

DEC 19 2000

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 4, NO. 15

50 CENTS

DECEMBER 15, 2000



Police Chief Steve Merkler

Police Chief Announces Retirement

Police Chief Steven Merkler officially announced his retirement in a letter sent to the Borough Council. At Monday, night's agenda meeting Mayor Dan Gallagher confirmed that Merkler will be resigning.

Merkler is a 26-year veteran of the South Plainfield police department and has been chief of police for the past four years.

His retirement date has been set for June 30, 2001.

Send a Letter to Santa

A special mailbox has been set up in front of the South Plainfield Post Office for letters to Santa.

Area kids can send their letters to Santa and he has promised that he will respond.



School Referendum Down to One Question

At last month's Board of Education meeting, the board voted to place two separate questions on the ballot of the school bond referendum. It appears that compliance with the law will eliminate the second question.

According to Board member Dan Smith, a review of NJSA 18A:22-39 clearly stipulates the requirement of a majority board member vote to add the referendum question to the ballot. The agenda

item involved the \$6.9 million dollar air conditioning package. Matters of this sort require a majority of the full board (nine members) not just those present. The board's vote was 4-3 in favor, but in light of the requirement the measure failed.

The upcoming referendum will ask voters to approve a school expansion program of just under \$20 million. After subtracting state aid of almost 40%, the cost to the tax-

payers will be \$12,636,380.

According to Smith, there is still an ongoing effort to crunch the numbers to further reduce the burden on taxpayers.

This is the third referendum the board has proposed. Last year two referendums were turned down by the voters. After the second rejection, the board solicited the aid of a Citizens Committee which helped with recommendations after studying future school needs

in the district. Also, this time around, costs have been reduced by 40% due to the state legislature's new school construction aid bill.

The second question asked voters to approve the installation of air conditioning in all the schools. This question was separate because the board and Citizens Committee felt it deserved to be addressed, but not included with the school expansion proposal.



Vinnie Carubia, assistant director and Chris Abbott, director (both standing) with the "News Breaks" and "Commercials" performers in Roosevelt School's K-2 Drama Club.

Stars Shine in Drama Club Production

Roosevelt School's first K-2 Drama Club recently debuted their play, *Once Upon a Time*. The first show was performed for the student body and a second spe-

cial performance was held for parents, friends and family. Over 100 people turned out to see the later show. The 35 young thespians, most of whom had never been in

a play, toiled for over 10 weeks to perfect their show. They learned that the two most important things to remember were "Don't

Continued on page 6

Caroling in the Park Returns

Once again the residents of South Plainfield are invited to join a sing-along led by the South Plainfield High School Chorus under the direction of Tracy Murray.

This is the perfect opportunity for the entire family to take a breather in their hectic schedule and begin enjoying the holiday season by sing-



ing some classic holiday carols. The only thing required is your spirit and your voice. Rumor has it Santa will also be there.

The Christmas caroling will take place in the gazebo at Spring Lake Park on Sunday, Dec. 17 starting at 6 p.m. After the caroling everyone is invited to the Rescue Squad directly across the street for hot chocolate and cookies. Be sure to wear warm clothes, since this could be a chilly night.

The caroling is sponsored by SPHS Chorus, the SPHS Recreation Dept. and the South Plainfield Girl Scouts.

Annual Tree Lighting Honors 101st Airborne Dead Heroes

By Patricia Abbott

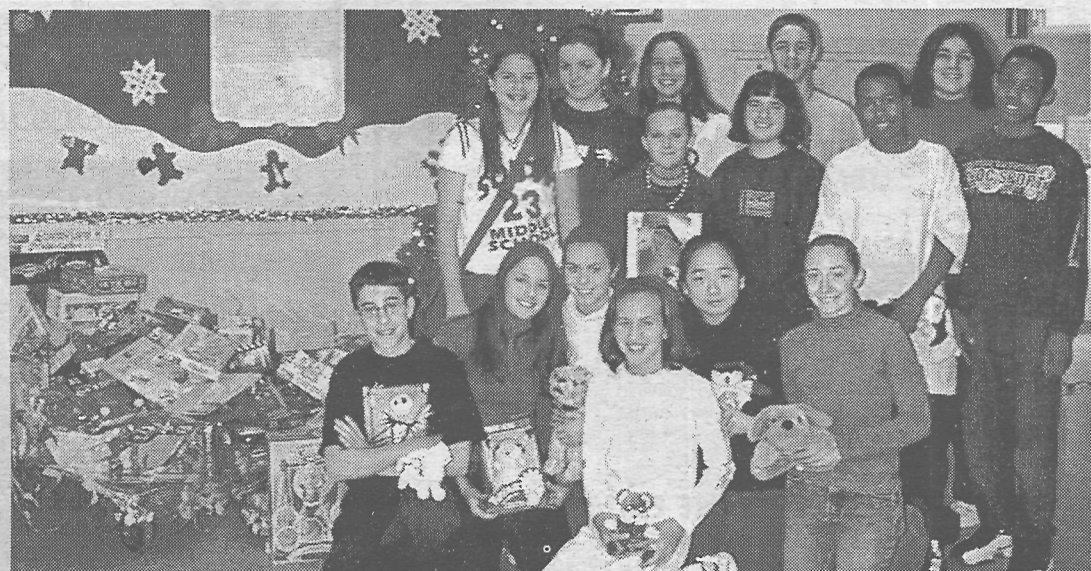
On December 9 the giant fir tree in front of McCriskin's Home for Funerals was lit for the holiday season. An annual event, the tree delights folks of all ages. The size and simplicity of the white lights make it an eye-catching display along Plainfield Ave.

The majestic fir towers over everything for miles. In the morning sunlight it is simply another splendor of mother nature. At night the tree, adorned with 13,000 white lights, becomes a beacon, and a true celebration of the season. Most who view the tree see only the grandeur of the display,

not the sentiment behind the lights.

In December of 1985 Richard and William McCriskin decided to decorate the massive tree that stood on their lawn. The silent sentinel was the perfect symbol to offer yet another breath of Christmas spirit. As they planned this colorful dedication to the Christmas celebration, on December 12, 1985, disaster struck. A plane carrying servicemen and women members of the 101st Airborne Division, The Screaming Eagles, crashed in Canada. Two hundred and forty eight aboard were killed.

Continued on page 5



'Tis the Season To Give—The Middle School Student Council has been collecting toys to contribute to the Marine Corps annual 'Toys for Tots' program. They have successfully collected hundreds of toys and games, donated by Middle School students. Student Council members pictured are Melissa Szeliga, Paul Corrado, Christine Manfredo, Stephanie Miller, Linda Lee, Cassie D'Urso, Caitlin English, Kristin Boyle, Lindsay Hunsicker, Brina Cole, Kendall Borwn, Toni Ciccio, Lauren Haus, Zach Gray, Natalia Tamzoh. Student Council Advisor is Donna Tierney.

mark your calendars

council meetings

**Annual Reorganization Meeting
will be held on Sunday, January 7, 2001.
The public is invited.**

Meets twice a month

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

AGENDA MEETING PUBLIC MEETING

Monday, January 8 Thursday, January 11

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

planning board

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month

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

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 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

2001 Scheduled to be announced

environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)

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

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
For subscriptions, advertising or
information, call (908) 668-0010.

The publisher is not responsible for
typographical errors.

NANCY GRENNIER
Publisher/Editor
WAYNE GRENNIER
Associate Publisher
SUSAN KANEPS
Art Director/Associate Editor
PATRICIA ABBOTT
Staff Writer/Photographer
CAROLINE REILLY
Production Assistant
CAROL GRENNIER
Editorial Assistant
BRIAN COCHRANE
BOBBY HUNTER
Sports Writers
KENNETH MORGAN
Correspondents
ROXANNE CORTESE
JANE DORNICK
WILLIAM TUTHILL
Advertising Sales

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.

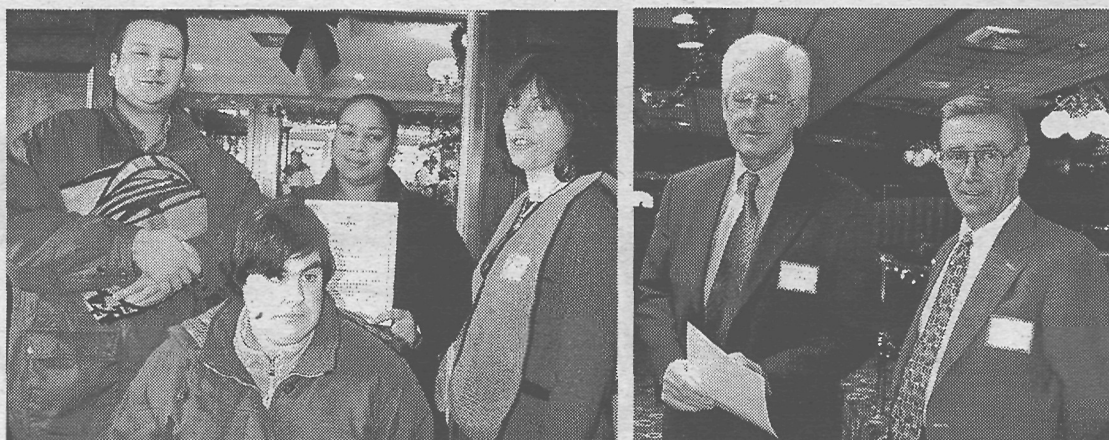
To get an article published in South Plainfield Observer:

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.

Log on to
southplainfieldnj.com
for the latest
meeting agenda



Members of the Keystone Community (left) were recognized for their participation in the Clean Communities Adopt-A-Spot program by Alice Tempel, Clean Communities Coordinator, who is also modeling the new bright orange vest which will be worn by all Adopt-A-Spot participants. Harold Miller (right), representing Miller Energy located on South Clinton Ave., accepts the Glitter Award from Mayor Dan Gallagher.



Mayor Dan Gallagher (left) presents a certificate of appreciation to Brian and Don Mazellan from Timber Creek Landscaping for participating in the Adopt-A-Spot Program. Joseph Diegnan and Alice Tempel (right) from South Plainfield Clean Communities presented the Glitter Award to Jon Robustelli of Jesco Inc. located on St. Nicholas Ave.

Clean Business Association Presents Awards

The South Plainfield Clean Business Association (CBA) held their Tenth Annual Awards Appreciation Breakfast last week. The breakfast, hosted by Alice Tempel, Clean Communities coordinator and Joseph Diegnan, president of CBA, was attended by Mayor Dan Gallagher, Councilmen Vinnie Buttiglieri and Ed Kubala, Councilwoman Darlene Pinto and many from the community who have received awards during this past year.

The CBA believes that environmental awareness has become today's watchword. American businesses, large and small, are finding that a green image promotes good will and helps sales. The CBA is a network of volunteers dedicated to creating and maintaining an attractive environ-

ment in the borough's commercial and industrial areas.

