

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 4, NO. 13

50 CENTS

DECEMBER 1, 2000

Revamped School Construction Plans Face Referendum

The Board of Education approved the recommendations made by the Citizen's Planning Committees and will ask the voters to approve a new referendum. This will be the third time the board has asked residents to approve a bond for school construction and renovations. Voters twice rejected bond referendums.

After the last rejection by the voters, the board asked for volunteers to form Citizens Committees to study and recommend what direction they should take in terms of future planning and construction in our schools.

The committees, four in all, worked all summer studying the demographics, technology, curriculum, size of classes and the projections of what the enrollment will be in the future.

The committees made their recommendations to the board last month. At Tuesday night's Board of Education meeting the board voted to put a new bond referendum before the voters. The date of the referendum has not yet been set, but will be some time in early 2001.

Only one board member disagreed with the committees' recommendations. Sue Peck, who voted no on the bond referendum, explained that she would have liked to have seen all of the elementary schools expanded, making them all K-6 grades. She added, however, that she would support the referendum and asked the voters to approve it.

The voters will have two questions to consider on the next referendum. A separate question will ask voters to approve the installation of air conditioning in all schools at a cost of \$5.9 million. This question was opposed by several members of the board, who thought it was too expensive and might turn off the voters. The board voted to put the question on the ballot, despite the opposition.

The new referendum will include the cost of a new elementary school, replacing the old Roosevelt School for \$9,933,000; expanding Grant School for \$2,700,000; renovation of the existing elementary schools for \$495,000; track replacement for \$320,000; replacement of boilers at the Middle School for \$438,000; technology upgrades and equipment in all schools for \$1,942,300; electrical upgrades for technology for \$1,414,000.

A newly enacted state law passed just last year will reimburse schools for construction costs up to 40%. The total cost of the proposed projects is \$19,955,390, including soft costs. The estimated amount of state reimbursement is \$7,318,920. This leaves \$12,636,380 that residents will be asked to approve in a referendum.

One Citizen Committee still active is the Public Relations Committee. They plan to use every resource to get out the vote and inform the voters.

Teachers Seek Settlement In Decade-Old Dispute

A suit that has been ongoing since 1995, was the topic of discussion at this week's Board of Education. Mike English, a former teacher, asked that the Board please settle this suit immediately. A fact sheet, submitted by English, was read at Tuesday's Board meeting, chronologically listing each step the litigation has taken since it stated.

According to the fact sheet, in 1991 teachers hired by the South Plainfield Board of Education were told that there was a policy restricting total compensation for previous teaching experience. In most cases new teacher were limited to a maximum of five years

of past experience.

Then in Oct. of 1995, the Board hired a science teacher, granting her thirteen years of previous work experience. Subsequently, in Dec. 1995, a social studies teacher, asked the Board to reinstate six years of working experience initially denied him at the time of his appointment. The Board denied his request and the Teachers Union (SPEA) immediately filled a grievance. The Superintendent denied the grievance.

The New Jersey Public Employment Relations Commission appointed an arbitrator in April

Continued on page 2



Clergymen and women from area churches joined in prayer at the Thanksgiving Services held at Sacred Heart Church.

Area Churches Join in Thanksgiving Services

Several hundred South Plainfield residents and members of various area churches worshipped together in a special Thanksgiving prayer service at Sacred Heart Church last week. The annual event is hosted each year by one of the participating churches.

Choirs participating were Pilgrim Covenant under the direction of Anthony Otlowski, Rescue House of Prayer under the direction of Cathy Davidson, Sacred Heart under the direction of

Liz Harrington, St. Stephen Lutheran under the direction of Thomas Baker and Wesley United Methodist under the direction of Jim Horvath. The combined choirs all joined together in song.

Participating in the services were Rev. Raymond Sundland, pastor of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Orthodox Church, Reverends James and Catherine Stanley-Erickson of Pilgrim Covenant Church; Rev. Irene Campbell, pastor and Robert Bryant;

Deacon of Rescue House Prayer; Rev. John P. Alvarado, pastor, Rev. Thomas Ganley and Rev. John Primich of Sacred Heart Church; Rev. Richard J. Kiesling, pastor of St. Stephen Lutheran Church and Rev. Dr. Henry Leono, pastor, Wesley United Methodist.

After the services, the worshipers were hosted at a reception sponsored by the ladies of the Sacred Heart Rosary Altar Society.

Two Promoted in Borough

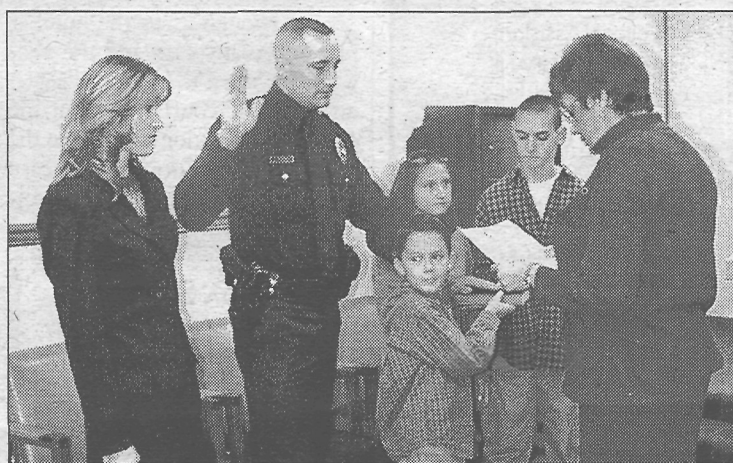
Siedenburg Moves Up to Sergeant

Charles R. Siedenburg, Jr., an eight-year member of the South Plainfield Police Department, was promoted to sergeant during last month's council meeting. Before joining South Plainfield Police Department, Siedenburg served for four-and-a-half years with the Plainfield Police Department.

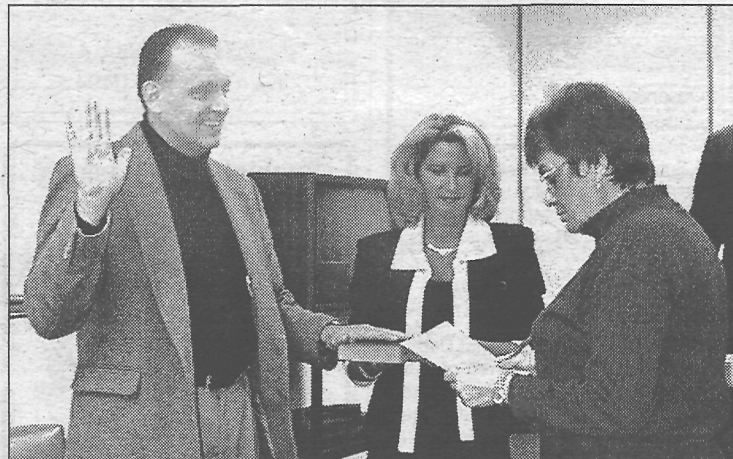
Siedenburg will be in charge of Special Problems Unit (SPU) and Community Oriented Policing (COP).

Pabst Assumes New Duties

The Borough has officially promoted John Pabst (far left), a 13-year-employee to the post of Construction Official/Zoning Officer/Administrative Officer during last month's council meeting. Pabst replaces John Allen, who recently retired after 26 years in that post.



Pictured left at the swearing in ceremonies are Sergeant Charles R. Siedenburg with his wife Kathy, sons Kevin and Christopher and daughter Kerri.



Councilwoman Darlene Pinto holds the bible for John Pabst, as Deputy Clerk Mary Blue swears him in.

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, December 11 Thursday, December 14

All meetings of the Governing Body are held in accordance with New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (NJSIA 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

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

December 5, December 19

taxpayers advisory group

The Taxpayers Advisory Group (TAG) meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at Borough Hall at 2480 Plainfield Ave. at 7 p.m.

siteplace sub-committee

The fourth Thursday of the month as follows:

December (No Meeting)

recycling commission

Meets Thursday, once a month

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

December 28

recreation commission

Meets once a month

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

Mon., December 4

environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)

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

December 13

board of education meetings

Board Conference Room at Administration Building, on Cromwell Place

Committee of the Whole, Dec. 12, 7 p.m.; Regular Board Mtg., Dec. 19, 8 p.m.

Committee of the Whole, Jan. 9, 7 p.m.; Regular Board Mtg., Jan. 16, 8 p.m.

Committee of the Whole, Feb. 13, 8 p.m.; Regular Board Mtg., Feb. 19, 8 p.m.

Committee of the Whole, Mar. 13, 8 p.m.; Regular Board Mtg., Mar. 20, 8 p.m.

Committee of the Whole, Apr. 3, 8 p.m.; Regular Board Mtg., Apr. 10, 8 p.m.

South Plainfield Observer

The South Plainfield Observer is
published every Friday

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

(908) 668-0010 • FAX (908) 668-8819

Web page:
www.spobserver.com
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The South Plainfield Observer (U.S.P.S. 018253) is published weekly, except Thanksgiving week, by G&G Graphics Inc. 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080-2004. Second class postage paid at South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080-9998. **POSTMASTER:** Forward change of address orders to G&G Graphics Inc. 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080-2004. Subscription rates \$25 per year in South Plainfield; \$30 per year out of town. To subscribe: 908-668-0010.

SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in South Plainfield Observer:

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters may be submitted by mail to South Plainfield Observer, Editorial Dept., 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, by email at our website at spobserver.com or faxed to 908-668-8819. Letters should not exceed 400 words. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. It is the editor's discretion to limit the number of letters submitted by one individual on the same subject. The opinions expressed in "Letters" do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Observer.

In My Opinion

To The Editor:

The recent South Plainfield High School assembly program was gratifying. The students—all students—need reminders of those South Plainfield residents who were killed in action so that they can live free.

I was told that Mike Santoro, Raymond Costa and Rudy Poczak of the VFW did a great job. I was also told the program was moving and touching.

However, the fact that several of our deceased veterans have not been recognized with a street naming galls me—what in blazes has the borough been doing since 1945? Weren't enough new streets cut since then? My brother's street was named just recently, after a long fight.

Come on borough! Get with it—stop procrastinating. Incidentally, why aren't streets named for our veterans distinguished from other streets? Families had gold stars on their service flags, why can't these twenty-odd streets have gold colored street signs?

Do our deceased veterans deserve anything less?

Fifty six years is a long time.

SINCERELY
LOUIS A. JANKOSKI

Dear Editor,

I would like to express my sincere thanks to everyone in the borough of South Plainfield who

voted for me this election. It is gratifying to see the large response from the voters, who gave me an opportunity to serve the borough for another three years. There are quite a few pending projects in the borough and with the opportunity of being re-elected, I can oversee them to their completion.

