increase public awareness.

It should be stressed that 9-1-1 is for emergencies only. If your call is not an emergency then you should dial the seven or ten digit number for your local police Department. Persons who call 9-1-1 for non-emergency reasons will be transferred to a recording instructing them that to call their local police department. 9-1-1 telecommunicators are instructed not to provide the local number to callers who dial 9-1-1. This is to stop persons from dialing 9-1-1 just to ob-

tain the number to their police department.

When you dial 9-1-1, the call will be routed to one of several phone switches in the state that handle only 9-1-1 calls. Using the phone number, these special switches check a database and obtain the service address for that number. The service address is the address where a repair person would be sent to fix the phone. Then the switch, using this address locates the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) that is responsible for that address and forwards the call to that call center. The call center or PSAP will receive the call, address information and police, fire and rescue squad that is responsible for the address in question. Due to the fact that the 9-1-1 switch has to obtain address information and forward the call, the call normally gets to the center on the second or third ring at the latest.

Therefore, when you dial 9-1-1 the first ring the PSAP hears may be the second or third ring you hear on the phone.

You should never hang-up after dialing after dialing the second 1 in 9-1-1, since the call will be forwarded to the PSAP even when you hang-up. If you dial the number in error or hear a 9-1-1 operator answer the phone, stay on the line and advise the 9-1-1 telecommunicator. In the Borough of South Plainfield, a police officer is dispatched to all 9-1-1 calls, including those dialed in error. This is done to verify that the resident is safe and did not dial 9-1-1 while under duress. If you hang-up after dialing the second 1 a police officer will be dispatched and the telecommunicator will call you back to verify that there is no problem.

If you have any questions about the 9-1-1 system you may speak to your local 9-1-1 coordinator. In South Plainfield that is Lt. Michael Grennier (908) 226-7673, (mgrennie@southplainfieldnj.com <mailto:mgrennie@southplainfieldnj.com>). This Sept. 11, please take the time to review with your children their name, address, phone number and the proper use of 9-1-1.

Because We Care



by Robert Hunter

ALLOWING YOURSELF TO GRIEVE

Death and the emotions it engenders should not be ignored. To do so is much like damming up a rushing river. Sooner or later, the water will overrun the wall to cause a flood. And in time, the accumulation of unshed tears will overflow into a flood of emotion. It is far better, therefore, to give vent to these sad feelings as they arise, rather than ignore them until they can no longer wait for recognition. Grieving entails recognition and acceptance of death. Those who are confronted with this harsh reality can take solace in the fact that grieving eventually allays the profound sadness. Otherwise, as the Italian poet Dante observed, "I wept not, so to stone within I grew."

Perhaps one of the most difficult barriers to acknowledging our grief is the fear that it will overwhelm or diminish us, yet it is the opposite which holds true—that which cannot be expressed openly becomes ever powerful and pervasive in our lives. At the JAMES W. CONROY FUNERAL HOME, helping families to arrange memorial and burial services which in accord with their beliefs and wishes for over fifty years. To schedule a private consultation, please call 756-2800.

"It is only to the happy that tears are a luxury."

—Thomas Moore

James J. "Booty" Saverd, 83

James J. "Booty" Saverd died on Saturday, Sept. 2, in the New Jersey Firemen's Home in Boonton.

Born in South Plainfield, he had been a lifelong resident of the Borough.

He was the co-owner, with his late brother Michael, of Saverd's Express of South Plainfield for many years, before retiring in 1982.

Mr. Saverd was a member of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Dept, where he had held the office of Captain, Deputy Chief and from 1965 to 1974, was Chief of the Department. He was also a life member of the N.J. State Fireman's Association and the N.J. State Exempt Assoc.

He was also a member of South Plainfield Exempt Fireman's Association N.J. State Fire Chief's Association and the International Association of Fire Chiefs. He

Consideration

It is far easier for the family if a family plot is arranged prior to need. The considerate staff at Hillside Cemetery will assist your selection. All lots are in fully developed areas and include perpetual care. Located on Woodland Avenue in Scotch Plains, a non-profit organization. 908.756.1729

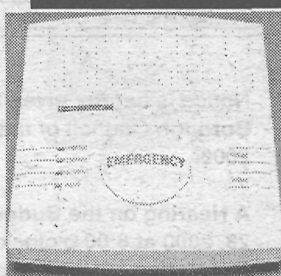
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William C. McCriskin, V. Pres., Dir.
James A. Gustafson, Dir.
James F. Connaughton, Assoc. Dir.

police report

• A resident reported damage to property at the compost site on Kenneth Ave. A lock had been removed from a shed and holes had been punched/kicked in the sheet rock inside the shed. The gate outside the she was bent to the ground.