Members of the CBA benefit from an enhanced public image and are eligible for the Clean Busi-

ness Awards, with their accompanying official recognition and publicity. Other benefits include free 'No Dumping \$1,000 Fine' decals for dumpsters and a 'Member CBA' door decal to identify the business as part of this public-spirited organization.

Glitter Awards for 2000 were presented to Jesco, Inc. on St. Nicholas Ave., La Costa Plaza on Plainfield Ave., Miller Energy on

South Clinton Ave. and Peter Source Companies on South Clinton Ave.

Those who participated in the Adopt-A-Spot program this year



Eleanor LaCosta and Roseann Lozinski received the Glitter Sward for LaCosta Plaza on Plainfield from Mayor Dan Gallagher.

are Clear Technologies, Cub Scout Pack 224, Federal Metals & Alloys, Home Depot, Northeast Division; Joseph Przewoznik, Keystone Community Residence and Timber Creek Landscaping.

Anyone who would like to adopt-a-spot or find out more about the CBA should call Alice Tempel at 226-7621, Joseph Diegnan at 755-5300, ext. 315 or Emil Leporino at 756-8038.

are Clear Technologies, Cub Scout Pack 224, Federal Metals & Alloys, Home Depot, Northeast Division; Joseph Przewoznik, Keystone Community Residence and Timber Creek Landscaping.

Anyone who would like to adopt-a-spot or find out more about the CBA should call Alice Tempel at 226-7621, Joseph Diegnan at 755-5300, ext. 315 or Emil Leporino at 756-8038.

AIDA SANTOS

ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT
BRANCH MANAGER

Valley National Bank

Durham Ave. & Hamilton Blvd
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

(908) 757-5868
Fax (908) 757-0494

Physical Therapy Center OF WOODBRIDGE & SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Now with
2 locations for
your convenience

1110 Hamilton Blvd.
South Plainfield
(908) 668-1951

1500 St. Georges Ave.
Avenel
(732) 750-9286

888-216-9100

Lynne Glasser-Sward - P.T. Lic# QA02309

- Orthopedic Rehabilitation
- TMJ
- Back & Neck Pain
- Most Insurance Plans Welcome
- Most HMO's/PPO's Accepted
- Medicare Approved



Serving Union & Middlesex Counties For Over 15 Years

A Unique Shop Opens on So. Plainfield Ave.



La Coqueta on South Plainfield Ave. offers something for everyone.

As you open the door and enter La Coqueta your senses are aroused by the delicious smell of potpourri which fills the air of this quaint little shop. There are so many wonderful things to catch the eye, it's difficult deciding what to look at first.

La Coqueta, located at 11 South

Plainfield Ave., opened its doors on Nov. 20. The shop is co-owned by Edilma Chavarriaga of South Plainfield and Enes Cardenas of Plainfield. Both women hand sew and embroider everything and anything, from company uniforms to Christmas stockings.



Edilma Chavarriaga and Enes Cardenas, La Coqueta owners.

Although embroidery is their main business, La Coqueta is also filled with many unusual items, including an old Victrola cabinet, an organ and a foot pedal sewing machine.

The two women have also collected many items from estate and garage sales, such as dolls, costume jewelry, dish sets, figurines, shadowbox pictures and other treasures, all reasonably priced. La Coqueta is always looking to buy collectible items for their store.

Check out this unique new store located in the downtown area—you may find the perfect or hard to find gift just in time for holidays.

LaCoqueta is open seven days a week. Hours are 9 a.m. until 6 p.m.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

In the midst of all the holiday hustle and bustle, here's some news from the South Plainfield Library:

Turning to our Children's programs, we'll start with this month's Kidcraft program. At this writing, there's still space available for it, but be sure to call ahead to confirm this. The program starts at 4 p.m. and is for children ages six and over. Next week's Storytime schedule will follow the usual pattern. The programs will be held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. The Wednesday program will feature a Holiday Sing-Along with Mr. Tim. All of the Storytime programs are for children ages three and over, last about an hour and feature stories and a craft activity. No pre-registration is required.

Today is the last day you can donate to one of the charity drives we're hosting. The Books to Keep program brings books to underprivileged children; you can donate new books or make a monetary contribution. Also, there's the Friends of the Library gathering of hats, gloves, scarves and mittens; the items will be distributed to those in need by FISH, Inc. Please give what you can to these efforts.

On Monday, the library will host a performance of *Naughty or Nice: A Christmas Lesson*, an original play by Patricia Abbott. The play will be performed by the South Plainfield Summer Drama Club; it starts at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend

this performance.

As you're no doubt aware, the weather is turning colder outside. This brings us to the subject of our heating/AC system. If, at times, you feel cold in the library, please let a staff member know right away. The system is a bit tricky to adjust, but we're doing our best to make things comfortable.

Right about now, you probably should start thinking seriously about getting those holiday cards sent out. We can help in one respect. You can buy postage stamps at the library for 33 cents each or \$6.60 for a booklet. Our supply is limited, though; so only buy what you need. Be advised, though, you still have to allow enough time for the cards to arrive on schedule. Mail delivery is a whole different branch of the civil service than the library.

Recently, students have been coming to us seeking research materials for reports and term papers. We'd like to remind those students that, unfortunately, we just can't stock everything you might need, particularly when it comes to "non-print" sources. Please let us know what you need as early as possible so we have time to obtain it for you. In fact, all you teachers out there could let us know about big class-wide reports on the way, so we can stock up on needed items. We appreciate your cooperation on this.

That's all for now; thanks for your attention. Please resume hustling and bustling.

By the way, hustling is easy to understand, but what exactly is bustling?

New Program Introduced by Red Cross

The American Red Cross, Tri-County Chapter is pleased to announce a new, free program available to assist members of the communities in our service area. The Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) is an individual and group counseling service developed for people affected by alcohol, tobacco and other drug addictions. The criterion for participation is based on the American Society of Addiction Medicine placement guidelines. The program is broken into three segments of treatment, each consisting of varying degrees of group meeting time. Each segment is eight weeks in length. There is also a family counseling and education component to the program for those who need to address family issues.

The program will be held at the American Red Cross, Tri-County Chapter offices located at 332 West Front St. in Plainfield. We are currently accepting clients into the program and invite those interested to contact Ruth Johnson at (908) 756-6414 ext. 25 for further information. Carlos Ramirez, a certified alcohol and drug counselor and certified social worker, will coordinate the program.

The American Red Cross, Tri-County Chapters' Social Services program is designed to assist people in overcoming the obstacles blocking their way to achieving self-sufficiency and obtaining a higher quality of life. Our goal is to aid the poor and working poor with short-term emergency support and give them the tools for long term planning and success. Our list of services grows as needs in the community arise and we find ways to meet them. Currently our services include budgeting classes, crisis counseling, case management, food referrals, an image-enhancing workshop, the Job Search/Job Readiness program, rental assistance and utility assistance.

Aiello

Chiropractic Center, P.C.
Your Hometown Source for Health & Wellness

2201 South Clinton Avenue, Suite H
South Plainfield, NJ 07080-1471
On the corner of New Market and South Clinton

755-2289

TAX RETURNS PREPARED • WILLS, CLOSINGS
INDIVIDUAL AND BUSINESS • PERSONAL INJURY
WORKERS COMPENSATION

PAUL W. GRZENDA
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT
ATTORNEY AT LAW

HOUSE CALLS AVAILABLE
SO. PLAINFIELD OFFICE Tel.: (908) 769-8602



HAIR • COLOR
MAKE-UP

908.769.8330

THE
RAZOR'S
EDGE

25 South Plainfield Ave.
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

All About Arts & Crafts

Open House Craft Sale

Candy Folks, Cloth Sculptures, Personalized Books, 3D Disney Character Clocks, Wood, Ceramic, Wreath, Holiday Pop Corn & Candies, Angels, Knitted Work, Sweatshirts, Ornaments, Table Center Pieces and more unique items. **Don't miss a great exhibition of your local crafters.**

Holiday Craft Sale

December 16 - 23

1715 Oxford Avenue

(Off Maple Avenue)

So. Plainfield, NJ

10am - 4pm Everyday!

Last 2000 Show!
Great Sales!

For more info please call:
(908) 755-4049
Fax (908) 755-5840
info@a-crafts.com

Elks Selling Entertainment Books

The South Plainfield Elks Veterans Committee is selling the Entertainment Book for \$30.

To order your book, call Lou Peralta
at 908-756-6406.

Around Town

VFW Ladies Auxiliary Host Italian Night

December 15

VFW Post 6763 Ladies Auxiliary will host an Italian Night on Dec. 15 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the post, 155 Front St. The menu is veal parmigiana. The donation is \$6. Children 12 and under \$3.

For information, call (908) 668-9751 after 3 p.m. daily.

AARP Monthly Meeting, Christmas Luncheon & Trip

December 15

AARP Chapter 4144 will hold their December meeting and Christmas luncheon at the Willows Restaurant, Washington Ave. in Greenbrook on Dec. 15 at 12 noon.

Also, upcoming for Feb. 21 and 22, 2001, a trip to Atlantic City and to the Three Little Bakers Theater is planned. Tickets are \$155, double occupancy.

For information and reservations, call Mary at (732) 752-3764.

American Legion 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, 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, new-born 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. To pre-register (required), call 226-7713. Fee is \$5 per child.

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.

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.

PAL Trip to Cape Cod, Massachusetts Offered

September 10-14, 2001

The PAL Building Recreational Center is sponsoring a 5-day, 4-night trip to Cape Cod, Massachusetts, with a visit to Foxwoods Casino.

The trip package includes 4 nights accommodations, 4 breakfasts, 4 dinners, including a lobster bake, fully escorted tours of the Hyannis area, the historic Massachusetts towns of Sandwich, Boston, Quincy Market, Plymouth and Provincetown; and the Hyannis Harbor Cruise.

A visit to Foxwoods Casino enroute home, an evening of entertainment, a welcome reception, baggage handling, all taxes and standard gratuities and motorcoach transportation will all

also be included in this trip.

Dates of the trip are set for Sept. 10-14, 2001. Prices are \$325 per person double, triple and quad occupancy. Single supplement is \$78.

For more information and reservations, contact Mike English at (908) 226-7714.

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 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

Events In Surrounding Towns

Fundraiser at Woodbridge Mall

The Colonia Chapter of Hadassah is holding a gift wrapping fundraiser at the Woodbridge Center Mall. They will be raising money for Hadassah 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 en-

trance 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.

Alliance Church To Perform Bethlehem's Treasure

December 14-17

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. Immediately following, refreshments will be served at a "Christmas Cafe" inside the church.

The production, written and directed by Tom McKenna, incorporates various aspects of the Christmas 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, contact the church at (732) 469-1425.

Submit your Events for Around Town:

South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield, NJ 07080, or fax (908) 668-8819; email ggnan@aol.com or ngrennie@ix.netcom.net

TALK YOUR FACE OFF!!!

VoiceStream Wireless

GSM/Worldwide Phones & Service!!!

