

South Plainfield Observer

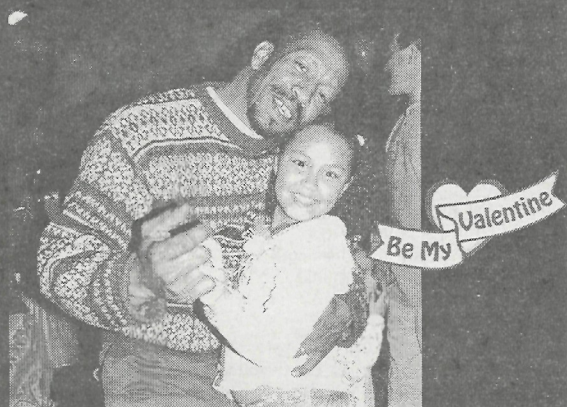
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VOL. 4, NO. 24

50 CENTS

FEBRUARY 16, 2001

Inside This Issue...



Dads brought their sweethearts to the Father/Daughter Sweetheart dances (pictured above and right) that were held at Riley and Kennedy. See page 12 for additional photos.



A Beach Party at Franklin School brought out hundreds of warm-hearted participants. See page 5 for more photos.

FEMA Rejects Buyout in Flood Zone

After suffering years of flooding and damage to their homes, residents along New Market Ave. hoped they would be given an opportunity to sell their properties to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). For decades homes along New Market Ave. have been flooded numerous times; rescue by boat was sometimes necessary.

Residents who experience frequent flooding asked the council for some kind of relief for these recurring problems. The borough has done numerous studies. It has had the sewers cleaned out, but the flooding continues.

Last year the mayor thought he had finally found the answer. He asked FEMA to fund the buy out of homes in the area that continually floods.

The New Jersey State Emergency Management Agency gave approval to the project, but when it reached the federal level, South Plainfield was rejected. FEMA claims it is not cost effective to buy out these 15 flooded homes.

This means homeowners will still suffer, and FEMA will continue to pay flood damage, instead of purchasing the homes and putting an end to the constant water damage, repairs and frustrations these homeowners face each time there is a heavy rain or sudden storm.

Mayor Gallagher has asked Emergency Management Coordinator Mike Zushma to continue to encourage FEMA officials to change their minds and buy out these 15 homes.



Danielle Ardnt was named Most Valuable Player in Sacred Heart Tournament.

Middle School Lady Tigers Win Sacred Heart Tourney

The South Plainfield Middle School girls' basketball team won the Father Sico/Father McQuire Basketball Tournament on Sunday, Feb. 11.

The girls went undefeated in this double elimination tournament. The Tigers defeated Our Lady of Mount Virgin 25-17, then went on to take Holy Family 44-43 in overtime. In the finals they again played Our Lady of Mount Virgin, defeating them 29-27 to take home the championship.

Standouts for the Lady Tigers included Danielle Ardnt, Shakera Beverly, Erika Blaszk, Caitlin English, Jessica Miller and Coral Willis.

A special congratulations goes to Danielle Ardnt for being named the Tigers' Most Valuable Player for the tournament. The Lady Tigers are enjoying a fine season with their record currently at 13-5-1.

The Lady Tigers' coach is Mrs. Barnett, who is doing an outstanding job with her team.

Labor Day Committee in Search of Theme for Parade

South Plainfield students are being asked to help the Celebration Committee choose a theme for this year's 44th Annual Labor Day Parade. This year marks the 75th Anniversary of South Plainfield.

The student with the winning entry will receive \$100 in cash.

The contest is open to all students in grades 1 through 12.

Only South Plainfield residents are eligible.

The winning theme will be chosen by members of the Public Celebrations Committee and their decision will be final. The deadline for submission is March 8, 2001.

Send all entries to South Plainfield Public Celebrations Committee, 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Borough to Get More Than 145K in Grant Money

South Plainfield has been awarded over \$145,000 in grant money from Middlesex County and the State of New Jersey. The grants, which are earmarked to help fund borough projects, are awarded only after the town submits an application for the specific grant available.

Awarded were the following grants:

\$30,000 from the State of New Jersey, Safe and Secure Program; \$6,017.02 from Middlesex County Municipal Alliance; \$2,500 was from

Middlesex County for the Oak Tree Open Space Program; \$1,103 from Middlesex County Safe Housing; \$2,376.36 from the State of New Jersey, Body Armor Fund, Bulletproof Vests; \$5,765.55 from the State of New Jersey Body Armor Replacement Fund; \$7,000 from Middlesex County Senior Citizens Transportation; \$30,679 from the State of New Jersey, Clean Communities Program; and \$60,000 from the State of New Jersey, Safe and Secure Communities Grant Program.

Referendum to Cost Taxpayers 7.5 Cents

Last week the Board of Education voted to place the school construction bond referendum on the March 6 ballot.

The total cost of the proposed school construction project is \$19,283,380. The state has agreed to fund \$6,647,000 of the cost, leaving the balance of \$12,636,380 for voter approval. Legislation passed last year allows the state to fund up to 40% of eligible school construction. South Plainfield will receive about 33% of construction and renovation costs if the bond passes.

If approved, taxpayers will be

pay a tax rate of 7.5 cents per \$100 assessed value, according to Business Administrator Ellen Johnson. A homeowner with an home assessed in the \$113,000 to \$115,000 range will pay an additional \$87.70 per year. It also breaks down to \$7.31 a month, \$1.69 a week or 24 cents a day.

Johnson said the board is looking to get a 20-year bond at an interest rate of 5%. She added that it may be even lower, but their estimate is based on the rate of 5%.

The board removed the construction of a new track, at a cost of \$320,000, much to the displeasure of many parents. The board

may make the track part of their five year plan in the future.

Plans call for constructing a new Roosevelt School, adding eight classrooms to Grant School, making it a fifth and sixth grade school. This will free up classroom space at the elementary schools to add rooms for art and music. At present most schools teach art and music from a portable cart.

Plans also call for upgrading electricity in all schools to make way for computers in every classroom and new boilers for the middle school.

mark your calendars

Log on to
southplainfieldnj.com
for the latest
meeting agenda

councilmeetings

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
Tuesday, February 20	Thursday, February 22
Monday, March 5	Thursday, March 8
Monday, March 19	Thursday, March 22
Monday, April 2	Thursday, April 5

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

planningboard

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month

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

Feb. 27, March 13, March 27, April 10, April 24, May 8, May 22, June 12, June 26, July 10, July 24, August 14, August 28, Sept. 11, Sept. 25, Oct. 9, Oct. 23, Nov. 13, Nov. 27, Dec. 11 and Dec. 25 (no meeting).

zoningboardofadjustment

Meets first, third and fifth Tuesday of the month

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

February 20 (no meeting), March 6, March 20, April 3, April 17, May 1, May 15, May 29, June 5, June 19, July 3, July 17, July 31, August 7, August 21, Sept. 4 (no meeting), Sept. 18, Oct. 2, Oct. 16, Oct. 30, Nov. 6 (no meeting), Nov. 20, Dec. 4 and Dec. 18.

taxpayersadvisorygroup

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

siteplacesub-committee

The fourth Thursday of the month as follows:

February 22, March 22, April 26, May 24, June 28, July 26, August 23, September 27, October 25, November 22 (no meeting), December 27.

recreationcommission

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

environmentalcommission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)

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

Feb. 21, March 14, April 11, May 9, June 13, July 11, August 8, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 12 and Jan. 9, 2002

boardofeducationmeetings

Grant School Gymnasium on Cromwell Place unless otherwise noted

Regular Board Mtg., Feb. 19, 8 p.m.

Committee of the Whole, Mar. 13, 7 p.m., Regular Board Mtg., Mar. 20, 8 p.m.

Committee of the Whole, Apr. 3, 7 p.m., Regular Board Mtg., Apr. 10, 8 p.m.

businessadvisorygroup

Meets once a month (first Wednesday)

Borough Hall Conference Room, 5 p.m. • Questions? 908-757-8100

Trafficsafetyadvisorycommission

Meetings, held at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room, Borough Hall

Feb. 28, Mar. 28, Apr. 25, May 23, June 27, July 25, Sept. 26, Oct. 24, Nov. 28 and Dec. 26.

South Plainfield Observer

The South Plainfield Observer is
published every Friday

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

(908) 668-0010 • FAX (908) 668-8819

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

SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in South Plainfield Observer:

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

In My Opinion

To The Editor:

Thank you to all who came out on Feb. 3 and supported our Blood Drive. Thirty-three pints of blood were donated. And many thanks to Wesley United Methodist Church for hosting the drive and for their constant support of the South Plainfield Girl Scouts.

Blood donations are in critical need during the winter months. Illness and bad weather add to the decrease in volunteer donors, creating a blood shortage for our area hospitals. The need for blood never takes a holiday. If you were unable to come to our blood drive, please support any upcoming blood drives. Remember: nine out of ten of us will need blood sometime in our lives.

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

SOUTH PLAINFIELD GIRL SCOUT TROOP 117

To the Editor:

After reading the article in this morning's *Home News Tribune* (Feb. 7, 2001), regarding the Board of Education endorsing the \$12.6 million school bond referendum, I felt compelled to write this letter. I was dismayed to read that the Board of Education removed the track from the proposal (cost of \$ 320,000). The track in its current state has been deemed unsafe and is not available to hold track meets or practices on.

As the parent of a member of the winter and spring track teams, I AM LIVID that the Board of Education has let the track deteriorate to such a state that it is no longer useable by our high school teams. I know that my wife and I had looked forward to watching our son, John, run on his home track especially in the Spring track meets. I had also looked forward to watching the youth of New Jersey compete on the South Plainfield High School track in the annual events that had been held on *our* track, such as the Meet of Champions. These meets had been held at *our* track facility for over fifteen years until last year when it was determined that *our* track was unsafe by the New Jersey State Track officials and the meets were moved to other locations.

Not only did we lose the prestige that hosting these annual events bring to *our* town and high school, we also took away the dreams of our student athletes to compete on their *home* track before their family, friends and neighbors. Michael Loenser and Eric Johnson, SPHS class of 2000, had worked hard over their track careers at SPHS to get to this point in their respec-

A Great Job Police Officer Wayne Diana!

This letter written to Chief Merkler was read aloud at the last Borough Council Meeting by Councilman Dennis Cereami. He wanted residents to know that our officers are indeed 'The Finest.'

Dear Chief Merkler:

I have a Christmas Story to tell you. I hope you believe in angels, because I do.

On a cold afternoon, about a week or so before Christmas, my daughter came down from Summit and together we were going to do some Christmas shopping.

I had not been feeling well and she wanted to get me out to cheer me up. We left my home on Tompkins Ave. and had gone just beyond Holy Redeemer Cemetery when we got a flat tire. Now, what do we do? I was cold and upset. I said a little prayer — and out of no where — there appeared a South Plainfield Police Car.

We were approached by the kindest, most pleasant, most helpful Police Officer one would want to meet. Our angel's name, we later learned, was Officer Wayne Diana. He changed the tire, directed us to a service station and we finally arrived back home, safe and sound.

In retrospect, it was a nice experience — very much in keeping with the Christmas season and the kindness of people. It was a busy time — the officer could have easily passed us by — but he didn't. I had to do something in return and so I am writing you this letter. This young man is indeed a credit to the South Plainfield Police Force.

On behalf of my daughter and myself, please convey to Officer Diana our sincere thanks.