I am also looking forward to the new challenges that the new year may bring. I did have an opportunity to meet many residents of this great borough when campaigning, which I believe will be important in the decision to elect a councilperson. I truly enjoyed the opportunity to serve all of the residents from all ages and communities. I am fortunate to have been re-elected as a councilman and I will approach the job with the attention and promptness it deserves.

I must admit that the process of campaigning and winning an election can be overwhelming. A campaign is a focus of accomplishments in our borough. The campaign lens is set to zoom, on myself and my running mate, Bob Cusick. If the campaign lens were to do a wide angle shot, you would see how the borough really functions. Without the support of the mayor and the entire council, Bob Cusick and myself would not have been re-elected. Two democrats were elected this year, but five democrats were the driving force behind all the ac-

complishments that occurred in South Plainfield. Sometimes this message is neglected, but it is never forgotten.

Thank you South Plainfield and thank you very much mayor and council.

SINCERELY
RAYMOND S. PETRONKO

To The Editor,

I wish to thank the voters of South Plainfield for believing that the Democratic party was the overwhelming choice to effectively and efficiently manage the borough's affairs.

In the past, your borough council has strived to address the concerns of its residents. I want to assure you that I will maintain this standard and I am committed to continually moving forward for the improvement of our community. Only with your support will I be able to achieve these goals.

Remember, the borough council is your council—elected to serve the people! It is your wishes we represent, and we will represent them with perseverance.

In the forthcoming year I will endeavor to insure that South Plainfield remains the type of community it was intended to be—a wonderful place to live, work and raise a family.

THANK YOU
ROBERT CUSICK

Teachers Seek Settlement in Decade-Old Dispute

Continued from page 1

1996 to settle the dispute as allowed in the contract between the two parties and a hearing was held between the parties in Dec 1996. In Feb. 1997, the arbitrator rendered a decision saying that the Board of Education had violated the terms of the contract and the Board must place all affected teachers on their proper step and reimburse them for lost wages.

The Board of Education filed a complaint against the decision in April 1997 and the Chancery Judge vacated the award. He concluded that the award was not precise enough as to the number of teachers involved and the ability of the town to pay. April 1999, an Appellate court ruled that the Board of Education did violate the terms of the contract. The case was remanded back to the arbitrator for resolution of the num-

ber of teachers involved and the impact on the community. In June 1999, the NJ Supreme Court rejected the opportunity to hear the case because they found the appellate case was valid.

The arbitrator rendered a decision in July 2000 that stated which teachers were involved and how much back pay each one was due. A hearing to determine the Board's ability to pay was scheduled for the fall.

English pointed out that the decisions made by both the arbitrator and the judges never disputed the fact that the Board of Education had violated the terms of the contract between the two parties. The teachers involved in the grievance who live in town have been forced to pay the Boards attorney fees. There are 23 teachers affected.

According to the teachers, as

of August of 1999, the Board had expended \$87,388.66 in legal fees for this grievance.

Members of the Board would not comment on this litigation, or any other litigation that has not been settled. Superintendent Ferri did acknowledge that a meeting was scheduled this week with members of the SPEA to settle some of the cases in arbitration. He did not however reveal what cases would be discussed.

CORRECTION

In the Nov. 17 issue of the *Observer*, we incorrectly identified Marge Sheldon's six brothers, who served in World War II. Her brothers' last name is Staats not Sheldon.

We are sorry for the error.

AIDA SANTOS

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southplainfieldpeople

Milestones

Golden Key National Honor Society
Inducts Adrienne Christatos

Adrienne Erica Christatos of South Plainfield has accepted membership into Golden Key National Honor Society and was individually honored during a campus ceremony this fall at Rutgers University, The State University of New Jersey.



Adrienne Erica Christatos

"It is only fitting that a high academic achiever like Adrienne be recognized by Golden Key," said Jim Lewis, Golden Key founder and executive director. "Our members are inspired and motivated by the challenge not only to be recognized for their outstanding accomplishments but also to make a positive impact on our world through the Society's commitment to service."

Golden Key National Honor Society is a non-profit, academic honors organization that provides academic recognition, leadership opportunities,

community service, career networking and scholarships.

The society has more than 300 chapters in the United States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Australia, Canada, Malaysia, South Africa and New Zealand. Membership into the society is by invitation only to the top 15 percent of juniors and seniors in all fields of study.

For additional information, visit the society's webpage at <http://gknhs.gsu.edu> or contact Adrienne Christatos at home, 2305 Selene Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or call (908) 753-7279.

DeMatteos Welcome Daughter

Jody (Johnson) and Darren DeMatteo of Rockaway, NJ are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Ashley Lynn DeMatteo. Ashley was born on Oct. 20 at 5:47 p.m., weighed 7 lbs. 7 oz. and was 20½" inches. Heather and Kevin Johnson of South Plainfield are the proud aunt and uncle.

Christmas Trees on Sale
At Rescue Squad

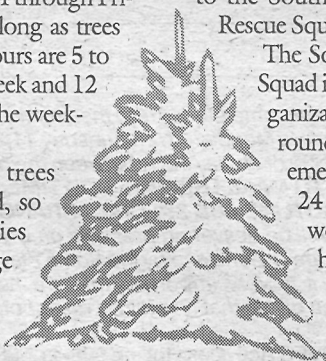
The South Plainfield Rescue Squad will be conducting its first annual Christmas tree sale during the first half of December.

The Christmas tree sale will run from Monday, Dec. 4 through Friday, Dec. 15, or as long as trees are available. The hours are 5 to 9 p.m. during the week and 12 noon to 7 p.m. on the weekends.

The number of trees available are limited, so hurry while supplies last. Prices will range from approximately \$30 to \$45 for five to seven foot trees.

The Christmas tree sale will take place at the South Plainfield Rescue Squad, located at 2520 Plainfield Ave., across from Spring Lake Park. All proceeds of this fundraiser will go to the South Plainfield Volunteer Rescue Squad.

The South Plainfield Rescue Squad is a 100% volunteer organization, serving the surrounding community with emergency medical services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The squad relies heavily on donations and money raised by fundraisers such as this.



High School Drug-Free After Sweep

On Nov. 17, police and school officials conducted a sweep of South Plainfield High School to determine if drugs or other controlled dangerous substances were present.

Superintendent of Schools Guy Ferri described the action as a "continuing effort to be certain the high school maintains a safe and healthy learning atmosphere. This is a recurring practice and a significant deterrent." The district requested the assistance of the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office.

According to the Superintendent, he and High School Principal Anthony Massaro are determined to help students who are drug use victims and they will take a hard line with anyone involved in drug sale or distribution.

Prosecutor's officers were assisted by representatives of the Middlesex County Sheriff's Office and the South Plainfield Police Department. Teams of police and four specially trained dogs swept the school's parking areas and students' lockers soon

after the start of the school day. Students were kept in their classrooms and classes were extended while the search was conducted.

The sweep was finished within two hours. No drugs were found in the school or the parking lots.

The fact that the drug sweep uncovered no controlled substances confirms the district and the high school leadership's belief that the task force activity continues to deter possession of drugs in the school.

Pitt Street
Gets Dirtier

Members from the Ponytail Softball League were all smiles last week as they performed their year-end cleanup at Pitt Street Park. Not only were they smiling about the new shed, which will hold all the supplies that have been stored in the bathrooms and the concession stand up until now, but they received a delivery of dirt to refurbish the Ponytail A Field—a special contribution from Wes Perrine.

This field has been plagued by flooding for many years and the dirt will raise the field and help to alleviate the flooding. The dirt is not just regular dirt, but specially formulated to be used for the infield of ballfields.

Councilman Ray Petronko met Wes Perrine while playing volleyball earlier this year. After talking to Perrine about some of the needs of the borough, Perrine said he would be glad to donate the dirt.



"Dirt Day" at Pitt Street Park: Pictured (l-r) Wes Perrine, Mike DiMeglio, Councilman Ray Petronko, Secretary of the Ponytail Softball League Helen Gaub and Ron Bosse.

The dirt, which was delivered the Saturday before Thanksgiving, will be spread by the employees of the borough garage and will be able to settle during the winter and be ready for play in the spring.

The new shed was also a welcome addition. In the past, the softball equipment, supplies for the fields and even fertilizer were stored in the concession stand and

bathroom area. Now the supplies will be kept in the shed purchased by the council.

Another added addition to Pitt Street Park is the playground equipment which is already being enjoyed by children.

The former basketball court has also been converted into a parking lot to help with the parking problems in the neighborhood.

boroughnotesboroughnotes

Council News

• At last month's meeting, the Borough Council adopted the 2001 fiscal year budget which will increase taxes by about \$40 per household.

• The mayor and deputy clerk have been authorized to renew the agreement between the borough and MICA for the paint drop off program. Paint recycling takes place at the recycling center the third Saturday of the month.

• The council passed a resolution to request a time extension from the NJDOT on the Kenneth Ave., Walnut St. and Woodland Ave. projects.

• Cono Gonzalez, Jr. has been hired as a part-time groundskeeper at the recycling center.

• William Hartmann has been hired as a computer specialist with salary and full benefits package.

• Hemangini Darji has been hired as police records clerk at a salary of \$21,753.

Two Suits Filed
Against Boards

Borough Attorney Pat Deignan will be defending the borough against two applicants who are challenging decisions by the South Plainfield Planning Board and the Board of Adjustment.

Suburban Transit Corp. filed suit to appeal the decision by the Board of Adjustment asking for several variance. The company operates and stores buses at their New Market

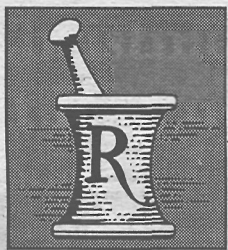
Ave. location. The board rejected their request to expand the facility.

Dave Deluccia was in front of the Planning Board requesting to build a shopping center on his Durham Ave. property. The property is less than half the minimum required size. The board rejected his application.

Borough Awarded
Improvement Grants

Mayor Dan Gallagher announced that two grants the Borough applied to the state were recently awarded.

Grants awarded were for \$72,000 to construct sidewalks on Belmont Ave. and a \$210,000 to repave Kenyon Ave.



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Events Around Town

Holiday Craft Show at John E. Riley School

December 1

The John E. Riley School Stokes Committee will host a Holiday Craft Show on Friday, Dec. 1 from 5-9 p.m.

The show will feature new and handcrafted merchandise. Refreshments will be available. Come do your shopping at Riley School.