"Come Directly To The Source... Your I-Stop Wireless Shoppe"

Holiday Promotion

\$39.99 600 Local Minutes PLUS 2,000 National Weekend Minutes FREE-Every Month-All YEAR!!

ALL PLANS INCLUDE:

- ✓ FREE Caller ID
- ✓ FREE Voice Mail
- ✓ FREE Paging
- ✓ FREE 3-Way Calling
- ✓ FREE Call Waiting
- ✓ FREE Call Forwarding
- ✓ FREE 1st Incoming Minute
- ✓ FREE ACTIVATION

We Now Accept VISA, M/C, Discover, Checks

10% OFF PURCHASE OF ANY CELLULAR PHONE IN STOCK



10% OFF Any Cellular Accessories In Stock HANDS-FREE UNITS, CHARGERS, CASES AND MORE!!!

Phone & Fax Orders Welcome

INDEPENDENT CELLULAR

Phone 908-668-6844 Fax (908) 668-4775

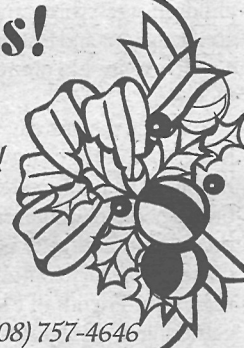
18 SOUTH PLAINFIELD AVENUE - DOWNTOWN SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Happy Holidays!

Come to Moore's Stone & Garden for your holiday needs!

Christmas Trees Wreaths Grave Blankets, etc.

430 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield • (908) 757-4646



The Family Place

Carousel Hair Salon

307 OAK TREE AVE SOUTH PLAINFIELD 908-668-8397

Tues~Wed~Thurs~Fri 8am-4pm Saturdays~6:45 am-3 pm Closed Sundays &



Annual Tree Lighting at McCriskin's Remembers 101st Airborne Heroes



A plaque in front of McCriskin's Home for Funerals memorializes servicemen of the 101st Airborne Division who died in a 1985 airplane crash.

Continued from page 1

They had been returning home for the holidays from a peace-keeping mission in the Sinai Peninsula. Official reports

state that mechanical failure was the source of the crash, yet it is the belief of many veterans that there was a more sinister reason. Results are not forth-

coming as the records have been sealed for 50 years.

The McCriskin family was affected by this tragedy. They have deep ties to the military and an equally deep respect for military tradition. The decorating of the tree immediately took a new turn. It became a means to pay tribute to those who lost their lives while serving our country. The tree became a living memorial, lit in memory of those killed in the crash. A plaque placed beneath the tree reads, "Dedicated in memory of those members of the 101st Airborne Division United States Army who died on December 12, 1985." At the time of the disaster the McCriskins never realized that their gesture would become an annual event that would grow each year.

Each year on or about Dec. 12 a memorial service is held prior to the lighting of the tree. The crowd varies from year to year, often depending on the weather, but without fail members of the 101st Airborne Division Association and members of the General Anthony C. McAuliffe, New York/New Jersey chapter arrive to pay tribute to the deceased Screaming Eagles.

The ceremony, although brief, is always a memorable one. A singular pair of military boots shined to perfection are placed behind the plaque. A rifle, topped with a combat helmet, is placed into the ground behind the boots. The



Members of the 101st Airborne Division salute their fallen brethren at the annual ceremony at McCriskin's Home for Funerals.

simple display has a profound effect. The patriot songs vary from year to year but *Amazing Grace* is always a part of the ceremony. Members of the Screaming Eagles offer their prayers and insights before laying a wreath before the plaque.

This year a poignant poem was read by 101st Airborne McAuliffe Chapter Vice President Frank Febus and entitled, "Dedicated to Eagles Who Have Soared." The Edison resident explained the poem had originally been written for his mother when she passed away. He added four more verses and the poem became a fitting tribute to the Screaming Eagles as the

ceremony is a reminder of all that our veterans do for our country, past and present.

A color guard offered a gun salute to the silenced members of the 101st. Veterans attending needed no reminder, they came to offer support. Despite the bright sunlight, there was an undertone of sadness for those who gave their lives to their country in peacetime.

When the tree was lit, each tiny light became a small thank you to the veterans. The mood was both solemn and respectful, a reminder of full sacrifice, in keeping with the memory of the child whose birth Christmas celebrates.

boroughnotesboroughnotes

Council Notes

- Robert Bender was appointed Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator effective immediately.
- Angel Paradiso has been hired as a part-time recreation attendant at the PAL effective immediately.
- The council authorized the purchase of rock salt from International Salt Company, holder of the state contract, at the cost of \$32.85 per ton, not to exceed \$30,000.
- Frank Crisscola has resigned from the Business Advisory Group effective immediately.

Board of Adjustment

- More than 30 people turned out to hear an application by Hewson Enterprises on New Market Ave. The applicant is asking for variances and site plan approval to erect a building containing a one-story office area and a two-story garage area for their landscaping business. Concerns of the audience covered stone dust washing, gas storage, turning radius and what will be stored on the property. The hearing has been continued.
- The special meeting held last week for the application for three billboards will be continued at the Jan 2. meeting.
- Ron Bosse was granted approval for a deck with a roof.
- The Fisher Group, LLC was granted a use variance for an expansion of their storage yard.

Planning Board

- The application to build a two lot subdivision on Spicer Ave. by Strong Tower Development, Inc. was denied.



Pack 205 Assists Residents

Cub Scout of Pack 205 from Roosevelt School was recently involved in a community service project. On Saturday, Nov. 17, approximately 15 boys from Pack 205 and their parents volunteered to assist some of our local residents by raking their leaves.

A list of needy residents was provided through Councilman Jim Vokral and Sacred Heart Church.

The boys subsequently received a community service patch for their efforts at their Dec. 1 pack meeting.

—Submitted by Robert M. Long

Summer Drama Performers to Entertain at Public Library

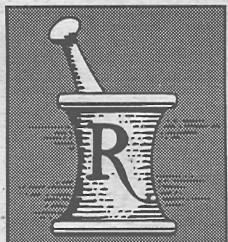
A troupe of performers from the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop (SDW) will present a children's Christmas play at the library on Monday, Dec. 18 at 6:30 p.m.

Pre-school children through adults will enjoy a humorous look at Mrs. Claus's attempt to curb Santa's sweet tooth and there is an important lesson learned by the reindeer and elves.

The evening will conclude with Christmas carols and the audience is invited to participate.

The cast includes twelve students who are either current Summer Drama members or upcoming members. The script, "Naughty or Nice, A Christmas Lesson," was written by SDW Board Member and Alumni Patricia Abbott.

Everyone is invited to attend this production and be ready to sing a few Christmas carols.



**Twin City
Pharmacy**
755-7696

1708 Park Ave., South Plainfield (Next to ACME)

**COMPLETE
LINE OF**

**VITAMINS &
MINERAL SUPPLEMENTS**
Featuring Solgar and Hudson

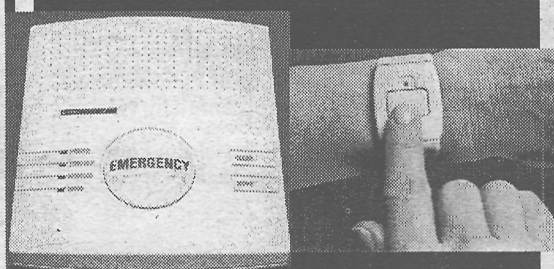
Today's modern pharmacy with old fashioned values

- Free Delivery
- We Accept Most Major Medical Plans
- Hospice Care & Home Healthcare Needs
- Diabetic Counseling & Supplies
- Direct Medicare billing for medical goods and equipment.
- Hallmark Cards and Gifts

Come and See for Yourself!

PERS-2400

**24-hour
Personal emergency
reporting system**



Press the button and a trained operator will speak to you through the console and summon medical aid.

- Great for the disabled, elderly or injured
- Victims of domestic violence can obtain help with the press of a button

\$34⁹⁰
per month
**NO OTHER
FEES**

Call for a free demonstration

For a little more than a dollar a day and we supply the system for free*

**Security
Concepts**
OF MIDDLESEX COUNTY



908-757-7344

Locally Owned & Operated

*3-Month minimum commitment required

Drama Club Stars Shine

Continued from page 1
turn your back to the audience" and "use your stage voice."

The drama club staff consisted of Director Patricia Abbott, founder of the club and several middle and high school students making their own debut as directors. Junior Pam Cianfrocca directed *Sleeping Beauty*, sophomore Chris Imbrosciano directed *Hansel and Gretel*, eighth grader Katie Mott directed *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* and freshman Chris Abbott directed the news broadcast and weather. He was assisted by freshman Vinnie Carubia, who is new to the group. Freshman Samantha Gentile assisted with the shows where needed. Eighth graders Heather Di Bella and Alicia Miranda volunteered their time to help with the production as well.

Once Upon a Time, written by Patricia Abbott, portrayed revised fairy tales which eliminated some of the violence of the original versions. The grandmother in *Red Riding Hood* was not eaten by the wolf and the wolf was not killed by a hunter. Instead the bossy, talkative grandmother was shoved into a closet while still lecturing the wolf on cleanliness and manners. When the age-old line, "The better to eat you with my dear!" was uttered, grandmother escaped the closet and felled the wolf with a fast martial arts move. Of course, a police woman just happened to be nearby at the time and arrested the wolf.

Sleeping Beauty substituted a hand-held egg beater for a spindle, explaining "budget cuts"—a line



Drama Club Director/Founder Patricia Abbott with club directors.



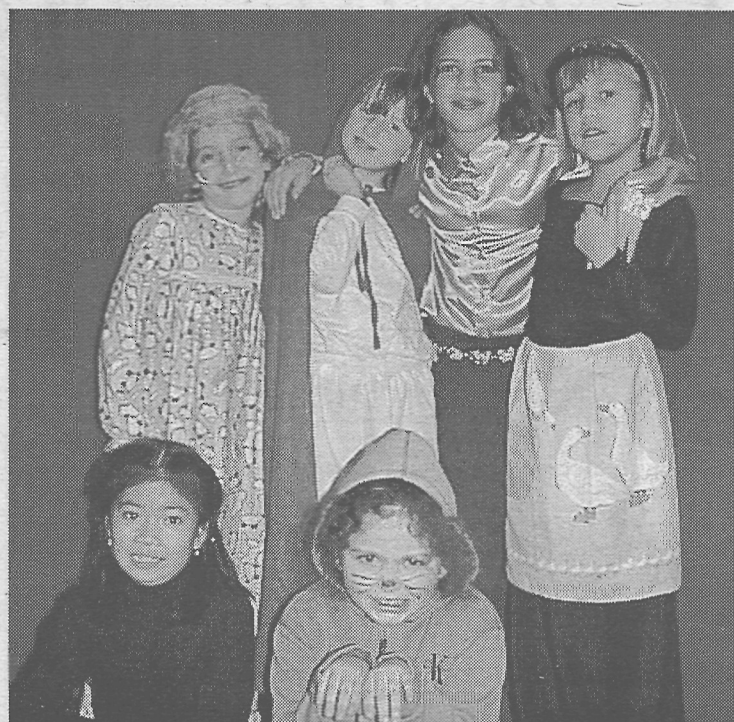
Cast members of *Sleeping Beauty*.

that brought more than a few laughs. *Sleeping Beauty* was not revised with a kiss as is customary in most fairy tales. The prince and princess loudly replied, "Euww" to this idea and a handshake worked just as well. When the time came for the prince to propose marriage, the young princess did the right thing by giving it some thought before agreeing. The lack of a king

for the show created some problems, until student assistant Vinnie Carubia was pressed into service. Another dilemma was the lack of a door for the stage but student director Chris Abbott became the "door" for the actors at

the last minute which led to a lot of giggling as his arm became the latch. The school's portable stage wasn't built until just before curtain time, giving the children no chance to practice on stage. There were no microphones and the makeshift curtain was put up by Chris Abbott just two days prior to the show. Many of the costumes were provided by the directing staff. The minimal sets were also created by the directing staff in what spare time they had. These conditions might make a more seasoned performer nervous, but the students came through with two very successful performances. According to Abbott Parent Denise Kelly was a tremendous help to the production. She attended nearly every rehearsal, assisted with attendance, helped keep the youngsters quiet and assisted the staff with props and costumes.