**MOST SINCERELY,
MRS. HENRY A. LOEFFLER**

tive careers to compete in the Meet of Champions in the spring of 2000. Instead of running on their *Home* track, they had to drive over two hours to South Jersey to compete and then turn around to get home to attend their Senior Prom.

Now I know that track is not a widely attended sport. However, it is certainly due the same attention that every other sport and student athlete at South Plainfield gets. It is a crying shame that the Board of Education has let the outdoor facilities of our student athletes get into such a deplorable state. The tennis courts by the High School along with the track need to be replaced *now* so our student athletes can compete on a level playing ground with their competitors in the Greater Middlesex Conference.

I was the Vice-Chairman of the Architecture Committee that spent most of the summer and the early fall reviewing the various designs and other information in order to come up with a recommendation to the Board of Education. This recommendation *included* the rebuilding of the South Plainfield outdoor track located at the Frank Jost Field.

I have lived in South Plainfield for over 15 years. I am proud to call it home for my family and myself. My three children attend the public schools with my

youngest daughter now in Grant School as a sixth grader, my son in 10th grade at SPHS and my oldest daughter, a graduate of the class of 2000 at SPHS, is now attending Seton Hall University.

I have always been proud of what South Plainfield stands for and its commitment to the youth of *our* town. However, we as parents and taxpayers are falling short if we do not maintain and replace, when necessary, the infrastructure that those who came before us put up and maintained.

I ask that the Board of Education reconsider its decision to remove the track replacement from the bond referendum. If this is impossible then I respectfully request that the Board include in its Capital Plan for the school budget for 2001-2002 the funds for replacement of the track at Frank Jost Field and the repair/replacement of the outdoor tennis courts at the high school.

Let's give all of our student athletes a chance to compete and practice on their own facilities.

JOHN M. RAYHO, SR.

Dear Editor,

Seven years ago, I was on the first committee to figure out what could be done with the increase of enrollment. Back

Continued on page 6

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We want to hear from you concerning what is going on around town. We will omit your name by request, but you must give us your name and phone number when you submit your letter. Send your letter/opinion to: *The South Plainfield Observer*, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield 07080. You can email us at ggnan@aol.com or fax to

Want to Learn More About the Referendum?

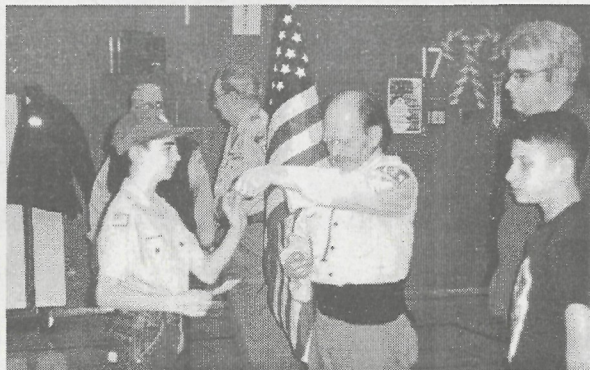
Tracy Hartmann of The Citizens Public Relations Committee announced that they will be holding special presentations at the schools in the next few weeks.

Presentations will take place:

Roosevelt School on Feb. 15 at 7:30 p.m.; Grant School at the Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 20; Franklin School on Tuesday, Feb. 27 at 7:30 p.m., this meeting was originally scheduled for Feb. 13, and at Grant School on Thursday, Feb. 27 at 7:30.

The public is urged to attend one of these meetings to get fully informed before you vote on March 6. All of the items in the upcoming school referendum will be explained. What it will cost taxpayers per household, what the state is chipping in and what benefit it will be to the schools, are some of the topics covered. Questions will be answered by the members of the committee.

If you have questions on any portion of the referendum, now is the time to come out to one of these meetings and find out the facts. You owe it to your children to get involved. Their future education could be at stake.



Riley Scout Colin Slattery is shown receiving a Merit Badge Award from Scoutmaster George Smith. Looking on are Treasurer Harry Chiovarou, Committee Chairman Frank Krause, Advancement Chairman Stephen Sarao and Senior Patrol Leader Martin Diamant.

Boy Scout Troop 124 Present Badges/Awards

At a court of honor held on Jan. 29, Boy Scout Troop 124 Scoutmaster George Smith awarded Merit Badges to the following scouts:

Jonathan Ciampi-Metal Work and Home Repairs; Martin Diamant-Metal Work, Home Repairs, Fish and Wildlife Management and Soil and Water Conservation; Nick Green-Metal Work; Frank Hall-Metal Work and Home Repairs and achieved Scout Rank; Nick Hogan-Metal Work and Home Repairs and achieved Scout Rank; Colin Slattery-Metal Work and Home Repairs and achieved Scout

Rank, Prasanna Sridharan-Metal Work and Home Repairs; Kyle Williams-Metal Work and Home Repairs.

Ryan Woods-Metal work, Home Repairs, Coin Collecting, Farm Mechanics Weather, Geology, Mammal Study, Reading, Canoeing, Environmental Science, Wood Carving, Citizenship in the World and Rifle.

For veterans service in Scouting, pins were awarded to Assistant Scoutmaster Anthony Sarao for 55 years; Committee Chairman Frank Krause for 40 years; Assistant Scoutmaster Herman Nitzcher for 25 years and Advancement Chairman Stephen Sarao for 20 years.

On Feb. 16 to 18, Troop 124 will be going on a skiing trip to Mountain Creek and camping at Winnebago Scout Camp in Rockaway, NJ.

Boys between the ages of 11-18 interested in joining Troop 124 are welcome to attend any meeting held every Monday at 7 p.m. at Riley School, or call Harry at (908) 753-8594.

Eyesore on Kosciusko Ave. To be Restored

Borough Attorney Pat Diegan, who has been active in getting the property on Kosciusko Ave. sold, has received word that the Koziel property will finally be rehabilitated.

Phoenix Funding Inc., who recently purchased the lien, hired Geza Eckert of Mountainside to restore the property to its original state.

This property has been vacant and an eyesore to the surrounding neighbors for over four years. A number of liens and foreclosures have delayed any sale of the house. The house, a three family dwelling, has been boarded up and received frequent cleanups by the borough in the past. A swimming pool in the backyard was deemed a hazard and a fence was put up to keep children out of the yard. No time schedule has been set for the work to begin.

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From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

As usual on Friday, here's the latest news from the South Plainfield Library:

The Library will be closed on Sunday and Monday in observance of Presidents' Day.

Our usual schedule of children's Storytime programs is in place next week. Each program is for children ages three and over. You don't have to pre-register for the programs. They're held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoons at 1:15. Also, the February Kidcraft program is scheduled for next Friday afternoon at 4. That program is for children ages six and over. Space is limited for the program, so please call (908) 754-7885 to sign up in advance. If you'd like more information, check with Children's Librarian Linda Hansen.

Here's a note for our Home-schooling patrons. Previously, the monthly Homeschoolers' meeting was held on the last Friday of each month here at the Library. Those meetings will now be held at the Minnie Veal Community Center on Grove Ave. in Edison.

Let's clear up a slight misconception. The carousel display of CDs on our Circulation Desk does not represent our total CD collection. In fact, we stock several hundred discs behind the Desk. To review the collection, just consult the binder at the Desk. If the one you want isn't on display, just ask for it and we'll check and see if it's in. Recent additions to our collection include several discs based on stories by Dr. Seuss, "1" by the Beatles, and discs by U2, 98° and 'N Sync. Our CD collection is usually augmented by a group from the CD Circuit, but we're presently between groups there. We'll let you know when they're available again.

You may have also noticed sev-

eral display areas throughout the Library (rather than Display areas, where we show artwork, memorabilia, etc.). We use these display racks to showcase items in our collection, including videos, audiobooks and new books. We've added a new display of items on top of our Vertical File cabinet. You'll find the items in the easy-to-spot basket; we're presently displaying Romance items there. Feel free to borrow what's there.

Here's another word regarding tax forms. As we've noted previously, we have both state and federal tax forms available. While we have multiple copies of the primary booklets and forms, we don't have an inexhaustible supply of them. Once they're gone, it is extremely difficult and time-consuming to get more of them from the IRS and the State Division of Taxation, respectively. We ask that you please only take the minimum amount of forms that you need. Thanks for your consideration on this.

That's all for this week. Feel free to pass along your questions and comments. See you next week.

We're Looking for SP History!

This year is the 75th Anniversary of South Plainfield. We want to celebrate South Plainfield's heritage by featuring some of the old timers who can relate what it has been like living here for the past 75 years.

The *Observer* is looking for residents who would like to share some of their memories and photos of the early days of South Plainfield.

We are also looking for the history of our volunteer organizations.

We need your help in this project. Get in touch with us at 668-0010, FAX 668-8819 or email us at GGNAN@aol.com.

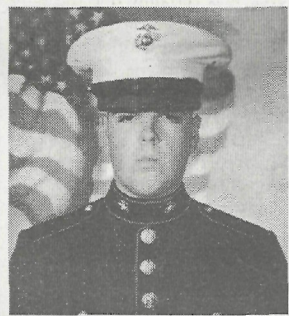
southplainfieldpeople

Milestones

Pvt. Thomas Neiper Completes Basic Training

Pvt. Thomas Neiper, son of Carl and Jane Neiper, recently completed his basic training from the U.S. Marine Corps at Parris Island, S.C.

Tom is a graduate of South Plainfield High School. His next assignment is combat training Camp in Lejeune, N.C. Then he is off to California for Satellite Communication Training.



Pvt. Thomas Neiper, U.S. Marine Corp

Kristen Basilone and Amy O'Sullivan Named to Delaware University's Dean's List

Two local friends, who both attend the University of Delaware, have been named to the Dean's List for the 2000 Fall Semester.

Kristen Basilone, of South Plainfield, is pursuing a degree in Communication/Public Relations.

tions.

Amy O'Sullivan of Edison is pursuing a degree in Elementary Education.

Both girls will be graduating from the University of Delaware in the Spring of 2002.



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Around Town

AARP Meeting Features A Guest Speaker

February 16

AARP Chapter #4144 of South Plainfield will meet on Friday, Feb. 16 at 12:30 p.m. at the PAL Building on Maple Ave.

The speaker will be Professor Carroll Wilson, Professor of English at the Raritan Community College. Professor Wilson, who received his Masters at Kean University, will speak on the eminent emergence of Black authors in the field of literature.

Valentine's Dance at Elks

February 17

The Community Welfare Committee will be sponsoring a Valentine's Dance on Saturday, Feb. 17, from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

The event will be held at the South Plainfield Elks Lodge, 1254 New Market Ave.

A cost of -\$25 per person includes a live band, open bar, and hot/cold hors d'oeuvres. All proceeds will aid the needy families of South Plainfield.

For more information call (908) 668-9750.

VFW Holds Penny Sale

February 17

VFW Post #6763 will be holding a Penny Sale on Saturday, Feb. 17. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the drawing begins at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$7 in advance and \$10 at the door. For tickets and information, call Sue Ifrach at (908) 668-5221.

American Legion Hosts Pancake Breakfast

February 18

On Sunday, Feb. 18, American Legion Post #243, 243 Oak Tree Rd., will host a Pancake Breakfast from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Cost is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children under 12, and children under 6 are free.

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

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Cultural Arts Comm. Presents 'A Stitch in Time'

February 18

The Cultural Arts Commission of South Plainfield invites you to "A Stitch in Time: Seven Quilts for Seven Sisters," a program for Black History month on Sunday, Feb. 18, at 2 p.m., in the PAL Building on Maple Ave.