For vendor information, please call (908) 756-9257.

American Legion Chapter Meeting

December 1, 9

On Dec. 1-3 the 101st Airborne Division will go to the Chateau Resort and Conference Center in Tannersville, Pa. for our Bastogne Dinner.

On Dec. 9 we will hold services for the 248 men and women that went down in Newfoundland in 1985 in front of McCriskin Home For Funerals, 2425 Plainfield Ave., at 11 a.m. This service is an annual event.

Santa Is Coming

December 2

On Saturday, Dec. 2 from 2-5 p.m., Santa Claus will be making a special appearance at the South Plainfield American Legion Post #243. There will be free hot dogs and balloons, and kids will have the chance to have their picture taken with Santa.

For more information, contact Tony Mann at (732) 407-1885.

Columbiettes Sponsoring Events

December 2

South Plainfield Columbiettes are sponsoring a Christmas Show and Dinner at the Spinning Wheel in Conn. on Dec. 2. Cost is \$50.

The dinner is open to the public. For info, call (908) 226-1222.

VFW Country Breakfast, Pearl Harbor Services

December 3 & 7

Pup Tent 41, Military Order of the Cootie is sponsoring a Country Breakfast on Dec. 3 from 8-11 a.m. at VFW Post 6763 on Front St. Donation is \$5 and a children's menu is available.

Pearl Harbor Services will be held on Dec. 7, at 7 p.m. at the VFW Post. The public is invited. Coffee and cake will be served.

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

Pancake Breakfast

December 17

The American Legion Post #243 located on Oak Tree Road, is sponsoring a Pancake Breakfast on Dec. 17, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Adults are \$5, children under 12 are \$3 and children under six are free.

For more information, please contact Tony Mann at (732) 407-1385.

Santa at the PAL

December 23

Santa will be coming to the PAL on Dec. 23, at 1 p.m.

Children, from newborn to 10 years old, are invited to come and see Santa (accompanied by parents).

Movies, gifts and pictures with Santa are part of the festivities. Pre-registration is required. Call 226-7713. Registration fee is \$5 per child.

Cruise Tickets Available

The South Plainfield Historical Society has two gift certificates for two tickets (each) for the Brunch Cruise on the Cornucopia Princess for sale.

The tickets are good for any date. If the purchaser prefers to go on an evening cruise, the tickets may be exchanged and the price difference must be paid. There are two certificates at \$98 each.

Checks should be made out to the South Plainfield Historical Society. Mail to: P.O. Box 11, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, or call Bill Tuthill at 756-9654.

Tickets are available on a first come, first serve basis and would make a special holiday gift.

Rec Sponsors Trip to Riverdance

February 8, 2001

The South Plainfield Recreation Dept. is sponsoring a trip to see the best show on Broadway today, *Riverdance*, on Thursday, Feb. 8, 2001. Orchestra seats are \$65 per person. Bus leaves the PAL at 4:30 p.m. Only 45 tickets are available. Tickets are available at the PAL between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

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 celebrate all those who once walked the halls of South Plainfield High School.

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

Rec Sponsoring Trip to See The Lion King

July 5, 2001

The Recreation Department is sponsoring a trip to Broadway to see *The Lion King* on July 5, 2001.

The cost is \$95 per person and includes your ticket and the bus. Purchase your ticket at the PAL. The bus leaves at 4 p.m.

The PAL is open weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Events In Surrounding Towns

Fundraiser at Woodbridge Mall

The Colonia Chapter of Hadasah is holding a gift wrapping fundraiser at the Woodbridge Center Mall. They will be raising money for Hadasah Medical Organization's cancer research and cancer treatment programs. This event will be ongoing until Sunday, December 24.

The Charity Giftwrap counters are located at the main mall entrance between Sterns and Fortunoff's department stores; same mall entrance where public bus stops are found. Members of the community are encouraged to stop by and support this valuable fundraising event.

They have wrapping paper to suit Hanukkah, Christmas, birthday, anniversary, wedding or any other gifts needs. Donations range from \$1 to \$5 for average sized packages and members of the Premier Shoppers Club can use their membership cards towards this charity fundraiser as well.

Anyone interested in volunteering their time to help with this fundraising event should contact Sara Chazin at 908-608-1004.

Playwright's Theater Single's Night

December 2

On Saturday, Dec. 2 at 8 p.m., Playwright's Theater, 33 Green Village Road in Madison, will hold its Single's Night. Featured performance is *Dance With Me*. The cost is \$30 at the door and includes theater admission and reception following performance. For details visit www.thatskismet.com or call (908) 232-8827.

Alliance Church To Perform Bethlehem's Treasure

December 9-17

Bethlehem's Treasure-A Live Nativity will be performed at Alliance Bible Church in Warren on Dec. 9, 10, 16 and 17 at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Admission is free. The Christmas story will be enhanced through music and the use of live animals. Immediately following the presentation, refreshments will be served at a "Christmas Cafe" inside the church and children will be allowed to pet the animals used in the creche.

The production, written and directed by Tom McKenna, incorporates various aspects of the Christ-

mas narrative intertwined with seasonal music and live animals.

The church is located at 52 Mount Horeb Road in Warren, minutes off Interstate 78. Take Exit 33 of I-78 and proceed toward Martinsville.

Travel three miles and turn left onto Mount Horeb Road. The church is one mile on the right.

For information or directions, contact the church at (732) 469-1425.

South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Company

PROJECT SANTA 2000

Santa Claus is Coming to Town and He's Coming on a Fire Engine!

To help raise money for our upcoming 100th Anniversary (May 2007) and Firemen's Memorial, the members of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Company will have Santa deliver Christmas presents by fire engine. Can you imagine how excited your children would be to have Santa bring them a present on a fire engine!



Here's how it will work. We are requesting a \$20 donation from each family (South Plainfield residents only) who would like Santa to deliver their presents. The \$20 should be a check made payable to the SPVFC 100th Anniversary. 100% of the \$20 goes directly to 100th Anniversary fund. We also ask that you wrap a small gift for Santa to give to your child. Small presents are all that are necessary. Gifts should cost no more than \$30. (Please no expensive gifts.) After you wrap the gift, please put your child's name and address securely on the gift. Firefighters will visit every block in the borough to deliver the gifts. They will sound their sirens and activate their lights. The children can then come to the engine and receive their gift from Santa and his elves. All you need is a camera.

PLEASE PRINT

Family Name: _____

Name of Child or Children Receiving Gifts: _____

Age of Child or Children: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ No. of Gifts: _____

School District: _____

Please fill out the form completely. Drop the check, form and gift(s) off at Fire Headquarters Monday 11/27, Tuesday 11/28, Wednesday 11/29, Thursday 11/30 or Friday 12/1, between the hours of 6 p.m.-9 p.m. IF UNABLE TO MAKE THE DATES OR TIME, PLEASE CALL THE ACTIVITIES HOTLINE AND SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE. Santa will be delivering presents on December 11, 12, 13 & 14. This is a huge undertaking by the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Company so it is very important that we have the proper information for each gift so that no child is disappointed.

You can call the SPVFC Activities Hotline 908-412-8868 and leave a message should you have questions and we will get back to you.

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Friends of the Library Sponsor American Folk Song Program

The Friends of the South Plainfield Library inviting the public to attend a special program on "The American Folk Songs—The Angelo Tradition" on Sunday, Dec. 10, starting at 2 p.m. at the South Plainfield Public Library, 2484 Plainfield Ave.

Angus Gillispie, Ph.D., Assoc. Professor American Music Studies, Rutgers University, will tell the story of the early settlers, their ballads and narrative songs that tell a story. Today there is renewed interest in traditional music. The discussion will focus on the roots and modern expression of this unique music form.

This program is made possible by a grant from the NJ Council of Humanities, a state Partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Vacant House on Kosciusko St. 'Eyesore to Neighbors'

A three family vacant home on Kosciusko St. has become an unbearable eyesore for surrounding neighbors and they are demanding some action be taken.

The house was owned by Bernie Koziel, who died four year ago. Since his death, the house has remained vacant and is rotting away. The windows are boarded up, the paint is peeling and neighbors have reported seeing rats on the property.

The Borough Public Works Department has cleaned up the property several times in the past few years. They have also erected a fence around the backyard because there is an inground swimming pool which was not fenced in as per borough law. The

borough, on several occasions, has placed liens on the property for the cost incurred for clean up and repairs.

According to Mayor Dan Gallagher and Borough Attorney Pat Diegnan, the town is close to ascertaining who is presently responsible for the property, which has many outstanding loans and liens that are in the litigation. Diegnan said that when it is discovered who is indeed responsible, they will be held accountable for the clean up and maintenance of the property. Meanwhile, the borough has been cleaning up the property and plans to take legal action to condemn and sell the property if no other solution can be found.



This vacant home on Kosciusko St. has become an eyesore and annoyance to neighbors.

Summer Drama Workshop Needs Production Staff

The South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop is looking for a production staff for their 30th season. This youth theatre program pre-

sents a musical each summer with auditions in May, rehearsals beginning in June and performances during the first week in August.

Applications and resumes are being accepted for the positions of director, choreographer, vocal director, musical director, technical coordinator, assistant director, assistant vocal director, assistant musical director, rehearsal pianist and costume coordinator. All positions receive a stipend.

Anyone interested in applying for a position should send their materials to the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop at 210 Oakland Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080; or fax them to (908) 756-8790, or contact us through our website at www.spsdw.com.

The deadline for applications is Jan. 5, 2001. All applicants will be contacted and/or interviewed by phone or in person shortly after the deadline.

For more information, please contact the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop through the above addresses, or call (908) 756-0539.

Suburban Woman's Club Collecting Food

Continuing this month, the Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield will be donating canned goods, other foods and cash towards their annual holiday baskets given during the months of November and December.

Baskets include appetizers, entrees, beverages, desserts and a handmade decoration for indoor or outdoor display. Jeanine Kimmel, Homelife and Social Services, chairs the committee.

By Kenneth Morgan

Before you go rushing out to your nearest mall to work on your Holiday shopping, take a moment and look at news from the South Plainfield Library:

The Homeschooler's meeting, originally scheduled for last Friday, will be held today at 10:30 a.m. Parents who home school their children, or are interested in doing so, are invited to attend.

We're returning to our usual schedule of children's Storytime programs next week. The programs are for children ages three and over; no pre-registration is required. They're held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. If you'd like more information, please check with Children's Librarian Linda Hansen.

We're between groups on the Video Circuit today. The December group should be available Monday.

