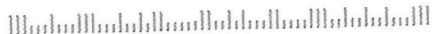


*****CAR-RT SORT**C-013 S17 P7
 SPFLD PUBLIC LIBRARY
 2484 Plainfield Ave
 South Plainfield NJ 07080-3531



MAR 02 2001

SOUTH PLAINFIELD
 FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
 2484 PLAINFIELD AVE
 SOUTH PLAINFIELD, N.J. 07080

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 4, NO. 26

50 CENTS

MARCH 2, 2001

FOUR POLICE OFFICERS PROMOTED; ROBERT MERKLER NEW POLICE CHIEF

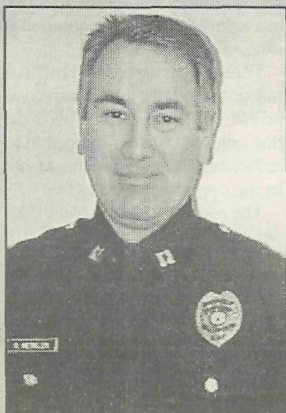
Last Thursday night's storm didn't stop many friends and relatives from celebrating with the South Plainfield Police Officers who received promotions during the borough council meeting. As each officer was sworn in, family members beamed with pride. Each officer earned their promotion by ranking highest on a civil service exam they took. These tests are required in order to rise up in the ranks.

Robert Merkler, the brother of retiring Police Chief Steven Merkler, was named Acting Police Chief. It is indeed rare to have brothers serve as police chief, but even more unusual to have one brother succeed the other. South Plainfield is quite proud of the fact that the police department has officers who are brothers, as well as fathers and sons.

Chief Robert Merkler joined the South Plainfield Police Department

in 1983 as a patrolman after serving as a police officer in North Plainfield for four years and Coral Springs, Fla. for two years. In 1986, he was awarded the honor of 'Policeman of the Year.' He also received a special commendation in 1985 for rescuing a resident from a house fire. In 1989 he was promoted to Sergeant, to Lieutenant in 1993 and Captain in 2000. His activities in the community include a manager, coach and member of the executive board of the South Plainfield Baseball Club and he coached in both soccer and basketball. He was also a Special Olympics volunteer in 1999.

Captain John Ferraro is a 20-year-veteran of the South Plainfield Police Department, joining in 1981. He was promoted to sergeant in 1989 and lieutenant in 1993 and has served in both the Patrol and Service Division, and six months with the



Acting Police Chief Robert Merkler

Middlesex County Task Force. He assumes command of the Service Division.

Lieutenant Kenneth LaVerne is a 20-year-veteran of the South

Plainfield Police Department. He began his career with the Somerville PD and came to South Plainfield in 1981. He was promoted to sergeant in 1985. He served in both the Patrol and Staff Services Division. Most recently he was in charge of Traffic Safety. He will be serving as a Watch Commander.

Lieutenant Robert Barone is a 14-year-veteran of the South Plainfield Police Department, starting in 1987. He was promoted to sergeant in 1995. He has served his entire career in the Patrol Division, where he is currently serving as Watch Commander.

Sergeant Paul Wylam, a 21-year-veteran of the South Plainfield Police Department, started his career in 1980. He was assigned to the Detective Bureau in 1988, where he has served until his promotion. He will be transferred to the Patrol Division as a Shift Supervisor.

Now it's Up To The Voters!

The time has come for voters to cast a yes or no vote on the school board referendum. Polls will be open on Tuesday, March 6 from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

This is the third time the school board has asked for voter approval to bond new construction and renovations to district schools.

The public relations committee, headed by Tracey Hartmann, has been handing out literature and holding meetings explaining what the money will be spent on.

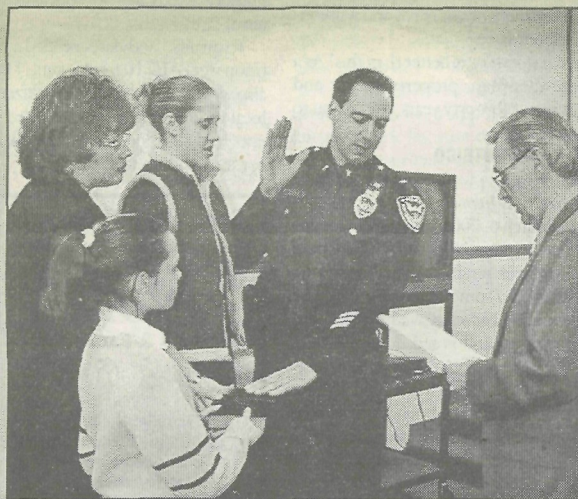
Signs are starting to appear all over town, asking voters to vote yes on the referendum.