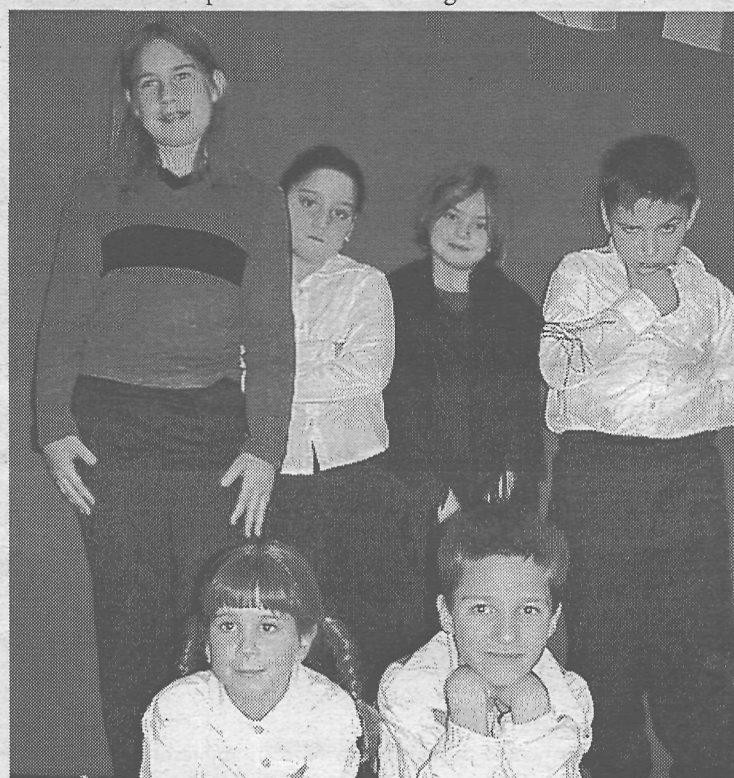
for the show created some problems, until student assistant Vinnie Carubia was pressed into service. Another dilemma was the lack of a door for the stage but student director Chris Abbott became the "door" for the actors at



Cast members of *Little Red Riding Hood*.

It must be noted that the teenage volunteers devoted many hours over two and a half months. They juggled Roosevelt rehearsals around their own rehearsals, sports practices and games, homework, club meetings and jobs. They gave up their free time to help build sets and

create scripts that would be suitable for the younger actors. Clearly, such dedication to both the arts and the sharing of their knowledge of the arts with the younger children is an example of unselfish service that stands alone by its uniqueness in this age of "me first."



Cast members of *Hansel and Gretel*.



Happy Holidays!

Durham Deli
209 Durham Ave.
South Plainfield
(908) 668-0010

Catering for holiday parties &
all your special occasions.

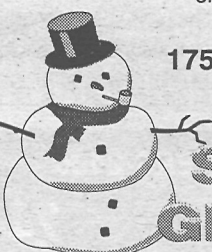
Look for our grand
re-opening in January!

TWICE IS NICE

Consignment Boutique & Gift Shop
Children's Clothes, Accessories & Gift Items

HOURS: Monday, Tues., Thurs. & Fri. 10 AM-1:30PM
Closed Wednesday

(908) 561-6151
175 Front Street, So. Plainfield
Ask for Carol Ann Collins



**SEASONS
GREETINGS**

**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.

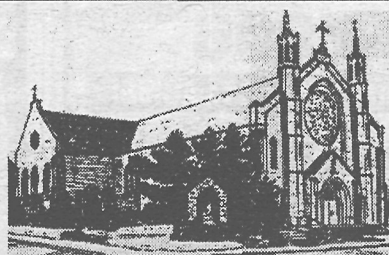
Weekdays 9:00 a.m. (church)

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.
and after 5:45 p.m. Vigil Mass



Specialty Gift Baskets

Gourmet coffee, tea, popcorn,
crackers and cheeses.

Mohr's
Flowers & Fancy Foods



2325 Plainfield Ave.
So. Plainfield, NJ (908) 561-2808
Corporate Accounts Welcome.
Major Credit Cards

SUBWAY

901C Oak Tree Road
South Plainfield
Oak Park Commons

(A + P Shopping Center) Next To 1-800-Flowers

908-822-1300

Sun 9-10, M-Th 7-10, Fri 7-11 & Sat 9-11

We're Open for Breakfast!
Try our wraps, party subs & platters!
\$6.99 Sunday Special—any 2 regular footlong subs
\$6.99 all day! Restrictions apply.

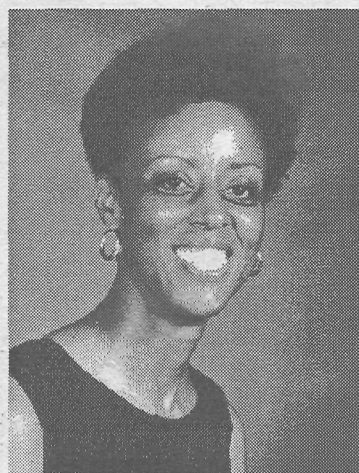
**Try Our New Gourmet
Breads & Sauces!**

**Get Your Party Subs
& Platters Early**



Twice Is Nice owner Carol Ann Collins displays a recent addition to the shop, handmade crafts. The consignment boutique specializes in children's apparel and accessories. Call for holiday hours, (908) 561-6151.

Japan Trip Remembered



Phyllis Savage

South Plainfield Middle School Assistant Principal Phyllis Savage recently returned from a trip to Japan as a Fulbright Memorial Fund Scholar. This is the first of a series of articles about the trip.

After a sleepless night due to packing, a bit teary-eyed due to the anticipation of going to a land so far away and foreign to me and the responsibility that came with this honor bestowed upon me, I found myself, via the San Francisco orientation, in Tokyo, Japan, a land of respect and warmth.

From that time on, I, along with 199 United States educators, was immersed in an intense course on the Japanese culture. Tours, lectures, seminars, cultural presentations, homestays, school visitations of all types and levels and welcome receptions engulfed us. The Japanese government was intent upon fulfilling its objectives of providing opportunities for educators from the United States to gain firsthand experience of Japanese education and culture, a deeper understanding and appreciation of Japanese society and its values and relate it to the

America culture as well as having the Japanese people gain an understanding of the American Culture through their interaction with the educators.

The first six days were spent in Tokyo. We were housed at the fabulous Asakata Prince Hotel where national and international figures pass through. We were treated with a welcome reception and heartwarming thoughts by Samuel E. Shephard, executive director of the J.U.S.E.C., and Kyoto T. Jones, program director, and a buffet of exquisite Japanese and American cuisine.

We began with a morning of sight-seeing of the Supreme Court, Imperial Palace and Asakusa (shopping and famous temple district); some of us early risers ventured out to the famed Tsukiji Fish Market where fishermen from all over the world come to sell their fish. That evening we visited the Tokyo National Museum. Lectures on Japanese education, the economy and government were presented by top educators and experts in their fields; Tsutomu Kimura, president of the National Institution for Academic Degree; Professor Takahiro Miyao, GLOCOM, International University of Japan; Yuji Tsushima, Diet member; Yoshio Terasawa, Chairman of Lone Star Japan Acquisitions and Hiroya Ichikawa, chief professor of the faculty of culture from Sophia University.

Seminars were presented in special education, mathematics education, changes in education in Japan and peace education. The special education seminar was presented by Keikichi Kishimoto, principal of Minato Special School. The International Foundation for Promotion of Foreign Language and Culture presented each scholar with two of Kenji Miyazawa's books.

Thus ended the first segment of our action packed, intellectually stimulating trip.

The Borough of South Plainfield is seeking volunteers for the Planning and Zoning Boards. If interested, contact Borough Administrator Frank C. DeRosa.

ATTENTION TENANTS

Enjoy the Same Security
That Homeowners Do!

Lynx - Wireless Security System*

- No damage to home or apartment
- System can be moved if you relocate (Free re-installation if within 75 miles of present home or apartment)
- Central station monitoring

Security
Concepts
OF MIDDLESEX COUNTY
908-757-7344
*Lease Option Available

Call 908-757-7344 for free demo and further information.

Public Invited to Christmas Eve Ceremonies

Wesley United Methodist Church of South Plainfield invites the public to join them this holiday season to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the Savior to the World.

Ceremonies on Christmas Eve, Sunday, Dec. 24, will be held at 10:30 a.m., with a Christmas service with communion and then at 8 p.m. with a beautiful candle-light service with Pastor Dr. Rev. Henry Leono.

Wesley United Methodist Church, whose mission is to worship, to learn, to grow and to share God's love, is located at 1500 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield. For info, call (908) 757-2838.



Franklin School held their annual Santa Breakfast last Saturday. Mrs. Santa, none other than crossing guard Claire Mosier and Santa (Mr. Sticco) listen intently to the wishes of Brianne Ross.

Widow or Widowers (WOWs) Plan Fundraisers

The Woodbridge WOWs is a group of widows and widowers who gather monthly at the Woodbridge Elks Lodge, 665 Rahway Ave. in Woodbridge, for dancing and socializing. Sponsored by the Family Life Ministry of the Metuchen Diocese, this group is a non-sectarian, not-for-profit group of widows and widowers only, who want to make new friends with others who have lost a spouse.

On the third Sunday of each month, festivities begin at 7:30, include light refreshment and a live band and cost \$7 admission. All widowers and widows are invited and encouraged to attend.

Occasionally the WOWs host a fundraiser dance where friends and family and those not widowed are welcomed to attend. Two fundraisers are on their calendars.

A holiday party is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 17. This open fundraiser will be held from 7:30 to 11:30 with the Nick Salvetti Band playing its final performance for the club before Nick's retirement. We wish him the best! Homemade cakes will be served and special door prizes given to make this an extra special evening.