Admission is free and refreshments will be served.

Come for a memorable experience back in time to the Old South and the days of stories, quilts, etc.

For more information, please call Natalie at (908) 756-8679.

AARP Trip Planned

February 21, 22

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

Riley School To Host Pasta Dinner

February 23

John E. Riley School will be hosting a Pasta Dinner on Friday, Feb. 23 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Doors will open at 4:30 p.m. for senior citizens only. Dinner includes pasta, sauce, meatballs, salad, bread, beverage, dessert, coffee and tea. Cost is \$6 per person, and \$5 for senior citizens and children under 10. Proceeds to benefit the 2001-2002 Stokes Trip.

'Mainstreet Brass' Concert Coming to Sacred Heart

February 25

Sacred Heart Church will host the Mainstreet Brass in concert on Sunday, Feb. 25.

The concert will begin at 3 p.m., with light refreshments to follow. Tickets are available at the Sacred Heart Parish Center, or by calling Creighton Pfeifer at (908) 561-4230. General admis-

sion is \$12, senior citizens are \$10 and children 12 and under are \$5. To learn more about this truly unique musical group, visit their website at www.musicpresentations.com.

Roosevelt Hosts Casino Night/Chinese Auction

March 3

The Roosevelt School fifth grade Stokes Trip Committee will be sponsoring a Casino Night/Chinese Auction on Saturday, March 3, from 7 p.m. to midnight.

The event will be held at the VFW Post #6763 at 155 Front St.

Tickets are \$20 per person, which includes admission, \$50 in chips and an open bar. Contact Pam Heilmann at (908) 754-9226 for tickets or information.

'Hoops For Horne' Fundraiser Planned

March 9

"Hoops For Horne", a benefit basketball game sponsored by the SPMS PTA will be held on Friday, Mar. 9 at the South Plainfield Middle School Gym from 7 to 10 p.m., for the Robert Horne family. Robert Horne was injured in a work related accident, which resulted in him being paralyzed.

The basketball extravaganza will feature the Cops vs. the Coaches: South Plainfield's Finest and Bravest against South Plainfield's Coaching Elite.

Tickets will be sold at the door and there will be some big ticket raffles. The cost is \$3 for adults and \$2 for students and children.

For more information, call 754-2692. This event is being sponsored by the SPMS PTA.

Auction/Raffle to Support Project Graduation

March 10

South Plainfield High School is holding an Auction/Raffle to support Projection Graduation on Saturday, Mar. 10. This year they will feature a "Super" Raffle, a Dell Computer with a monitor. There will also be an overnight at Caesar's Palace in Atlantic City, a TV, DVD player, microwave, VCR, mini-refrigerator.

tion, show tickets, baseball tickets, theme baskets and much more.

Admission is \$7 in advance and \$10 at the door. Tickets are on sale now. Tickets will also be sold at the High School on Thursday, Feb. 22, from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Call Ellen at (908) 756-3731 or Pat at (908) 756-6512 for tickets or more information. The proceeds from the Auction/Raffle supports Project Graduation. Come out and support our graduating seniors.

AARP Sponsors Defensive Driving Course

March 20, 21

AARP Chapter #4144 is sponsoring a 55 ALIVE Defensive Driving Course to be held Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Mar. 20 and 21, at the Piscataway Senior Center. Any legally licensed driver can take this "in classroom" course, which will entitle them to a three year discount on automobile insurance.

Call Mary at (732) 762-3764 for further information and registration. Class is limited, so apply early.

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.

Trip to See The Lion King Planned

July 5

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.

Trip to Cape Cod, Still Taking Reservations

September 10-14

The PAL 5-day, 4-night trip to Cape Cod was been sold out, but according to Mike English, a second bus is being hired. The trip is Sept. 10-14, 2001.

The 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 occu-

pancy. Single supplement is \$78. For more information and reservations, contact Mike English at (908) 226-7714.

—Out of Town—

KISMET Events

February 22

KISMET presents "The Basics of Investing: Surviving Market Volatility," an event for singles.

The event will be held on Thursday, Feb. 22 from 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., at 109 North Avenue (next to Blockbusters Video), third floor, Westfield. Please note that there is ample parking. \$10 at the door includes presentation and refreshments.

For further information on this event, contact KISMET at (908) 232-8827 or visit www.thatskismet.com.

Resurrection of Christ Church Hosts Chinese Auction

February 25

On Sunday, Feb. 25, the Resurrection of Christ Church, 649 Bound Brook Rd. (Rte. 28), Dunellen, NJ 08812, will be hosting a Chinese Auction. Doors open at 12 p.m. and drawings start at 2 p.m. A donation of \$5 includes coffee and cake. The kitchen will be open for lunch, with pierogies being sold per serving or by the dozen.

Sunday, Mar. 4 has been planned as the rain date. For more information call (732) 538-0148 or (732) 873-1731.

CHATS (Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support) Hosts Meeting

February 26

Adoption Support CHATS (Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support) will meet 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 26, at Watchung Ave. Presbyterian Church, 170 Watchung Ave., in North Plainfield.

"Adopting the Older Child" Doris Falls-Grablewski will discuss her successes and problems in rearing the bright but challenged older youngsters whom she and her husband adopted. Doris has an MS in counseling psychology from Rutgers. Open sharing of adoption-related stories and light refreshments will be provided. Call Alyce at (732) 227-0607 or <http://community.nj.com/cc/chats> for information.

Colonia Hadassah Holding Brunch

March 4

On Sunday, Mar. 4, at 10 a.m. at the Colonia Hadassah and Temple Ohev Shalom's Sisterhood will hold a joint brunch meeting, followed by a special program featuring author, professor and commentator, Marc Mappen. The 'Famous and Infamous Women of NJ' program follows immediately after the brunch held at Temple Ohev Shalom, 220 Temple Way, Colonia.

For reservations call (732) 381-9054.

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.com.

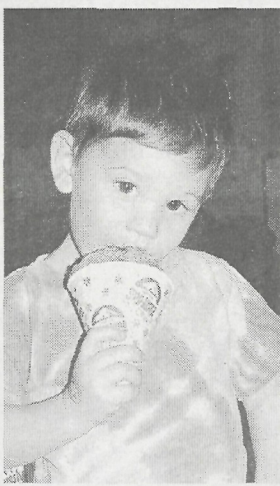
SUBSCRIBE. It's \$25. (in town) for one year!!

Franklin Beach Party Warms Everybody Up

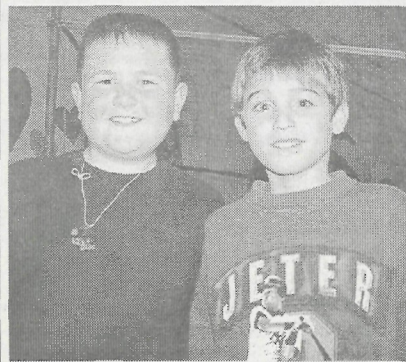
The weather outside was a dreary mix of fluctuating temperatures and melting snow, but inside Franklin School the atmosphere was that of a tropical carnival. Last Friday the annual Franklin School Beach Party was in full swing. Everyone had warm thoughts thinking of the tropics. Attire for the evening was sandals, shorts, Hawaiian shirts and leis.

Students and their families made the most of the brief interlude with games, music, hula hoops, volley ball and most important, food. The nectar of summer reigned with snowcones, pizza, hot-dogs, popcorn and more. The gym held a full house of people enjoying a dash of summer days in the midst of winter.

The annual event was sponsored by the Franklin School PTA.



Story and Photos by Patricia Abbott



Sacred Heart School's Principal's List/Honor Roll

Principal's List:

Grade 1A—Kevaughn Charles, Amanda Joe, Andrea Muglia, and Kathleen Vincent

Grade 1B—Jasmine Aguinaldo, John Michael Bicho and Nathalie Martinez

Grade 2A—Shaun Bandrowski and Ivonne Martinez.

Grade 2B—Kristin Treslar.

Grade 3A—Alexandra Fee, Jilleanne Gulotta, Nicole McDonough, Richard Ortegón and Ryan Ricarte.

Grade 3B—Edward Amirault and Alfonse Muglia.

Grade 4A—Jacqueline Dougherty and Gloria Lobato.

Grade 4B—Brianna Bicho, Ryan Hohner, Michael Muglia, Allyson Paterek and Kathryn Paterek.

Grade 5A—Elix Colon.

Grade 5B—Rita Landry, Megan McHugh and Kristen Partesi.

Grade 6A—Kristen Ciandella, Amy Hsieh and Erica Palma.

Grade 6B—Samantha Crane, Amanda Iavarone and Daniel Schiavo.

Grade 7A—Diane Romano and Juliet Fryszyzyn.

Grade 7B—Julia Dougherty and

Roseller Lapitan.

Grade 8A—Alexandria Gamboa, Kevin Hohner and Jenna Zielinski.

Grade 8B—Kenneth Abel, Nicole Cunicella and Courtney Ervin.

Honor Roll

Grade 1A—Jake Dingler, Mina Funk, Rhel Lapitan and Jenny Reilly.

Grade 1B—Lanna Arki, Anthony Cardoso, Austin Jenkin, Carla Palma, Marissa Smith and Kyle Whitaker.

Grade 2A—Christopher Gbogi, Joseph Landry, Deirdre Simmons, Samantha Vella and Jennifer Villacres.

Grade 2B—Shannon Bell, Sabrina Douge, Allyson Ricarte, Karla Rodriguez and Caresse Simmonds.

Grade 3A—Andrea Auilar, Jason Bolton, Katelyn Christie, Kaitlyn Muglia, Gerianna Pinto, Alexandra Santos and Vachele Wilson.

Grade 3B—Amanda Bowker, Victoria Gaydos, Michael McHugh, Nicholas Montuori, Jessica Napolitano, Adrienne Novak, Sean Piersanti, Aaron Pinkard and Zachary Sikanowicz.

Grade 4A—James Abney, Daphne Aguinaldo, Douglas Avery, Aedan

Bayona, Ian Collins, Sara Crane, David Ervin, Ashley Forbes, Alexandra Grant, Alice Hsieh and Walter Rodriguez.

Grade 4B—Khaliah Douglas, Zena Gamble, Anthony Salerno, Kaitlyn Salvatore and Ashely Smith.

Grade 5A—Jonathan Abel, Davonna Approvato, Devin Clark, Joseph D'Addario, Olivia Gerlitz, Jennifer Naplitano and Allison Whiteflect.

Grade 5B—Celine Campos-Marquetti, Charles Eke, James Howard, Andrew Klineh, Stephanie Penny, Luis Reynoso and Camille Romano.

Grade 6A—Joseph Casey, Stephen Dvorak, Amanda Jenkin and Tiffany Smith.

Grade 6B—Catheryn Avery, Adam Barletta, Gregory Bayard, Marie Cunicella, Maria Lipnick, Rana Moses, Anthony Pelle and Kiersten Whitaker.

Grade 7A—Michael Clore and Mya Lewis.

Grade 7B—Robyn Douglass and Lauren Sprott.

Grade 8A—Christina Martin, Gina Patnosh, Allison Pietruszki, Kate Polifka and Erin Sikanowicz.

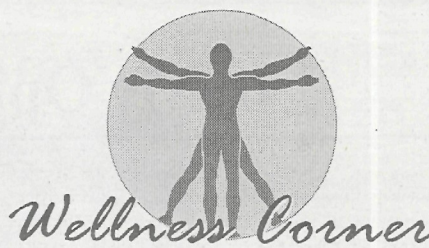
Grade 8B—Kevin Ciampi, Lauren Ciandella, Sarah Kulihin, Mary Lillis and Kristen Salvatore.

