

JAN 16 2001

# South Plainfield Observer

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JANUARY 12, 2001

## Borough Gets Open Space Money

*Buttiglieri Says Farewell, Petronko and Cusick Sworn In*

The annual reorganization meeting held last Sunday at Borough Hall drew a standing room only crowd as friends and relatives of two councilmen, Ray Petronko and Bob Cusick, packed the room and the hall outside the council chambers. Freeholders Dave Crabel, Chris Rafano and former South Plainfield Councilman John Pulomena, along with former Councilwoman Maryann Kochut and

See page 7 for the  
Mayor's Annual Message

Assemblyman Bob Smith were just a few of the dignitaries who attended the first official meeting of the 2001 Borough Council.

The first order of business was the swearing in of Councilman Ray Petronko, who begins his second term and Bob Cusick, the newest member of the council. Both will serve a three year term. Petronko and Cusick thanked the residents of South Plainfield for allowing them to serve their community. They promised to always remember to listen to what the residents have to say and do what is best for South Plainfield.

Outgoing Councilman Vinnie Buttiglieri gave a short farewell speech (see page 2), thanking those who helped and supported him during his council years. Mayor Dan Gallagher and council members praised Buttiglieri for his hard work, dedication and innovative ideas while serving the residents of South Plainfield.

Jim Vokral was again elected by the council to serve as council



South Plainfield's Mayor and Council take their seats at the 2001 reorganization meeting. Pictured are (standing) Councilmembers Dennis Cerami, Darlene Pinto, Bob Cusick, Raymond Petronko; (sitting) Ed Kubala, Mayor Dan Gallagher and Council President Jim Vokral.



(Pictured left) Councilman Bob Cusick takes the oath of office while his wife, Monica and children, Robert, Jr., Shane, Garrett and Gabriella look on. At left Councilman Ray Petronko's daughter Alexandra holds the bible as he is sworn in to his second term in office, along with wife, Patricia and children Randall and Kimberly.

cil president. Committee assignments were announced as follows:

**Administration, Finance & Public Information** – Ed Kubala (chairman), Darlene Pinto and James Vokral; **Public Works** – Bob Cusick (chairman), Dennis Cerami and Ray Petronko; **Economic Development** – Darlene Pinto (chairwoman), Ed Kubala and Bob Cusick; **Health, Welfare & Environment** – James Vokral (chairman), Raymond Petronko and Bob Cusick; **Public Safety** – Dennis Cerami (chairman), Jim Vokral and Darlene Pinto; **Recreation** – Raymond Petronko (chairman), Dennis Cerami and Ed Kubala.

This year the mayor's annual message noted all of the council's accomplishments of the past year. He added that it will be hard to follow the past year. Open space was also on his mind. Gallagher announced the purchase of the property on the corner of Clinton and Thompson avenues, with grant money from the Middlesex County Open Space Committee. South Plainfield will only pay 10 percent or \$75,000 of the \$750,000 to acquire the land. He also wants the council to designate the 15-acre parcel of land at the intersection of Hamilton Blvd. and Belmont Ave. as open space.

Also appointed by the governing body were: Patrick Diegnan, borough attorney; Mary Blue, Public Agency Compliance Officer; Andrew Hodulick, municipal auditor; Thomas Lanza, municipal prosecutor; Edward Santoro, public defender and Richard Lorentzen, tax search officer.

For a complete list of board and commission appointees, see page 6.

## Board of Adjustment Delays Billboard Vote

Last week's Board of Adjustment meeting ended without a vote on the three proposed billboards.

Because the Borough Council had not yet held their reorganization meeting at the time of the meeting, two members, John Rayho and Don Alexa, could not vote because they had not yet been sworn in for another term. Both men, however, were in attendance at the meeting and listened to the testimony

of the witnesses.

The council normally holds their reorganization meeting on New Year's Day or the following Sunday. This year the reorganization meeting was held on Jan. 7. Both appointed and re-appointed members were officially sworn in at the meeting.

The witnesses for all three billboard applications have completed their testimonies and a vote is expected to be taken at the Jan. 30 Board of Adjustment meeting.

## BOE Sets Referendum Date

The Board of Education has set Tuesday, March 6, as the date for the school referendum vote.

The BOE will be asking voters to approve bonding for a construction of a new Roosevelt School, expansion of Grant School, and upgrading of all schools for technology infrastructure. This will be the third time the school board will be putting a referendum in front of the voters. Last year, voters twice rejected school bonding proposals. This time the state will contribute 40% of the fund-

ing for school improvements.

Tracy Hartman, chairman of public relations for the referendum, is asking for volunteers to help her committee get the word out to every voter that this referendum is important to the school district.

Hartman said anyone is welcome to help, especially those who served on the committees last summer. She will be holding her first meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 6. If you are interested call Tracy Hartmann at 755-4349.

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## mark your calendars

Log on to  
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for the latest  
meeting agenda

### council meetings

Meets twice a month on the first and third Thursday.  
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-754-9000

AGENDA MEETING	PUBLIC MEETING
Thursday, January 11	Thursday, January 18
Monday, February 5	Thursday, February 8
Tuesday, February 20	Thursday, February 22
Monday, March 5	Thursday, March 8

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  
Special meeting on Thursday, Dec. 28, 8 p.m.

January 23, February 13, February 27, March 13, March 27, April 10, April 24

### zoning board of adjustment

Meets first, third and fifth Tuesday of the month  
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641  
January 16, January 30, February 6, February 20 (no meeting), March 6

### 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.

### site plan sub-committee

The fourth Thursday of the month as follows:  
January 25, February 22, March 22, April 26, May 24, June 28, July 26

### recycling commission

Meets Thursday, once a month  
Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-561-8280  
Jan. 25, 2001.

### recreation commission

Meets once a month on the second Monday of the month, except July and August  
PAL Building, Maple Ave. 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7716  
February 12, March 12, April 9, May 14, June 11, September 10, October 8, November 12, December 10

### environmental commission

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

### board of education meetings

Grant School Gymnasium on Cromwell Place unless otherwise noted  
Committee of the Whole, Jan. 16, 7 p.m.-Grant School gymnasium;  
Special Public Meeting for Student/Staff Commendations, Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2001 at 7 p.m.  
Regular Board Mtg., Jan. 23, 8 p.m.-Grant School gymnasium  
Committee of the Whole, Feb. 13, 8 p.m., Regular Board Mtg., Feb. 19, 8 p.m.

## South Plainfield Observer

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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 gggnan@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.

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## To the Residents of South Plainfield

*The following is the farewell speech delivered by Vinnie Buttiglieri at the reorganization meeting held last Sunday.*

It's hard to imagine that it was just six years ago that I stood in the exact same position that Ray and Bob are now standing in. Sure, maybe I was a little skinnier or had a little more black hair then I do today, but the excitement that both of you are feeling today, I'm sure, is the same. I want to congratulate you both. Remember, you have been given a tremendous responsibility, don't take it lightly. Always work hard, always listen to the people, help them when you can and always be honest with them.

While I was looking back over the past six years, I couldn't believe the improvements that have been made in this Borough. Remember what Hadley Rd. looked like back then. Look at it now! Remember when we had to bring our recycling down to the recycling center, instead of just bringing it out to the curb. Tell me that's not an improvement! Let's not forget the disarray our roads and buildings were in. Isn't it nice to be able to drive on a smooth road. How many years had people been talking about expanding our PAL, of improving our parks, sprucing up the downtown area, upgrading our emergency services, building both a senior residence and a senior recreation facility, not to mention getting our financial house in order. All of those things I just mentioned have happened under the current administration, which I have been privileged to be a part of. I am very proud of that.

I am also very proud to have been a part of the instituting of Democracy Day. Let's not forget the many people who said it was a waste of time, it would cost too much, and the mayor and council would never follow the wishes of the people. Well, we certainly have proved them wrong. I am sure that Democracy Day will continue and should continue under the leadership of Mayor Dan Gallagher and this administration. The people deserve to have their voices heard and what better vehicle than Democracy Day.

There are many people I need to thank for helping me over these past six years. First, two people who no longer are serving on the council, my first runningmate, Maryanne Kochut and our own Freeholder John Pulomena. Congratulations to John on being re-elected to serve all the residents of Middlesex County. Both, Maryanne and John taught me how to be a public servant and I appreciate that and thank them.

Also, thanks to all the Democratic Committee people who always work so hard for me and who always treated me well. My thanks to all of you. To all the resi-

dents and businesses in our Borough, thank you for accepting me with open arms. Hopefully, you will feel I made a positive contribution to our Borough. I also want to thank the employees of our Borough, especially those whom I worked with in the public works and engineering departments. Although we have not always agreed on everything, I always tried to respect your opinions and I know you did the same in return.

I also would be remiss if I didn't thank the many professionals who have worked so hard to see that our Borough is always moving forward. One, however, needs special mention — our Borough attorney, Patrick Diegnan — a man who works day and night to make sure that we do things right and who never asks for any accolades for himself. Well, you are going to get some accolades. I believe that I have spoken to Patrick Diegnan more in these last six years than anyone else. I constantly called him with questions and he has never been too busy to help me. He was a tremendous asset to our mayor and council and I'm honored to call him my friend.

Also, I want to thank my family, especially my wife Ray Jean, who I'm sure had no idea of what she was getting herself into five years ago. She was always accepting of the fact that I wasn't going to be home because of this meeting or that meeting and actually may have considered it a blessing, but no more dear—I will be home every night. Thank you for your understanding and support. Also to my parents, who really deserve the credit for shaping me into the person you see before you today. They instilled in me a strong worth ethic and a strong sense of service. I would like everyone to recognize them today.

Finally, my second family, the mayor and council. I have been constantly in awe of the time and dedication these individuals sitting to my right have put in to make our Borough the best it could be. They are all very worthy of the positions they hold.

Dennis Cerami, you are a great asset for our volunteer services and I have a tremendous respect for

him because of that. Occasionally we may have disagreed, but I always appreciated his point of view.

Darlene Pinto is as tireless a worker who has ever sat on this council. She says what she believes, even if it goes against the majority. Darlene you are a true asset to this council, don't ever change. However, there is one thing I would like you to change — stop calling my house at 11 p.m. with questions or issues. You can still call me, but please make it a little earlier.

What can I say about Ed Kubala that everyone doesn't already know. He is the most caring person any of us will ever meet. All he wants to do is what's right for this town. We are all lucky to have him working everyday for this Borough.

The job Ray Petronko has done during your first term is remarkable. You deserved to be reelected. Continue to work hard for the kids and the seniors. They need you.

Jim Vokral is probably one of the most unselfish people I know and I thank him for being a calming influence on me. Jim please keep your eye on Ray, he won't have me around to kick him under the dais when he talks too long.