The group will celebrate the new year on Sunday, Jan. 21,

2001, with an open fundraiser dance at the Elks from 7:30 to 11:30. Steve Berger and Debbie will entertain that evening. Steve and Debbie were regulars at the Landmark in Woodbridge and now play at Catch 27 in Linden and on board the Cornucopia in Perth Amboy. The WOWs are very excited that they will be playing and hope to have a great turnout. Please plan on joining us for this very special event.

For more information on the Woodbridge Widows Or Widowers, or on the activities, please call President Dot Mitch at 732-634-0059 or Carol Rebovich, publicity chairperson at 732-634-0297.



NEXTEL®

GUARANTEED
ALL-DIGITAL NATIONAL NETWORK

4-in-1 Communication Tool

- ✓ Digital Cellular Phone
- ✓ Digital Two-Way Radio
- ✓ Text & Numeric Paging
- ✓ Wireless Access to the Internet



FREE INCOMING CALLS

Through December 2001 on National Business Plans

INCLUDES **Unlimited** 2-Way Radio

PLUS 400 Anytime Cellular Minutes

ONLY \$59.95 per month



10% OFF
PURCHASE
OF ANY
CELLULAR
PHONE
IN STOCK



10% OFF
Any
Cellular
Accessories
In Stock
Hands-Free
Units, Chargers,
Cases & MORE!

CONSUMER RATE PLANS FOR NY/NJ & CT/MA!

Plan	Performance Plus 300	Basic	Performance Plus 500	Unlimited Value 150	Unlimited Value 600	Unlimited Value 900
Access per month	\$39.99	\$40.00	\$49.99	\$49.95	\$69.95	\$89.95
Incl. Cell Mins.	300	30	500	150	600	900
Incl. Private Mins.	100	250	100	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited

ENJOY FREE INCOMING CALLS ON NATIONAL BUSINESS PLANS!
Ask a Sales Representative for full details!

Phone & Fax
Orders Welcome

**INDEPENDENT
CELLULAR**

Phone 908-668-6844
Fax (908) 668-4775

18 SOUTH PLAINFIELD AVENUE - DOWNTOWN SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Roosevelt Student Council's Unique Gift

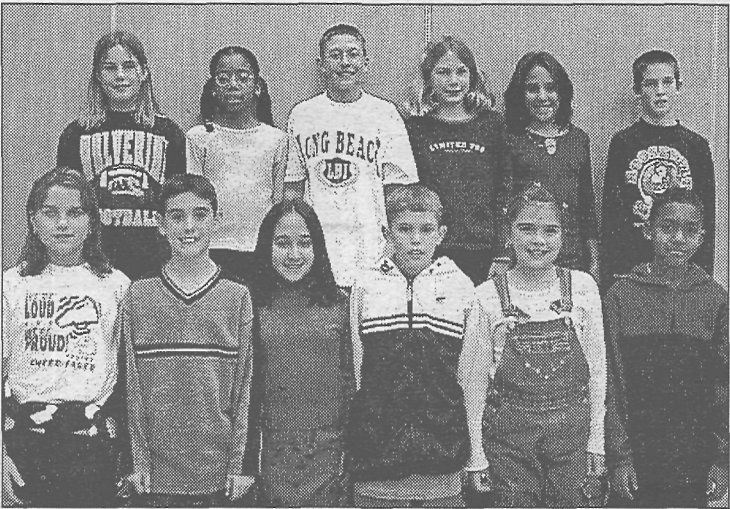
By Patricia Abbott

Roosevelt School Student Council and students recently concluded a fundraiser which will provides a unique gift—one that will last for generations. The student council organized a fundraiser called "Coins For Trees."

Every Wednesday during the month of November was dedicated to their fundraiser. The amount of coins grew quickly as the month flew by and the end result was \$180 and 180 new trees will be planted because of the generosity of Roosevelt's children.

The money collected went to the American Forests organization in Washington DC.

The trees will be planted in for-



ests all over the country. The seedlings will replace trees destroyed by forest fires, drought and other problems.

The advisor for the Roosevelt

Student Council is Margaret Mosley, president is Erica Linick, vice president is Garrett Kelly and Brandon Ullom is secretary.

Sports

BASKETBALL

Ed Niemczyk's Youth Basketball League Scores

South Plainfield started its Recreation Youth Basketball Leagues for ages 7-14 and divided it into four groups. Over 400 boys and girls participate in this basketball program. There are 48 teams and they play in the Middle School and the PAL building every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

A LEAGUE	RECORD	TEAM'S HIGH SCORER
Jazz	3-0	Chris Bakazan
Cavaliers	2-1	Tom Haolwka
76ers	2-1	Kathleen Morgan
Bulls	2-1	Galen Johnson
Spurs	1-2	Chris Czaplinski
Rockets	1-2	Brian Murtagh
Knicks	1-2	Daneille Arndt
Nuggets	0-3	Andrew Miller

B LEAGUE	RECORD	TEAM'S HIGH SCORER
Pistons	3-0	Kyle Lendach
Nets	3-0	Chris Weakley
Jazz	3-0	Erika Blaszk
Magic	3-0	Michael Stallone
Cavaliers	3-0	Peter Peregrin
Hornets	2-1	Vincent Genova
Supersonics	1-2	Bennie Gibson
Lakers	1-2	Robbie Strani
Bulls	1-2	Garrett Lake
Heat	1-2	Zachary Gray
Celtics	0-3	Joseph DeFalco
Timberwolves	0-3	Scott Hartje
Raptors	0-3	Stephen Dvorka
Knicks	0-3	Lacey Santone

C LEAGUE	RECORD	TEAM'S HIGH SCORER
Knicks	3-0	Jalil Williams
Magic	3-0	Scott Barton/Jordan Petriello
Pistons	2-1	Blaire Houston
Heat	2-1	Brian Fabino
Timberwolves	2-1	Chris DeOliveira/Brenson
O'Shea		
Bulls	2-1	Grey Watts
Lakers	2-1	Matt Seider
Celtics	2-1	David Alston
Jazz	1-1	John Polizzano
Nets	1-2	Tramane Miller
Cavaliers	0-2	Andrew Gray
76ers	0-3	Andrew Grey
Raptors	0-3	Kyle Quail
Hornets	0-3	Taylor Curtis

D LEAGUE	RECORD	TEAM'S HIGH SCORER
Nuggets	3-0	Ryan Harrington
Jazz	3-0	Shawn Mack
Bulls	2-1	Michael Jeffreys
Hornets	2-1	Michael Pryor
Nets	2-1	Danny Smith
Magic	2-1	Steven Grzenda
Timberwolves	1-2	Mark Benak
Heat	1-2	Matthew Santos
Lakers	1-2	Iyanose Ogbevoen
Pistons	1-2	Kishan Patel
Spurs	0-3	Thomas Katowich

Log on to the
Borough of South Plainfield's
official web site at
southplainfieldnj.com

Visit your community web site for the latest local news on

- Mayor and Council
- Planning Board & Board of Adjustment Agendas
- Police - Fire - Rescue Squad
- Recreation
- Youth Activities
- Senior Corner
- Professional & Business Directory
- Community Bulletin Board
- Civic Organizations
- Election Results and more

Advertise your business and support
South Plainfield's own web site

For rates or information email at:

908-561-0051

Oak Tree Discount Wine & Spirits

902 Oak Tree Road, South Plainfield (Across from A&P)

Mon. Tues. Wed. 9-9
Thurs. Fri. Sat. 9-10
Sun 10-6

BUY RITE LIQUOR

"The place for people of great taste"

THIS WEEK'S BEER SPECIALS

MCSORLEY'S ALE OR BLACK & TAN 12 OZ NR BTLS	4.99 6 PAK	SHARPS (NON-ALCOHOLIC) 12 OZ NR BTLS OR CANS	9.99 CASE
STELLA ARTOIS 12 OZ NR BTLS	5.99 6 PAK	ROLLING ROCK PREMIUM AND LIGHT 12 OZ NR BTLS	13.99 CASE
NATURAL LIGHT OR ICE 12 OZ CANS	7.99 CASE	SARANAC ALL YEAR ROUND STYLES 12 OZ NR BTLS	17.99 CASE
MILWAUKEE'S BEST REG. LT OR ICE 12 OZ CANS	8.99 30 PAK		

THIS WEEK'S SPIRITS & CORDIAL SPECIALS

E&J BRANDY 750 ML	7.99	MARGARITAVILLE GOLD TEQUILA 750 ML	14.99
MALIBU COCONUT RUM 750 ML	10.99	MARTINI VVO 1.75 LITER	18.99
ST. BRENDAN'S IRISH CREAM 750 ML	10.99	SOUTHERN COMFORT 1.75 LITER	18.99
FLEISCHMANN GIN \$3 MFG REBATE 1.75 LITER	11.99	FINLANDIA VODKA 1.75 LITER	20.99
RON CASTILLO SILVER, GOLD RUM 1.75 LITER	11.99	SAINT REMY VSOP BRANDY 1.75 LITER	22.99
FLEISCHMANN PREFERRED \$3 MFG REBATE 1.75 LITER	12.99	BOMBAY GIN 1.75 LITER	27.99
HEAVEN HILL 1.75 LITER	12.99	CABO WABO REPOSADO TEQUILA 750 ML	39.99

THIS WEEK'S WINE SPECIALS

FOXHORN WHITE ZINFANDEL 1.5 LITER	4.99	PETER VELLA CHAB, BLUSH, WH. GREN, DEL RED, BURG 5 LITER BOX	7.99
WILD VINES ALL TYPES 1.5 LITER	5.99	ESTATE CELLARS CHARDONNAY 1.5 LITER	7.99
NOILLY PRAT SWEET OR DRY VERMOUTH 1 LITER	5.99	GALLO OF SONOMA CAB SAUV 750 ML	7.99
TURNING LEAF CHARDONNAY 750 ML	5.99	BERINGER FOUNDERS MERLOT 750 ML	7.99
STRACCALI CHIANTI 750 ML	5.99	FOLONARI SOAVE, VALPO 1.5 LITER	7.99
ARBOR VALLEY CHAB, BURG, ROSE 4 LITER	6.99	FRANZIA WHITE ZIN, MERLOT, CHARD 5 LITER BOX	9.99
CASARSA PINOT GRIGIO 1.5 LITER	6.99	ST. FRANCIS CHARDONNAY 750 ML	9.99
CASARSA MERLOT 1.5 LITER	6.99	FONSECA BIN 27 PORT 750 ML	12.99
BULLETIN PLACE CHARDONNAY 750 ML	6.99	GEORGES DUBOUFE BEAUJOLAIS VILLAGES 1.5 LITER	13.99
ROSEMOUNT CAB/MERLOT BLEND 750 ML	6.99	JOSEPH DROUHIN POUILLY-FUISSE 750 ML	14.99
CONCHA Y TORO XPLOADOR ALL TYPES 750 ML	6.99	PIPER HEIDSEICK BRUT OR EXTRA DRY CHAMPAGNE 750 ML	23.99
NANDO ASTI OR FRAGOLINO 750 ML	6.99		

PRICES EFFECTIVE WED., DEC. 13th
THRU TUES. DEC. 19th, 2000.