• A Carmine Ave. resident reported a baseball backstop stolen from her yard. The backstop had been attached to her fence. The theft occurred while the resident had been out of town.

• A Tompkins Ave. resident was arrested for disorderly conduct. Police were dispatched to Quick Check on Sampton Ave. and found the intoxicated resident inside the store creating a problem. Police drove the resident home due to his unstable/inability to walk. He was told to stay at home until he was sober. A short time later police were dispatched to his home where his mother reported he would not calm down and he was being loud and hitting walls. He was found on the back porch and told to remain inside due to his yelling. He was told he would be arrested if he did not comply. Officers remained in front of the home, the resident again came outside, he was warned several times and when he did not listen he was arrested for his own safety.

• Ferraro Foods, Hadley Rd. reported seven vehicles damaged. The driver or passenger vent window on each vehicle was smashed. Attempts were made by suspect(s) to open locked security boxes mounted to the floor in between the seats

of each vehicle. Only one box was opened and nothing appeared missing. All the boxes were heavily damaged. Prints were lifted from one vehicle.

• While investigating a suspicious vehicle parked alongside Grand Slam, police found a man asleep in his car, Andrew L. Bashe of Plfd. They detected a strong odor of marijuana. Bashe agreed to let officers search his vehicle. Police found six roaches with burnt vegetation believed to be marijuana, a container with vegetation believed to be a rolling paper machine and rolling papers both commonly known to be used for rolling marijuana cigarettes.

• A Joan St. resident reported her home burglarized while she was out. She first noticed her son's bedroom light on and thought she had turned it off. Upon entering, she found the bathroom window smashed and the curtain on the floor. She exited and tried to call 911 on her cell phone. When her call would not go through, she called a friend who called police. A search by police located a back window smashed, entry could not be gained due to a dead bolt. Two upstairs bedrooms were ransacked. Exit was made via the front door. A neighbor reported that he and his wife were in their hot tub for about three hours and had not heard or seen anything. Stolen were a mink coat, a JVC video camera, \$300 of Snow Bunny figurines, \$100 Thomas Kincaid light house, figurines and others totaling over \$2000.

Back to School Safety Check List

By Patricia Abbott

Below is a Back to School Safety checklist provided by Community Policing Officers Allen Lamonda and Joe Papa. Originally there were two lists, one for kids and one for parents. This is a combined list.

Often parents, assume that their children know what to do, that they remember the "Don't talk to strangers" chats of early childhood. Constant reminders are not to be considered overbearing in this day and age, but essential—a necessary fact of life. Today there are so many more reasons to be vigilant along with age-old safety rules to remember. The rules bear repeating over and over. The Community Policing Officers remind us that this checklist should be used all year and not just for back to school. Safety precautions are essential year round and reminders are

just a part of that process. Parents and children should review the list together. Some rules seem less important as a child grows older, they are forgotten with time, yet it is these very rules that often keep a child safe.

Follow these simple rules and have a safe and fun school year. Officers Lamonda and Papa along with McGruff the Crime Dog suggest:

- Work out the safest, quickest route to school. Use streets with crossing guards whenever possible. Test the route chosen with your child, avoid empty lots, parks, field or places where there are not many people around. Walk with a friend or brother/sister, neighbor when going to school.

- Kids, know your home phone number as well as that of trusted family members and adults. Carry enough change to make a call or carry a phone card. Make sure younger children

know his/her home phone number including the all important area code, as well as their home address, and parent's work number.

- Make sure that all children know how to use 911 for emergencies. Tell them never to be afraid to call.

- Make sure that children know road safety rules, whether walking or biking to school, they must obey all traffic signals, signs, officers and safety patrols. Remind them to be extra careful in rainy, foggy or snowy weather.

- If you carpool, drop off and pick up children as close to school as possible. Don't leave until they have entered the school.

- The eternal reminder...Never talk to strangers, never accept gifts, never listen to them, no matter how innocent they seem. This is a reminder that can never be repeated enough.

Classifieds

To place an
ad call
908-668-0010.

Rates -- 3 line minimum-\$11; \$1 ea. additional line.

HELP WANTED

Want your skills to really
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The National School and Community Corps provides literacy, arts, service learning and other programs to enhance the capacity of **Plainfield public schools** to serve children and youth, their families and the community.



Corpsmembers serve one year beginning in September and receive a living allowance, funds for college or to pay education loans, child care reimbursement (if qualified), free health insurance, and extensive training. Positions are also available in Philadelphia, Baltimore, Central Rhode Island, and Trenton, New Jersey.

Call 1-800-852-0626 for an application or
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P/T EXPERIENCED FLORAL DESIGNER. Call Georgeann at Mohn's, 561-2808

HELP WANTED

NEWLY CONFIGURED SCHOOL needs caring adults to assist in bringing programs, dances, PTA/PTO experiences to sixth grade students. Parents, grandparents, guardians. All help gratefully accepted. Please apply to: Principal Robert Doggett, (908)754-4620, ext 219 or Secretary Ann Schenck, ext. 224.