Chamber Antiques Show Seeks Dealers

Antique dealers are being sought for the Metuchen Area Chamber of Commerce "Brainy Boro Antiques Show" on Saturday, May 12, at the Presbyterian Church Social Center on Woodbridge Ave. in Metuchen, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Merchandise for sale must be pre-1960 quality antiques; no reproductions or garage sale items will be allowed. Exhibitors must have a valid state tax identification number.

Provide your name, address and telephone number to the Metuchen Chamber of Commerce, by phone at (732) 548-2964; by fax at (732) 48-4094; or by e-mail at mcc@metuchenchamber.org.



"But It's My Normal Headache..."

Dr. Patrick M. Aiello, D.C.

Ever hear someone say they're experiencing their "normal headache," as if a headache's pain and discomfort are supposed to be a normal part of life? My question is, Why? We don't go around thinking, "Ooh, I have my 'normal' broken leg" or, "Ooh, it's just my 'normal' tumor." OK, OK. I know I'm being a little melodramatic here. But if you think about it, any type of headache someone experiences or suffers from can't be normal.

Even if a person gets one on a regular schedule (i.e., similar times of the day or month), that doesn't make it right.

Well, let's look deeper into the situation for a moment. Headaches are sometimes related to causes like stress, diet, hormonal imbalances, too much caffeine, lack of sleep and many other situations and ailments. But in the absence of serious illness, the garden-variety headache that the majority of people experience is due to a lack of balance. This lack of balance can contribute to muscular tightness, stiffness in the shoulders, and pain radiating from the neck to the head areas along with a general feeling of fatigue. Basically, your body is trying to compensate and adapt for something and it is not really handling this as well as it can. It needs help. And this help doesn't have to be limited to just one form of treatment or attack. I like the word attack when treating headaches because sometimes headaches, especially when they occur on a frequent basis, can rob people of their sense of control. This proactive choice of words is important in helping the patient regain their sense of control over a situation that can be quite debilitating.

Now, onto the various methods used. Perhaps the most common is the use of aspirin, other non-prescription painkillers, or even prescription medications.

Now, do these work? Often, they do—but at what price? Do they really correct the problem—or just mask it? Remember, if you simply blot out the pain without correcting the cause, the trouble is still occurring; you just don't feel it any more.

In addition, have you read anything about the side effects resulting from prolonged usage of even non-prescription medications? When used properly, and sparingly, they can be an integral part of a headache treatment regimen. Sadly, they are, a lot of time, misused or simply over-used. Remember, chronic dependency places stress on other parts of the body, including the kidneys—which, considering how important they are, I'm sure we'd all rather have at 100%.

Assessing diet and foods that can trigger headaches is also an integral part of the treatment regimen. Coupled with a moderate exercise program and stress relaxation exercises, as well as recognizing the times we are most susceptible to experiencing headaches, will allow one to better control and avoid them.

Chiropractic is also able to help with headaches by allowing the nervous system to do its job, and work without interference or disruption. So, if you're worried about the effects of long-term medication use and want a safe and effective way to deal with headaches, give chiropractic a chance to help you regain that balance.



Dr. Patrick Aiello, DC



Log on to the

BOROUGH OF SOUTH
PLAINFIELD'S OFFICIAL WEB SITE
AT southplainfieldnj.com

Visit your community web site for the latest local news on

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

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

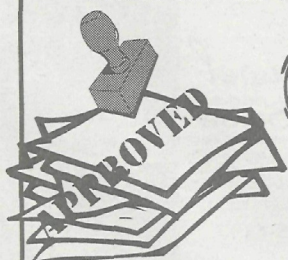
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In My Opinion

Continued from page 2

then, we knew the fifth grade graduating class was going to be huge. We all agreed Roosevelt School was going to need a new building, but something also had to be done with the other elementary schools. It was suggested we open up Grant School (now Central Sixth) as a school. A place for the Board of Education needed to be found for that to happen. The answer was, a place couldn't be found big enough. Suggestions were made on renting or buying certain buildings where all the buses could be parked. The Board of Education was to stay put as nothing was good enough.

A suggestion was made for the Future Stars Program and Sunshine Program to go out on their own, have their own space and maybe be able to expand. The answer was "no" on that suggestion.

How about adding a second floor to the Middle School? When the school was built years ago, it was built so a second floor could be added. The answer was; impossible. A suggestion was made that maybe for the time being we could put some trailers up at the elementary schools to help the over crowding. The board didn't like that idea at all.

A suggestion was made to add at least 10 to 12 classrooms to all the elementary schools (except Roosevelt). I was told that was impossible. The schools were not zoned for further construction. I found out that indeed the schools can have ad-

ditions put on. The schools were built the way they were so if need be in the future, rooms could be added. There is plenty of room at each school as to not infringe on the children's play area or neighboring homes.

A suggestion was made to open Grant School as a centralized Kindergarten and first grade. That idea got the best response from the Board. They liked that idea. But a lot of parents were opposed to one or two grades being singled out.

Things got worse at the elementary schools. Music and art teachers were forced to give up their rooms and are now using carts to go from room to room. The band practices in a room the size of a bathroom. The Middle School was greatly overcrowded, plus needed a new boiler.

Then the year 2000 appeared and two referendums were voted down. It was apparent the people of South Plainfield did not like either one. So, now more committees are formed. In the meantime, the Middle School cannot handle the sixth grade class that will be coming in the fall.

All of a sudden we have to find room for the Board of Education offices. We need to transform Grant School into a Central Sixth grade! Hurry, hurry and guess what—Central Sixth became a reality in September. It took all those years of not doing anything to be forced to single out the sixth graders.

I have heard such wonderful things about the sixth grade teachers and

their curriculum. The children seem to be doing well, but they really had no choice in the matter. School starts at 7:50 a.m. now. Parents with children in all three schools now have four different times that the children have to be dropped off or picked up. Now we have separate choruses, bands and orchestras. Band members are practicing in the gym while the preschool children are playing on bikes, scooters, playing ball, etc. Orchestra members have to be there before 7 a.m. to have their practice because there are not enough classrooms available during the day. Lunch periods are longer and for the first couple of months, there were no recess activities for these children.

Future Stars and the Sunshine Program are housed in one wing of the building. These are great programs. Both of my children spent a total of seven years at Future Stars. I have friends whose children have gone through the Sunshine Program and have said you couldn't ask for better teachers or staff.

I asked about being on this last committee and was told it was open to all. Well, I missed the first two meetings and when I asked a board member about the times and dates, I was told the dates had been printed wrong. Then this board member told me not to even bother going because it was a waste of time. I do know that all the people who worked on the last committee worked very hard. I know what they were up against. It's hard to make suggestions and get approval when all you hear is "That's not feasible!" or "That can't be done!"

So they sent out a survey to the residents of South Plainfield asking us what we wanted. Of course a lot of people didn't send them back. From what I understand a lot of residents felt their opinions would not have mattered.

I listened at a board meeting when the architect said a majority of the people favored the schools going back to K-6. But he added that was not feasible and the schools would be K-4. Grant School would then become 5-6. I heard a lot of grumbling among parents.

They asked what we wanted and then we were told we can't have it. I have talked to a lot of parents and they feel as I do, that sixth grade should not be singled out. But people don't want to come forward either because they do not like to speak publicly, or knowing their opinions are not taken seriously, or just plain disgusted.

My opinion is the following. Give Roosevelt a new school to house K-6. Let the Board of Education take over the old Roosevelt (they are all split up now anyway!). Future Stars and the Sunshine Program can move into Roosevelt too. There is a lot of room for growth there! Open up Central Sixth as your fifth K-6. Central Sixth is now housing more than our elementary schools and one wing is just for Future Stars and the Sunshine Program.

If we don't have to put any additions onto the buildings, we could use that money to upgrade all the schools that need it. A lot of parents are afraid of the redistributing that might have to be done if in fact Grant was turned into a K-6. But if it frees up classroom space, I think everyone would benefit.

I have been told I have far too much time on my hands because I voice my opinions often. But if fighting for a safer and better education for my children and the children of South Plainfield is a waste of time, I challenge someone to find something else more important to waste my time on.

GWENN KURILEW

Romance Book and Bake Sale at Library

The Friends of the Library held a "Romance Book and Bake Sale as a fundraiser, last Saturday at the Library.

They sold Valentine cakes and baked goods. They also sold lots of romance books.



Terra Nova Garden Club News

The Terra Nova Garden Club will hold a Garden Therapy Workshop at 10 a.m. on Feb. 20, and Garden Therapy at 1 p.m. on Feb. 21, to be held at the Muhlenberg Adultcare Facility in Plainfield.

The February monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 28 at 7:30 p.m., at the North Edison Library, 777 Grove Ave. in Edison. New members are always welcome.

Guest speaker for the evening will be George Aronson, whose presentation is entitled "Wetlands; What Good Are They Anyway?" George is a prize winning photographer and active environmentalist who will educate the club about nature and the benefits of the Wetland and why they must be preserved and protected.

Mark your calendars! The Terra Nova Garden Club 50th Anniversary Luncheon Celebration is slated for Thursday, Nov. 15. Future details will be announced.

Reminder: The Terra Nova Garden Club is also selling a savory cookbook of tried and true recipes of our members. The cost is \$10 and may be purchased from any member.

The Terra Nova Garden Club is pleased to present three workshops open to the public. The workshops include a Pressed Flower Workshop,

on Wednesday, Mar. 14, held at Edison High School, from 7 to 9 p.m. in room 104. The price is \$25 and includes learning techniques for pressing and preserving flowers and will include making a pressed flower keepsake box. Instructor is Gail Sulinski, president of Terra Nova Garden Club.

On Wednesday, Apr. 4, a Spring Topiary Workshop will be held at JP Stevens High School from 7 to 9 p.m. For the price of \$30 you will create a floral topiary of dried hydrangas, rosebuds, flora, greens and ribbons. All materials are included in the cost. If you are interested in attending, please bring a glue gun and scissors. Instructor is Debbie Czech, publicity chair of Terra Nova Garden Club.

A Spring Floral Wreath Workshop will be held on Wednesday, May 2 from 7 to 9 p.m. at JP Stevens High School. For \$25 the Terra Nova Garden Club will show you how to create a beautiful seasonal wreath for your home decor. Please bring your glue gun and scissors to this workshop. Instructor is Debbie Czech.

To register for any of these workshops or for more information, contact the Edison Township Public Schools Adult Education at (732) 452-4574.

boroughnotesboroughnotes

Council News

- An ordinance was introduced to purchase a new Emergency Management Vehicle at a cost of \$35,000.
- Joe Vele has been employed as a part-time plumbing subcode office/plumbing inspector to cover for the Plumbing Inspector, who will be on vacation.
- Ray's Sport Shop has been chosen to purchase bulletproof vests for the police department.
- Roberta Dowling has been appointed to the Business Advisory Group to fill the unexpired term of Ronald Nobil, who resigned.
- The council has executed an agreement with International Salt Corp. to purchase salt, not to exceed \$10,000.
- Lynn Bias and Christopher Cochrane have been employed as part-time Public Safety Telecommunications trainees, starting March 12, at the rate of \$12.32 per hour. No benefits are included with these appointments.