All prices subject to sales tax • We reserve the right to limit
quantities • Not responsible for typographical errors •



BERINGER NAPA
CHARDONNAY 750 ML \$11.99

THIS STARTS WITH LOTS OF SMOKY,
TOASTY OAK, BUT THE FRUIT FLAVORS
FILL IN THE GAPS NICELY, WITH RIPE,
FOCUSED PEAR, APPLE, CITRUS AND
MELON NOTES THAT ARE ELEGANT AND
LINGERING.
WINE SPECTATOR RATING 88

RUTHERFORD
RANCH
CAB SAUV 750 ML \$11.99

GOOD INTENSITY TO THE
FLAVORS OF HERBS, SOUR
CHERRIES AND COFFEE,
WITH DRY TANNINS.
WINE SPECTATOR
RATING - 87

WOODBRIDGE
CAB SAUV
750 ML \$11.99

1.5 LITER

AMARETTO DI
SARONNO
\$16.99
750 ML

KAHLUA
\$15.99
750 ML

SEAGRAM VO
CANADIAN
WHISKEY
\$18.99
1.75 LITER

JOHNNIE
WALKER RED
SCOTCH
\$30.99
1.75 LITER

GLEN
ELLEN
WHITE
ZINFANDEL
\$3.99
750 ML

NATHANSON
CREEK
MERLOT
\$6.99
1.5 LITER

KORBEL
BRUT OR EXTRA DRY
CHAMPAGNE
\$9.99
750 ML

HOLIDAY
GIFT IDEAS
BACARDI LIGHT & GOLD
RUM 750 ML 8.99
JACK DANIELS TENNESSEE
WHISKEY 750 ML 14.99
TANQUERAY
GIN 750 ML 14.99
ABSOLUT
VODKA 750 ML 14.99
DEWAR'S
SCOTCH 750 ML 15.99
CROWN ROYAL
750 ML 16.99
CHIVAS REGAL
750 ML 22.99
GREY GOOSE
VODKA 750 ML 23.99
GLENFIDDICH SINGLE MALT
SCOTCH 750 ML 25.99
GRAND MARNIER
750 ML 25.99

BASS ALE
12 OZ NR BTLS
4/6 PAK CASE
\$23.99
CASE

GROLSCH
LAGER OR AMBER
12 OZ NR BTLS
\$19.99
CASE

MOLSON GOLDEN
ICE, LIGHT OR CANADIAN
12 OZ NR BTLS 2/12 PAK CASE
\$15.99
CASE

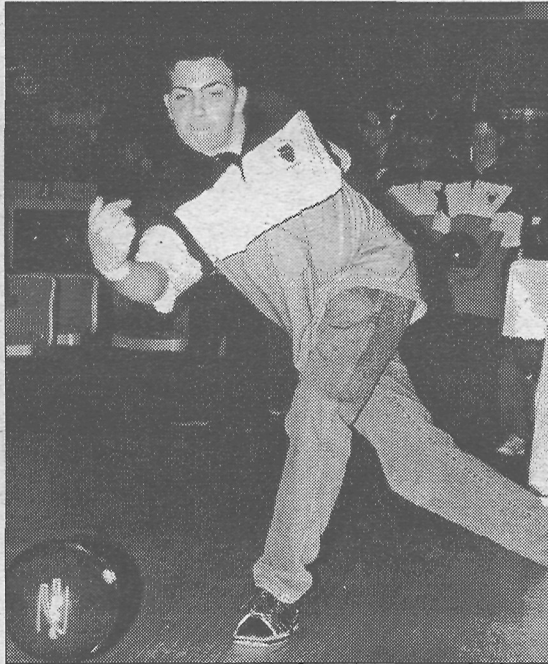
BUDWEISER,
BUD LIGHT, BUD ICE,
BUD ICE LIGHT 12 OZ CANS
\$14.99
30 PAK

Sports

Bowling



Melissa Jamieson set a new girls SPHS bowling record with a 653 set.



Ray Tomei leads the SPHS Tigers with a 201.6 average after nine games.

High School Bowlers Begin Competition

Tigers Blast Carteret in Their Opener

In their season opener, the Boys Bowling Team won two of three games and posted a 197 pin victory over upset minded Carteret. Senior Ray Tomei led the Tigers with solid games of 197-215-193 and a high set of 603. Chipping in were Paul Larisch with games of 190 and 197, Eric Gaub with 188 and 204 games and Jeff Smith with 190 and 189 games.

Lady Tigers Almost Pull Off Upset...Settle For Tie

The Girls Bowling Team had to settle for a tie as they rallied to win two of three games from the heavily favored Ramblers of Carteret, but they lost out in the pin total. Leading the charge were senior Melissa Jamieson with games of 178-153-203 and a 534 high set. Respectable 150 plus games were turned in by freshman Victoria Boley, Kristen Herzog and Meredith Cooper.

Tigers Let One Slip Away to Bishop Ahr

After building up a 68-pin advantage in the first game, the Boys Bowling Team let victory slip away as they dropped the next two games and were upset by a rallying Bishop Ahr team by a scant 19 pins.

Senior Ray Tomei turned in a superb 612 effort with games of 230-180-202. Chipping in were Paul Larisch with games of 201-187-192 and Erich Gaub with games of 183 and 207.

Jamieson Sets SPHS Scoring Record With a 653

The Girls Bowling Team swept all three games as they bombarded Bishop Ahr by 339 pins. Sabina Montenaro, Kristen Herzog, Meredith Cooper, Rachel Feller and Vicky Boley spearheaded a solid team effort.

Congratulations to senior Melissa Jamieson who set a South Plainfield High School girls scoring record when she stroked a sparkling 653 set with games of 221-216-216. The old record of a 603 set was held by Loraine Starr.

Lady Tigers Shutout Mother Seton Regional

Melissa Jamieson's 201 high game and 555 high set, led the girls bowling team to victory over perennial nemesis Mother Seton Regional. The Tigers swept all three games enroute to a 247 pin win. Chipping in were Meredith Cooper with a 169, Alexis Montanaro with a 160 and Kristen Herzog with a 155 game.

Tigers Place in Top Ten at Holiday Tournament

Melissa Jamieson's 586 high set won her the Bronze Metal in the Statewide Bishop Ahr Holiday Tournament played last weekend. Melissa rolled games of 180-189-217 and she placed third among the approximately 200 contestants. The girls bowling team finished in the top ten in the season opening tourney. Vicky Boley chipped in with a 180 game.

Tomei Leads Tigers with a 201.6 average

Despite Ray Tomei's 182-202-214 games, the Boys Bowling Team placed a distant 31st in the 48 team Bishop Ahr Tourney. Jeff Smith helped out with games of 184-200 and Paul Larisch added a 198 game.

Ray Tomei lead the Tigers with a brilliant 201.6 average after nine games.

By Tony Cassano



juniorbaseballclubnotes

FYI-NEW RULE-AGE ELIGIBILITY CHANGE FOR 8 & 17-YEAR-OLDS—As previously noted, some important rule changes have been recently voted on starting with the 2001 season. Any child who turns eight between Aug. 1 and Sept. 30 is eligible to sign up and play as an eight-year-old. Previously you had to be eight by July 31. In addition, 17 year olds will eligible to play in Pony A but will not be allowed to pitch.

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MONTHLY MEETING—MONDAY JANUARY 8 at 7:30 PM—Our next regularly scheduled monthly meeting will be held on the second Monday of January (Jan. 8) at 7:30 p.m. (the first Monday is January 1st). Volunteers are still needed for several committees for the upcoming year. As always, new members are welcomed and encouraged to attend. Your participation will help shape the club for the upcoming season.

WINTER REGISTRATION SET FOR JANUARY 11, 12 and 13, 2001—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 on Saturday, Jan. 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the clubhouse. As mentioned previously, we had a good turnout during our Fall Registration in October, when 250 kids registered. Further details will follow or call club for information at 908-754-2090.

Recycling Center Now Accepting Old Carpeting

Residents should be aware that they will be turned away at the compactor if they are disposing of carpeting or carpet padding. They will be requested to bring and old carpeting and padding to the recycling center trailer.

However, recycling will not ac-

cept waffle padding, hair padding, carpet tiles and carpet scraps. These items are not recyclable.

Paint drop-off is still the third Saturday of the month.

For further information, including their hours, call the recycling hotline at 226-7620.



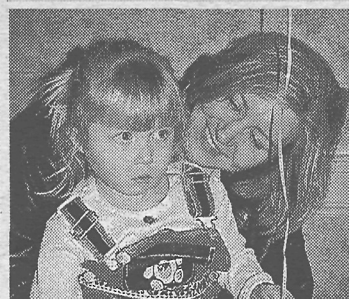
There's
a lot
going on...



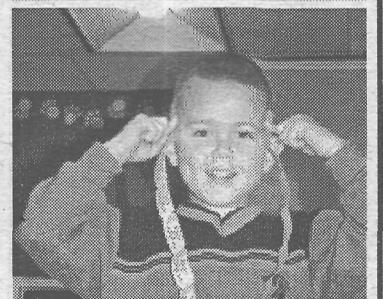
... In
South
Plainfield!



Subscribe
to the
Observer!



South Plainfield
Observer
908-668-0010





**We wish a Happy
& Healthy Holiday
Season to all in
South Plainfield!**

Weichert Realtors
We Sell More
Because We Do More

Paul & Maryhelen
Thievon

OFF: (908) 757-7780
EVE: (908) 756-9197
FAX: (908) 756-5696

Thank you
South Plainfield
for your valued
business!

Send a check or money order for \$25/one year (out-of-town-\$30) payable to: South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080. Or order your subscription via email at nancyg@spobserver.com and send your check to the above address.

✓ Please send me home delivery of the Observer.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

Obituaries

Joseph E. Caffrey Sr., 59

Joseph E. Caffrey, Sr. died suddenly on Thursday, Dec. 7 in his home.

Born in Belleville, he has resided in South Plainfield since 1971.

Joe was employed as a computer programmer for IBM of Pine Brook for the past five years and previously he was a computer programmer for Prudential Insurance Company of Newark. He had also worked for Hoffman-La Roche Company of Nutley.

He had served in the United States Air Force Reserves as an airman during the Mid 1960's and was a member of the American Legion in Iselin. Joe was a member of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield. He was dedicated to his family and friends and will be dearly missed.

Surviving are his wife, Mary T. (Bender) Caffrey; a daughter and son-in-law, MaryJo and Michael DiPaolo of Bradenton, Fla.; a son, Joseph Caffrey, Jr. of South Plainfield; his mother, Margaret Caffrey of Fairfield and a brother and sister-in-law, Albert and Catherine Caffrey of Belleville. Joe is also survived by his grand-

son, Michael DiPaolo.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Kenneth S. Schmidt, 79

Kenneth S. Schmidt of South Plainfield died on Saturday, Dec. 9, in Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Jersey City, he had resided in Rahway and Browns Mills before moving to South Plainfield in 1990.