The actual cost of the entire project is just over \$19 million, but with newly adopted legislation, the cost to voters will be \$12,636,380. The state has agreed to fund \$6,647,000 of the project. This \$6.6 million will be given to the district only if the referendum passes; if it fails, we lose the state-aid.

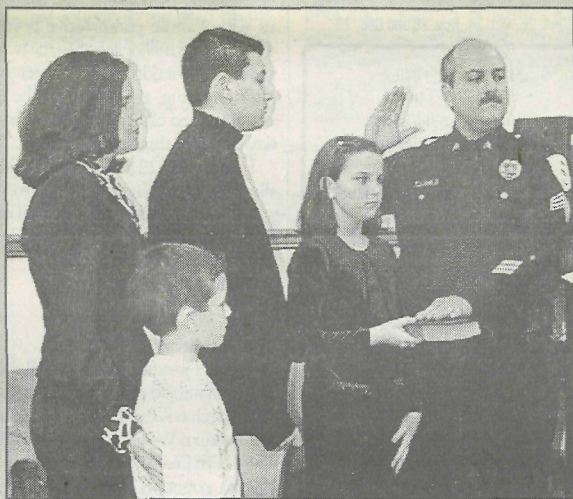
The actual cost of the bond per average household is 7.5 cents per \$100 assessed value, or \$87.70 per year. That comes to \$7.31 a month, \$1.69 a week or 24 cents a day. This is for a 20-year-bond at five percent interest rate.

The project calls for 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 all the elementary schools for increased enrollment and to add art

Continued on page 10



Captain John Ferraro takes the oath from Mayor Dan Gallagher, while his wife Cindy and daughters, Jaclyn and Donna look on.



Lieutenant Kenneth LaVerne with his wife, Dianne and sons, Daniel and Eric. Holding the bible is his daughter, Jacqueline.



Lieutenant Robert Barone pictured are his wife, Wendy holding the bible and children Robert, Jr., Nicholas, and Jennifer.



Sergeant Paul Wylam with his wife, Gail, children Robert, Steven, Ashlee and John holding the bible. Children Donna and Paul could not attend.

Senior Citizens Asked to Attend Presentation

By Joseph Zekas

The Mayor and Council will have a presentation on the new Senior Citizens Center on Monday, March 5 at 8 p.m., in the Municipal building. All seniors are encouraged to be present that evening.

After six years of requesting a new center for the seniors, our efforts are about to be rewarded. The projected start of the new center is May 1, with completion on or about Dec. 1. We believe the seniors and residents of South Plainfield will be proud of this new building.

We have canvassed several Senior Centers in the area and solicited ideas and programs that we can incorporate into our new center. We intend to schedule many activities and programs.

A large turnout Monday night will show that we appreciate what is being done for the seniors of South Plainfield.

mark your calendars

council meetings

Meets twice a month on the first and third Thursday.

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

AGENDA MEETING	PUBLIC MEETING
Monday, March 5	Thursday, March 8
Monday, March 19	Thursday, March 22
Monday, April 2	Thursday, April 5
Monday, April 16	Thursday, April 19

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.

planning board

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month

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

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).

zoning board of adjustment

Meets first, third and fifth Tuesday of the month

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

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.

taxpayers advisory group

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

site places sub-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.

recreation commission

Meets once a month on the second Monday of the month, except July and August

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

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

environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)

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

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

board of education meetings

Grant School Gymnasium on Cromwell Place unless otherwise noted

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

Formal Budget Hearing, Tuesday, March 27, 2001

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

business advisory group

Meets once a month (first Wednesday)

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 5 p.m. • Questions? 908-757-8100

traffic safety advisory commission

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 information, call (908) 668-0010.

The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

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

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

SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in South Plainfield Observer:

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

Dear Editor:

Tuesday March 6. Mark your calendar! March 6 may be one of the more important dates in recent South Plainfield history. March 6 is the day we, as citizens of this town, will be able to vote to decide the future of our educational system.

I have recently read opposing letters written by people who truly believe their position is the "right" position. On Tuesday, March 6, the Board of Education is asking us to approve a \$12.6 million dollar bond. Although this does sound like quite a bit of money, consider the alternatives:

- Crowded schools where our children will not get the best education we can provide.
- Our children being left behind in a society that requires graduates be computer literate.
- Decreasing home values because young families will choose to move to a town where quality education is a higher priority.

The state has agreed to fund \$6.6 million towards the total construction project of \$19.3 million. This is the first time the state has chipped in to reduce our expense; we should not let this opportunity pass us by.

The cost is \$22 per quarter (\$88 per year) for the average South Plainfield home. For those with young children, the decision should be easy—a stronger school system with room to accommodate our growing community. For those who do not have children in the system, look at the \$88 as an "investment" in your community that will "pay off" in terms of higher home values.