The next meeting of the Friends of the Library is set for Tuesday morning at 10:30. Both members and non-members are invited to attend. Also, the Friends are sponsoring a program on American folk songs on Sunday,

Dec. 10, at 2 p.m. The program will feature Angus Gillispie, Professor of American Studies at Rutgers. He'll speak about the origins of the form and of a current revival of interest in it. No pre-registration is required.

In our continued effort to provide you with more and better services, we've just added something: Patrons may now send or receive faxes via our fax machine. The charge for transmission is \$2 for the first page (the cover sheet) and \$1 for each additional page for faxes sent in the US; with a charge of \$1 a page for received faxes. Patrons are asked to provide their own cover sheets. If our staff is busy, there may be a delay in sending faxes out, but we'll make sure they're sent ASAP. For more information, check the information posted at the main desk.

Please be advised: Due to problems with damaged and stolen periodicals, only patrons with South Plainfield Library cards may use them. You must present your card at the desk and pick them up. Furthermore, you must leave your driver's license for security purposes.

What you have just read is fiction. Unfortunately, the problem it refers to is real. Inconsiderate patrons are stealing or damaging our newspapers and magazines, creating problems for both the staff and other patrons. Make no mistake; this kind of behavior will not be tolerated. And, if it continues, who knows? The fiction you read earlier may just come true.

Finally the Library is now involved in two charity efforts. First, there's the Books to Keep program, bringing books to underprivileged children. And, second, the Friends of the Library have organized an ingathering of hats, gloves, scarves and mittens. The items will be donated to FISH for local distribution to the needy. Both drives will be going on until mid-December.

That'll be it for now. Thanks for reading. Feel free to go shopping now; best of luck finding a parking space.

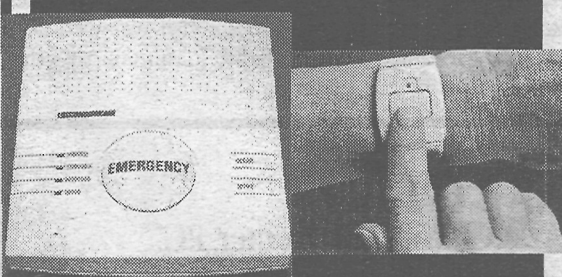


The demolition of the long vacant McDonald's in Golden Acres Shopping Center took just a short time. It is the first step in the renovation planned by the center's owners, Skyline Management. This demolished area will be part of the parking lot.



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Sports Auction Benefit High School Athletes

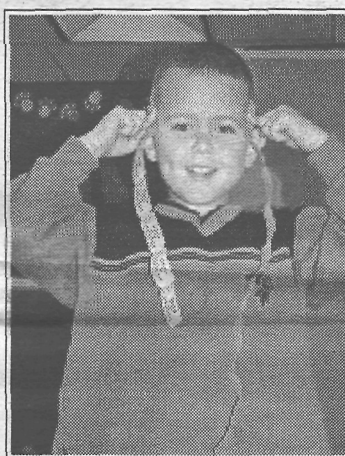
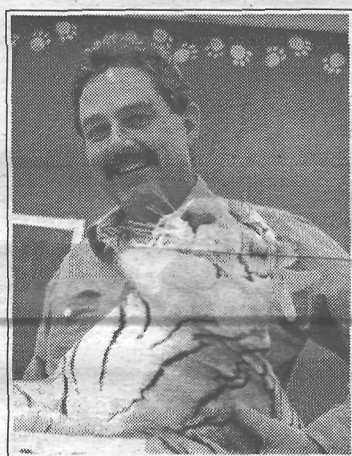
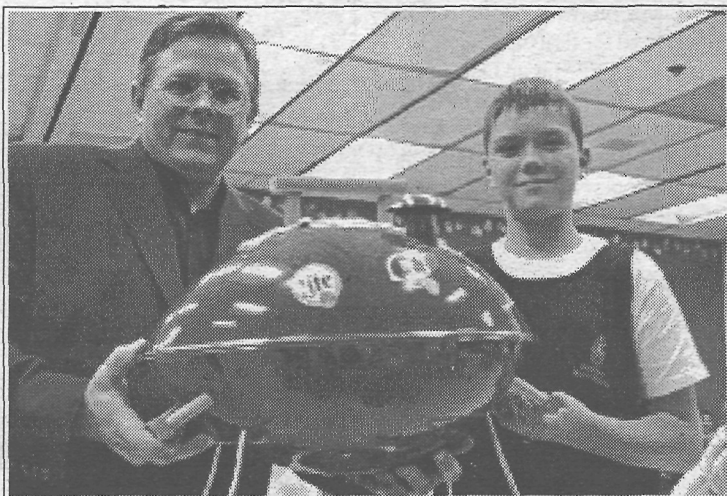
Photos & story by
Patricia Abbott

There was no big game in the high school cafeteria on the evening of Nov. 18, although the cheers heard in nearby hallways suggested otherwise. The event was the Athletic Boosters Club's fourth annual Sports Auction.

The preview began at 6 p.m. with a constant flow of people roaming the room, studying the many offerings, narrowing down the choices, debating where their tickets had the best chance or just taking a chance on lady luck. Once tickets had been deposited, participants hurried to the opposite cafeteria filled with tables set up for an evening of fun. Most brought goodies with them to stave off hunger during the drawing of the tickets. Some had huge spreads of food—cheese, crackers, veggies and dip, sub sandwiches. Coolers of all sizes were spotted under tables. Pizza boxes were seen being hustled to tables. The Athletic Booster Club offered a variety of their own baked goodies as well as candy, soda and complimentary coffee.

The experienced auction fans were easy to spot. They had their tickets neatly organized by color and value lined up on a piece of cardboard. Others had a pile of each color close at hand, one family had a youngster atop his dad's shoulders manning the tickets, still others scrambled to find the right color amongst a mass of tickets in front of them.

Master of Ceremonies for the evening was Recreation Director Mike English, assisted by



Mickey Wrublewski. The party atmosphere of the room quieted only when the drawing of tickets began. English turned the ordinary drawing of winners into a fun-filled performance with his upbeat and often humorous descriptions and remarks on prizes, his dramatic pauses while reading the final numbers and his running commentary with his audience.

The drawings began with smaller items, but English provided variety by switching to other tickets off and on throughout the evening. Some tables seemed to have a deal with lady luck as prize after prize went in the same direction. Other winners shrieked with delight when, after hours of waiting, they won. After a brief break, the final and larger prizes were called. A boys bike went to Judy Franchak, girls bike to Alan Boettger, a CD player to Meg Hunsicker, a VCR/TV to Loretta Gati and the 50/50 drawing was won by Sharon and John Geczy.

The Athletic Booster Club spent many months organizing the event. The items available for auction offered something for everyone. The various SPHS sports teams worked hard to create the coveted prizes that represented them. Many South Plainfield businesses once again showed their support with their generous gifts.

The Sports Auction Committee is comprised of Ginny Butrico, Margaret Celentano, Nelia Diaz, Janet Donnelly, Mike English, Loretta Gati, Cathie Keller, Laurie Kurilew and Mickey Wrublewski.

Middle School Students Learn About Train Safety

Train safety is something that rarely crosses one's mind. Yet accidents involving trains and pedestrians/motor vehicles are on the rise. Automobile drivers and bicyclists are often injured when they attempt to travel around a lowered crossing gate. Other victims include youths looking for a thrill.

As part of "Operation Lifesaver," Officer Farkas of the Conrail Police Department recently paid a visit to the Middle School to discuss the dangers of playing on or near railway tracks.

He stressed that a person cannot judge the distance and speed of an oncoming train and reminded students that a train can appear on any track at any time. A common, but dangerous, pastime is to place items such as coins on the track prior to a train passing by. The object of this practice is to retrieve the flattened item but the reality is that things placed on the tracks often fly off and strike those nearby. A penny hurled off a track by a speeding train becomes a dangerous projectile. The same applies to things thrown at passing trains. Officer Farkas noted that railroad tracks, trestles, bridges and railroad yards are private property.

The students listened to the officer and watched a video provided by Conrail. They also received a colorful bookmark with safety tips.

Park Hotel Residents' Art Work on Display

Art work, including water colors and paintings, completed by residents of the Park Hotel will be on display at United Family and Children's Society in Plainfield on Friday, Dec. 1 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. This second annual art exhibit will feature various original works painted by the residents under the instruction of local artist Fermin Martinez.

United Family and Children's Society, a non-profit family services agency, provides counseling, advocacy, recreational and support services under a contract with the NJ Division of Mental Health Services to residents of the Park Hotel, a licensed residential health care

facility for adults located in Plainfield.

All are welcome to visit the display and light refreshments will be served. Last year's inaugural art show was a huge success and the artists have been preparing for the event for the past 12 months. United Family is located at 305 West Seventh St. in Plainfield. The agency also offers professional counseling, mental health services for children, adolescents and families programs for pregnant teens and infant foster care. United Family is a member of the United Way and is a NJ licensed adoption agency.

Call (908) 755-3636 for directions or more information.

SP SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH COMMUNITY/STAFF INPUT SESSION DECEMBER 5, 2000 7 P.M. to 9 P.M. GRANT SCHOOL GYMNASIUM

The Board of Education invites you to attend an input session to gather information to be used to set criteria for the background, training and experience necessary for the new Superintendent of Schools. Our search consultant, Francine Case, New Jersey School Boards Association, will explain the search procedure, the roles played by the Board, the staff and the public in the process, and the calendar of the actual search. Discussion will center on the strengths, concerns, ongoing issues and future initiatives which will face the new superintendent. Information gathered, together with input from other focus groups, will be used to shape a variety of candidate review documents and the interview questions.

**PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND THIS IMPORTANT MEETING
DECEMBER 5, 2000-7 P.M. to- 9 P.M. GRANT SCHOOL GYMNASIUM**

For more information please call the Board Office at (908) 754-4620 or Francine Case at (732) 446-5090.

SPHS Traveling Choir Makes Recording Debut

By Carrie Reilly

'Tis the season! Christmas season has finally arrived and the members of South Plainfield High School's Traveling Choir are truly excited. This year, as part of a fundraiser for the SPHS Chorus Fund, the members have ventured to take their singing to a higher level.

Plans to make a recording of the group's repertoire have in the works for several years now, after chorus members had the privilege of going to recording studios in Pennsylvania three years ago to record selections from Handel's *Messiah* as part of the Chorus Holiday CD project. Unfortunately, affiliation with the recording studio have been lost, and in the same untimely but fortunate situation, this year's Traveling Choir has been more prepared, as opposed to last year, when due to lack of participants, there was no existing group at all.