He had been employed as a maintenance mechanic for Tingley Rubber of South Plainfield for 37 years before his retirement in 1982.

Mr. Schmidt had served in the United States Marine Corp. during WWII and had been a CB enthusiast.

His wife, Betti M. (Renner) Schmidt, died in 1980.

Surviving are his daughter and son-in-law, Sherri and Joseph Graham of Highlands; two sons and daughters-in-law, Ronald and Julie Schmidt of South Plainfield and Dennis and Theresa Schmidt of Edison.

He is also survived by his grandchildren, Kenny, Michael, Brian, Lisa and Donna Lyn and his great grandson, Anthony.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

children, Richard Arroyo, Jr., Kyle and Gavin Bertrand.

Private funeral services were held under the direction of the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Memorial donations in her memory may be made to the JFK/Haven Hospice C/O, JFK Medical Center, 65 James St., Edison, NJ 08818.

Genevieve D. Gough Russo, 83

Genevieve D. Gough Russo of Colts Neck, died on Monday, Dec. 11 at home.

She was born in Newark and was a seventy year resident before moving to Colts Neck.

She was predeceased by her husband, Victor A. Russo, who died in 1962 and her daughter, Genevieve Berardo and her brothers, Donald and Emmett Gough.

She is survived by one son, Robert Russo of Cape May; three daughters, Delores Russo of Piscataway, Beverly Huber of South Plainfield and Victoria Galeros of Colts Neck; a sister, Jacqueline McMenamin and a brother, Donald Gough; 13 grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

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

Mildred E. (Freeman) Hall

Mildred E. (Freeman) Hill of Scotch Plains passed away on Tuesday, Dec. 5.

Born in Elizabeth, Mrs. Hill was a lifelong resident of Scotch Plains.

She was retired from United National Bank in Plainfield.

Mrs. Hill was a member of the Westfield Eastern Star and had served as a county council woman for many years in Union County.

She is predeceased by her daughter, Judith Arroyo, who died in July of this year.

Surviving are a son, Richard Arroyo, Sr. of Mays Landing; two daughters, Robin Bertrand of Readington Township and Lori Ioriatti of South Plainfield; two sisters, Dorothy Freeman and Irene Csekitz and a brother Edward Freeman, all of Pennsylvania.

Also surviving are three grand-

Theresa C. Lavornia Moon, 93

Theresa C. Lavornia Moon died on Dec. 7.

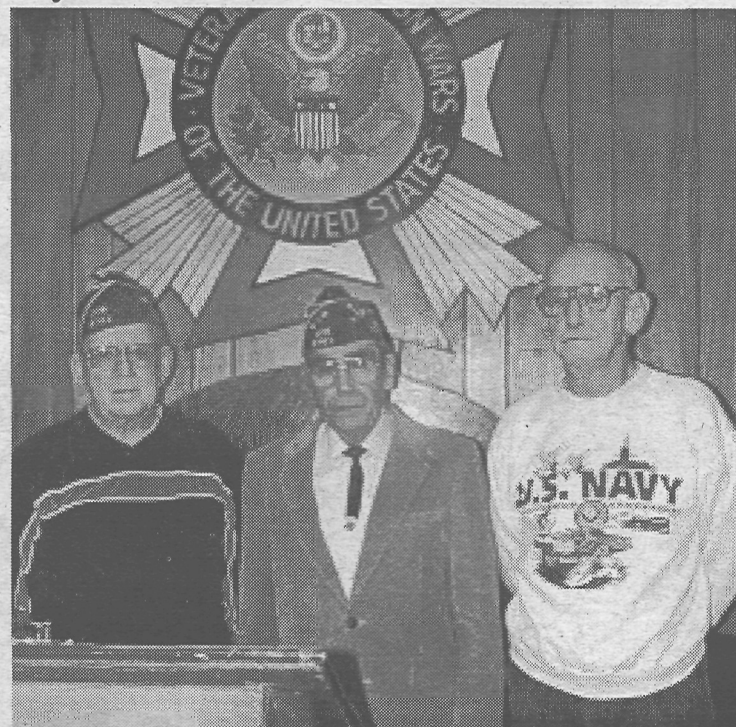
She had lived most of her life in Plainfield and had resided in Bradenton, Fla. for the past few years.

Mrs. Moon is predeceased by her husband, Willis C. Moon, Sr. and two sons, Willis Moon, Jr. of North Tarrytown, NJ and Paul R. Moon of South Plainfield; a daughter, Corinne and two grandsons and granddaughter.

She is survived by her son, Kenneth Moon, with whom she had lived and a daughter, Dolores Hill of Toms River. She is also survived by four grandsons and six granddaughters and eight great grandchildren.

Services will be held at a later date at Hillside Cemetery in Scotch Plains.

Pearl Harbor Remembered By Members of VFW



VFW Commander Rudy Poczak, Chaplain Michael Panza and Art "Moose" Bullwinkel participated in the ceremonies last Thursday in remembrance of the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7. Bullwinkel served on the Finback submarine during World War II. The Finback was the submarine that plucked George Bush (later to become president) from the ocean after his plane was shot down.

Last Thursday the members of VFW Post 6763 and a their guests held ceremonies marking the 59th Anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7 1941.

This surprise air attack on our naval forces in Pearl Harbor marked the beginning of the United States participation in World War II, which lasted five years. When the Pearl Harbor air attack was completed, 1,178 servicemen were wounded and 2,403 were dead or dying.

VFW Commander Rudy Poczak, noted that each year the number of those attending this annual ceremony gets smaller and smaller. "In a few years there will be no veterans left to attend these services, because the average age of our membership is also growing older," said Poczak.

Members from the VFW have been visiting the schools in South Plainfield, teaching students more about the veterans organization and their functions. The only way these veterans groups can stay active, is if they can recruit younger members. The VFW does also awards scholarships to students who enter their annual Democracy Essay Contest. It's just one of the ways veterans are encouraging the students to not forget the price of freedom.

**Tell Our Advertisers
You Saw Their Ad
in The Observer**

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANT

(L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO:
Nelson Pereira

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED to serve upon GOLDBECK McCAFFERTY & McKEEVER, A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION, plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is Suite 420; Sentry Office Plaza; 216 Haddon Avenue; Westmont, NJ 08108, phone # (856) 858-3242, an answer to the Amended Complaint, filed in a civil action, in which Countrywide Home Loans, Inc. is plaintiff, and Nelson Pereira and Susan M. Pereira, h/w are the defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, MIDDLESEX County, and bearing Docket No. F-15660-00 within thirty-five (35) days after December 15, 2000 exclusive of such date. If you fail to do so, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Amended Complaint. You shall file your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Hughes Justice Complex - CN 971, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, in accordance with the rules of civil practice and procedure.

This action has been instituted for the purpose of (1) foreclosing a mortgage dated March 29, 1996, made by Nelson Pereira and Susan M. Pereira, h/w as mortgagors, to Newway Financial Services

recorded on April 15, 1996, in Book 5064 of Mortgages for MIDDLESEX County, Page 747, which mortgage was assigned to the plaintiff, Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., by Assignment recorded on September 17, 1996 in Book 657 of Assignment of Mortgages for MIDDLESEX County, Page 569; and (2) to recover possession of, and concerns premises commonly known as 141 Merchants Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

If you are unable to obtain an attorney, you may communicate with the New Jersey State Bar Association by calling 1-732-249-5000. You may also contact the Lawyer Referral Service of the County of venue by calling 1-732-828-0053. If you cannot afford an attorney you may communicate with the Legal Services offices of the County of venue by calling 1-732-249-7600.

YOU, Nelson Pereira, are hereby made a party defendant to this foreclosure action, because you are the record owner of the mortgaged premises and because you executed the bond or note and mortgage being foreclosed herein and may be liable for any deficiency thereon, and for any right, title claim or interest you may have in, to, or against said mortgaged premises.

\$66.00 1T 12/15/00

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

December 11, 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 December 5, 2000.

Case #51-00-Maria Alvarez-Block 82, Lot 3, R-75 Zone, 414 E. Crescent Pkwy.-Applicant's request for a front setback from Oxford Ave. was hereby GRANTED.

Case #6-00/S-The Fisher Group, LLC-Block 401; Lots 3, 6.01 & 6.02, M-3 Zone & R1-2 Zones; 2225 Hamilton Blvd.-Applicant's request for a use variance and site plan approval was hereby GRANTED.

ATTEST:
Janice J. Muccilli Secretary, Zoning Board

\$19.50 1T 12/15/00

Beauty

Hillside Cemetery's gentle slopes are dotted with stately trees and evergreens. Flowering trees and bushes accent the grounds. The serene landscape is meticulously attended and renowned for its care and upkeep. All lots are fully developed areas and include perpetual care. Located on Woodland Avenue in Scotch Plains, a non-profit organization. 908.756.1729

Hillside Cemetery
www.hillsidecemetery.com

*Because
We
Care*



by Robert Hunter

GIVING THANKS

A life well lived should have few regrets at the end. As the poet and philosopher Lucretius wrote: "Why shed tears that thou must die? For if thy past life has been one of enjoyment, and if all thy pleasures have not passed through thy mind, as through a sieve, and vanished, leaving not a rack behind, why then dost thou not, like a thankful guest, rise cheerfully from life's feast, and with a quiet mind go take thy rest?" This attitude suggests that there is much for which to be thankful. When the end of life is viewed in the context of life's entirety, it may be seen as nothing more than the end of a fine journey.

While not all of us have had the opportunity to live out our drama, we are all free to enjoy the fresh scent of a spring breeze, the warming rays of the sun, the ever changing constellations in the night sky. Those who live well are not necessarily blessed with material wealth, but with a generous and appreciative nature. At the JAMES W. CONROY FUNERAL HOME, located at 2456 Plainfield Avenue in South Plainfield, we provide families and individuals with courteous, personal assistance in arranging end-of-life services. To schedule a consultation, call 756-2800.

*"He who fears death dies
every time he thinks of it."*
-Stanislaus Leszcynski



(908) 561-8000

McCriskin

HOME FOR FUNERALS

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

RICHARD W. MCCRISKIN, Pres., Mgr.
William C. McCriskin, V. Pres., Dir.
James A. Gustafson, Dir.
James F. Connaughton, Assoc. Dir.

**Find what you're looking for
in the**

Business & Professional Directory...

..every week in the *Observer*.
To advertise, call 908-668-0010.

Please Support our Advertisers.

police report

• A resident of Spruce St. reported suspects had tried to gain entry by prying the front door. They were scared off by the arrival of the resident.

• A Bullard Place resident reported the theft of a plastic soldier ornament from the front lawn of their home.

• A Murray Ave. resident reported the theft of a Santa ornament from the lawn of the home.

• Odd Job on Helen Street reported unknown burglar actors had cut the fence to gain access to the storage yard, then cut the plastic seals on 30-40 storage trailers and entered them. It is unknown what was taken.