The South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission
Proudly Presents for Black History Month

A Stitch In Time

Seven Quilts for Seven Sisters

Travel Back With Us to the Old South & Days of Slavery in a Wonderful Performance
Featuring Spiritual Songs, Dance, History, Stories, Skits and Authentic Displays of Colorful Quilts of the Time.

Come For A Memorable Experience Where You Will See the Joys of Sisterhood, The Trials of Slave Life and How Quilting Helped Them Cope.



Sunday
February 18, 2001
2:00 PM

PAL Building
South Plainfield
1250 Maple Avenue

FREE ADMISSION

Info: 908-756-8679

Free Refreshments

HIV Health Services Planning Council

The HIV Health Services Planning Council for the Middlesex-Somerset-Hunterdon Ryan White Title I Eligible Metropolitan Area is looking for volunteers to help make decisions regarding prioritizing the needs of persons living with HIV/AIDS.

Orientation and training will be

provided. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month from 2 to 4 p.m. in New Brunswick and Somerville.

For more information, contact Johanna Daley, Planning Council Staff at (732) 445-0512 or Luis Acevedo, Membership Chairperson, at (732) 235-8018.

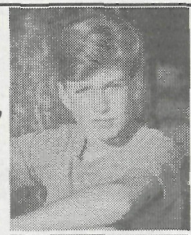


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Hair Salon

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Saturdays~6:45 am~3 pm
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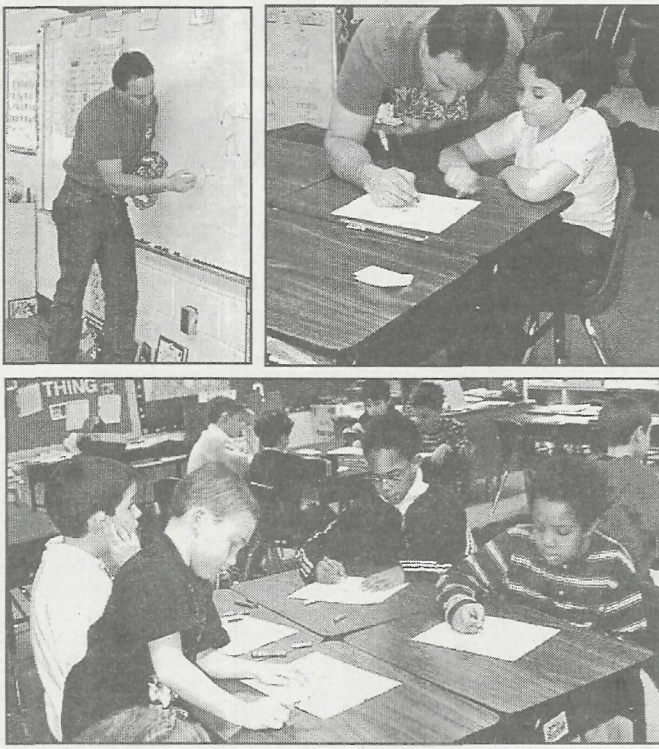
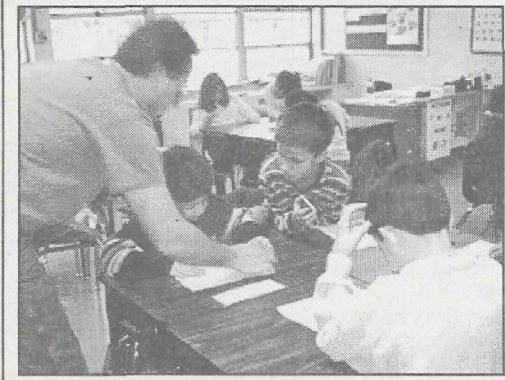
Roosevelt Students Search for the Stars

The Pearl Observatory, a traveling science educational company, recently conducted an afterschool science program at Roosevelt School. Students learn to observe and explore the earth around us.

The class, taught by John Miller, was attended by about 20 eager students. They learned about the planets, moons, meteors, comets and asteroids and the future space program.

The Pearl Observatory features several programs include the Starlab Portable Planetarium, Dinosaurs, Rocks & Fossils, Telescope Nights and the Afterschool Science Spectacular.

The last class is held outside on a clear evening to study the stars through a telescope. There first attempt at night star gazing was canceled due to cloud cover.



LEGAL NOTICES

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

Ordinance #1559 entitled: **BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS 2001 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (THE "BOROUGH"); APPROPRIATING \$300,000 THEREOF AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$285,600 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF** be adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, February 16, 2001 and that a public hearing be held Thursday, March 8, 2001 at 8:00 PM in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey.

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PENDING ORDINANCE

The bond ordinance published herewith was introduced and adopted upon first reading at a meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, held on February 8, 2001, and will be further considered for final passage, after public hearing thereon, at a meeting of said Borough Council to be held at the Borough's Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, at 8:00 PM, in said Borough of South Plainfield, in said County, on March 8, 2001.

Mary Blue/Deputy Municipal Clerk

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
ORDINANCE NUMBER 1559

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS 2001 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (THE "BOROUGH"); APPROPRIATING \$300,000 THEREOF AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$285,600 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The improvements or purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are hereby authorized to be undertaken by the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey (the "Borough") as general improvements. For the said improvements or purposes stated in Section 3 hereof, there is hereby appropriated the aggregate sum of \$300,000, said sum being inclusive of a down payment in the aggregate amount of \$14,400 now available for said improvements or purposes required by the Local Bond Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:2-1 et seq.) (the "Local Bond Law") by virtue of an appropriation from the Capital Improvement Fund of the Borough.

SECTION 2. For the financing of said improvements or purposes described in Section 3 hereof and to meet the part of said \$300,000 appropriation not provided for by application hereunder of said down payment, negotiable bonds of the Borough are hereby authorized to be issued in the aggregate principal amount of \$285,600 pursuant to the Local Bond Law. In anticipation of the issuance of said bonds and to temporarily finance said improvements or purposes, negotiable notes of the Borough in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$285,600 are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to and within the limitations prescribed by said Local Bond Law.

SECTION 3. (a) The improvements hereby authorized and the purposes for the financing of which said obligations are to be issued are as follows:

Improvement or Purpose	Appropriation	Authorization	Down Payment	Useful Life
(i) The widening of Durham Avenue south of Hamilton Boulevard and south of Bushwick Avenue within the Borough, with a roadway pavement having a useful life or durability at least equal to that of a Class B Roadway (as defined in the Local Bond Law) and also including, but not limited to, as required, milling, joint stabilization, pavement striping, installation of curbs and storm drains and all work, materials, equipment, and appurtenances necessary therefor and incidental thereto and in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor on file in the Office of the Clerk of the Borough and available for public inspection and hereby approved;	\$125,000	\$119,000	\$6,000	10 years
(ii) acquisition of properties within the Borough for open space purposes, such properties being located (a) near the intersection of Clinton Avenue and Tompkins Avenue comprising 9.285 acres and described as Block 12, Lots 9, 12, 13, 16 and 17 on the official tax map of the Borough and (b) on Ralph Avenue near Sampton Avenue comprising 0.114 acres and described as Block 278, Lot 4 on the official tax map of the Borough, a lawful public purpose, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto and all in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor on file in the Office of the Clerk of the Borough and available for public inspection and hereby approved; and	475,000	\$71,400	\$3,600	40 years
(iii) various capital improvements to the Municipal Building located at 2480 Plainfield Avenue in the Borough including, but not limited to, roof repairs, alteration, subdivision, expansion and furnishing of interior office space and the repair and/or replacement of components, as necessary, of the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto and all in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor on file in the Office of the Clerk of the Borough and available for public inspection and hereby approved.	\$100,000	\$95,200	\$4800	5 years
TOTALS:	\$300,000	\$285,600	\$14,400	

(b) The estimated aggregate maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued for said purposes is \$285,600.

(c) The estimated aggregate cost of said improvements or purposes is \$300,000, the excess thereof over the estimated aggregate maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued therefor, is the aggregate amount of down payment available for such improvements or purposes.

SECTION 4. In the event the United States of America, the State of New Jersey, and/or the County of Middlesex make a contribution or grant in aid to the Borough for the improvement and purpose authorized hereby and the same shall be received by the Borough prior to the issuance of the bonds or notes authorized in Section 2 hereof, then the amount of such bonds or notes to be issued shall be reduced by the amount so received from the United States of America, the State of New Jersey, and/or the County of Middlesex. In the event however, that any amount so contributed or granted by the United States of America, the State of New Jersey, and/or the County of Middlesex shall be received by the Borough after the issuance of the bonds or notes authorized in Section 2 hereof, then such funds shall be applied to the payment of the bonds or notes so issued and shall be used for no other purpose. This Section 4 shall not apply, however, with respect to any contribution or grant in aid received by the City as a result of using funds from this bond ordinance as "matching local funds" to receive such contribution or grant in aid.

SECTION 5. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough, provided that no note shall mature later than one (1) year from its date. The notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the Chief Financial Officer. The Chief Financial Officer of the Borough shall determine all matters in connection with the notes issued pursuant to this bond ordinance, and the signature of the Chief Financial Officer upon the notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:2-8(a). The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the notes from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchaser thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price and accrued interest thereon from their dates to the date of delivery thereof. The Chief Financial Officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the notes pursuant to this bond ordinance is made. Such report must include the principal amount, the description, the interest rate, and the maturity schedule of the notes so sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

SECTION 6. The capital budget of the Borough is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this bond ordinance, and to the extent of any inconsistency herewith, a resolution in the form promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended capital budget and capital programs as approved by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services will be on file in the Office of the Clerk and will be available for public inspection.

SECTION 7. The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

(a) The purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are not current expenses and are improvements which the Borough may lawfully undertake as general improvements, and no part of the cost thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefited thereby.

(b) The period of usefulness of said improvement or purpose within the limitations of said Local Bond Law, according to the reasonable life thereof computed from the date of the said bonds authorized by this bond ordinance, is 15.833 years.

(c) The supplemental debt statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly made and filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Borough and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the Office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey, and such statement shows that the gross debt of the Borough as defined in the Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the bonds or notes provided for in this bond ordinance by \$285,600 and the said obligations authorized by this bond ordinance will be within all debt limitations prescribed by said Local Bond Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$75,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20 is included in the estimated cost indicated herein for the purposes or improvements hereinbefore described.

SECTION 8. The full faith and credit of the Borough are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on the obligations authorized by this bond ordinance. The obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Borough, and the Borough shall be obligated to levy ad valorem taxes upon all the taxable property within the Borough for the payment of the obligations and the interest thereon without limitation as to rate or amount.