Nevertheless, all hope was not lost for dreams of this CD's production. The group returned this year with an abundance of members whose thoughts of recording had not diminished at all. In fact, they became a reality when SPHS senior and current traveling choir member, Matthew Pulomena graciously offered the use of his equipment for the recording.

Selections recorded include a

variety of classic Holiday favorites, as well as Choir Director Tracy Murray's personal additions. Songs featured on the CD are: *Angels We Have Heard On High*, *Carol of the Bells*, *Wassail Song*, *The Hallelujah Chorus*, *The Heavens Are Telling*, *O Holy Night*, *Silent Night*, *Sleigh Ride*, *The Sleigh*, *Joy To The World*, *Do You Hear What I Hear*, *Hannukah* and *Deck The Halls*.

Distribution plans are set for early this month with CDs avail-

able for \$15 and cassettes for \$10. Pre-orders are being accepted for cassettes only.

To place an order, contact Mr. Murray at SPHS, (908) 754-4620, ext. 278.

For a live performance of these songs from the Choir, as well as performances from the entire SPHS Choir, Emeralds and Jades Ensembles, be sure to attend their Holiday Concert on Thursday, Dec. 14 at 7 p.m., in the auditorium at SPHS.

Holiday Giving For Needy Pets

The Plainfield Animal Hospital is accepting pet food donations to be distributed to needy pets for the holiday season.

Please bring canned or dry pet foods to the drop off box at the Animal Hospital, 2201 Park Ave., South Plainfield from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through

Friday and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays.

Food will be distributed to "People For Animals" and "The Animal Rescue Force," two local non-profit pet organizations.

For more information on these organizations visit our website at www.plainfieldanimalhosp.com.

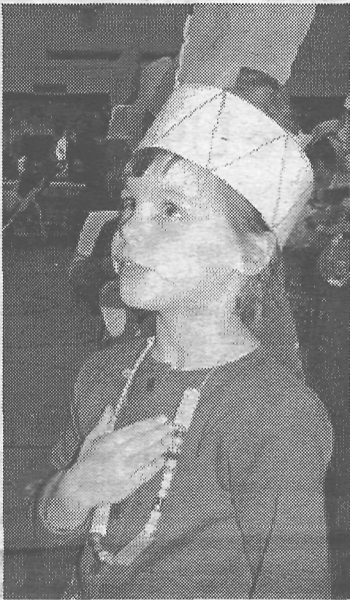
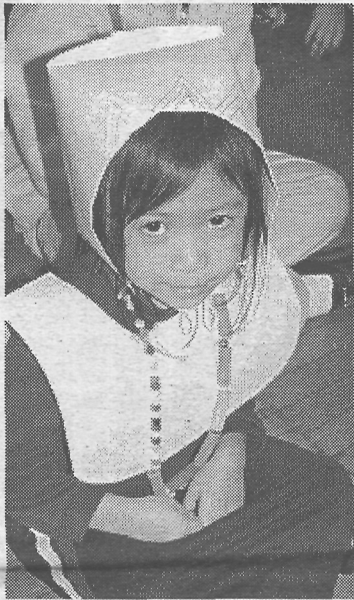
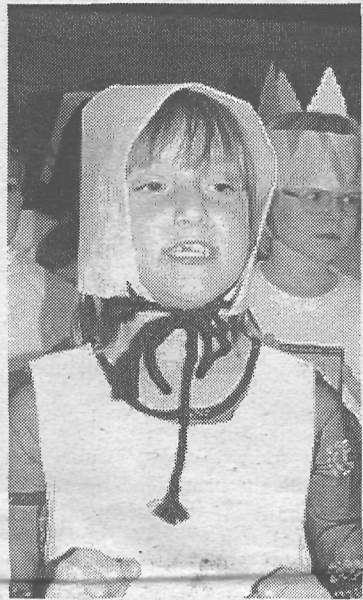
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Roosevelt School Celebrates Thanksgiving



Roosevelt School's first and second graders recently held their annual Thanksgiving feast. They learned about the Pilgrims and Indians and our country's very first Thanksgiving and chose whether they would portray a pilgrim or Indian. The students had fun making costumes; Indian headresses with paper feathers, macaroni necklaces and colonial hats and collars. In early October music teacher Miss Sharon Perez began to teach them songs for the feast.

Before the event, parents set long tables for the feast. Food was provided and prepared by parents and the PTA. Teachers made cookies and cornbread and popcorn. Parents and family filled the tables and the sides of the gym. As the program began the children entered and the two grades sat opposite each other. After Mr. Barbieri's opening, they recited the Pledge of Allegiance. They alternated singing ten patriotic or Thanksgiving songs including *America, Thank You, All Things Bright, Over the River* and more. They used American Sign Language with a number of their songs and closed the entertainment portion of the feast with the school song, *Roosevelt's Children*.

As the students dined on turkey, the Pilgrims sat side by side with Indians much as they did long ago. The first-second grade Thanksgiving feast is a 17-year-old tradition at Roosevelt School.

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Don't Let The Grinch Ruin Your Holiday Cooking

The holidays seem to be a time of baking, cooking and get togethers, and in many families, this centers around the kitchen table. So be sure to bring your merriment into your kitchen as well and don't let the Grinch ruin your holidays. Take special care with food safety. These tips from the USDA Department of Agriculture will help.

- Failing to refrigerate perishable, prepared or leftover foods within two hours can carry them into the "Danger Zone." A temperature zone of 4-140°F is a breeding ground for bacteria. Take special care with cream cheese, deli meats, block cheese, mayonnaise and sour cream.

- Cross contamination is also a factor. The following tips will assist you in safe food preparation:

- Use one cutting board for meats and another for fruits and vegetables.

- Wash your hands and tools that have come in contact with raw meat thoroughly before touching other foods.

- After handling raw meat,

sanitize your workspace using a light solution of bleach and water; use 2-3 teaspoons of household bleach to one quart of water. For ease of use put the solution in a labeled kitchen spritzer.

- Use separate plates for raw and cooked meats.

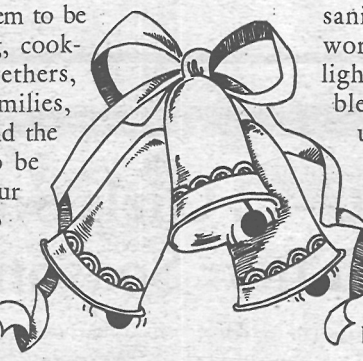
- NEVER reuse a marinade to baste cooked meats after it has been used to marinate raw meats.

- Take internal temperatures of meats using a pocket thermometer.

- Don't thaw food on the counter; bacteria grow quickly at room temperature. Thaw food in the refrigerator or in the microwave just before cooking food.

For specific food safety questions, contact the USDA's Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-800-535-4555.

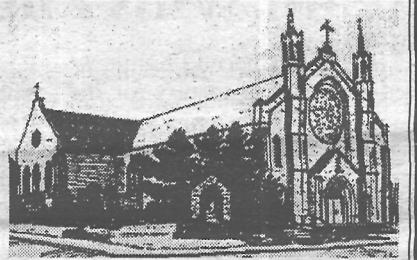
Ideas like these are shared at cooking classes offered by Marie Markey, Independent Kitchen Consultant for the Pampered Chef. For additional information, contact Marie Markey 908-755-3213 or MMPamrChf@aol.com



Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.
South Plainfield, NJ

Very Rev. John Paul
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.

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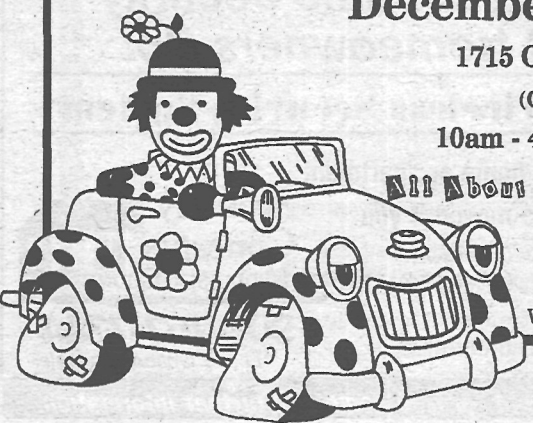
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Sports

Soccer

Blaze U-12 Girls Soccer Finish Their Season 8-1-1

At home and for the second time this season the South Plainfield Blaze U-12 girls traveling soccer team beat the New Providence Wildcats 1-nil. Once again the defense prevailed producing another shutout and allowing only three scores all season.

Leading the way Keeper Becky Keller had a great day in the net while strong performances from outside fullbacks Tiffany Smith, Ashleigh Gaspari and Katelyn Conrad handled all attacks wide. Our sweepers and stopper Jenna Delillo, Elizabeth Flannery and Jackie Miller stopped all pressure in the middle while midfielders Dorian Bishop, Joy Maszczak, Jennifer Copeland, Ashley Little and Megan Boyle did a great job controlling all loose balls in the

middle.

The only strike of the game came early when in the eighth minute outside midfielder Megan Boyle tapped in a shot on the right side producing her second score of the season and back to back games. Strong effort and relentless attacks by our forwards Denise Lopez and Kate Hardy were met by a much-improved Wildcat defense.

This win capped an incredible season at 8-1-1. Words can't describe how proud I am of the hard work and dedication these girls have given. Congratulations on a fantastic season girls!

Visit the South Plainfield Soccer Club at www.soplfdsoccerclub.com.

-Submitted by Coach Hardy



South Plainfield Fire Under 9 Soccer Team

Fire U9 Soccer Team Ends Season in a Blaze

The South Plainfield Fire soccer team ended their season with an away game against the Bridgewater Fire Soccer Club. The SP Fire was playing to avenge their first meeting against the Bridgewater Fire. That first game ended with a nail biting 2-3 loss for the Fire.

Before the game started, the players on the SP Fire team wanted Coach Scot Bishop and Coach Paul Baldassarre to know that they were the strongest team using the FIRE name.

The SP Fire started the game in high gear. Bissy Martin was playing the midfield, moving the ball out to the sidelines where Jonathan Llerena and Anthony Baldassarre kept crossing the ball back and forth until Jonathan found a hole and made a great shot to put

the SP Fire up by one. The SP Fire kept the shots on goal coming but the Bridgewater goalie managed to stop the efforts.

Late in the second half the SP Fire was awarded a direct kick from outside the 18 yard line. Both coaches quickly agreed to use the strong kicking ability of defensive player Gregory Herbst to take the shot. WHAT a shot it was—a hard shot to the far upper corner. The goalie had no chance at stopping the ball and just had to watch it go into the net. The SP Fire took a 2 to 0 lead into half time.