• Meineke Muffler, Hamilton Blvd., reported the removal of a "Meyers" yellow-colored snowplow blade from the dumpster area.

• A Cedar Ave. resident was arrested for shoplifting.

• A Christopher Ave. resident was arrested for DWI and careless driving.

• A Hudson St. resident reported Christmas decorations were removed from the home and additional decorations had been damaged.

• A vehicle on Stelton Road had been entered and the ignition had been popped. There was no sign of forced entry. The theft was unsuccessful.

• An employee of Cosmed, So. Clinton Ave., reported two tires punctured.

• An officer responded to a report of a motor vehicle accident. Investigation revealed no accident but the driver, a Delaney Ct. resident, was arrested for narcotics possession.

• A Geary Drive resident was stopped for speeding and the odor of burning marijuana was

detected. A search resulted in the seizure of a small amount of marijuana.

• A Maple Ave. resident reported receiving obscene telephone calls.

• Kennedy School reported paint balls had been shot at school windows, doors and walls on the north side of the school. It is the second incident in two weeks.

• A Piscataway resident reported the theft of her Corvette from the parking lot of the Ramada Inn. The victim said she had had a bad feeling and kept checking on the car from the third floor window. There was an audible alarm and 'the club' was in place on the steering wheel. The victim noted that payments are on-time which rules out repossession. There was no broken glass or other evidence at the scene.

United Family Appoints Psychiatry Director

Marina Galea, M.D., has joined the staff of United Family and Children's Society in Plainfield as medical director and consulting psychiatrist. Dr. Galea, a resident of West Orange, completed an intensive four year psychiatry residency at Maimonides Medical Center in New York after earning her medical degree from the Institute of Medicine in Bucharest, Romania in 1987.

Dr. Galea is a diplomate of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology and is a member of the American Medical Association and the American Psychiatric Association. She was honored as a Lily Fellow at the Psychiatric Mental Health Congress held in Orlando in 1997 and completed a Bipolar Disorder Mini Fellowship sponsored by the Harvard Medical School in 1997.

In her position at United Family, she is responsible for psychiatric evaluation of children, adolescents and adults, medication assessment and consultation with the clinical staff of the agency. Dr. Galea, licensed to practice in both New Jersey and New York, also holds positions in psychiatry in Brooklyn, Elizabeth and Jersey City.

United Family is a non-profit family services agency serving Union, Somerset and Middlesex Counties. UFCS offers professional counseling for children and families, anger management groups for adolescents, programs for pregnant and parenting teens, infant foster care and adoption home studies.

For more information on UFCS, call (908) 755-4848.

Police Department Accepting Applications for Communications Operators

The South Plainfield Police Department is currently accepting applications for the position of part-time communications operator, which pays \$12.30 per hour.

The requirements for this position are that the applicant must be 18 years of age or older, have graduated from a high school or vocational high school or possess an approved high school equivalent certification; be a citizen of the United States; be able to accurately type a mini-

mum of 30 words per minute and be able to work a minimum of 30 hours a month, filling in for full time personnel when they have time off.

Applicants that have completed the basic telecommunications, emergency medical dispatch and CPR courses will be given a preference.

Applicants should submit a resume no later than Dec. 29, 2000. If you should have any questions, please contact Lt. Michael Grennier at (908) 226-7673.

Classifieds

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

To place an ad call, call by 5 p.m. on Monday, 908-668-0010.

HELP WANTED

AVON! Choose your hours, your income and your rewards! Home-based sales. Call Debbie (888) 915-5550.

P/T DELI & CASHIER. EXPERIENCE pref. Call George 908-755-3663 or stop in Oak Tree Farms 136 So. Plainfield Ave.

P/T TYPESETTER TO WORK on Observer newspaper. PageMaker efficiency, accuracy and proofreading skills a must. Fax resume: 908-668-8819.

FOR SALE - AUTO

1993 SUBARU WAGON. Good cond. AC, AM/FM stereo, 100K highway miles. 5-speed manual, \$4,100 or make offer. 732-786-1306.

XMAS TREES/WOOD

XMAS TREES - PICK YOUR OWN! fresh cut \$30 & up. Seasoned firewood, cord \$125, 1/2 cord \$65. Call Luke 908-561-8762.

PHOTOS FOR SALE

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

MISSING DOG: ALL BLACK MALE MUTT named BJ, 4 yrs. old, friendly. Wearing no collar when lost. Missing from the vicinity of Marsh Ave. Call Frances 908-822-0818.

WANTED

We Buy Gold & Silver Coins Old Toys, Trains, Furniture, Glassware, etc. Call Frank @ Heritage Marketplace 908-791-3820

LITTLE TYKES TOYS AND OUTDOOR toys-swing set, teeter totter in good condition. Call (732) 786-1306.

ESTATE SALES

HERITAGE ESTATE SALES-HUGE Moving Sale. Everything must go! Dec. 15 & 16, 103 Varich Ave., 9am-2pm South Plainfield

Let Us Handle Your Estate Sale... **CALL FRANK** We Take Care of It All! 908-791-3820/908-464-2615

CALL BY MONDAY, 5 P.M. TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD 908-668-0010.

Business & Professional

To advertise, call 908-668-0010.

ATTORNEY

Kathy C. Wong-Taylor

ATTORNEY AT LAW

General Practice with Emphasis on:

- Criminal Law • Municipal Court
- Immigration Law • Family Law
- Worker's Compensation

Bilingual ~ Spanish

(908) 412-0020
142 Oak Tree Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

CONTRACTORS

BUILDER & GENERAL CONTRACTOR

NJ DCA LIC #019771

Since 1981

Lordina Builders

908-753-3850

ADDITIONS-KITCHENS -

BATHROOMS -

Office Renovations

FREE ESTIMATES

PLUMBING, HEAT & COOL

Holly Park

PLUMBING • HEATING • COOLING

Sales & Service

BOILERS/FURNACES

AIR CONDITIONING

RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL

908/755-6409

Serving So. Plainfield

N.J. Lic. 7051

SNOW REMOVAL/SALT

Call **KLK Trucking** for:
Sand/Salt Mixture, Bulk Rock Salt, Ice Control Sand
Sanding • Salting • Snowplowing
Pick up or Deliv., Mon. thru Sat
908-757-4434
265 Ryan Street
South Plainfield

LANDSCAPING

A-TECH Landscape Design

Offering the following services:

- Lawn Maintenance
- Retaining Walls
- Brick Pavers
- Water Gardens
- Snow Plowing

Fully Insured

Free Estimates

(908) 769-9698

SWEDISH MASSAGE

SOLARIS Holistic Health Center

SWEDISH MASSAGE

"Specializing in Hot Stone Massage"

THE PERFECT GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR

Mother/Fathers Day • Birthdays • Anniversaries • Special Occasions

Roxanne Cortese, C.H.P.
Complementary Healthcare Provider
2701 Park Ave. So. Plainfield, NJ
(908) 561-1511

MUSIC LESSONS

DRUM LESSONS

Specializing in JAZZ, ROCK, and MARCHING BAND

High school band member available to give beginning or intermediate drum lessons at reasonable rates.

Call Brian

908-755-2709

Advertise Your Business in the Space for only \$15 per week.

Must commit to 10 weeks. Can run weekly or every other week.

ROOFERS

J.T. PENYAK ROOFING CO.

COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL RESIDENTIAL

908-753-4222

FAX 908-753-4763

124 CAMDEN AVE.
SO. PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080

PRINTING/TYPESETTING

- Invitations
- Brochures
- Resumes
- Flyers

G&G GRAPHICS

1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

908-668-0010 • Fax: 908-668-8819

email: ggnan@aol.com

GARBAGE DISPOSAL

PINTO BROTHERS

DISPOSAL

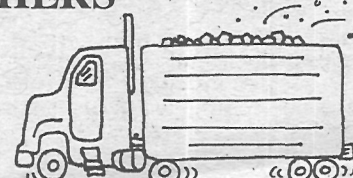
Andrew & Matthew Pinto

P.O. Box 263
So. Plainfield, NJ 07080

Phone 908-561-8231
Fax 908-561-9889

CONTAINERS FROM 1 TO 40 YARDS

Residential, Commercial & Industrial Service



"Still a Family Owned & Operated Business"

The Borough of South Plainfield is seeking volunteers for the Planning & Zoning Boards.

If interested, contact
Borough Administrator
Frank C. DeRosa
at 226-7602.



A Wall Full of Poinsettias

White Star Diner on Maple Ave. sold hundreds of poinsettia cards to benefit the United Way. Pictured are (left to right) Erin O'Keefe, Shokry Youseff and Sherry Hundar.

Angela Perry Gives Presentation At Lycoming College

Angela Perry of South Plainfield presented a colloquium at Lycoming College titled, "Impossible Triangles: The Fun Never Ends," in October.

Perry, a senior mathematics major at Lycoming, discussed how to form pyramids from four given triangles.

The colloquium was open to the college community and to the general public.

Perry is a graduate of South Plainfield High School.

Lycoming is a four-year liberal arts college in Williamsport, Pa. It has been ranked in the top tier of regional colleges by *U.S. News and World Report* and is also included in Barron's 300 Best Buys in colleges and universities.



Future Stars Preschool Parents Group would like to thank all of the parents and Troop 883 who helped make breakfast with Santa a success.



Future Stars Pre-School three-year-olds recently held a Friendship Feast in celebration of Thanksgiving.



The Best Place for Your Stock Market Money

CD SALE

These Special CD Rates are Available Only at the Office Shown!



620 Oak Tree Avenue & Case Drive
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
(908) 757-1055

www.columbiasb.com

Count on Columbia.

Member FDIC

5-Month Bonus CD 6.55% Annual Percentage Yield* \$500 Minimum If You Have an Advantage PLUS SM Checking Account with Us	14-Month Bonus CD 6.75% Annual Percentage Yield* \$500 Minimum If You Have an Advantage PLUS SM Checking Account with Us	18-Month Bonus CD 6.85% Annual Percentage Yield* \$500 Minimum If You Have an Advantage PLUS SM Checking Account with Us
5-Month Regular CD 6.40% Annual Percentage Yield \$500 Minimum	14-Month Regular CD 6.65% Annual Percentage Yield \$500 Minimum	18-Month Regular CD 6.70% Annual Percentage Yield \$500 Minimum

The Annual Percentage Yields (APYs) are available as of publication date. The minimum balance to obtain the APY is \$500. For CDs with maturities of less than 12 months, the APY is calculated on the assumption that the funds could be reinvested at maturity at the same rate. For CDs with maturities of 12 months or more, funds must remain on deposit until maturity to earn the APY. Rates are subject to change and may be discontinued without prior notice. A penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal.

*The APY shown for the 5-month, 14-month and 18-month CDs includes .15%, .10% and .15% bonus interest respectively, payable if you have a Columbia Savings Bank Advantage PLUS Checking Account. If at any time during the term of your CD, your checking account is not maintained, you will earn the regular CD Annual Percentage Yield.