Finally, Mayor Dan Gallagher, seeing him working every day for this town is something I have marveled at. His command of the history of this Borough is second to none. Anyone who knows Dan, knows that he is a tough leader. He expects you to work just as hard as he does for the people. With all due respect to all those mayors who have come before him or will come after him, I believe that the record will show that Dan Gallagher was the greatest mayor ever. It has been an honor and a privilege to work under him.

In closing, I just want to tell you how much I have enjoyed this experience and hopefully when you look back on my record, you will come to the conclusion that I have made a positive contribution to this great Borough.

Please accept my wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous 2001.

THANK YOU,  
VINCENT BUTTIGLIERI




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John Mocharski and Bishop Vincent DePaul Breen.

## Bishop Breen Honors Parishioners

Marie Dolinski and John Mocharski of Sacred Heart Church and Caroline A. Yankoski of Our Lady of Czestochowa Church, were awarded the Medal Regina Nostra at ceremonies held at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen last Sunday.

The Most Reverend Vincent De Paul Breen, bishop of Metuchen

presided at the ceremonies.

The award is presented to parishioners in recognition of their outstanding volunteer service to their parish and their church. The Catholic Church and the Lord.

The medal draws its name from the patronage of the Blessed Lady, the patroness of the Metuchen Diocese.

## GFWC Suburban Woman's Club Meeting Announced

The Greater Federation of Woman Clubs (GFWC) Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield held its monthly meeting on Jan. 4 at the American Legion Hall, Oak Tree Road.

Margaret Reedy, club member and hospitality chairperson, presented the day's program, "Your Skin: Beauty and You". Club

members participated in the program.

Future programs will include timely topics such as the history of quilting and geriatric drugs. Plans for a theatre party and a spring flea market are now in the works.

For further publicity info: call Donna Egan at 908-561-7935

## PAL To Offer Senior Citizen Walking Club

Walking serves as a great way to get in shape, as well as a way to get outside and to get some fresh air.

Starting next week on Tuesdays and Thursdays, South Plainfield senior citizens have the opportu-

nity to do just that. Interested seniors can join the Walking Club, from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the PAL Building, 1250 Maple Ave., South Plainfield.

For more information, please call the PAL Building at 226-7713.

## School Board Candidacy Information Available

Ellen B. Johnson, South Plainfield's Business Administrator, has announced the deadline for filing nominating petitions to run for positions on the South Plainfield Board of Education is 4 p.m., Monday, Feb. 26, 2001. The election is scheduled for Tuesday, April 17, 2001.

Prospective school board candidates can obtain a "School Board Candidate Kit" at the district office at 305 Cromwell Place, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. daily. Published by the New Jersey School Boards Association, the School Board Candidate Kit includes information about legal qualifications for school board candidacy, campaign procedures, and the role of the school board member. Information about the New Jersey School Ethics Act, important dates in the school election process, and briefing sessions for school board candidates are also included in the kit.

"I urge citizens who believe they can make a contribution to their communities' schools to consider board of education membership," said Patti J. Pawling, NJSBA president. "Serving on your local school board doesn't require a degree in education. The most important attribute a candidate can bring to office is a sincere interest in your community, its children and their education."



Barbara Harris (left), art teacher and SPEA Chief Building Representative at Riley School, presents a check from the Riley staff to Ann Marie Romanko, school nurse. The check was used to purchase K-Mart gift certificates, which Mrs. Romanko later distributed to Riley's needy families, as part of SPEA's annual holiday fund raising drive.

## Successful Holiday Fund Drive Held by SPEA

The South Plainfield Education Association, comprised of teachers, secretaries, and classroom and duty aides, conducted its annual Needy Family Fund Drive for the holiday season. The fund drive was highly successful and allowed the nurse at each school to distribute K-Mart gift certificates to families in need of assistance throughout the community.

The Needy Family Fund Drive is just one of the charitable efforts

conducted each year by the SPEA. Other projects include the SPEA Scholarship Fund, donations to Vision 2000, and financial support of Project Graduation, the Music Boosters, South Plainfield High School athletic programs, and other clubs and activities. Over the years the SPEA has donated over \$65,000 to these various educational and community projects.

## Rabies Clinic To be Held Next Saturday

The Middlesex County Health Department will be holding a Rabies Clinic on Jan. 20 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Borough Garage located on the corner of Spicer and Belmont Avenues.

The clinic is for both cats and dogs. Residents are urged to bring their pets for inoculation. Dog and cat licenses will be available. Cats must be brought in a carrier.

For further information, call 226-7631.

## Recycling Hours For Martin L. King, Jr. Holiday

The South Plainfield Recycling Center on Kenneth Ave. will be closed for the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. The Recycling Center will be closed on Tuesday, January 16 and will be open instead on Wednesday, Jan. 17, from 12 noon to 7 p.m.

Both the Recycling Center and the Yard Waste Site will be open as usual on Saturday, Jan. 13, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The regular schedule at the Recycling Center is Tuesdays, 12 to 7 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Yard Waste Site is open only on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. until

the spring.

For updates, call the recycling hotline at (803) 226-7620. Visit our website at [www.southplainfieldnj.com](http://www.southplainfieldnj.com)

## Attention Voters in Districts 6 and 11

Beginning with the Special School Referendum to be held on Tuesday, March 6, the polling place for residents in Districts 6 and 11 will be the South Plainfield Rescue Squad Building at 2520 Plainfield Ave.

For further information, call Mary Blue at (908) 226-7606.

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# Around Town

## AARP Meeting and Events

January 19 & February

AARP Chapter 4144 will meet on Jan. 19, 12:30 p.m., at the PAL. A slide-lecture called, "The New Jersey Trivia," will be presented by Professor William E. Dunscombe, and deals with New Jersey history, standards, symbols and natural history. The lecture will end by having a sing-a-long. All are welcome.

AARP will also sponsor an overnight trip to Atlantic City and the Three Little Bakers Theater on Feb. 21 and 22, 2001. Transportation, admission, show and lunch at Baker's, lodging in Atlantic City with continental breakfast, \$20 casino bonus, beef and seafood dinner are included. Hotel and restaurant gratuities included. Double occupancy is \$155, single is \$185. For reservations, call Mary at (732) 752-3764.

## Rec Announces Trip to Papermill Playhouse

May 9

The South Plainfield Recreation Department is sponsoring a trip to the Papermill Playhouse to see *Funny Girl*.

The bus leaves the PAL at 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$35 per person. Register at the PAL on Maple Ave.

## Sponsoring Trip to See The Lion King

July 5, 2001

The Rec 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 is sponsoring a 5-day, 4-night trip to Cape Cod, with a visit to Foxwoods Casino,



Sept. 10-14, 2001.

The trip package includes four nights accommodations, four breakfasts, four 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.

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.neto

## Tourette Syndrome Meetings

Jan 11, March 8, May 10

The Tourette Syndrome Association of Middlesex/Union County Family Support Group meetings have been scheduled for the following dates, Thursday, Jan. 11, March 8 and May 10. The meetings are held at JFK Medical Center in Edison, in the Neuroscience Institute Department, from 7 to 9 p.m. Please note that the meeting night is different.

For more information, call 732-283-1439 after 6 p.m. or contact www.tsanj.org.

## KISMET Events

January 13, 18 and 27

"Culinary Seductions" Full Participation Cooking Class for singles will take place on Saturday, Jan. 13, from 7-11 p.m. at Classic Thyme Cooking School, 161 East Broad St. in Westfield. Cost is \$65 at the door and includes class and four course meal.

"The Basics of Investing: Surviving Market Volatility" will take place on Thursday, Jan. 18, 7:30-10 p.m. at 109 North Ave., Second Floor, Westfield. There will be ample parking. Cost of \$10 at the door includes presentation and refreshments.

For info, call (908) 232-8827 or contact www.thatskismet.com.

**What Would You Do For Romance?** A full participation game show for singles will be held on Saturday, Jan. 27 from 8:30 to 11 p.m. at the Bravo Center located at 1100 South Ave.-upper level in Westfield. The cost is \$30 at the door and includes game show, refreshments and prizes.

For further information on any of these events, contact KISMET at (908) 232-8827 or visit www.thatskismet.com.

## Grant Central Sixth Elementary Announces Honor Roll

### High Honor Roll:

Julianne Bosse, Kiran U. Budhan, Christopher J. Burke, Dana J. Cacciatore, Samantha Cihanowycz, Samantha Lynn Granski, Katie L. Hardy, Amanda Harzula, Cassandra N. Hoffman, Brittany A. Hollis, Daniel J. Hubner, Gauri Joshi, Wael R. Kanj, Phuong T. Le, Joy M. Maszczak, Dale W. McCook, Sherif H. Moharem, Sampson Quang Nguyen, Leslie Elpidia Quicha, Kate E. Reichert, Karla Reyes, Daniel A. Sambat, Christopher J. Stallone, Michael E. Stallone, Lauren N. Stoeckel.

### Honor Roll:

Michelle Anne Alcantara, David Alston, Michelline Anim, William P. Ashault III, Joseph M. Attanasio, Sean R. Battison, Jake Bayak, Daniel E. Becker, Nicole M. Benak, Amber S. Berkowitz, Paige N. Berkowitz, Tina J. Bijlani, Dorian A. Bishop, Christopher M. Bizup, Ryan Albert Bovee, Megan L. Boyle, Courtney Breland, Steven V. Breslaw, Caitlyn A. Brindley, Melissa A. Budhan and Gina M. Buttrico.

John P. Carigma, Cynthia B. Carlson, Anthony J. Cassano, Derika Y. Catalano, Ashelyanne Chosney, Jonathan T. Clary, Jennifer L. Copeland, Kyle Corrado, Joseph Roy Cupo, Ryan E. Curtis and Ashlee Cybulski.

Rebecca Dacchille, Desirae Davis, Louis O. DeLosSantos, Nicholas A. DeSimone, Charles L. Decker III, Jenna L. DeLillo, Harrison P. Donahue, Nicholas A. Dorey, Kelly M. Downes, Jack-Duyphong Duong, Kathleen A. Eder, Ryan M. Egan, Anthony J. Ettore, Matthew J. Fabino, Alexandra L. Fodor, Melissa R. Franzson, Lauren N. Frazzano, Ryan C. Fredericks, Nicole A. Freitas, Lauren Catherine Fry and Angela M. Furka.

Kimberly A. Galinsky, Donna M. Garcia, Ashleigh R. Gaspari, Michael A. George, Michael J. George, Crystal J. Ghanem, Garrett B. Gianneschi, Matthew R. Gigantino, Erick Gonzalez, Crystal A. Gorman, Matthew J.