SECTION 9. The Borough reasonably expects to reimburse any expenditures toward the costs of the improvements or purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance and paid prior to the issuance of any bonds or notes authorized by this bond ordinance with the proceeds of such bonds or notes. No funds from sources other than the bonds or notes authorized herein have been or are reasonably expected to be reserved, allocated on a long-term basis or otherwise set aside by the Borough, or any member of the same "Controlled Group" as the Borough, within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-1(e), pursuant to its budget or financial policies with respect to any expenditures to be reimbursed. This Section 9 is intended to be and hereby is a declaration of the Borough's official intent to reimburse any expenditures toward the costs of the improvements or purposes described in Section 3 hereof to be incurred and paid prior to the issuance of bonds or notes authorized herein in accordance with Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2, and no further action (or inaction) will be an abusive arbitrage device in accordance with Treasury Regulation Section 1.148-10 to avoid the arbitrage yield restrictions or arbitrage rebate requirements under Section 148 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). The proceeds of any bonds or notes authorized herein used to reimburse the Borough for any expenditures toward the costs of the improvements or purposes described in Section 3 hereof will be used directly or indirectly (i) to "refund" an issue of governmental obligations within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-1(f) of the Code, (ii) to create, within one year, following the reimbursement of any expenditures of bond proceeds "replacement proceeds", within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 1.148-1 of the bonds, or any other bond issue, or (iii) to reimburse the Borough for any expenditure or payment that was originally paid with the proceeds of any obligation of the Borough (other than borrowing by the Borough from one of its own funds or the funds of a member of the same "Controlled Group" within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-1(e)). The bonds or notes authorized herein to reimburse the Borough for any expenditures toward the costs of the improvements or purposes described in Section 3 hereof will be issued in an amount not to exceed \$285,600. The costs to be reimbursed with the proceeds of the bonds or notes authorized herein will be "capital expenditures" in accordance with the meaning of Section 150 of the Code and Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-1. This provision will take effect immediately, but will be of no effect with regard to expenditures for costs paid outside the permitted reimbursement period set forth in Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2(d)(2).

SECTION 10. The Borough covenants to maintain the exclusion from gross income under Section 103(a) of the Code of the interest on all bonds and notes issued under this ordinance.

SECTION 11. This bond ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

Adopted on First Reading February 2, 2001

ATTEST:
Mary Blue, RMC/Deputy Municipal Clerk
\$380.00

February 16, 2001

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Ordinance #1525A entitled: **AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING 2001 FEES FOR USE OF THE MUNICIPAL POOL UTILITY** was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Borough Council on Thursday, February 8, 2001 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ATTEST: Mary Blue, RMC/Deputy Municipal Clerk

\$1215.00 February 16, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Ordinance #1555 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING, REVISING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD AS TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A POLICE DEPARTMENT** was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Borough Council on Thursday, February 8, 2001 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ATTEST: Mary Blue, RMC/Deputy Municipal Clerk

\$15.00 February 16, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Ordinance #1557 entitled: **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, SPECIFICALLY CHAPTER 67, ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, ARTICLE 2, REGULATIONS AND SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES** was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Borough Council on Thursday, February 8, 2001 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ATTEST: Mary Blue, RMC/Deputy Municipal Clerk

\$15.00 February 16, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Ordinance #1005B entitled: **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE DEVELOPMENT REVIEW ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY** was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Borough Council on Thursday, February 8, 2001 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ATTEST: Mary Blue, RMC/Deputy Municipal Clerk

\$15.00 February 16, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Ordinance #1558 entitled: **A CAPITAL ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$13,866.53 FROM THE GENERAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE RESURFACING OF BELMONT AVENUE, IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, JERSEY** was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Borough Council on Thursday, February 8, 2001 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ATTEST: Mary Blue, RMC/Deputy Municipal Clerk

\$15.00 February 16, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

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

Ordinance #1558 entitled: **A CAPITAL ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$35,000.00 FROM THE GENERAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF AN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT VEHICLE, IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY** be adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, February 16, 2001 and that a public hearing be held Thursday, March 8, 2001 at 8:00 PM in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey.

ORDINANCE #1558

A CAPITAL ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$35,000.00 FROM THE GENERAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF AN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT VEHICLE, IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY

Be it ordained by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield, New Jersey (not less than 2/3 of all the members thereof affirmatively concurring) that:

SECTION 1. The purpose hereby authorized is:

purchase of Emergency Management Vehicle

SECTION 2. There is hereby appropriated the sum of \$35,000.00 to finance the total cost of the total cost of the purpose described in Section 1 thereof.

SECTION 3. That the cost of accomplishing said purpose shall be paid as follows:

\$35,000.00 from the General Capital Improvement Fund

SECTION 4. That no bonds or notes are to be issued or indebtedness incurred in connection with said purposes.

SECTION 5. The Capital Budget is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency therewith and the resolutions promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing in full detail of the amended Capital Budget and Capital Program as approved by the Director, Division of Local Government Services as on file with the Municipal Clerk and is available for public inspection.

SECTION 6. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final adoption and publication according to law.

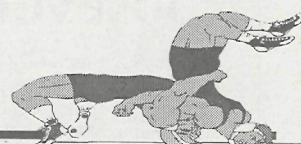
Approved February 8, 2001

Daniel J. Gallagher/Mayor

ATTEST:
Mary Blue, RMC/Deputy Municipal Clerk
\$59.00 February 16, 2001

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Sports



2001 T-Ball/Teener Ball Registration

Registration for the 2001 T-Ball/Teener Ball seasons is now underway. Registration is open to So. Plfd. boys/girls, grades K-2.

T-Ball covers children 5 years old as of Oct. 1, 2000 and Teener Ball is for children who were 6-7 as of Oct. 1, 2000. Teener Ball will have two divisions for registration; girls play softball, boys play baseball. Parents who wish to coach are also encouraged to sign up. A coaches clinic will be offered to assist any parent.

Registration is \$15 per participant (before Mar. 21) or \$20 (after Mar. 21). Register at the Recreation Office Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Registration takes place Feb. 14 to April 2. Birth certificates and proof of residency are required new participants.

If you have any questions, call the Rec Office at (908) 226-7714.

TIGER WRESTLING NEWS

Tigers Tie Number One Brick Memorial

By Bob Hunter

If you did not make the Brick Memorial match last Thursday night at the high school, you really missed the most exciting match in recent years. Brick Memorial was the number one ranked team in the state in the Gannett New Jersey top 20, while South Plainfield came in at number nine.

This was a rematch of last year's two high powered programs; with South Plainfield winning before cruising to their first state championship.

Well it all started with the coin toss that the Tigers won. The Tigers again jumped out to an early 12-0 lead when Danny DeAndrea 103, pinned Joe DeVizio at 3:43.

Rich Gebauer 112 followed with a big pin over Pat Brady at

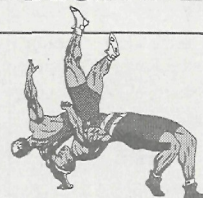
South Plainfield Tournament This Weekend

The 27th Annual South Plainfield Invitational Wrestling Tournament will be held this Saturday and Sunday at South Plainfield High.

If the high school team wins the sectionals this week, Saturday's wrestling will be held at the Middle School.

This is the largest invitational wrestling tournament in the state. It attracts wrestlers from New York, Pennsylvania and Connecticut. Over one thousand wrestlers compete over two days trying to win top honors in this very competitive tournament.

Come see the future of South Plainfield wrestling compete this weekend.



1:06.

Ricky Ringel 119 did a great job against state place winner Marc Rosenfeld, by not giving up

any bonus points. Rosenfeld won by decision 10-4. Matt Anderson 125, was bumped up to face Drew Duddy and he scored a major decision 9-0, giving the Tigers a 16-3 lead.

Roberto Ramos 130, followed with a solid 4-1 decision over Chris Shaffner, to increase the lead to 19-3. Matt Gati 135, wrestling with a bad elbow, had the crowd on its feet when he took Dave Rogers down to his back. Rogers came back and won by decision 11-7. Scott Doerr 140 then faced top ranked Rob Jimenez and

dropped a close 5-3 decision. Glenn Gross 145, took early control over Mike Guenther before scoring the fall at 3:47, giving the Tigers a 25-9 lead.

Mike Buteas 152, did his job by not giving up more than one bonus point in his loss to John Powell. Steve Johnston 160, followed doing what he was asked, not allowing more than one bonus point in losing by major decision 25-14 to Rick Steffanelli. Joe DeBiase 171, was asked to do the same to keep the Tigers in the match and he came thru when he lost to Brett Jankos 17-5, again only one bonus point.

With the South Plainfield leading 25-21 going into 189 pound class is where the coin toss came into play for the Tigers, when they forfeited giving Brick Memorial its first lead of the night 27-25.

John Foscolo then bumped up to 215 and scored a tech fall over Matt Morin 19-2. That gave the lead back to the Tigers 30-27.

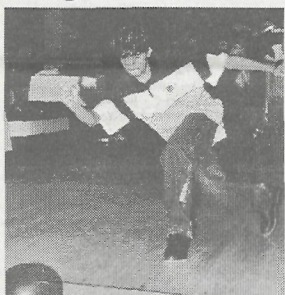
Ryan Elliott the freshman heavyweight, with the pressure on, came thru by not giving up a major decision to Dwight Layton who won 11-4.

"One more point and we lose," said Elliott. "I tried my best and I'm glad I was able to help the team."

HIGH SCHOOL BOWLING

Tomei (604) Leads Tiger Bowlers in State Sectionals

The Boys Bowling Team had a slow start, but finished strong and placed 18th in a strong field of 35 teams in the Central Jersey State Sectionals at Brunswick Zone Carolier Lanes. Ray Tomei bowled 180-209-215 and a 604 high set and Eric Gaub bowled 207-173-201 and 581 set led the Tiger charge. Chipping in were Jeff Smith 238 high game, Paul Larisch 222 and Rishi Ramgobin 191. The Tigers rolled games of 827-854-1008 for a 2689 series.



Rishi Ramgobin bowled a high game of 185 and a 525 set defeating Franklin

Tiger Bowlers Shutout Franklin Twp., Finish At 13-7

A shorthanded Boys Bowling Team put on an awesome display of digital dexterity as they swept all three games and pinned a 234

pin shelacking on a pesky Franklin Twp. squad. Leading the solid team effort were Ray Tomei 200-204-210-614 high set, Eric Gaub 225 high game and 597 set, Paul Larisch 204-589 set, Rishi Ramgobin 185-525 set and Jeff Smith 216. The boys improved their record to 13-7.

Lady Tigers Finish As White Division Champions With a 19-3-1 Record

The Girls Bowling Team sizzled last week, picking up victory number 19 at the expense of Franklin Twp.

The Lady Tigers were paced by Melissa Jamieson with games of 223 and 202 and a 603 set.

Vicky Boley bowled a 202 and had a 551 set and Kristen Herzog had a 192 game.

Sabina Montenegro chipped in bowling games of 170 and 169 for the White Division Champions.

The girls had a great year, finishing with a 19-3-1 record.

RECREATION WRESTLING

Rec Wrestlers Now 11-0

The Recreation Wrestling Team is now 11-0 after a big win over Union 75-7.

Winning for the Tigers were Tyler Hunt 50, Ryan Sacco 57, Robert Gentile 60, Nick Heilmann 63, Patrick Hunter 67,

Corey Hay 70, Tim Gaughan 73, Billy Ashnault 77, Bryan Hunt 80, Nick Dorey 85, Sam Martin 90, Mark Wagner 95 and Danny Pompilio 110.

Also wrestling were Jeffrey Conroy and Brad Martin.

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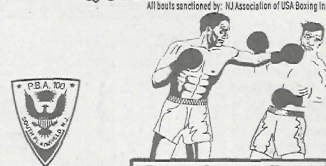


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2001 GOLDEN GLOVE QUARTER FINALS



Doors Open at 7 pm
Bouts Start at 8 pm

Saturday ~ March 31, 2001

South Plainfield High School
200 Lake Street, South Plainfield, NJ

General Admission ~ \$ 8.00

GOLDEN RINGSIDE \$ 75.00

includes DINNER AT 5:00 PM

at Café Piancone Restaurant
2291 Hamilton Boulevard, South Plainfield, NJ

For Tickets or Reservations Call
(908) 226-7662 or (908) 561-0649

Tickets can be purchased at Sal's Spirit Shoppe on Park Ave., Durham Deli on South Plainfield Ave., at the Observer office on Hamilton Blvd. and at the PAL Building on Maple Ave.