We can no longer afford to debate the virtues of spending taxpayer dollars to bring our school system up-to-speed. To date, this process has resulted in our Board of Education "sharpening their pencil" to present us with a more conservative bond which is \$4-5 million less than the two previous referendums. With interest rates dropping, there may not be a better time to capitalize on a low interest rate for this bond.

I can spend \$22 at McDonald's for dinner with my family. Isn't a stronger school system worth this level of investment by you, a member of the South Plainfield community?

BOB AMBIELLI

To the Editor:

I would just like to remind all the South Plainfield residents that Tuesday, March 6 is the day of the School Referendum Vote. It is your civic duty to VOTE! Don't think that your vote doesn't count, because it does. We need every person to get out and vote.

I would also like to say that if you are not supporting this referendum because you feel that the cost is too much or we don't need this school, YOU ARE WRONG!

The overcrowding problem in our schools is not going away. The Superintendent has said the next option is to go lease purchase. He does NOT need your support for this. The cost of lease purchase will be quite substantial compared to this referendum cost.

So I urge you to consider the options well. State aid of \$6,647,000 and total cost to the taxpayers is \$12.6 million, or just 24 cents a day. If Mr. Greenspan drops the interest rate as

predicted, it should be even less.

Thank you to all the committee members and chairs for all their help. South Plainfield, let's put education on our list of priorities. Vote YES on March 6.

**SINCERELY,
TRACEY HARTMANN
CHAIRPERSON CITIZENS
PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

To the Editor:

Why vote yes?

The benefit to the education of the children is the obvious reason to vote yes, and families with children recognize the need for improvements.

To those who do not have children in the school system, and to those who do not understand the need for more space and upgrades, there is still a good reason to vote yes: your property value.

The value of property in a town is directly related to the quality of the school system. Great schools, high property values. We want a school system that will provide for the needs of our residents, we don't want good, responsible families to leave town in search of a better education for their children.

- Regrouping the children into K-4, 5-6, 7-8 is advantageous from a curriculum standpoint and provides an optimum learning and social environment.

- The new building provides just enough space for a conservative enrollment increase. There are no bells and whistles, just what is necessary.

- While the old Roosevelt is becoming obsolete as a school building, it will function efficiently as an administration building, Pre K and Pre K handicapped.

- The electrical and technological upgrades are essential.

- The state has agreed with our assessment of our needs and will contribute 40%.

It doesn't get better than this! As a businessman, property owner and resident for forty years, I urge you to vote YES.

BILL BUTRICO

To the Editor:

March 6, 2001 is an important day here in South Plainfield. The school bond referendum is up for a vote again. To some this may sound like the same old story we have been listening to and voted down twice in the past year, but this time it is different. If you look closely, you will see that this referendum is nearly \$10 million less than the last two.

By supporting this referendum, the new school on the Roosevelt site will

be built in comparable fashion to Franklin, Riley and Kennedy Schools, not the Taj Mahal that was originally presented to voters. The present Roosevelt school will house the Board of Education offices and the Pre K program. All the elementary schools in the district will have comparable facilities for art, music and small group instruction. All the schools will have the technology and electrical upgrades to put them on a par with other districts in the state. The boilers in the Middle School will be replaced with new, more efficient state of the art equipment. The fifth and sixth graders will be in the same school, which will have the facilities and equipment to enhance their learning before moving on to the Middle School.

The time is now to get our share of the state grant. The likelihood of getting a second chance at this state money is very slim.

I, as well as all of the members of the citizens committees who worked so hard this past summer and fall to make this referendum the best it can be, urge you to vote yes on March 6.

**SINCERELY,
TIMOTHY I. MORGAN**

School Board Candidates Announced

Candidates desiring to run for the seats in the upcoming the South Plainfield Board of Education election had until 4 p.m. on Monday to file nominating petitions to place their names on the April 17 ballot. There are three seats open.

This years candidates include two incumbents, Steven Bohn and Dawn Jeffreys. Other candidates are Timothy Morgan, Pio Pennisi and Christine Sienkiewski. Board member Marjorie Reedy will not seek another term.

To qualify, candidates needed a petition signed by 10 local voters. They also were required to be U.S. citizens, local residents, literate, registered to vote and have no claim against or contract with the district.

Specialty Gift Baskets

Gourmet coffee, tea, popcorn, crackers and cheeses.

**Mohn's
Flowers & Fancy Foods**

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

FAST APPROVALS...GREAT RATES...PERSONALIZED SERVICE

We Specialize in No Cost Refinancing
Free Pre-Qualifications

Purchases • Refinance • Debt Consolidation
Past Credit Problems Understood
No Income Verification Loans
Borrow up to 125% of Value • Loans
Mixed Use and Commercial Properties

Colony Mortgage
Mike Dixon
President
Licensed Mortgage Broker - NJ Dept. of Banking

Se Habla Espanol

908-822-0090

2325 Plainfield Ave. Suite 2E South Plainfield, NJ

Bill McCriskin SP Business Association's New President

The South Plainfield Business Association, which has not been meeting on a regular basis will resume their monthly meetings.