HELP WANTED

BUILDING INSPECTOR HHS/ Building Subcode Official: The Borough of South Plainfield is currently accepting applications for a full-time Building Inspector HHS/Building Subcode Official. Applicants must have current Building HHS/Building Subcode licenses and possess a valid NJ driver's license. Send resume to South Plainfield Building Dept, 2480 Plainfield Ave, South Plainfield NJ 07080 or Fax resume attention: John Pabst (908) 754-1179.

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED CALL 908 668-0010

meeting notice

Please be advised that all Committee of the Whole meetings of the South Plainfield Board of Education, originally scheduled for 8 p.m. in the Board Conference Room of the Administration Bldg., have been changed to 7 p.m. in the Grant School gymnasium on Cromwell Place.

The meeting dates are as follows:
(All on Tuesdays):

September 12, October 10, November 14,
December 12, January 9, February 13, 2001,
March 3, 2001 and April 3, 2001

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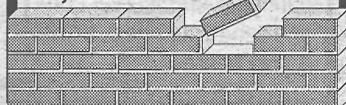
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PINTO BROTHERS DISPOSAL

Andrew & Matthew Pinto

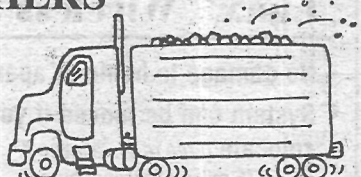
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Family Saddened by Removal of 150 Year-Old Tree

By Patricia Abbott

The corner of Bullard Place and Wood Street suddenly has a different appearance, an odd, empty look to it. At first glance passersby might wonder for a second what is missing. Robert and Connie Phillips know exactly what is amiss. The corner in question was once home to a copper beech tree that was estimated to be well over 150 years old, placing the tree as a seedling before 1850.

While the exact height of the tree is unknown, it easily dwarfed the family's two story home. The Phillip's and now six-year-old daughter, Nicole moved into the house in May of 1997. The tree offered wonderful shade for their side yard. Robert described how the tree offered a "Park-like, serene setting."

A year later he put up a swing up for four-year-old Nicole. Connie returned from a trip delighted to find the swing in place and father and daughter having fun. Swing time with daddy became a special time with Nicole's pleas of "Swing me Daddy!" It was a cozy setting with their daughter safely ensconced in a child's swing on the old tree.

To those who had lived in the neighborhood for years, it was more than just 'a' tree—it was THE tree. The Phillip's noted that neighbors had a sentimental attachment to the ancient tree. Stories and memories were plentiful.

The sudden and violent storm that occurred in May of this year brought a tree limb down that completely crushed the family car and mildly damaged the mail box, luckily missing the house. Given the age of the tree, the family began to wonder about future storms and safety. Would another storm bring down a larger portion of the huge tree? They brought in state certified tree experts, four or five of them and each offered the same conclusion. The tree suffered from a fungus, rot and decay—it was a hazard to the family and the neighborhood. The tree had to come down.

The tree experts thought that last year's intense heat wave may have destroyed the tree as copper beeches are especially sensitive to extreme temperatures and sun. Before the tree was brought down, the family noticed that it had been dropping far more beech nuts than ever before. They learned that this was a defense mechanism, a last attempt by the tree to regenerate itself.

The sad event took place on Friday, Aug. 18. Neighbors swarmed to the Phillip's home taking pictures of the day long process. Connie shot video tape



and took many photos. The process of taking the tree down was no small endeavor, it took the entire day. Connie described watching the tree come down piece by piece. She and Robert expressed doubt; was family were doing the 'right thing' by taking down such an ancient tree? It appeared "So big and so sturdy." It was not until the tree was almost completely down that they were able to see the fungus and rotting at the base, only then were they convinced they had done the right thing for themselves and their neighbors.

The tree may be gone, but the memory that will always remain is the sight of the majestic giant which had been a silent neighbor for decades. The tree provided cooling shade on hot summer days. Today the sun-drenched corner of the yard has a low stump that easily measures 72 inches across.

A huge piece of trunk remains along with woodchips that the Phillip's say are "free for the taking." Robert said he would not miss the massive job of raking leaves and added that the tree did not lose its leaves till very late in the year; far beyond normal fall cleanup.

Despite the absence of the gentle giant, the now sunny spot at the corner of Bullard and Wood will for many always be remembered as the home of THE tree.

Pictured top left: the majestic tree in all its glory.

Top right, the final stages of the trees removal.

Bottom right, Nicole sits on the remains of the neighborhood landmark.



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