The Fire wanted to celebrate but they knew they still had their work cut out for them if they wanted to win this game. The second half of the game was all defense. Kyle Pompilio at center defense, Dylan

Papa at left defense, and Richie Zeliga at right defense were just to tough to get by. The coaches asked Riley Hubner to step-up to the plate and help out on defense and step-up he did. The defense just kept feeding the ball up to the front line. Scot Bishop at left wing kept the pressure on by taking some great shots on goal and crossing the ball to the right side. This paid off when Mike Farrel received a nice cross and didn't waste any time putting the ball in the net. Scot followed up shortly afterward with a nice shot in the near corner of the goal. The Bridgewater team didn't want to give up and had some nice shots on goal.

Michael Mchugh did a great job stopping the shots and preserving the shutout. The last quarter Anthony Baldassarre was asked to play sweeper giving Bissy a well needed rest. Anthony stepped up to the plate and did a great job controlling the midfield. Late in the last quarter Dylan Papa, with his strong left foot, made a great cross to the far post where Mike Farrel was in position to put the ball right in the net.

The final score was SP Fire-5, Bridgewater Fire-0. The S.P. Fire ended the season in a blaze of glory. Congratulation to the Fire, you played an awesome game.

- Submitted by Coaches Baldassarre and Bishop

United Under 12 Soccer Team Wins Flight Crown

The boys Under-12 team traveled to Millburn to play for the Flight Championship. Dominating from the start of the kickoff, the first goal came when John Lopez dribbled through two Millburn defenders and passed the ball to Kevin Bolivar for the easy goal. The second goal came on a pass by Kevin Bolivar to Chris Herbst as he shot from twenty yards out and left the goalie standing, and that is how the half ended.

The second half began with aggressive play on the Millburn side, however Under 12 kids would not let up. The defense contained the Millburn attack. The next goal came when Vinnie Padula passed the ball forward to John Lopez as he juggled his way through the defenders and buried the ball into the net. The last goal came on a cross from Justin Basilone to Matt Fabino for the final goal. But the Millburn team would not go out quietly, scoring two goals before the final whistle.

Nevertheless, it was a team effort, the team consisting of the most fabulous kids—Anthony Moretti as goalie, defense Nick Baldassarre, Trevor Rastelli, Steve Dvorak and Victor Koudriavtsev, the midfield Diego Arroyo, Josue Llerena, Vinnie Padula, Danny

Hubner and Kevin Bolivar. The front line is comprised of Justin Basilone, Chris Herbst, Jared Jones, Billy Hodge, John Lopez and Matt Fabino. The team was coached by Pete Bolivar and Wally Bolivar.

The team closed out the season with a 9-1 record and an outstanding 48 goals in favor and only giving up eight goals all season.

A special thanks to all the parents and a congratulations to all the kids on a great season.

Typhoons U-11 Team Take Title With Tie

The Boys Under 11 Typhoons came from behind against the second place North Hunterdon Thunder for a 2-2 tie and their first League Championship with a 7-2-1 record.

The Typhoons came out a little tight and fell behind by two goals before the midway point of the first half. The Thunder appeared loose and seemed to be everywhere as they stopped any threats and kept constant pressure on our defense by scoring their two early goals. But South Plainfield would not be denied and the determined team fought back with goals by Brandon Ullom (his first of the

year) and Brendan O'Shea, as the two teams went into halftime all squared.

With the momentum clearly taken away and the pressure now on North Hunterdon, the Typhoons needed a solid and error free second half in order to celebrate. The play of halfbacks John Polizzano, Matt Helgesen, O'Shea and Ullom, along with strikers John Christ, Brian Fabino, Jonathan Marcoux, Steven Guevara and Eric Rovayo, helped to

keep the ball in the opponents zone. While the reliable goal-tending of Grey Coppi and the strong performances of fullbacks Keith Heckel, J.R. Licato, Chris Pennisi and Greg Watts secured the tie and the title with a scoreless second half.

The coaches, Pio Pennisi, Kurt Ullom and Keith Heckel, should be proud as their time and dedication to this team really paid off with a fine end to a great season. Congratulations to all!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Sports

Wrestling

Tiger Wrestlers Crown Two Champions

By Robert Hunter

Well, folks it's that time of year again, when our wrestlers take to the mat and prepare for the upcoming season.

The Tigers kicked off the season with a very good showing in the Eighth Annual Scott Van Doren Memorial Wrestling Tournament. Fourteen Tiger wrestlers entered this preseason classic and came home with eleven overall medals.

In the Bantam division, Corey Hay, 59 lb. class, pinned Dylan Siciensky in the semi-final round, but dropped his final to Mike Hafke of Voorhees for second place.

John Wylam, in the 69 lb.class, pinned Thomas Scerbo of Belle Mead and defeated Justin Klamorous of Kitatinny 6-1. Wylam lost in the finals by decision for second place.

Mike Wagner, 80 lb. class, pinned Bryan Sternlieb in the semi-finals and lost a tough 7-6 decision in the finals to Bobby Burd of Voorhees.

In the Midget division, the Tigers claimed the first title of the day when Patrick Hunter, 63 lb. class, defeated Sean Kane of Kenilworth 5-4. He then faced state

place winner Nick Pastore of Hopatcong in the semi-final round and won it in overtime to advance to the finals, where he met Joseph Hayes of Kitatinny and won by a 7-4 decision for the title.

Mark Wagner, 87 lb. class, lost his opening round match, a tough 4-3 decision. Wagner came back strong in the consolation round and pinned Matt Murray of Methuen, Mass. and defeated Billy Bancroft of Flemington 6-1 for fifth place. Also winning matches but not placing were Jonathan Conroy, 80 lb. class and Nick Vallone, 75 lb. class.

In the Junior division, the Tigers also had a strong performance starting with Robert Gentile, 66 lb. class. He lost his semi-final match to Luke Grassi of Red Hawk, then came back strong defeating Gabriel Ramos of Mat Time for a third place finish.

Billy Asnault, 75 lb.class, lost his opening round match 4-1, then came back with a fall over Anthony Vinciguerra of Methuen, Mass. and a 4-2 decision win over Gary Paswell of Somers, NY for a fifth place finish.

Mike Jakubik, 80 lb. class, lost his opening match, but came back with a decision over Billy Strathern for fifth place.

Darroch for third place.

Mike Wagner, 72-pound weight class, won his opening match by a fall, but lost his semi-final match 7-1. In the consolation round, he pinned Mike Muhe of South Brunswick for third place.

In the Junior 87-pound weight class, Mark Wagner won his opening round match by a fall. In the semi-final round he lost a close 6-5 decision. In the consolation round Wagner defeated Fred Reisen of Tewksberry 9-5 for third place.

Also winning matches but not placing were Nick Pauls, Kyle Hughes, Corey Hay, John Wylam and Nick Vallone.

Tigers Win in PA Tournament

Four Tiger wrestlers traveled to Easton, Pa. for the Tenth Annual Notre Dame Turkey Day Wrestling Classic. This tournament known for its outstanding competition was just that. Wrestlers from New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania hit the mat in this single elimination tournament.

In the Bantam division the Tigers Mike Wagner, 75-pounds, won the title. In his first match, Wagner only needed 17 seconds to pin Harold Conti of Notre Dame. In the semi-final round, Wagner defeated Blake Pauls of Moorestown, Pa. by a fall at the 1:58 mark. In the finals, Wagner defeated fellow New Jersey wrestler Wayne Young of Voorhees Twp. by 9-1 decision.

In the Midget Division, Patrick Hunter, 65-pounds, won his first match by major decision 18-4 over Brian Horcus of Council Rock, Pa. In the quarterfinal round Hunter defeated the number one seed, Anthony Burke of Palmer, Pa., by tech fall 16-0 at 2:21. In

the semi-final round Hunter defeated Jordan Gylkas of North Bethlehem, Pa. In the finals Hunter met the national place winner Jake Moribito of Palmer, Pa. Moribito was too much to handle and won by fall.

In the Junior Division, Mark Wagner, 90-pounds, lost his opening round to the Eastern National runner-up, Josh Bean of Johnson City, NY 3-1. With Bean taking an early 3-0 lead, Wagner fought back with an escape and almost had the takedown at the buzzer.

Jimmy Conroy, 75-pounds, dominated the weight class. He did not have a point scored against him in the tournament. In the pre-lim, Conroy pinned Scott Acvery of Nazareth, Pa. at 1:20. In the quarter final round, Conroy defeated Adam Hlusnan of North Lehigh by a tech fall 15-0 at 2:18. In the semi-final round, he defeated AJ Hrabar of Piscataway 7-0 and Conroy claimed the title when he defeated Tyler Milonka of Jefferson, 6-0.

Nick Dorey, also in the 80 lb. class, won his opening round match 7-6, lost his semi-final match and then came back to defeat fellow teammate Bryan Hunt 8-4 for third place.

Bryan Hunt, 80 lb.class, won his opening match by a fall over Jesse Burke of North Brunswick. He dropped his next match and his consolation match to teammate Nick Dorey for fourth place. Looks like the Tigers are a deep 80 pounds.

Kevin Crilley, 164 lb. class, claimed the second title of the day when he won his opening match by decision over Dan Gaydick of Voorhees and won his final by a fall over Chris Bishop of Voorhees.

Sam Martin, 90 lb. class, also had a strong showing, winning a match in a very tough weight class.

St. Joe's Takes First Place in Cross Country Tournament

CalvinJohn Smiley, member of the freshman Cross Country team at St. Joseph's High School in Metuchen and his teammates took first place in the Catholic Schools Conference Championship on Oct. 28 at Warinanco Park in Elizabeth.

On Oct. 21 the team had six members who placed in the top 25 in the County Championship. CalvinJohn placed 15th at the meet that took place in Thompson Park in Jamesburg.

By Tony Cassano

juniorbaseballclubnotes

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY TO HOLD ANNUAL PARTY—Cindy Eichler and the current Executive Board of the Woman Auxiliary Club will be holding their annual party this year on Thursday, Dec. 7 at Flanagans Restaurant. The 2001 Executive Board will be officially installed at this get together and the current board of Cindy Eichler, Donna Hanley, Rita Doell and Debbie Boyle will be honored. For tickets or further information, please contact Cindy Eicher or the club for further details.

The new board for 2001 will be Stacy Lake, president; Nancy Jakubic, vice president; Cathy Pollin, secretary and Tammy Cassano, treasurer. Volunteers are still needed to help support the many fundraisers and functions that the Woman's Auxiliary sponsors. Please contact any of the above noted individuals or call the club for further details at 908-754-2090.