Gross, Allison D. Harty, Angelica F. Hebreo, Christopher C. Herbster, Nicholas D. Hogan, Sara B. Holbrook, Britney D. Hollaway, Asia N. Hollis, Fred L. Hooks III, Padmani Itarwu, Lalchan Jainarine, Michael J. Jakubik and Barney B. Johnson.

Ryan J. Kamen, Rebecca A. Keller, Brittany M. Kennedy, Marissa R. Kline, Christine M. Lanza, Richard D. Le, Ashley L. Little, Jennifer L. Little, Philip J. Luzny and Kyle J. Lykes.

Amanda E. Makowski, Taylor J. Mandel, Brittany A. Marino, Jaliz M. Marrero, Heather L. Martin, Samuel A. Martin, Melvin G. Martinez, Nicole J. Mathew, Robert A. Mathis, Stephanie L. Mazurak, Daniel J. McCreesh, Erin M. McGill, Nicole Christian Miglis, Jacquelyn N. Miller, Ryan P. Miller, Jennifer R. Mocerino, Carrie G. Moore, Anthony A. Moretti and Susan E. Mott.

Krista L. Natale, A. Phi P. Nguyen, Kathryn K. Noonan, Brittney C. O'Brien, Tara L. O'Keefe, Lelosa Ogbevoen, Jennifer L. Okuski, Justin M. Panzarella, Stephen P. Parello, Nicholas J. Pasquale, April B. Patel, Justin M. Pauls, Jenna L. Pein, Elizabeth K. Pisack, Kelly N. Piwowar, Victoria L. Plasse, Christopher R. Pollin, Jessica S. Pryor and Thomas J. Pryor.

Martily Ramagado, Tabitha A. Ramnath, Jessica L. Ranger, Trevor J. Rastelli, Selene M. Rayho, Stephen J. Richard, James Rivas, Kyla C. Rouse, Jessica L. Rousseau, Kimberly D. Russell, Joseph L. Scarpitto, Christina M. Schuetz, Lori A. Sepkowski, Aboussami Sheikh, Esmeralda L. Silvonek, Gary W. Stark Jr. and John L. Sullivan IV.

Sabrina G. Tantilio, Geovana A. Toca, Michael A. Troia, Joseph M. Turrise, Dean A. Tuwaidan, Anthony P. Valle, Jessica L. Vasquez, Alexandra C. Viscosi, Sean N. Walsh, Timothy Jared Williams, Jalisa Williamson, Brittanie M. Wong, Peter Yeung and Luigi A. Zeccardo.

## Sacred Heart Begins New Weekend Mass Schedule

Sacred Heart RC Church has changed the times of their weekend mass schedule. The new Saturday evening and Sunday schedule is already in effect.

Saturday evening mass is now at 5 p.m. Sunday masses are at 8, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.

Weekday masses are 7 a.m., except on Mondays, 9 a.m. in the church and 12 noon in the chapel. Monday evening there is a 3 p.m. mass.

On Holy days a vigil mass will be held at 7 p.m. and the holy day masses will be held at 7 and 9 a.m., 12:10 p.m. and a 7 p.m.

## Submit your Events for Around Town:

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

The South Plainfield Health Department Is Conducting Its Annual

## RABIES CLINIC



At the South Plainfield Borough Garage (corner of Spicer and Belmont Ave.)

Dog and Cat Owners are urged to bring their pets for inoculation.

Dog & Cat Licenses Will Be Available Please Note: Cats must be in a carrier

DATE:

Saturday, January 20, 2001 9:00 am-1:00 pm

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We know who the Sampton Ave. gargoyle is routing for in the playoffs.

From the South Plainfield Library

## Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Once again, it's Friday and here's the news from the South Plainfield Library:

The Library will be closed on Sunday and Monday in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Tuesday will be the last day for the present group from the CD Circuit. CDs can be borrowed, four at a time, for two weeks.

We're back on our usual Storytime schedule next week. The programs are held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. Each program lasts about an hour, includes stories and a craft activity, and is for children ages three and over. You don't need to pre-register for this program. If you have any questions, check with Children's Librarian Linda Hansen.

We have a couple of new displays in place; both can be seen throughout the month. The display wall features landscape photos by local resident J.W. Pierce, while the display cabinet features selections from our periodical collection.

If the recent New Year's snowstorm demonstrated anything, it's the fact that it's sometimes impossible (or inadvisable) to go to the Library. This is a particular problem for the elderly and infirm among our patrons. There is, however, a way we can help. The Edith Goodrich Homebound Program provides materials for such

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### Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.  
South Plainfield, NJ

Very Rev. John Paul Alvarado, Pastor

#### Mass Schedule:

Saturday Evening Mass 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:35 a.m.

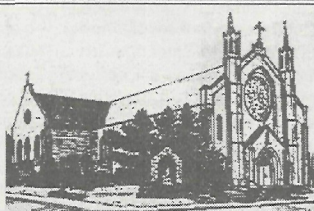
Weekdays 9:00 a.m. (church)

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. and 7 p.m.

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 11 a.m.- 12 noon, 4:15-4:45 p.m.  
and after 5 p.m. Vigil Mass



SPHS Cheerleading Team Roster is seniors Lacey Walter, Jennifer Reynolds, Kristen Anderson, Kristyn Ciariello, Veronica Zappi, Kristen Turner, Jessie Spayder, Justina Carubia, John Tempe; Juniors, Adina Ramos, Gina D'urso, Brielle Anderson, Billie Jean Sarullo, Jennifer Butrico, Dan Butrico, Jennifer Bodyl; freshman, Arielle Fumosa, Carly Stockel, Matt Santone, Miguel Garcia.

## SPHS Cheerleaders Preparing for Competition

By Patricia Abbott

Cheerleading today is a far cry from the stereotypical pony-tailed, dizzy females of years gone by. It has become a big sport in its own right. Gone are the days of just being there to support a basketball team and entertainment during quarters. Cheerleaders are athletes who work every bit as hard as any ball team. Members, both male and female, must be in top physical shape in order to compete in this strenuous sport. The South Plainfield Competition Cheerleading team is no exception.

South Plainfield High School's Competition Cheerleading Team is working hard with coaches Leanne Roudi and Georgeann Larsen to perfect their routines for upcoming competitions.

The 22 member coed team practices five days a week for 2½ hours at a time. Roudi and Larsen have been with the team since its inception three years ago. Roudi said, "This year's team is extremely close with one another and works very well with each other. They have a lot of respect for one another and they are very dedicated to their team."

A competition team differs from basketball cheerleading in several ways, the team performs the same routine the entire season and they do not cheer at sporting events but compete exclusively. Competition between schools is tough and professionals are brought in for both the dance moves and music. The SPHS team's routines are created by professional choreographer Nadine Paigen of the Universal Cheerleading Association (UCA). The team worked with her 3 days a week learning the routine and stunts. The routine is 2½ minutes long and consists of a one minute cheer and a 1½ minute dance. Coach Leanne Roudi noted that, "My team consist of great athletes. It is not as easy to throw a girl 25 feet in the air and catch her on the way down. It is a very serious sport that takes a lot of strength and physical activity. There is no break in the routine, for 2½ minutes they are in constant motion." In the summer the team attends a mandatory three-day camp with

their coaches.

Their first competition is Jan. 21 at Jackson Memorial High School. They will also compete at the World Cup held at Freehold Boro High School on Jan. 27. The team will host their own competition sponsored by the Booster Club on Feb. 10. It will start at 9 and run throughout the day. The high school and middle school will be opening up the different divisions.

They are also planning on attending the Nationals in Florida at Disneyworld on Feb. 24 and 25. This will be the team's first trip to Nationals. The team will

compete in the ESPN Studios when they are in Florida. Coach Roudi said, "They are working very hard everyday to make this trip a success. I am very proud of them and all the time they put in to make things perfect." The hard work goes beyond just cheering, they are working at raising enough money to travel to the Nationals. The cost per team member is over \$600. They are seeking donations from local businesses to help to raise the money for this trip. Donations can be made to SPHS Cheering, c/o Leanne Roudi, 14 Lench Ave., Edison NJ 08820.

## Creative Kids Announces Full-Day Kindergarten

Creative Kids Academy, located on Clinton Ave. will be registering children for their new full-day kindergarten, starting with the fall semester.

Sue Ashnault, the schools director, explained that the full-day kindergarten will include classes in science, computers, reading readiness, math, literature and many other activities. Children will also receive individualized instruction from certified teachers.

In addition to full-day kinder-

garten, registration will also be accepted for their Pre-school, Summer Camp and Day Care programs. Summer Camp begins on June 25 and includes movies, pool, trips and sports, arts and crafts and is open to kids kindergarten through second grade. Day Care is open for children ages 12 months through 9 years old.

Registration will be accepted on Monday, Feb. 5 from 7 am. to 3 p.m.

For further information, call 753-4477.



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# Volunteers Appointed at Annual



## Appointments by Mayor Daniel J. Gallagher

NAME	BOARD	EXPIRES
George DeLuca	Construction Board of Appeals/Alt.-Building	Dec. 31, 2002
Esther Armstead	Health Advisory Board	Dec. 31, 2003
Walter Kalman	Health Advisory Board	Dec. 31, 2003
Guy Ferri (or his appointed alt.)	Library Board-Superintendent of Schools	Dec. 31, 2001
Steven Magura	Library Board	Dec. 31, 2005
Peter Richkus	Traffic Safety Advisory Committee	Dec. 31, 2003
Kathy DiMeglio	Traffic Safety Advisory Committee	Dec. 31, 2003
Paul Grzenda	Traffic Safety Advisory Committee	Dec. 31, 2003
Frank Mikorski	Traffic Safety Advisory Com.-Bd of Ed liaison	Dec. 31, 2001
Joseph Glowacki	Traffic Safety Advisory Committee-DPW rep	Dec. 31, 2001
Kenneth Laverne/ Karl Schuetz	Traffic Safety Advisory Com.-Police Dept reps	Dec. 31, 2001
Denis Cerami	Youth Guidance Council-Council Liaison	Dec. 31, 2001
John Rayho	Board of Adjustment	Dec. 31, 2004
Don Alexa	Board of Adjustment	Dec. 31, 2004
Joseph DiFrancesco, Jr.	Board of Adjustment-Alt. 1	Dec. 31, 2002

NAME	BOARD	EXPIRES
Gary Rohrer	Planning Board-Class IV	Dec. 31, 2004
William Miller	Planning Board-Class IV	Dec. 31, 2004
Paul Grzenda	Planning Board-Alternate II	Dec. 31, 2001
John Pabst	Planning Board-Class II	Dec. 31, 2001
Larry Randolph	Environmental Commission-Chair	Dec. 31, 2001
Emil Leporino	Environmental Commission	Dec. 31, 2003
Michael Pisack	Environmental Commission	Dec. 31, 2003
Gary Rohrer	Liaison from Planning Board to Environmental Com.	Dec. 31, 2001
Kelly Keiser	Environmental Commission	Dec. 31, 2001
Mildred Waldron	Recreation Commission	Dec. 31, 2005
Wesley Spear, II	Mayor's rep to Library Bd	Dec. 31, 2001
Ray Petronko	Mayor's HCD rep	Dec. 31, 2001
Dennis Cerami	Council Liaison to Traffic Safety	Dec. 31, 2001

## 2001 Hearing Dates for Planning Board

January 9	July 10
January 23	July 24
February 13	August 14
February 27	August 28
March 13	Sept. 11
March 27	Sept. 25
April 10	Oct. 9
April 24	Oct. 23
May 8	Nov. 13
May 22	Nov. 27
June 12	Dec. 11
June 26	Dec. 25*

\* (No meeting)

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From Mayor Dan Gallagher...