Sports

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.

Results from February 10 games.

A LEAGUE **RECORD** **TEAM'S HIGH SCORER**

Cavaliers	7-2	Tom Holowka
Jazz	7-2	Chris Bakazan
76ers	7-3	Jeffrey Pollin
Bulls	6-4	Ankit Patel
Nuggets	4-6	Andrew Miller
Knicks	4-6	Chris McKnight
Spurs	3-7	Chris Czaplinski
Rockets	1-9	Adam Bianchi

B LEAGUE **RECORD** **TEAM'S HIGH SCORER**

Pistons	10-0	Kyle Lendach
Magic	9-1	Chris Pollin
Nets	9-1	Kevin Siedenburgh
Cavaliers	8-2	Peter Peregrin
Jazz	7-3	Keith Dezmin
Hornets	7-3	Danny McCreesh
Knicks	3-7	Joey Turrise
Bulls	3-7	Benjamin Milcarek/Timothy Keane
Lakers	3-7	Robbie Strani
Heat	3-7	Zachary Gray
Celtics	3-7	Joseph DeFalco
Timberwolves	2-8	Donna Garcia
Raptors	2-8	Mike Piazza
Supersonics	2-8	Joseph Delitzio

C LEAGUE **RECORD** **TEAM'S HIGH SCORER**

Lakers	8-2	Vinnie Padula
Nets	8-2	Tramane Miller
Knicks	7-3	Ashley Sacks
Pistons	7-3	Chris Pennisi
Timberwolves	7-3	Brendan O'Shea
Raptors	5-5	Michael Dezmin
Heat	5-5	Danny Espin
Bulls	5-5	Grey Coppi
Celtics	5-5	David Alston
Magic	5-5	Scott Barton
Jazz	4-5	Michael Muglia
76ers	2-8	Bobby Harrington
Hornets	1-9	Taylor Curtis
Cavaliers	0-10	Andrew Gray

D LEAGUE **TEAM'S HIGH SCORER**

Jazz	Gaganjot Dhaliwal
Nuggets	Ryan Harrington
Timberwolves	Matthew Cesare
Bulls	Kyle Kaczka
Spurs	Matthew Miceli
Nets	Dylan Papa
Pistons	Kishan Patel
Hornets	Michael Pryor
Lakers	Kyle Freuler/Iyanosa Ogbevoen
Heat	Logan Green
Magic	Steven Grzenda
Cavaliers	Patrick Landy

2001 Golden Gloves Returns

The 2001 Golden Glove Quarter finals will be held on March 31 at South Plainfield High School on Lake Street. Last year this event drew such a large crowd at the Middle School that it was moved this year to the High School, which has a larger gym area. The event is sponsored by the South Plainfield PBA and SPHS Athletic Boosters Club.

All bouts are sanctioned by the New Jersey Association of USA Boxing, Inc.

Doors open at 7 p.m. and bouts will start at 8 p.m.

General admission is \$8. A Special Ringside ticket may also be purchased at a cost of \$75 and includes dinner at Cafe Piancone, starting at 5 p.m.

For tickets or reservations, call 226-7662 or 561-0649.

Tickets can also be purchased at Sal's Spirit Shoppe, Durham Deli, the Observer office and the PAL Building.

The South Plainfield Observer is seeking a student or parent to submit sports information to the paper. If interested, please call 908-668-0010.

By Tony Cassano



juniorbaseballclubnotes

BIG TURN OUT FOR FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING— An unusually large number of individuals attended this past Monday meeting. As Commissioner, its always good to see such a large turnout. It shows that people care and want to be involved when things seem to matter the most. Some very hot and interesting topics and new idea's were discussed at length during the meeting. With less then two months to go before Opening Day (Saturday April 7th), we have a lot to do as we prepare for the 2001 season. The next 45 days extremely critical and volunteers are still very much needed for several committees. Current and new members are welcomed. If interested, please call the SPJBC @ 908-754-2090.

RUTGERS COACHES CERTIFICATION CLASS SET FOR MONDAY, FEB 26 at 6:45 PM—In an effort to have all Managers and Co-Managers become certified through the Rutgers Certification course, the SPJBC has scheduled a class for Monday, Feb. 26 at 6:45 at the Clubhouse. The cost per coach is \$30. Coaches that have been selected to manage or co-manage this year will be notified by the respective league directors regarding the class. Mike English, Recreation Director will be the instructor. Snacks and refreshments will be provided by the SPJBC. The class will last three hours. If you are certified and our records are incorrect, please provide your Rutgers Card and we will update our file.

SPJBC TRYOUTS SET FOR SATURDAY, MARCH 3 at THE PAL —Just a quick note to mark your calendars for Tryouts on the first Saturday in March at the PAL. Each registered player in Small Fry A, B, and C League will be notified regarding the time of tryouts. Times will range from 8:30 a.m. to roughly 3 p.m. Woman Auxiliary will be selling clothes at tryouts.

Recreation Plans Trip to See World Champion Yankees Versus Red Sox

The South Plainfield Recreation department is sponsoring a trip to see the World Champion New York Yankees versus the Boston Red Sox on

Wednesday, May 23. The bus leaves the PAL at 4:30 p.m. Cost is \$45 per person. Register at the PAL Building. Only 45 seats available.



There's
a lot
going on...



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NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

Obituaries

James N. Hendry, 76

James N. Hendry died on Wednesday, Feb. 7 at the John F. Kennedy Haven Hospice Center in Edison.

Born in Plainfield, Mr. Hendry had resided in Middlesex until 1948 when he settled in Edison, where he had resided for the past 52 years.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during WWII in the 24th infantry division as a rifleman and was awarded the Philippines Liberation Ribbon with the star and the Victory Medal.

He was employed as a machinist by Motor Machine Co. of Highland Park for 34 years before his retirement in 1984.

Surviving are his wife of 52 years, Camela (Solimani) Hendry; his mother, Armenia (Rule) Vogel of Clearwater, Fla. and his two sisters, Emily Wiegand of Duncannon, Pa. and Marilyn Halcombe of Tampa, Fla.

Also surviving are numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Eugene Mosley, 80

Eugene Mosley died Tuesday, Feb. 6 in his home.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Mr. Mosley settled in South Plainfield 50 years ago.

He was a veteran of the United States Navy, serving during WWII in the Pacific as a Ship's Serviceman, Second Class.

Mr. Mosley was employed as a steel worker for Harris Structural Steel Co. in South Plainfield before his retirement 19 years ago.

He is predeceased by his wife, Stella J. (Juzwiak), who died in Nov. of 1989. He is also predeceased by three sisters, Rachel, Ruth and Faith, as well as five brothers, William, Robert, Reese, Frank and Chet.

He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Eugene G. and Ilisa Mosley of Lawrenceville, NJ; a sister, Dorothy and two brothers, John and Thomas Mosley, all of Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Consideration

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

Hillside Cemetery

www.hillsidecemetery.com

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to the South Plainfield Rescue Squad, 2520 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Beulah Sieminski, 83

Beulah Sieminski died on Thursday, Feb. 8 in her home.

Born in Newark, she was a long time resident of South Plainfield.

Mrs. Sieminski was a native of Newark, where she graduated from West Side High School.

She was employed as a supervisor with Prudential Insurance Company for more than 50 years. She was assigned to the dividend accounting department in Newark, Woodbridge and other locations. She was the first woman to work at the company for 50 years, retiring from the South Plainfield Office in the 1980's.

During World War II, Mrs. Sieminski did volunteer work for the Red Cross at Penn Station in Newark.

Mrs. Sieminski was an animal lover and dedicated her life to saving stray and abandoned dogs, cats and any other creatures in distress. She once even got out of her car on Rt. 287 to help authorities round up some cattle that had fled an overturned truck. Family members estimated she not only rescued hundreds of animals in her day but also found homes for most of them. She kept those she could not relocate and made them pets.

She is predeceased by her husband, Abdon, who died in 1989.

Surviving are a brother, Robert M. Sterling of Dunellen and three nieces and three nephews.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her memory to the Plainfield Humane Society, 75 Rock Ave., Plainfield, NJ 07060.

John Patrick "Jack" Courtney, 79

John Patrick "Jack" Courtney died on Thursday, Feb. 8 in his home.

Born in Jersey City, he had resided there most of his life, before moving to South Plainfield in 1984.

He was a Credit manager for Standard Motor Products in New York for 20 years before retiring in 1984.

Jack had been attending Fordham University during WWII and was called to serve his country. He served in the United States Air Force. After serving, he continued his education at Seton

Hall University, receiving his Bachelors Degree in 1949 in Business.

Jack had dedicated his life to the sport of track and field. He was inducted into the Hudson County Track and Field Hall of Fame on June 11, 1987 by the Hudson County Track Coaches Association. He received this high honor for his outstanding athletic career at St. Michael's High School and Fordham University. He dedicated over 30 years of his life as a track and field official and had represented the sport as official at every level of competition throughout the United States. Most noteworthy, was his selection to serve as an official at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. Jack had also been inducted into the Hudson County Hall of Fame by his peers of the sport on Jan. 28, 1998. On Mar. 24, 1996, he received the Mayoral Citation from the City of Jersey City for the national recognition he had brought to Jersey City through his athletic achievements.

He was a member of the USA Track and Field Association.

He was also a volunteer at Muhlenberg Regional Center in Plainfield and was recently honored with the Rose Young Award from the hospital. He had volunteered over 12,000 hours to the hospital.

Jack was a member of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield where he was a reader for the church. Jack loved to play the game of golf.

His two sisters, Rosemary Macellara and Ann Flanagan have both predeceased him. His nephews, Thomas and Edward Natellie have also predeceased him.

Surviving are his sister, Dolores Mazzetta of Edison and a brother, James Courtney of Dover Twp. Also surviving are 19 nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center, Park and Randolph Ave., Plainfield, NJ.

Charles A. Noble, 75

Charles A. Noble died on Thursday, Feb. 8 at the Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

He was born in Rahway and had resided in South Plainfield for the past 45 years.

Mr. Noble had worked as a machinist for over 20 years with the Weldotron Co. of Piscataway before his retirement 10 years ago.

He was a member of the First Baptist Church of South Plain-

field and a life member of the Dawn Patrol Motorcycle Club of Bradley Gardens.

His first wife, Tillie Morris Noble, died in 1988. He was also predeceased by his son, Richard Noble and by his three sisters.

Surviving are his wife, Frances R. (Dailey) Noble, his daughter and son-in-law, Bonnie and Leonard Raab of East Brunswick; his daughter, Carol Noble of Sussex; three stepchildren, Patricia Colquitt of North Carolina, Gail Shively of Middlesex and Arthur Shively of Flemington; his brother, Robert N. Noble of California; three grandchildren, John and Leonard Raab, and Connie Worden, and by his great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Deborah Hospital, Plainfield Area Chapter, PO Box 820, Brown Mills, NJ 08115.

Carmen J. Dimaio, 79

Carmen J. Dimaio died on Saturday, Feb. 10 in his home.

Mr. Dimaio was born in New Brunswick and had lived in Highland Park before moving to South Plainfield 47 years ago.

He had worked as an industrial engineer for Wallace and Tiernan Co. of Bellville for 10 years before his retirement in 1987. He had also, some time ago, worked for the former Mack Truck Co. in Plainfield in the same capacity.