Starting in January 2001, the Woman Auxiliary will meet on the first Thursday of each month at the SPJBC clubhouse at 7:30 p.m.

NEXT GENERAL MEMEBERSHIP MONTHLY TO BE HELD MONDAY, DEC. 4 AT 7:30 P.M.—Our next regularly scheduled monthly meeting will be held on Monday, Dec. 4 at 7:30 p.m. Volunteers are still needed for several committees for the upcoming year. As always, new members are welcomed and we encourage you to attend. Your participation will help shape the club for the upcoming season.

SECOND COACHES CLINIC SET FOR TUESDAY, DEC. 12—The SPJBC will be offering 'free' monthly Coaches Clinics. Our first one, held on Nov. 14, was attended by 25 men. The next scheduled clinic is set for Tuesday, Dec. 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the SPJBC clubhouse. Topics in upcoming clinics will include: Practice Organization; Hitting; Throwing; Fielding; Pitching; and Catching. Special thanks go out to Tom Kiczula for his time and effort in organizing the clinics and to Ray Ciecwisz for running the clinics. All current SPJBC coaches in all leagues and any new individuals interested in coaching are welcomed.

WINTER REGISTRATION SET FOR JAN. 11, 12, 13—Our next scheduled registration is set for Thursday, Jan. 11 from 6 to 9 p.m., Friday, Jan. 12 from 6 to 9 p.m., and Saturday, Jan. 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the clubhouse. As mention previously, we had a good start in during our Fall Registration in October when 250 kids registered. Further details to follow or call the club for information at 908-754-2090.



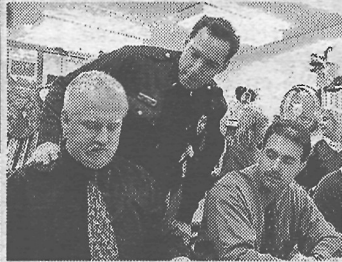
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Obituaries

Elizabeth "Betty" McGregor, 66

Elizabeth "Betty" McGregor died on Friday, Nov. 17, at the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

She was born in Paterson and grew up in Hawthorne. She had resided in South Plainfield for the last 35 years.

Betty had worked as a secretary for Lockheed Electronics in North Plainfield for 10 years, before retiring in 1990.

Surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Colleen Munno and Tracy and Paul Gorman; a son and daughter-in-law, Robert and Tammy McGregor, all of South Plainfield; her sister, Margaret "Peggy" Wassel of Wyckoff and three grandchildren, Robert and Ian McGregor and Allison Gorman.

Funeral arrangements were by McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Memorial donations to Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield would be greatly appreciated.

Clairmonte Austin, 43

Clairmonte Austin died on Wednesday, Nov. 22, at JFK Haven Hospice in Edison.

Born in Guyana, South America, Mr. Austin came to the United States in the late 1970's and resided in Orange and Plainfield before settling in South Plainfield 15 years ago.

He was employed as the manager of the ShopRite Liquor Store in Old Bridge and was previously employed as the redemption manager for the former Consolidated Supermarkets Incorporated in Union.

Surviving are his wife, Elizabeth (Graham), three children, Candice, Terrence and Anthony Austin, all of South Plainfield; his father, Nigel Austin, his mother, Agatha Myers; three sisters, Euclin Blair of Canada, Jennifer Austin of Denville and Michelle Hodges of New York and six brothers, Aubrey Shung of Piscataway, Casswell Shung of Canada, Horace Austin of Pa., Mark Austin of

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.

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Hillside Cemetery
www.hillsidecemetery.com

Piscataway, Clay Austin of E. Orange and David Austin of E. Orange.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Jess Norman Towbin, 84

Jess Norman Towbin died on Monday, Nov. 20, in the Chelsea Senior Residence in Warren, NJ.

Born in Brooklyn, Mr. Towbin had resided in South Plainfield for the past 44 years.

Mr. Towbin was employed as an account executive for J. Rosenbloom & Sons, a division of Kraftco in Woodbridge, retiring 20 years ago. Previously he was employed with Loeb Rhoades & Company of New York City for 10 years and McCromick & Co. in Baltimore for 22 years.

He served in the United States Army during WWII and was a member of the VFW Post #6763 of South Plainfield.

Mr. Towbin was elected in 1984 to the Board of Trustees of the Muhlenberg Foundation. In 1989, he received the Lowell F. Johnson Philanthropic Service Award from the Board of Governors for his outstanding philanthropic support. Through his leadership, the Towbin fund of Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center was established, which provides funds for a vascular laboratory and cardiac balloon pump among other significant projects.

Mr. Towbin attended the New York Stock Exchange Institute and the Management Program at New York University.

From 1964 until 1967 Mr. Towbin chaired the South Plainfield Redevelopment Agency. He was a former Trustee of the Watchung Boy Scouts Council and former President of Cedarcroft Home. He was also recognized by the Bamberger's Co. as "Citizen of the Year" and was a committee member of the Bonnie Sue Kaplan Fund.

He is survived by his wife Doris E. (Frink), with whom he would have been married to 54 years on Thanksgiving Day; his daughter and son-in-law, Lisa and Leonard Olim and his son and daughter-in-law, Barry and Laura Towbin, all of South Plainfield; a brother, A. Robert Towbin of New York City and two grandchildren, Michael and Zachary Olim.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to the Towbin Foundation, c/o Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center, Park Ave. and Randolph Road, Plainfield, NJ 07060.

Antoinette E. (Muglia) Bengivenga, 88

Antoinette E. (Muglia) Bengivenga died suddenly on Thanksgiving Day (Nov. 23) in Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center.

Born in Brooklyn, NY, she had resided in Plainfield for 35 years before moving to South Plainfield in 1972.

Mrs. Bengivenga was a homemaker and in earlier years, she had been employed as a seamstress for the former Bruno Dress Co. of South Plainfield and Star Dress Co. of Plainfield. She was a member of St. Mary's RC Church in Plainfield and attended the 7:45 a.m. Mass every Sunday.

She was a former member of the Tri-County Senior Citizens of Piscataway and had been an avid bowler. She bowled in the Super Sr. League with her late husband, Ralph, for 15 years at the AME Strike N Spare Bowling lanes in Green Brook. She had also bowled in various bowling leagues in the Plainfield area for many years. Mrs. Bengivenga had an interest in crafts and had been a great joke teller. Many years ago she was active with Girl Scouting.

Mrs. Bengivenga had stayed in daily contact with her family and friends and will be greatly missed.

Her husband of 63 years, Ralph Bengivenga, died in April of this year. She is also predeceased by her sister, Anna Miele and two brothers, Joseph P. and Carl Muglia.



by Robert Hunter

SWEET SORROW

Grieving encompasses a range of strong emotions that grip survivors in the wake of the loss of a family member or friend. The process may be likened somewhat to being cast adrift on a storm-tossed sea. There is the feeling of isolation, as well as the suspicion that nature has unleashed forces that challenge our very existence. In time, however, the storm passes and the sea, again, becomes tranquil. With the worst behind us, we are free to quietly recount our remembrances. It is then that we may be gripped with sorrow. This quiet emotion was once described by Dorothy Parker: "Sorrow is tranquility remembered in emotion." These words are as gentle as the feeling they describe.

We often feel, at this time of bereavement, that we have been abandoned, rejected by fate or divine providence, and thus set apart from the society of those who are unmarked by loss and grief. For this reason, we come together, with family and friends, to honor one who has passed away, and to show our support and affection for those in sorrow. The staff at the JAMES H. CONROY FUNERAL HOME, located at 2456 Plainfield Avenue, in South Plainfield, are committed to provide courteous, thoughtful service in times of need. To schedule a consultation, please call 756-2800.

"There is no greater sorrow than to recall a time of happiness when in misery."
— Dante

Surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Judy and Sandy Dileo of South Plainfield, Phyllis and Michael Colucci of Piscataway; two sons and daughters-in-law; Robert and April Bengivenga of South Plainfield, George and Janice Bengivenga of Bound Brook; her son, Anthony Bengivenga and his fiancée, Lydia Bravo of Green Brook; her son, Ralph Bengivenga, Jr., of Flemington; two sisters, Jennie Muglia of South Plainfield and Edith Guaracci of Piscataway; four brothers, Jasper Muglia of Palm Coast Fla., Alfred Muglia of Midlothian, Va., Ernest Muglia of Athol, Mass. and Victor Muglia of South Plainfield.

Also surviving are 17 grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Ronald Przybowski, 45

Ronald Przybowski died on Tuesday, Nov. 14, at Muhlenberg Regional Center in Plainfield.

Born in Elizabeth, Mr. Przybowski had resided in Avenel be-

fore settling in South Plainfield in the early 1960's.

He had been employed at AT&T in Lincroft in the maintenance department. He was previously employed at the Piscataway office in the shipping and receiving department and he initially started his career with Bell Labs in Murray Hill in the plant maintenance department. Mr. Przybowski received various training and certifications through his employment, including EMT and Fire Safety Proficiency.

He was an avid ocean fisherman and enjoyed taking his two sons when possible.

He is predeceased by his father, Edward Przybowski Sr., who died in February of 1999.

Surviving are his wife, Linda (Zawadzki) Przybowski; two sons, Michael and Christopher Przybowski; his mother, Frances (Puchlick) Przybowski, all of South Plainfield and his brother, Edward Przybowski, Jr., of Kenilworth.

Funeral arrangements were by McCriskin Home For Funerals.

LEGAL NOTICES

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

Ordinance #1554 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BY LAWS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD** be adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, December 1, 2000 and that a public hearing be held Thursday, December 14, 2000 at 8:00 PM in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey.

ORDINANCE #1554
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BY LAWS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD.

WHEREAS, IT IS TO THE BENEFIT OF THE CITIZENS OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD TO CLARIFY COUNCILMANIC RESPONSIBILITIES AS SET FORTH IN THE BY LAWS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD..

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD THAT THE FOLLOWING REVISION BE MADE TO THE BY LAWS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD.

ARTICLE VI "DUTIES OF STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL" shall be revised as follows:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SECTION 1. The Economic Development Committee shall have primary responsibility for the following described activities and matters:

- liaison between the Mayor and Council, the Planning Board, the Land Management Advisory Committee and the Business Advisory Group.
- the administration, practices, procedures and records of the following: Zoning/Planning Offices & Building/Construction Department.
- be aware of the problems and activities concerning industry and commerce and strive for solutions to these problems.
- aid public education concerning all projects undertaken by the Planning Board and the Land Management Advisory Committee.
- recommend foreclosure action and subsequent administration and disposition of property acquired by the Borough under foreclosure of tax title liens.
- recommend sale of all Borough owned property no longer needed for public purposes. All sales of both tax sale certificates and real property shall be conducted in accordance with general law and any local ordinances and in accordance with the terms and conditions prescribed by the Council for any specific sale.
- chairperson of this committee shall be a member of the Planning Board.