## More Open Space, Keeping Taxes Down

I want to thank everyone who is here today for helping us celebrate our American Democracy. Ray Petronko and Bob Cusick validate what so many have fought and died to preserve. No shots were fired, there were no demonstrations in the streets, and there weren't even any hanging chads! Simply by placing their hands on the bible and taking the oath of office, Ray and Bob became representatives of the people.

Bob, savor this special day. You will never experience another one like it. I know you are nervous and you should be. You are now entrusted to do the people's business; it is a daunting responsibility. You should always approach your duties as a member of this council with the same seriousness that you do today. You have a great role model in Ray Petronko. Ray has an outstanding record of accomplishments in his three short years on the Borough Council. As council liaison to the Recreation Commission, he has overseen the improvements to virtually every one of our parks and the upgrading of all of South Plainfield's recreational facilities, including the expansion of our PAL. When an issue is before the council, Ray asks one simple question, "What's best for the people and what do I have to do to accomplish it?" Bob, if you follow Ray's lead, you'll be an excellent public servant.

There was never a year like the year 2000 in South Plainfield! More has been accomplished in the last 12 months than during the prior 20 years. After decades of talk, in September, we broke ground on the Borough's first ever senior housing project. Before this year is out, our seniors will be moving in to 100 units of affordable apartments designed to

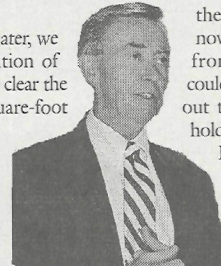
fit their needs.

Less than a month later, we witnessed the demolition of the old Shell station to clear the way for a 10,000-square-foot state-of-the-art Senior Recreation Center. This center, including all of the site work, parking lot, lighting and landscaping, will be built without spending one cent of tax dollars. Even the furniture will be paid for with a state grant. No single project shows this council's innovative approach to difficult projects than our new Senior Recreation Center. Construction will start in late spring and by this time next year, our seniors will be enjoying their new home.

It's appropriate that these two projects will serve our senior citizens, because our seniors have been working for South Plainfield their entire lives.

The third jewel in the year 2000 was the beginning of construction of a 14,000-square-foot addition to our PAL Recreation Center. Construction is progressing on schedule and our young people will be enjoying their improved recreational facilities by summer. Special thanks must go to Recreation Director Michael English and the Recreation Commission for never giving up and coming up with both an architectural design and a financial plan to make the addition to the PAL a reality.

While all of this was going on, an additional 21 roads were repaved on a "pay-as-you-go" basis and the houses at the intersection of Park Ave. and Oak Tree Rd. were demolished which doubled the size of Putnam Park. Because of the farsightedness of



the council, that corner is now permanently preserved from development. It couldn't have happened without the support of our freeholders, who provided South Plainfield with \$1 million dollars to acquire the homes. On behalf of all of the citizens of South Plainfield, I want to say thank you to our Middlesex County Freeholders.

Let's be honest...the year 2000 is going to be a hard act to follow, but there are important projects that need to be done this year.

• We must act immediately to preserve additional open space in South Plainfield. I am happy to announce that we have reached a tentative agreement with the owner of the 10-acre tract at the corner of Tompkins and Clinton avenues. A proposal was already presented to the Planning Board to build 15 homes on that site. As a result of the quick response of the governing body, a plan has been approved by the Middlesex County Open Space Committee to permanently designate that site as open space. The cost to acquire the property is estimated to be \$750,000; 90% of the funding will come from the county. Therefore for a payment of only \$75,000, our residents will forever be able to enjoy an additional 10 acres of pristine land.

• I will also ask the council to designate the 15-acre parcel at the intersection of Hamilton Blvd. and Belmont Ave. as open space. If developed, an additional 60 homes could be built. When these open space designations are complete, this mayor and council will have preserved over 100 acres from development. Our



# Reorganization Mtg.



Borough Attorney Patrick Diegnan administers the oath to Andrew Hodulik, Thomas Lanza and Mary Blue who received special appointments from the council.

## Special Appointments by the South Plainfield Council

NAME	POSITION	EXPIRES
Mary Blue	Public Agency Compliance Officer	Dec. 31, 2001
Andrew Hodulik	Borough Auditor	Dec. 31, 2001
Thomas Lanza	Borough Prosecutor	Dec. 31, 2001
Edward Santoro	Public Defender	Dec. 31, 2001
Richard Lorentzen	Tax Search Officer	Dec. 31, 2001

## 2001 Recreation Meetings

The Recreation Commission adopted its meeting schedule for 2001 at their Dec. 4, 2000 meeting. Meetings will be held the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the PAL Building, Maple Ave. on the following dates (except for July and August).

January 8, 2001	June 11, 2001
February 12, 2001	September 10, 2001
March 12, 2001	October 8, 2001
April 9, 2001	November 12, 2001
May 14, 2001	December 10, 2001

environmental preserve has been the topic of a *News Center Four* special. The nine acres on Park Ave. next to the shopping center has received forestry grants from the State of New Jersey. It's little wonder that surrounding communities regularly contact us for advice on how to efficiently preserve open space.

• Just last week, as part of an application before the Planning Board, Commerce Bank committed \$25,000 to fund an engineering study to properly utilize the open space parcels at Putnam Park. I ask that within 30 days we enter into a contract for the design of Putnam Park.

There is a general consensus that a jogging/walking trail should be created around the perimeter of the park and one or two soccer fields be established within the park. South Plainfield has always considered youth our most important asset. The expansion of Putnam Park will be a great benefit to our kids.

• We must do whatever we can to alleviate the ever-increasing traffic problems within our borough. It's easy to say that South Plainfield is not alone, every town in New Jersey is experiencing traffic congestion. Although that is true, it's not a satisfactory solution to the problem. We have asked Middlesex County to totally reconstruct Hamilton Blvd. from New Market to South Clinton avenues, including the installation of new curbs and drainage. We have also requested that a traffic light be installed at the intersection of Hamilton Blvd. and Ryan St. to be coordinated with Saint Nicholas Ave. As part of this process, I have asked the Traffic Safety Committee to coordinate all traffic signals along Hamilton Blvd. and Durham Ave., so that traffic can flow more easily. Particular thanks must go to our favorite son, Freeholder John Pulomena, for his help

in supporting these projects. I also want to see a right hand turning lane from Park Ave. onto Oak Tree Ave. and we should explore a cooperative venture with Middlesex County and Edison Township to install a traffic light at Oak Tree and Woodland avenues.

• Ultimately the traffic congestion on Hamilton Boulevard and Belmont Avenue will be addressed by the Helen Street Project. That project is now in phase two, during which time the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection must approve wetland permits. Phase three, which will start within four

months, includes the preparation of all environmental documents required by the DEP. That phase will be completed by the end of this year. Phase four, which will take approximately two years to complete, is the permit and design stage. Phase five, which is the actual construction stage, will also take about two years. Therefore, it will be about five years until Helen Street is completed. But remember, it involves crossing a rail line, two brooks and wetlands. This project is totally funded by a grant from the Federal Government. You can imagine how complicated and frustrating the process is. We are all impatient to have it finished. I can assure you that the borough will do whatever it can to expedite the process. But in the end, the Helen Street extension will be worth the wait.

• If there is one thing that every homeowner in New Jersey can agree on, it's that property taxes are too high. Although this mayor and council have kept expenses virtually flat for seven straight years and there was no municipal tax increase for four out of the last five years, we can't rest on our laurels. Members of the council, look at each of your departments and keep expenses under control. When

## Zoning Board of Adjustment Hearing Dates

January 2	July 3
January 16	July 17
January 30	July 31
February 6	August 7
February 20*	August 21
March 6	Sept. 4*
March 20	Sept. 18
April 3	Oct. 2
April 17	Oct. 16
May 1	Oct. 30
May 15	Nov. 6*
May 29	Nov. 20
June 5	Dec. 4
June 19	Dec. 18

\*No meeting

## Site Plan Sub-Committee Meeting Dates

January 25
February 22
March 2
April 26
May 24
June 28
July 26
August 23
September 27
October 25
November 22*
December 27

\* No meeting

you prepare the budget this year, use a sharp pencil and don't forget the eraser. Our residents deserve an affordable tax rate. With that in mind, I am asking that every council member recommend any position which can either be eliminated or consolidated. As part of this process, the council should interface with the county and the state to see if there are any local services which either duplicate county or state services or which can be done more efficiently by the county or the state.

We should cross train our employees so that they can help out other departments when there is a need for temporary assistance. I understand that the approach of government and business is not identical, but our taxpayers deserve to know that their tax dollars are being utilized efficiently.

Before I close, I have to say that this is a somewhat sad day for the members of the governing body. Vinnie Buttiglieri is a special person. He literally changed the way we pave our roads. During his six years on the council, 90 roads have been repaved without borrowing one dollar. By comparison, during the last year of the prior administration before Vinnie Buttiglieri became a council member, only two roads were repaved and almost a half million dollars was borrowed to do them. Vinnie has been instrumental in every project which has been accomplished over the last six years. He is the embodiment of the word "innovator." But most importantly, he is one of the nicest people any one of us has ever met. Vinnie, we will miss you. Promise you won't be far away and that you will be there when we need you.

Let us now go forward with an appreciation of past accomplishments tempered with a renewed commitment to address the challenges which await us. If we all continue to work together, we cannot fail.

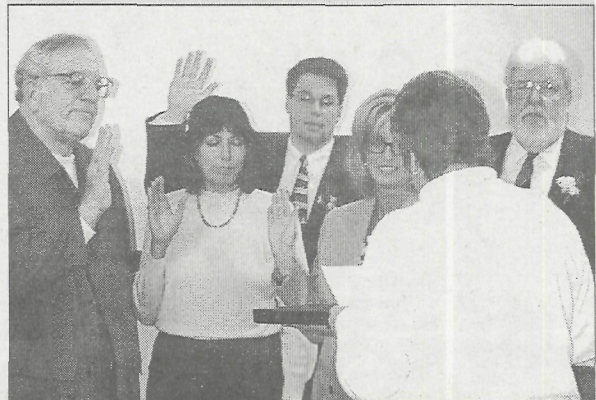
God's blessings on you and your loved ones during the new year.