Carmen served in the US Navy during WWII as a first class machinist. He was stationed on the USS Portsmouth and participated in the D-Day Invasion of Normandy Beach.

He was a member of the VFW Memorial Post #6763 of South Plainfield and a long time member of the South Plainfield community pool, where during the 1960s he served as a trustee, a position he held for 11 years.

He was an avid golfer and an accomplished artist. A very talented oil painter, he was honored by having some of his works displayed in the library and at the community pool in South Plainfield.

Surviving are his wife, Christine (Parello), two daughters and sons-in-law, Camille "Candy" and Robert Burgess of Branchburg and Cynthia and Mark Wascavage of Washington Twp., two sisters, Lucy DiFede of Texas and Josephine DeRienzo of New Jersey; a brother, Joseph Dimaio of New Jersey and four grandchildren, Pamela and Amanda Burgess and Allyson and Melissa Wascavage.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

AARP To Offer Free Income Tax Preparation

The AARP Chapter 4144 is offering free preparation of income tax forms for federal and state. Trained tax volunteers will prepare taxes at the PAL Building, 1250 Maple Ave. Tuesdays and Thursdays between the hours of 9 a.m. and noon, starting Feb. 15. No appointment is necessary. We ask you to bring in all statements of income, dividends, local real estate taxes, green card for homestead rebate and last year's tax forms. Please bring with you any forms you have received from the IRS or the State of NJ.

The volunteers, under the direction of Steve Machat, who will be providing assistance with your taxes, have been trained by the IRS and New Jersey Tax Department in the preparation of tax returns and are able to assist people in preparing, or will prepare your tax forms for you.

All volunteers have received instruction in the proper methods to handle wages, interest income, pensions, federal, standard or itemized deductions, and most IRA and New Jersey forms. If you have completed your forms and would like us to review them before you send them in, we would be happy to do that for you.

Free Poetry Contest Open to So. Plainfield Residents

The International Library of Poetry has announced that \$58,000 in prizes will be awarded this year in the International Open Poetry Contest. Poets from the South Plainfield area, particularly beginners, are welcome to try to win their share of over 250 prizes. The deadline for the contest is April 30, 2001. The contest is open to everyone and entry is free.

"Any poet, whether previously published or not, can be a writer," stated Christina Babylon, Contest Director. "When people learn about our free poetry contest, they suddenly realize that their own poetic works of art can win cash prizes, as well as gain national recognition," continued Babylon.

To enter, send one original poem, any subject and any style to: The International Library of Poetry, Suite 19910, 1 Poetry Plaza, Owning Mills, MD 21117. The poem should be 20 lines or less, and the poet's name and address should appear on the top of the page. Entries must be postmarked or sent via the Internet by April 30, 2001. You may also enter online at www.poetry.com.

The International Library of Poetry, founded in 1982, is the largest poetry organization in the world.

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Police Ask for Help in Solving Rash of Vandalized Cars

On Wednesday, Feb. 7, two vehicles parked in the parking lot of a Durham Ave. company were broken into and stereos stolen. Entry was gained by either punching out the door lock or breaking a window.

In the last three week period, eleven other similar incidents have occurred. All of the thefts occurred in the parking lots of companies located in the corporate area of South Plainfield (Durham Ave., Stelton Rd., Hamilton Blvd., Helen St., Coolidge St., Corporate Ct., and Corporate Blvd.)

The methods of entry are similar as are the items removed. The

thefts are occurring both during the daytime hours as well as overnight hours.

Anyone who observes suspicious persons loitering around commercial parking lots in South Plainfield are encouraged to contact our dispatch center without delay so that a unit can be sent to investigate.

Anyone with information regarding the thefts that have already occurred are asked to contact either Det. Paul Wylan at (908) 226-7662 or Det. Gary Muccigrossi at (908) 226-7663.

Patrols have been increased in these areas in an effort to address these incidents.

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

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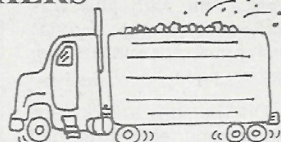
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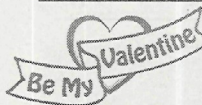
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FATHER, DAUGHTER SWEETHEART DANCE



Story/photos By Patricia Abbott

Last Friday night two elementary schools held their annual St. Valentine's Day with Father/Daughter dances. It was a major success at both schools. Kennedy and Riley can boast full houses, as guests continued to arrive throughout the night.

One after another pint-sized debutante entered on the arm of her best guy. The young ladies were attired for the evening in everything from comfortable play clothes to the height of fashion; their finest dresses, makeup, heels, stockings, eyeshadow and lipstick.

Their dates attire varied as well, ranging from a comfortable flannel shirt to a tux. Each of those lucky men could not help but sport ear-to-ear grins as they watched their daughters, imagining them in the not so distant future.

Prim young ladies set out for a sophisticated evening as Daddy's date. They arrived carrying bouquets or wearing corsages. Their coats were taken by their dates. Many stood in line for a Polaroid keepsake of the big event.

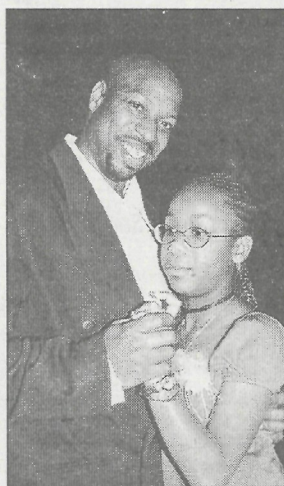
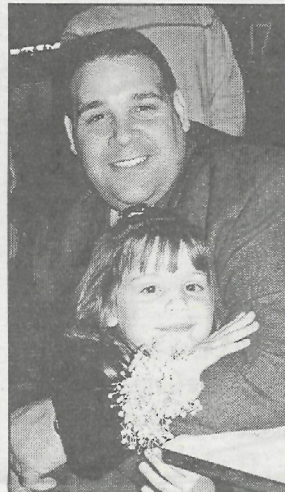
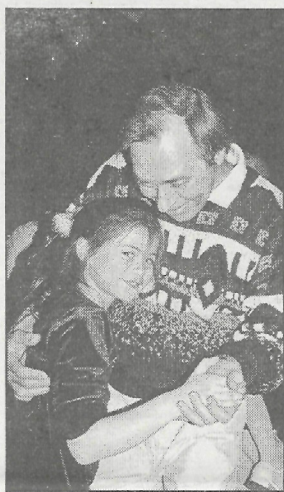
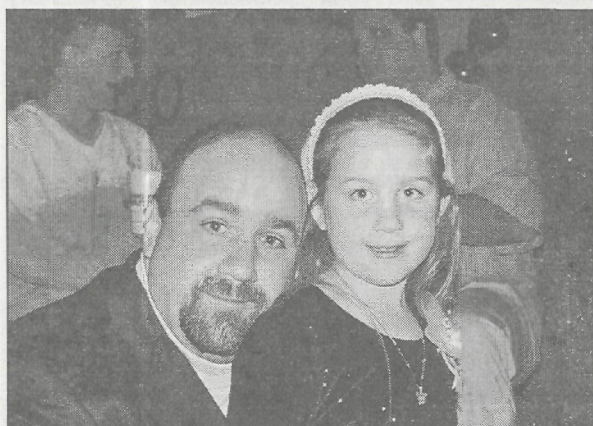
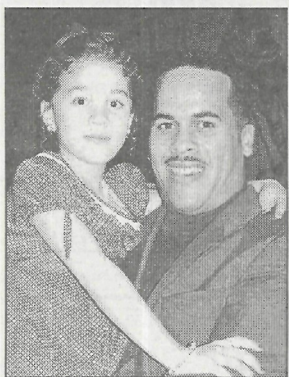
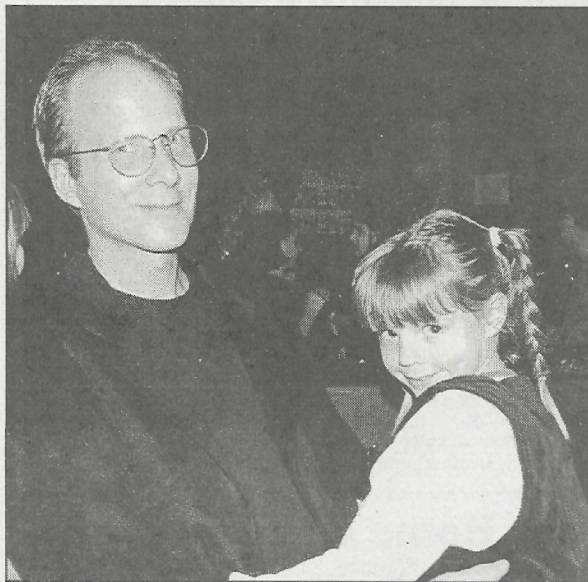
With little effort, the girls gave up any pretense of adulthood as they consorted with friends to get dad on the dance floor or imitated their favorite singer. Sleepy-eyed youngsters gave up the pretense of being grown up and left willingly with daddy at the end of the evening.

There was time a plenty for dates and dances in the future, it was time to go back to being Daddy's little girl.

Riley School celebrated Valentine's Day in a special way, with their annual Father/Daughter Sweetheart dance. The dance was sponsored by the PTSO.

Over 300 daddies and their little girls attended Kennedy School's Annual Father/Daughter Dance. The dance was a fourth grade fundraiser for their Stokes trip.

Polaroid photos were offered for sale as well as small white teddy bears holding a red heart. Music and a variety of goodies kept both fathers and daughters going throughout the evening. The event ended with a drawing of the raffles and the 50/50 winner.



policereport

• The owner of the BP gas station on Stelton Rd. reported that the gentlemen who plows his lot, left without paying for \$44 worth of gas.

• A Scotch Plains resident parked his car at the rear of 3619 Kennedy Rd. at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday and returned the next morning to find the tailgate to his truck missing.

• A Van Fleet Ave. resident reported that his vehicle was keyed while parked on Plainfield Ave. at around 3 p.m. on Thursday.

• While working at Tingley Rubber on South Ave., a man was threatened by another co-worker, who chased after him with a metal pipe saying he was going to "kill him." The

gentlemen ran into his supervisor's office for safety, at which time he was told to report the incident to the police. Neither the suspect nor the supervisor were at work at the time of the report.

• A Plainfield women reported that during a disturbance on Jan. 30, she in fact, was assaulted by the women who originally reported the incident. She said she was punched several times and was hit in the stomach with the other women's knee.

• On Thursday a Middlesex resident reported that he had left his cell phone in a truck he had rented from H.R. Trucking. The cell phone had not been returned and there were \$14

worth of unauthorized calls on his bill.

• A Hancock St. resident reported that on Wednesday, while she was at work at Innovative Folding Carton, her car window had been smashed and the stereo and CD's were stolen.

• Police responded to the Holiday Inn where a DeFillippo Dr. resident stated that a man in the bar had taken her Giant's jacket and pocketbook.

• A Clinton Ave. women was placed under arrest and charged with assaulting a police officer last Wednesday. It was reported that she had possibly fallen and was disoriented. When the officers tried to speak

with her, she became combative and was not making sense. She then struck the officer in the face while flailing her arms and resisted being handcuffed.

• An employee of First Union Bank on Plainfield Ave. held out

two customer's checks, totaling \$1,185 and cashed them out for himself. The employee admitted the crime and was terminated immediately.

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