All other provisions of the By Laws of the Council of the Borough of South Plainfield shall remain in full force and effect.

DANIEL GALLAGHER, Mayor
ATTEST:
Mary Blue/Deputy Municipal Clerk
\$70.50 December 1, 2000

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
Ordinance #1552 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE MAKING THE PROVISIONS OF SUBTITLE ONE OF TITLE 39 WITH VARIOUS TRAFFIC REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO THE VILLAGES AT SOUTH PLAINFIELD AND REGULATING USE OF SAID ROADWAYS, STREETS, DRIVEWAYS AND PARKING LOTS BY MOTOR VEHICLES** was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Borough Council on Monday, November 20, 2000 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

/s/Mary G. Blue, RMC
Deputy Municipal Clerk
\$15.00 December 1, 2000

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Ordinance #1553 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE INTERSECTION OF PEEK STREET AND POMPONIO AVENUE A STOP INTERSECTION AND PROVIDING FOR A STOP SIGN AT THE INTERSECTION OF PEEK STREET AND POMPONIO AVENUE** was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Borough Council on Monday, November 20, 2000 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

/s/Mary G. Blue, RMC
Deputy Municipal Clerk
\$15.00 December 1, 2000

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, THAT

Whereas, the Borough has been named as a defendant in an action entitled "In the Matter of the Petition of Suburban Transit Corp. seeking appeal from an adverse decision of the Board of Adjustment of the Borough of South Plainfield Pursuant to N.J.S. 40:55D-19.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield as follows:

- Patrick J. Diegnan, the Borough Attorney is hereby authorized to represent the Borough in the above action.
- Patrick J. Diegnan is designated as attorney for the Borough resulting from his annual retainer agreement and without competitive bidding as a Professional Service under the provisions of the Local Public Contract Law because the services rendered are professional services of a recognized profession whose practice is regulated by law.

Approved November 20, 2000
Daniel J. Gallagher/Mayor
ATTEST:
Mary Blue/Deputy Municipal Clerk
\$32.00 December 1, 2000

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, THAT

Whereas, the Borough has been named as a defendant in an action filed in the Superior Court of New Jersey by David & Bette Deluccia,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield as follows:

- Patrick J. Diegnan, the Borough Attorney is hereby authorized to represent the Borough in the above action.
- Patrick J. Diegnan is designated as attorney for the Borough resulting from his annual retainer agreement and without competitive bidding as a Professional Service under the provisions of the Local Public Contract Law because the services rendered are professional services of a recognized profession whose practice is regulated by law.

Approved November 20, 2000
Daniel J. Gallagher/Mayor
ATTEST:
Mary Blue/Deputy Municipal Clerk
\$27.00 December 1, 2000

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
November 28, 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 November 21, 2000.

Case #9-00/V—Cedar Croft Bible Chapel Assoc.—Block 48, Lot 1; R-10 & R-75 Zones;—Applicants request for final site plan was hereby GRANTED with conditions.

Janice J. Muccilli, Secretary, Zoning Board
\$15.00 December 1, 2000

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

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policereport

• Ranganbala Patel of Edison had her purse stolen from the parking lot in front of Shoppers World. The victim of a scam, her tire was punctured while she was inside Summit Bank. After driving across the road to Shopper's World at Golden Acres she found she had a flat tire. She was approached by a heavy set Spanish male who offered to put on her spare tire. She left the sliding door of the van open with her purse on the front seat as she got the tire out of the back. The suspect left saying he could not fix the tire. She went to phone for help and discovered her purse was missing. It is believed that the suspect punctured the tire outside of Summit Bank then followed the victim to the other parking lot.

• The Board of Education reported the theft of a compact cassette player. It was stolen out of a locked equipment closet at SPSHS.

• Head supervisor at Carmen Forgione and Sons reported the theft of a truck from the company lot. There were no signs of forced entry.

• A woman known as Lynn M. Buren was reportedly seen removing things from the Cystic Fibrosis donation box on Oak Tree Rd. This was the second time she had been reported removing things. When confronted by police, she refused to supply her name and address. She was told she was being arrested for obstruction and turned to the officer in a threatening manner. After a struggle, she was handcuffed and brought to headquarters, where she continued to refuse to provide proper identification. She had many layers of clothing on as well as glasses and a lot of jewelry and hair clips. She refused to remove the excessive items saying she had a problem which kept her from removing them. The suspect refused to speak to male officers and finally agreed to speak to Officer Sherlyn Courtney. Panic attacks were her reason for not complying with the officers. It was explained to the suspect that all her personal items would be locked in a safe place. When she continued to refuse to cooperate Rutgers Mental Health was called and she was removed to the facility.

• A New Market Ave. resident was arrested for DWI after refusing to take the breathalyzer test.

• A Bell Place resident was arrested for theft in Jefferson Township.

• Nicholas Popovich, Jr. of Piscataway was arrested for shoplifting a cordless phone from Kmart located on Hadley Rd. The phone was valued at \$89.99.

• A Frederick Ave. resident was arrested for aggravated assault and endangering the welfare of a child.

• An Easy St. Salon employee reported damage to her car while it was parked behind the salon. Another employee may

be able to ID the suspect.

• An Oxford Ave. resident reported someone had used his credit card to purchase items from KayBee Toys. The card had been stolen from Evergreen School in Plainfield. There are no suspects.

• A Sprague Ave. resident reported an unknown person had put several small scratches and dents on the driver's side door last month.

• Before and After 1 Stop Barber Shop, located on Hamilton Blvd., reported that when they arrived to work they found the

front door of the business open. Inside the building the snack/vending machine was open and money had been removed. The machine had been opened by a key which had been locked in a desk drawer. The back door was ajar. Fourteen electric hair clippers were missing. Hidden cash in the amount of \$800 had been removed. It appeared that the suspect was familiar with the routine of the shop. A former employee fighting a drug habit is suspected of the theft. The owners mistakenly thought they had changed the alarm code.

Elks Selling Entertainment Book

The South Plainfield Elks Veterans Committee is selling the 2001 Entertainment Book for \$30.00.

For more information, contact Lou Peralta at (908) 756-6406.

Classifieds

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

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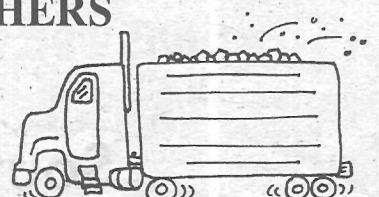
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Resident is Duped for \$5,000 in Flim-Flam

On Friday, Nov. 17, a Plainfield resident was the victim of a \$5,000 flim-flam.

The victim, a 35-year-old woman, was approached inside the Bradlees store on Oak Tree Ave., by a suspect who was carrying a "found" purse containing \$30,000 in cash.

The suspect advised the victim that she was willing to give the victim the found monies, because she didn't want to pay taxes on this amount of money. However, she added that she needed a "good faith gesture" on behalf of the victim.

The suspect convinced the woman to withdraw \$5,000 from her bank in North Plainfield and to return to the Bradlees parking lot, where she gave the money to the suspect. The suspect advised the victim

that she was going to take the \$5,000 and go to the Columbia Savings Bank (across the street from Bradlees) to deposit it and once she deposited the money, she was allegedly going to return and make arrangements for the found monies to be given to the victim. The suspect never returned and the victim notified the police.

The suspect was described as a black female, approximately 50 years of age with short hair, wearing a tan jacket and black pants. She was last observed entering a newer 4-door green colored car.

Anyone with information regarding this case should contact Det. Gary Muccigrossi at (908) 226-7663.

Police Make Drug Arrest

On Wednesday, Nov. 15 at 4:30 p.m., a two month undercover narcotics investigation was concluded when 42-year-old Milton Glass of 619 Clinton Ave., Plainfield, was arrested at the intersection of Tompkins Ave. and Clinton Ave. The arrest occurred without incident.

Glass was charged with Possession of a Controlled Dan-

gerous Substance, Possession of a Controlled Dangerous Substance with Intent to Distribute, Distribution of a Controlled Dangerous Substance Within 1000 feet of a School Zone. Bail was set at \$30,000 with no 10% option.

Glass was unable to meet the bail demands and was incarcerated at the Middlesex Co. Adult Correction Center

AKA 2000 MidAtlantic Regional Championships

The ATA Black Belt Academies of Spotswood and South Plainfield held the 2000 Mid-Atlantic Regional Championships on Nov. 11 at South Plainfield High School.

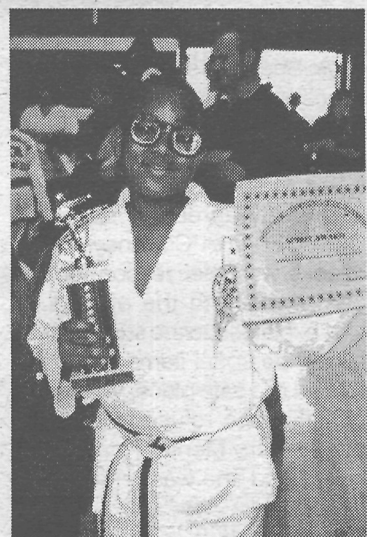
The tournament, hosted by fifth degree Thomas Guerin and Tiffany Lewis, was attended by 700 competitors and 2,000 spectators.

The tournament was spotlighted by various competitions from children in ATA's Tiny Tigers program, ages 3½ -5; Karate for Kids 6-12 and adults of all ages. Special awards were presented to Tiffany Lewis and Thomas Guerin for their dedication to the students of both the South Plainfield and Spotswood schools. The audience was treated to performances by the SWAT Teams, the Instructor Demo Team from the schools and a special guest performance by Jimmy Pham from San Jose, California. Pham is an open tournament World Champion in forms and weapons, a member of Team Paul Mitchell, author of several martial arts instructional videos, and co-stars with Hulk Hogan in the hit show the *Secret Agent Club*. Pham delivered two mouth dropping performances for the crowd. His weapons and form routines were filled with flips, 540's, 720's and other gravity defying feats.

The day was enjoyed by all and everyone left excited and fulfilled. The staff and students of the ATA Black Belt Academies are looking forward to having this tournament remain in our area for years to come.



Pictured above are some of the many participants who competed at the AKA MidAtlantic Competition. André Deloach (below) and Joey Grennier (right), proudly display the trophies they won during the competition.



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