## 2001 Council Agenda/Public Meetings

The following meeting dates have been approved by the Mayor and Council. 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, South Plainfield, New Jersey.

AGENDA MEETINGS	PUBLIC MEETINGS
Thursday, January 11	Thursday, January 18
Monday, February 5	Thursday, February 8
Tuesday, February 20	Thursday, February 22
Monday, March 5	Thursday, March 8
Monday, March 19	Thursday, March 22
Monday, April 2	Thursday, April 5
Monday, April 16	Thursday, April 19
Monday, May 7	Thursday, May 10
Monday, May 21	Thursday, May 24
Monday, June 4	Thursday, June 7
Monday, June 18	Thursday, June 21
Monday, July 16	Thursday, July 19
Monday, August 20	Thursday, August 23
Tuesday, September 4	Thursday, September 6
Monday, September 17	Thursday, September 20
Monday, October 1	Thursday, October 4
Monday, October 15	Thursday, October 18
Monday, November 5	Thursday, November 8
Monday, December 3	Thursday, December 6
Monday, December 17*	Thursday, December 20*

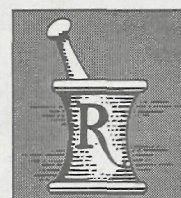
\* (If needed)



## Appointments by Council President James Vokral

Approved by majority vote of the Borough Council

NAME	BOARD	EXPIRES
Darlene Pinto	Planning Board-Class III	Dec. 31, 2001
Emil Leporino	Business Advisory Group	Dec. 31, 2003
Arthur Muglia	Business Advisory Group	Dec. 31, 2003
Ronald Nobile	Business Advisory Group	Dec. 31, 2003
Anthony Giammarino	Business Advisory Group	Dec. 31, 2002
John Pabst	Business Advisory Group/ Zoning Officer	Dec. 31, 2001
Ed Kubala	HCD-Council rep	Dec. 31, 2001
Darlene Pinto	Greenbrook Flood Control Commission	Dec. 31, 2001
Alice Temple	Greenbrook Flood Control Commission	Dec. 31, 2001
Richard Naberezny	Greenbrook Flood Control Commission-Alt II	Dec. 31, 2001
Patricia Guaracci	Taxpayer's Advisory Group	Dec. 31, 2003
David Dengeligi	Taxpayer's Advisory Group	Dec. 31, 2003
Sue Mischka	Senior Citizen Advisory Committee-Coordinator	Dec. 31, 2001
Ray Petronko	Senior Citizen Advisory Com.-Council Liaison	Dec. 31, 2001
Loretta Conroy	Senior Citizen Advisory Committee-liaison to Recreation Commission	Dec. 31, 2001



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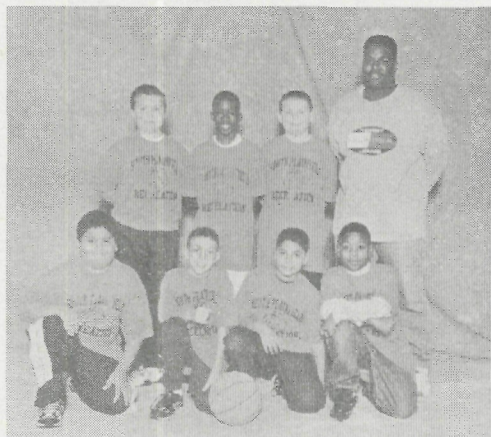
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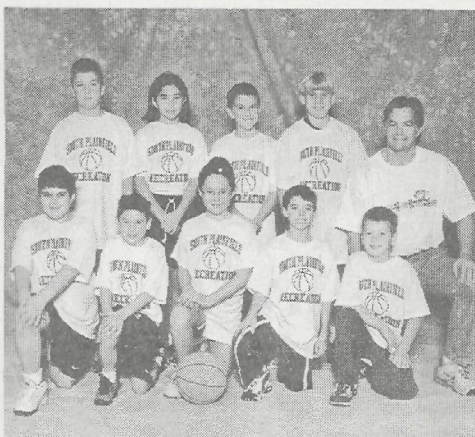


# Youth Basketball League



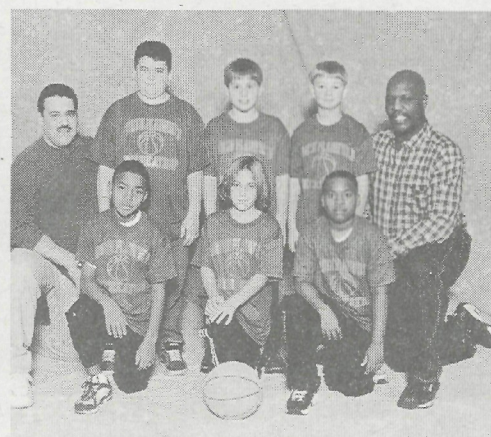
## C League Cavaliers

Kristopher White, Jessica Gray, Andrew Gray, Richard Harzula, Jared Christopher, Nicholas Whitney, Kelvin Randolph, Peter Salib, Christopher Ascencio



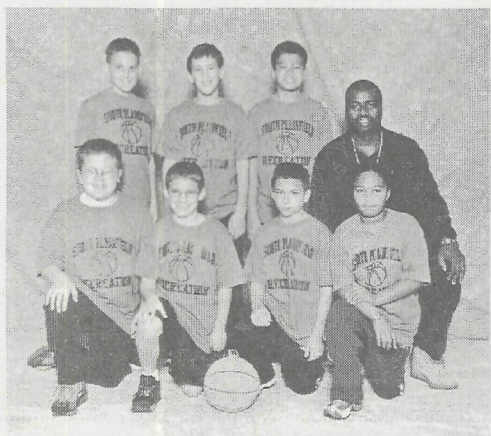
## C League 76ers

Julie Garbowsky, Bobby Harrington, John Christ, Kyle Darr, Scot Bishop, Anthony Salerno, Timmy Yuill, Melissa Fisher, Jason Seigel



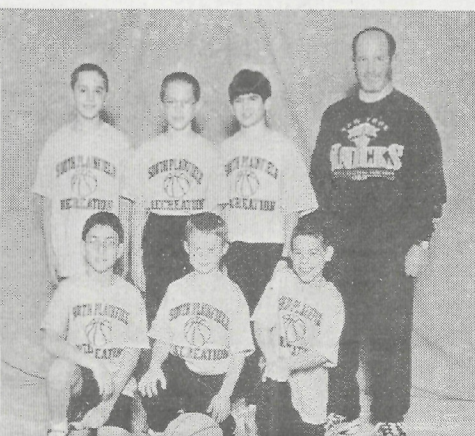
## C League Knicks

Jalil Williams, Bobby Sacks, Ashley Sacks, Tim Oppelt, Billy Rickert, Darnell Beverley, Joseph Dacchille, Sherrie Donato, Allen Garcia



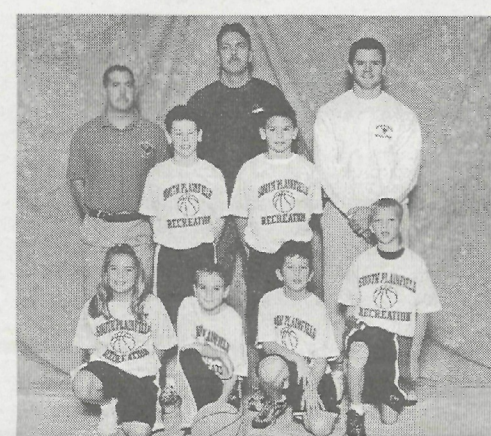
## C League Pistons

John Mills, Blaire Houston, Ryan Bunting, Christopher Pennisi, Kevin Reviello, Nosavoen Ogeboen, Joseph Daddario, Andrew Ohriska, Mark Sprenger



## C League Timberwolves

Robbie Hoffman, Brendan O'Shea, Christopher DeOliveira, Ken Breslau, Joseph Lacerda, Christopher Lesniak, Soham Gupte, Russell Nash



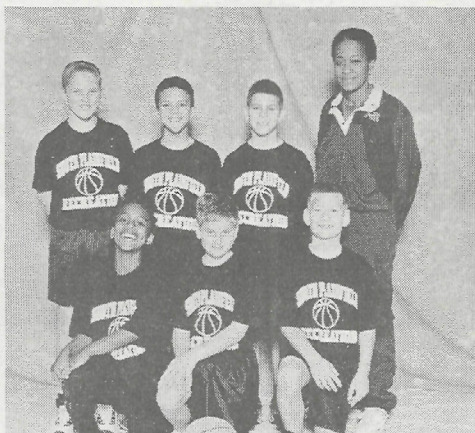
## C League Magic

Jordan Petriello, Scott Barton, Jimmy Cox, Lyndsey Murtagh, Ricky Walton, Danny Maistickle, Ryan Smith, Chelsea Mouborak, Troy Russell



## C League Lakers

Nick Lanza, Vinnie Padula, Frank Alfano, Matt Seider, Louis Bottone, Justin Ditmars, Conner Keane, Alan Kasmer



## C League Nets

Patrick DaCosta, Tramane Miller, Brad Martin, Nicholas Jeglinski, Gregory Herbster, Steven Wieczorek, Christopher Hartje, Joseph Grennier



## C League Bulls

JR Licato, Grey Coppi, Greg Watts, Brian Pullen, Brian Hanley, Ricky Sierzega, Kristin Billich, Raymond Lee

## 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.

**SUBSCRIBE.** It's \$25. (in town) for one year!!



# Sports

## Tiger Wrestling

### Tiger's Crown Four Champions at Hunterdon Central

By Bob Hunter

The South High School wrestling team crowned four champions at the Hunterdon Central Tournament. This holiday classic included teams from Bensalem Pa., Buena, East Brunswick, Hamilton West, (host) Hunterdon Central, Jefferson, Lenape,

Long Branch, Manalapan, Moorsetown, Notre Dame, Old Bridge and Toms River.

The Tiger's, not manning a full team due to injuries, still fared well with four champions. Senior Rich Gebauer (112), Matt Anderson (119), Matt Gati (135) and Scott Doerr (140) all won titles. Head coach Bill Pavlak was

pleased with the overall performance of those who did wrestle. Freshmen Danny DeAndrea finished in fourth place.

**Tigers Tame East Brunswick**—After the Tigers easily took care of Bishop Ahr and JP Stevens they were suppose to be tested against East Brunswick in a Red Division match up. That however did not happen. The Tiger's started out giving up a forfeit at (103), but came back to win the next eight bouts four by fall. Rich Gebauer (112) got the Tigers going with a first period fall over Jamie Guido. Ricky Ringel followed at (119) and pinned Tim Ackerman at 1:14. Matt Anderson, who bumped up to wrestle at (125), faced state place winner Keith Ritchings and took early control before scoring a 13-0 major decision. Roberto Ramos (130) wrestling in his first match of the season went on to defeat Brian Ackerman 8-2. Matt Gati (135) went right to work taking the early lead before pinning Chris Yannazzo at 3:32. Freshman Guy Severini (140) posted a 5-0 decision over Nate Mull. Scott Doerr (145) gave the Tigers another spark when he pinned Matt Merrigan at 1:55. Glen Gross (152) continued with a strong performance pinning Jay Sitalisky

at 4:17. Jason Stokes (160) wrestling up a couple of weight classes did a great job even in defeat losing a 3-1 decision to Sam Mull. Joe DeBiase (171) scored an escape over John Clay and held on to win 1-0. Senior John Estolo (189) wasted little time scoring a fall over James Gagnon at 0:41. Ryan Elliot (215) wrestled a good match keeping the score close until the third period when he got pinned by Adam Fleishhauer.

## BULLETIN

### Tiger Bite the Dawgs

The South Plainfield High School wrestling team ranked seventh in New Jersey, traveled to Delaware Valley High school Wednesday night, to face the number eight Terriers. It was a tough battle, as expected, with the Tigers taking the first seven bouts and a 30-0 lead. The Tigers went on to win 36-26. More details in next week's edition of the *Observer*.

### Ed Niemczyk's Youth Basketball League

Over 400 boys and girls, ages 7-14 in four groups, participate in this Recreation Youth Basketball League. Forty-eight teams play every Saturday in the Middle School and PAL building, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

After a two week holiday break, the basketball program resumed on January 6:

A LEAGUE	RECORD	TEAM'S HIGH SCORER
Jazz .....	4-1	Chris Bakazan
76ers .....	4-1	Nick Cesare
Cavaliers .....	3-2	Chris Horn
Spurs .....	2-3	Jasen Ortiz
Bulls .....	3-2	Ankit Patel/Nick Jeffery
Nuggets .....	1-4	Nick Doell/Andrew Miller
Rockets .....	1-4	Allen Mazurak
Knicks .....	2-3	Andrew Cupido
B LEAGUE	RECORD	TEAM'S HIGH SCORER
Jazz .....	4-1	Keith Dezmin
Magic .....	4-1	Chris Stallone
Pistons .....	5-0	Andrew Pinto
Nets .....	5-0	Kevin Siedenburg
Hornets .....	4-1	Ryan Curtis
Cavaliers .....	4-1	Justin Basellone
Lakers .....	2-3	Robbie Strani
Heat .....	3-2	Zachary Gray
Bulls .....	1-4	Garrett Lake
Raptors .....	1-4	Stephen Dvorak
Supersonics .....	2-3	Anthony Petriello
Timberwolves .....	0-5	Stephanie Mazura
Knicks .....	1-4	Lacey Santone
Celtics .....	0-5	Joseph Defalco
C LEAGUE	RECORD	TEAM'S HIGH SCORER
Magic .....	4-1	Troy Russell
Knicks .....	4-1	Jalil Williams
Pistons .....	4-1	Blair Houston
Heat .....	3-1	Danny Espin
Timberwolves .....	4-1	Brendan O'Shea/Robbie Hoffman
Lakers .....	4-1	Vinnie Padula
Bulls .....	2-3	Grey Coppi
Celtics .....	3-2	Davis Alston
Nets .....	3-2	Tramane Miller
Jazz .....	1-3	Michael Muglia
Raptors .....	2-3	Timothy Durnak
Cavaliers .....	0-4	Andrew Gray
76ers .....	0-5	Bobby Harrington
Hornets .....	0-5	Anthony Simone
D LEAGUE	RECORD	TEAM'S HIGH SCORER
Nuggets .....	4-1	Elizabeth Martin
Jazz .....	5-0	Gaganjot Dhaliwal
Bulls .....	3-2	Joey Delgado
Timberwolves .....	3-2	Mark Benak
Hornets .....	3-2	William Mott
Nets .....	2-3	Anthony Baidasarra
Magic .....	2-3	Steven Grzenda
Pistons .....	3-2	Kishan Patel
Spurs .....	2-3	Mathew Miceli
Heat .....	1-4	Mathew Santos
Lakers .....	2-3	Iyanosa Ogbevoen
Cavaliers .....	0-5	Christian DiCarlo

### 2001 Baseball Registration

The South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club (SPJBC) registration will take place at the Baseball Complex, on Thursday, Jan. 11 and Friday, Jan. 12, from 6-9 p.m., and on Saturday, Jan. 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. New players must bring birth certificate or copy, and children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at time of registration. Registration fees are \$55 for one player, \$85 for two players and \$105 for three or more players. All fees include uniforms. Sign ups for managers, coaches and umpires will also be held at this registration. This year a new eligibility policy has been introduced. Any seven year old whose birthday falls between Aug. 1-Sept. 30 may elect to play up as an eight year old. Also, 17 year olds will now be eligible for play in the Pony A Division; but they will not be eligible to pitch.

### Recreation Wrestlers Crush Berkeley Heights

The recreation wrestling team posted their second win of the season by handing Berkeley Heights an 85-3 defeat. The Tigers almost won every match. Winning matches were Tyler Hunt (50), Jeffrey Conroy (53), Ryan Sacco (57), Robert Gentile (60), Nick Heilmann (63), Patrick Hunter (67), John Wylam (70), Tim Gaughan (73), Billy Ashnault

(77), Bryan Hunt (80), Sam Martin (90), Mark Wagner (95), Brad Martin (102), Danny Pompillo (110) and Rocco Petriello Hwt. The JV team did just as well with Jonathan Conroy, Sal Soto, Kevin Smith, Justin Smith, Jake Smithline, Joe Vetuchi, Nick Pauls, Mike Wagner, Corey Hay, Nick Vallone and Ryan Billich all leading the way for the win.

### Middle School Wrestlers Improve Their Record

South Plainfield Middle School wrestlers upped their record this past weekend to 9-1. Wrestling a tri-match at the high school against North Hunterdon and Voorhees, the team remained unbeaten in league matches by disposing of North Hunterdon 49-19 and Voorhees 45-21. Leading the way for the middle school, with victories against both schools were Robert Gentile, Jimmy Conroy, Billy Ashnault, Sam Martin, Anthony Niemczyk, Peter De Andrea, Kyle Bostick, Jomar Beverly, and Rob Masticle. Also posting victories this weekend were Anthony Costante and Paul Ritchie.

After starting off the season with a loss in the Randolph team tournament, the middle school has reeled off nine straight wins and is unbeaten in head to head league matches. Over the last

couple of weeks, the middle school defeated Hunterdon Central 51-23.

They also exacted some revenge by beating Watchung Hills 47-21. Watchung Hills was one of the few teams to beat them last year. They also defeated a tough Old Bridge club by the score of 66-24, in a match that saw every contest end in a pin. Old Bridge fielded a team with several outstanding wrestlers of their own, and were stunned by the lopsided score.

This weekend the team travels to Roselle Park, where along with the rec team, they will compete in the Roselle Park "Dads" tournament. An individual tournament that also crowns a team champion, will be a stern test for both the rec and middle school teams.

Submitted by George D'Alessandro

### Tigers Crown Three Champions at Kittatinny Tournament

South Plainfield wrestlers traveled to Kittatinny high school this past weekend for this annual wrestling classic and came home with 3 individual titles and 6 overall medals. Winning titles were Mark Wagner (90), Billy Ashnault (75) and Kyle Bostick (121). Mike Wagner (74) Bantam finished in second place. Jimmy Conroy (75) finished in third place and Sam Martin (90) finished in fourth. Also winning matches but not placing were Patrick Hunter, Mike Jakubik and Bryan Hunt.

### There's a lot going on in South Plainfield...



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## Obituaries

### Augusto O. Florentino, 76

Augusto O. Florentino, of Jersey City, died on Tuesday, Jan. 2 at Christ Hospital in Jersey City.

Born in Manila, Philippines, he came to the United States in 1976, settling in Bayonne and then shortly thereafter in Jersey City.

Mr. Florentino was a graduate of Manuel Quezon University in Manila where he graduated in the late 1950's with a degree in law.

He was a practicing lawyer in the Philippines where he was affiliated with the Manila Police Department and later in his career with the mayors office.

Once Mr. Florentino relocated to the United States, he worked for the Jewish Rehabilitation Center in Jersey City, as chief of security from 1977 until his retirement in 1987.

Mr. Florentino was a member of St. Mary's Church in Jersey City and was also an active member of the Lincoln Park Tennis Association in Jersey City.

Surviving are his wife, Rosa (Mangliemot) Florentino; two daughters, Cristina Urmaza of South Plainfield and Cecilia Cem of North Edison; a son, Ronnie Florentino of Jersey City; a niece, Angelina VanDenBos of Vancouver, Canada. Also surviving are six grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

### Maria Del Piano, 88

Maria Del Piano died on Wednesday, Jan. 3, at her home in South Plainfield.

*Because We Care*

by Robert Hunter

### PLANNING AHEAD

While most of us prepare for babies, college, and homeownership, we pay relatively less attention to preparing for death. Although religious or moral convictions usually dictate final arrangements, funeral preplanning ensures that these preferences are effectively communicated to family members. It may help to think about the preplanning process by working backwards and first determining the method of disposition. Your final resting place will influence how your body is prepared, what products or services are required, and how much your arrangements will cost. Next, plan the ceremony, taking into account any particular religious aspects you want incorporated. Pre-need planning enables your family to know what your intentions are and eases the burden they will assume when you are gone.

While your family will often resist discussing details concerning your final arrangements, it's important to take charge of making plans and choices that will not only ensure that your wishes are carried out, but will relieve your loved ones from the difficulty of making such decisions during a painful and confusing time. To schedule a private preplanning consultation, call the JAMES W. CONROY FUNERAL HOME, located at 2456 Plainfield Avenue in South Plainfield, at 756-2800. Our staff of caring professionals are here to serve you. Complete Care financing available.

*"Death be not proud, though some have called thee Mighty and dreadful, for, thou art not so."*

— John Donne

Mrs. Del Piano was born in Naples, Italy and had resided there for most of her life. She had owned and operated a grocery store in Naples for many years. She began traveling to the United States in 1969, in order to see her family.

After the death of her husband, Antonio Del Piano in 1989, she retired from her store and came to the United States, settling in South Plainfield with her family.

Mrs. Del Piano was a communicant of Sacred Heart RC Church in South Plainfield.

Surviving are her two daughters and sons-in-law, Toni and Renato Notino and Susie and Guido Leonardi; her son and daughter-in-law, Rosario and Adele Del Piano, all residing in South Plainfield; two sons Giuseppe and Pietro Del Piano, both living in Naples, Italy. She is also survived by 13 grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

### Carmine "Ed" Amabile, 82

Carmine "Ed" Amabile died on Friday, Jan. 5, in his home.

Born in Jersey City, Mr. Amabile resided in Clark and Edison before moving to Berkley Twp in 1991.

He had been employed as a pipe fitter in the maintenance department for E.R. Squibb & Son in New Brunswick for 15 years before retiring in 1985. Previously he had been employed as a pipe fitter for the former GAP Company of Linden.

He was an active member of the Widow to Widowers Group of Hopelawn.

Mr. Amabile's wife, Rose Amabile, died in 1990 and his great granddaughter, Nicole M. Iarrapino, died in August, 2000.

Surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Rosemarie and Michael Iarrapino of Edison, Angela and William Sweeney of Maritton; a son and daughter-in-law, Patrick and Debbie Amabile of Helmetta; his companion, Helen Sims of Berkley Twp. Also surviving are six grandchildren, Brian, Edward and Michael Iarrapino, Glenn and Andrea Grassano and Vincent Amabile. He is also survived by two great grandsons, Nicholas and Michael Iarrapino.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

### 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



McCriskin

## HOME FOR FUNERALS

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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.

## South Plainfield Adult School Announces Programs/Trips for Winter Semester

Brochures have been delivered to area residents for the South Plainfield Adult School Winter Semester.

If you would like to receive a brochure listing the Adult School and Saturday Scene youth classes as well as a listing of the current trips, please call the Adult School at 908-754-4620 ext. 213.

Register for Adult School classes, trips, and Saturday Scene classes in Room 2 of the Middle School or by calling 908-754-1620 ext. 213, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. In-person registration will take place on Wednesday, Jan. 17 and Thursday, Jan. 18, at the Lane Ave. entrance to South Plainfield High School from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Following is a listing of some of the classes scheduled for the upcoming semester in January:

• **ADULTS**—Keyboarding/Typing, Internet Classes, Microsoft Office, Excel, PC Repair, Investment Strategies, Home Buyers & Sellers Seminars, Lebanese Cooking, Oil Painting, Calligraphy, Rambling Rose Heart Wreath, Rubber Stamp Art, Scrapbooking, Japanese Language, Japanese Calligraphy, Stop Smoking, CPR and First Aid, Yoga, Reiki, Women Beyond Belief Classes, Piano, Dance, High Energy Exercise, Volleyball, Karate, Golf, Tennis, Sign Language, Dog Obedience, S.A.T. Preparation, Certification for Track & Field Officials and Exercise & Swimming at Ricochet.

• **SATURDAY SCENE FOR YOUTH**—Babysitters Training, Scrapbooking, Rubber Stamp Art, Tennis, Exercise & Swimming at Ricochet.

The South Plainfield Adult School has space available for the following trips for 2001. For more information call (908) 754-4620 ext. 213 or 217.

**478. SUNDAY BRUNCH AT RENAULT WINERY AND ATLANTIC CITY**—Jan. 21. Bus leaves at 8 a.m. Price: \$45.

**472. SEUSSICAL-SATURDAY MATINEE**—Feb. 10. Bus leaves at 12 noon. Price: \$105.

**471. PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW**—Sunday, March 4. Bus leaves at 7:30 a.m. Price: \$43.

**472. PHANTOM OF THE OPERA**—Thursday, March 8, 2001. Bus leaves at 5:45. Price is \$65.

**439. DISCOVER SOUTH AMERICA WITH OPTIONAL THREE NIGHT PRE-MACHU PICCHU AND POST-AMAZON EXTENSIONS**—Thursday, March 15. Price: \$3,929, based on double occupancy includes cancellation waivers (air and land) and departure taxes. Deposit of \$360 per person required.

**440. GREECE: ANCIENT ROADS AND MYSTICAL ISLANDS FEATURING A FOUR NIGHT AEGEAN CRUISE (OUTSIDE CABS)**—Wednesday, March 11. Departing from Newark. Price: \$2,234 based on double occupancy. Includes cancellation waivers (air and land) and departure taxes. Deposit of \$395 pp required. Call for itinerary.

**483. MEMPHIS, NASHVILLE & TUNICA, MISSISSIPPI**—Friday, March 23-29. Price: \$619, double occupancy. \$100 pp deposit required. Call for day-by-day itinerary.

**474. KISS ME KATE**—Saturday matinee, March 24. Bus leaves at 12 noon. Price is \$97.

**475. RIVERDANCE**—Thursday, April 5. Bus leaves at 5:45 p.m. Price: \$80.

**469. WASHINGTON, DC**—Saturday and Sunday, Apr. 7-8. Bus leaves at 8 a.m. Price: \$175 pp based on double occupancy.

single \$199, triple \$164. A \$50 deposit pp is required.

**470. CHAMPIONS ON ICE**—Saturday matinee, Apr. 7. Bus leaves at 12 noon. Price: \$76.

**476. AIDA**—Wednesday, April 11. Bus leaves at 5:45 p.m. Price: \$96.

**484. JOHNSON & WALES INN RHODE ISLAND, MARTHA'S VINEYARD PLUS THE MOHEGAN SUN CASINO OR OPTIONAL TRIP TO OLDEMISTIC VILLAGE**—Friday, Apr. 20-22. Price: \$339 pp based on double occupancy. \$50 deposit pp is required.

**480. WHAT'S NEW IN RICHMOND, VA**—Friday-Sunday, Apr. 27-29. Price: \$369, \$100 deposit pp required.

**441. AUSTRALIAN WONDERS AND THE NEW ZEALAND ISLANDS WITH OPTIONAL POST Rotorua and FIJI EXTENSIONS**—Friday, Apr. 27. Round trip air from Newark airport. Price: \$3,687 based on double occupancy includes cancellation waivers (air and land) and departure taxes. Deposit \$360 pp required. Call for itinerary.

**465. WINTERTHUR MUSEUM, WILMINGTON, DELAWARE AND LUNCHEON AT WINTERTHUR AT THE PAVILION CATERIA**—Saturday, May 5. Price: \$57. Bus leaves at 8:30 a.m.

**481. YANKEES VS. BALTIMORE AT CAMDEN YARDS**—Saturday, May 5 & 6. Price: \$189. Double occupancy. \$50 deposit required.

**460. THE GREAT CITIES OF ONTARIO AND QUEBEC**—Friday, May 11-9 days includes round trip air from Newark airport. Price \$1,679 based on double occupancy, includes cancellation waivers (air and land), and departure taxes. Deposit of \$160 pp. Call for itinerary.

**466. CULINARY INSTITUTE AND TOUR OF ROOSEVELT ESTATE AND ONE OTHER HISTORIC HOME**—Saturday, May 12. Price: \$73. Bus leaves at 7:30 a.m. Full course luncheon at the Escoffier Room (a French gourmet restaurant). Gentlemen are required to wear jackets.

**485. BRONX ZOO**—Sunday, May 20. Price: Adults \$37, children \$30. Bus leaves at 9 a.m.

**463. COLORADO NATIONAL PARKS AND NEW MEXICO**—Sunday, May 23. 9 days includes round trip air from Newark airport. Price: \$1,919 based on double occupancy, includes cancellation waivers (air and land), and departure taxes. Deposit \$160 pp.

**444. GREAT TRAINS OF EUROPE**—Thursday, June 7. 13 days. Round trip air from Newark airport. Price: \$3,474 based on double occupancy, includes cancellation waivers (air and land) and departure taxes. Deposit \$360 pp req. Call for itinerary.

**486. "NOAH" SIGHT AND SOUND**—Saturday, June 16. Price: \$85. Bus leaves 9 a.m. Bring a sandwich to eat on the bus.

**487. WEST POINT TOUR, CRUISE ON THE HUDSON, VISIT TO BROTHERHOOD WINERY**—Saturday, June 23. Bus leaves at 8 a.m. Price: \$57.

**488. HEART OF THE SHENANDOAH**

Friday, July 6-Sunday, July 8. Price: \$369 pp based on double occupancy.

**495. TRAPPLIDGE, VERMONT**—Thursday-Sunday, July 15-18. Double occupancy \$695 pp is required. Round-trip deluxe motor-coach transportation.

**467. MACKINAC ISLAND, MICHIGAN**—Monday-Friday, July 30-Aug. 3. Price: \$1,069 pp based on double occupancy. Deposit of \$100 pp req.

**461. MAGNIFICENT CITIES OF CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE**—Tuesday, July 31. 14 days. Round trip air from Newark airport. Price: \$2,910 based on double occupancy. Call for day-by-day itinerary.

**458. PACIFIC NORTHWEST & CALIFORNIA TOUR**—Sunday, Aug. 5, 9 days-round trip air from Newark airport. Price: \$1,999 based on double occupancy. Call for day-by-day itinerary.

**489. CAPE COD AND NANTUCKET**—Friday-Sunday, Aug. 17-20. Call for prices and itinerary.

**477. COUNTRY INN AND CAPE MAY (AN ELEGANT GOURMET DINING WEEKEND)**—Friday-Sunday, Aug. 24-26. Price: \$339. pp based on double occupancy. Deposit of \$100 pp is required.

**490. MAINE COAST**—Monday, Sept. 17-21. Price: \$599, \$100 deposit. Call for day-by-day itinerary.

**457. CANADA'S ATLANTIC COAST - HALIFAX, PEGGY'S COVE, ST. ANDREWS BY-SEA, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, CAVENDISH NATIONAL PARK**—Monday, Sept. 24. 10 days. Round trip air from Newark airport. Price: \$1,759 based on double occupancy includes cancellation waivers (air and land), transfers and departure taxes. Deposit: \$160 pp required. Call for day-by-day itinerary.

**449. QUEEN ELIZABETH II-CRUISE TO BERMUDA/HAMILTON/NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND**—6 nights- Friday, Sept. 28-Thursday, Oct. 4. Price: \$1,299 pp based on double occupancy (outside cabin), \$1,073 pp based on double occupancy (inside cabin). Price includes port charges. Deposit of \$300 pp required.

**459. ORIENTAL ESCAPE**—Departing Thursday, Oct. 4. 13 days. Price: \$3,344 pp based on double occupancy includes round trip air from Newark, cancellation waivers, hotel transfers and departure tax. Deposit \$360 pp. Call for day-by-day itinerary.

**496. ICELAND**—6 days, Sunday, Oct. 7-12. Price: \$1,219 based on double occupancy. Deposit of \$250 pp required. Call for day-by-day itinerary.

**491. THE VALLEYS OF THE SUSQUEHANNA AND THE GRAND CANYON OF PENNSYLVANIA**—Oct. 11-13. Price: \$359. Call for day-by-day itinerary.

**468. INDIANHEAD RESORT-NEW HAMPSHIRE**—Friday-Wednesday, Oct. 12-16. Price: \$684 pp, double occupancy. Call for itinerary.

**492. DISNEY WORLD, ORLANDO, FLORIDA**—Thursday-Sunday, Nov. 8-11. Teacher's Convention: All-Star or New Colorado Springs Hotel.

## LEGAL NOTICES

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

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

Whereas, there exists a need for the services of a Registered Municipal Accountant to conduct an audit of the Borough of South Plainfield, and

Whereas, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that the resolution authorizing the award of the contract for Professional Services without competitive bidding must be publicly advertised.

Now therefore be it resolved by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield as follows:

- The Mayor and Deputy Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to execute an agreement with Andrew Hodulik, of the firm of Hodulik and Morrison, PA.
- This contract is awarded 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.
- A copy of this resolution shall be published in The Observer as required by law within ten days of its passage.

Approved January 7, 2001

Daniel J. Gallagher/Mayor

ATTEST:  
Mary Blue/Deputy Municipal Clerk

\$35.00 Jan. 12, 2001

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

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

Whereas, there exists a need for certain legal services for the Borough of South Plainfield, and

Whereas, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) required that the resolution authorizing the award of the contract for "Professional Services" without competitive bids must be publicly advertised.

Now therefore be it resolved by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield as follows:

- The Mayor and Deputy Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to execute an agreement with Patrick J. Diegnan, Esq.
- This contract is awarded 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.
- Health benefits will not be provided as part of the compensation for the position of Borough Attorney.
- A copy of this resolution shall be published in The Observer as required by law within ten days of its passage.

Approved January 7, 2001

Daniel J. Gallagher/Mayor

ATTEST:  
Mary Blue/Deputy Municipal Clerk

\$35.00 Jan. 12, 2001



## police report

• A Christopher Ave. resident was arrested on a number of Contempt of Court charges.

• A Redding Ave. resident arrested for Contempt of Court.

• Jose A. Robles of Plainfield reported his car was burglarized while parked at Montrose Molders, 230 St. Nicholas Ave. The rear passenger window had been smashed and a Sony radio was removed from the vehicle.

• Chin Bros. Auto Services reported that a Pedro B. Sanchez of Plainfield removed his car from the lot without paying for repairs.

• Kmart, Hadley Rd., reported that Neta L. Pringley of Plainfield had concealed 30 packs of AAA batteries and wheeled a cart to the front of the store where John L. Williamson, also of Plainfield, removed the batteries from the cart and left the store. The incident was captured by a store security camera. Pringley was arrested. Williamson left in an unknown direction.

• A Brennan Ct. resident and a Scotch Plains man were arrested for possession of CDS (Controlled Dangerous Substance) in the parking lot of Liquid Assets, New Market Ave.

• A Spring Ave. resident and a Loudon Ave. resident engaged in a fight in Spring Lake Park. The Spring Ave. resident sustained head injuries which caused him to lose consciousness. When he regained consciousness he went to the

home of a friend who became concerned about his injuries and notified police. Both parties acknowledged the mutual agreement to fight in the park. No complaints were signed. There are two prior incidents of fights between the residents.

• A So. Plainfield Ave. resident reported that an unknown actor had jumped the fence in her back yard causing damage to a newly planted tree. The suspect then ran through the yard and jumped a vinyl fence in the front of yard breaking off the top of the fence. Damage is estimated at \$200.

• A So. Plainfield Ave. resident was arrested on a warrant from Essex county for robbery.

• A Perth Amboy resident employed at Fisher, Cragwood Rd., responded to HQ to report being harassed by a fellow employee. After a comment from the victim to the suspect, a Piscataway resident, about unfinished work, the suspect threatened the victim, stating, "Get out of my face or I'll get my gun and shoot you." The victim reported it to the company's Human Resource Dept. at Fisher. The victim was told to report the incident to the SPPD. A gun was never produced but the victim believes the suspect has access to one. No complaint was signed.

• Kimberly Elton of Magnolia, NJ reported to police that her vehicle had been stolen from the driveway of a Palmer Ave. home. The victim had left the car running while she returned to the house. When she returned outside, she saw her car being driven south on Palmer Ave. Her purse and cell phone had been inside the car. Police were notified immediately. The car was located on Mahar Ave. off of Tompkins Ave. It was locked and had the purse and phone inside. The keys were found 25 feet away from the car. A total of \$19 was missing from the purse.

Please note: Police reports are a matter of public record.

## Suspect Caught Attempting to Steal a Car

Last Sunday, at 10:34 p.m. Officer John McConville observed two vehicles parked side by side with their motors running and headlights on in the Getty Service Station located on Park and Maple Avenues. The station was closed for business at the time.

As Officer McConville continued to observe the vehicles, the operator of a 1991 Ford Mustang exited the vehicle and approached the other occupied vehicle, which was a silver Toyota Camry. After a brief conversation between the two individuals, the Camry left the area and the operator of the Mustang started to walk away, leaving the vehicle behind. He was then stopped and questioned by Officer McConville. Through investigating, it was determined that this suspect, a 15 year old juvenile residing in Plainfield, was in the process of stealing the Mustang from the service station. A customer for service had dropped off the Mustang earlier in the day for service.

The suspect was taken into protective custody and turned over to his parent. At presstime there was no information regarding the occupant of the Camry.

## LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

TAKE NOTICE, that on Tuesday January 23, 2001 at 8:00 P.M. at the municipal building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey, the Planning Board of the Borough of South Plainfield will conduct a public hearing to consider the application of Jack Giaratta. The application involves property known as Lot 9 in Block 404 located on the easterly side of Herbert Place extending through to the westerly side of Charles Place and commonly known as 101 Herbert Place, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080. The application is for the approval of a subdivision of the property into two lots. The newly created lot will be located on Charles Place and the remaining lot on Herbert Place. The applicant will also seek such variance, as the Board may deem necessary in order to grant the application as proposed.

The application and supporting documents have been filed and may be inspected at the office of the Planning Board Secretary at the municipal building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, Monday through Friday, during regular business hours.

Vastola & Fackelman, Esqs.  
Attorneys for the Applicant  
495 Union Avenue  
Middlesex, New Jersey 08846  
(732) 580-0888

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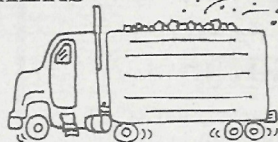
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## Have You Made Your New Year's Resolutions Yet?

By Michele S. Byers,  
NJ Conservation Foundation

Even if you haven't "formally" made New Year's resolutions for 2001, this is the time of year to spend on reflection and new commitments. We usually resolve to exercise more, save more money, or spend more time with our families. Whatever worthy resolution you're considering (or chose and already broke!) I hope you'll make a commitment this year to get more involved in preserving New Jersey's open spaces.

Psychologists say one way to keep your resolutions is to divide them into small steps that can be completed in a short time. That way, small tastes of success help spur us on to the next step. In the interest of helping people stick with their commitments to conservation, here are some ways to get started.

Start small by getting outside! We often think of winter as a time of year when the natural world is dormant. Winter may be cold, and lack the colorful bursts of spring and fall, but it has unique charms all its own! With the leaves off the trees, you get a much better perspective on the depth and diversity of a forest. There is nothing like a walk in the woods on a cold winter day. New Jersey has many beautiful trails that are open in the winter. Contact the New York-New Jersey Trails Conference at <http://www.nynjtc.org/> or (973) 823-9999 for walking ideas.

And when you have a chance, go play in the snow! You don't have to have skis, snowboards or sleds. After a good snowfall, listen to the all-encompassing quiet that prevails when a blanket of snow muffles the buzzes, hums and rumbles we never notice are always in the background until they're missing.

Getting involved locally is also a great first step. New Jersey has 566 municipalities, all of whom make land use decisions at regular monthly meetings. If you're interested in where development could happen, go to a local town meeting and find out what your community is planning, and where it will affect you most.

You could also visit your municipal hall and pick up a copy of your town's master plan.

Another way to stick to any New Year's resolution is to join a "support group" with similar goals.

All of us at NJCF wish you a healthy, happy New Year. If we can do anything to help you stick to your conservation resolutions, contact us at 1-888-LAND-SAVE or by e-mail to [info@njconservation.org](mailto:info@njconservation.org).



## Summer Drama Students/Almost Famous Players Perform at Library

In November, Roosevelt Drama Club Director Patricia Abbott approached the library about presenting a holiday play for children. Abbott had six willing performers, who were in the process of directing the K-2 drama club at Roosevelt. Eight more students joined them to form the cast of the holiday play, *Naughty or Nice!—A Christmas Lesson*.

Some of the students were Summer Drama Workshop Students, others hope to join this coming summer. The group consists of elementary, middle and high school students who love to perform. The group named the *Almost Famous Players*, started with just three eager students, Pam Cianfrocca, Chris Imbroschiano and Chris Abbott, all former members of the Franklin School All-Stars Drama Club and has grown in size to over 14 actors.

In addition to the library, a number of the students also performed at the Foster Parent Association Christmas Party. The group has plans for future performances.

Abbott, who is always eager and willing to get exposure for the students, jumped at the chance to perform at the library. She sat down and wrote a special play with a holiday theme, then rounded up her thespians and the result was a play featuring Santa, Mrs. Santa, elves, reindeer and even Rudolph. The story is a spin off of Rudolph and takes place in the North Pole. During the play, the actors turned to the audience for advice and asked what they would do, trying to get them involved with the storyline. Even though the crowd at the library was sparse, the play was well received by the children and their parents. Scenery was produced by Abbott and her son, Chris. All the performers helped with props. Mrs. Claus and the elf costumes were made by Abbott as well.

Several parents also participated in the production. Beth and Tom Crisitello helped with props and transportation. Joan Stasio played the piano for the show and rehearsed the songs with the kids. Alison Scavone-Alexson did the

make up on the students and Janis Nietzer helped make Rudolph's costume.

Performing in the play were Chris Abbott as Rudolph, Vinnie Carubia as Elroy the Elf, Chris Imbroschiano played Santa and Pam Cianfrocca was Mrs. Santa. Reindeer were played by Katie Mott, Heather Crisitello, Nicole Aguilar, Shannen Rivers, Jessica Crisitello. Playing elves were Susan Mott, Samantha Gentile, Gina Butrico. Also playing elves and participating as stage crew were John Crisitello and Katelyn Conrade. Roosevelt 2nd grade student Brigitte Kelly made a surprise appearance as a wind up clown.



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