Billy McCriskin, who was the charter President, has returned to serve as this year's President and is asking all faithful past members to come back and become active again. The other officers remain the same as last year, Vice President Guy Morretti, Secretary April Benjivenga and Treasurer Paul Grzenda.

McCriskin said his goal this year is to increase membership and to get them involved in the organization again. He said members should get out, meet the new business people in town and most of all, put some fun back into the business organization.

Plans call for meetings to be held at different times and places. A wine and cheese social is one idea and perhaps some meeting will be held at businesses who are members of the association.

This year's golf outing is planned for May 1 at the Cranberry Country Club. Bob Longo and Joe Celantano will be co-chairing the outing. If you would like to become a sponsor or sign up to play golf, call Bob at 753-7004. We will have more details in the near future.

The next meeting of the Business Association is on Thursday, March 15 at 9 a.m. at Sherban's Diner. Everyone is asked to come out and express their views on what directions this group should take.

If you are a new business or an old business, your opinion is important. Come out and meet your South Plainfield business neighbors and find out what the Business Association can do for you.

For more information on the South Plainfield Business Association or to pick up an application to join, drop by the *Observer* office at 1110 Hamilton Blvd. or call 668-0010.

Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield News

The GFWC Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, Mar. 1, at 2 p.m. at the American Legion Hall on Oak Tree Rd.

Karen Hochman, guest speaker, will present her program, "Sharing the History and Beauty of Quilts." Members will participate in bringing quilts, learn about their history, and enjoy their beauty as well.

Hochman is a graduate of the University of Maryland, holding a degree



Members from the South Plainfield Wrestling Club presented a check for \$50,000 to Mayor Dan Gallagher at last week's council meeting. The Wrestling Club had pledged \$50,000 towards the new construction at PAL Building. Kids from the Wrestling Club have been holding fundraisers for years in order to earn this money. Pictured are Billy Ashnault, Jimmy Sacco, Councilman Ray Petronko, Mayor Dan Gallagher, Wrestling Club President Joe DeBiase, Recreation Commission President Jim Curcio.

Vinnie Buttiglieri Named Municipal Clerk; Acting Clerk Mary Blue Retires

The Borough has been without a Municipal Clerk now for one year. James Eckert resigned from that position last year, but remained on the payroll, collecting accumulated sick pay and vacation days.

During the past year, Mary Blue, who had been Deputy Clerk for 16 years, filled in as Acting Deputy Clerk.

Last week all that changed with the announcement that the council hired former councilman Vinnie Buttiglieri as Municipal Clerk, starting on March 28 at a salary of \$65,000. He served on the council for six years.

With the announcement of Buttiglieri's appointment, Mary Blue immediately retired from her position. Blue felt strongly that she should have been appointed Municipal Clerk because of her many years of experience on the job.

This leaves the Municipal's Clerk's position vacant for the next

month, until Buttiglieri assumes the position. A referendum election is scheduled next Tuesday and it is usually the responsibility of the Municipal Clerk. Borough employees have agreed to fill in on election night. Also Borough Administrator Frank Derosa has agreed to help fill in the gaps and Dorothy Paradiso has been authorized to sign borough checks for the next month.

According to Councilman Ed Kubala, the Deputy Clerk's position which was held by Mary Blue is going to be eliminated. The secretary now working in the clerk's office will be shared with other municipal offices, as the need occurs. Mary Blue could have used her seniority and stayed on, but she chose to retire.

Vinnie Buttiglieri was one of

three candidates who were interviewed for the job. Kubala listed a few of the reasons for choosing Buttiglieri. He has 15 years of financial experience, including budget cost accounting, six years of management experience and he has a college degree.

He added that the council is trying to fill all management positions in Borough Hall with people who have an accounting background.

Councilwoman Darlene Pinto emphasized that Buttiglieri is qualified. "He is a registered and certified clerk. During his six years on the council, Buttiglieri has proved time and again to be a problem solver. He enjoys dealing with the public and his people skills can only be an asset to the Borough," she added.

South Plainfield To Celebrate Its 75th Birthday

The 75th Birthday Celebration of South Plainfield will be kicked off at the March 19 Council meeting. Mayor Dan Gallagher is inviting all residents to join in the festivities, which will include a reenactment of the first ever council meeting, which was held on March 12, 1926.

Although plans for the meeting are still being finalized, program coordinator Pat Vargo, who is also South Plainfield's Municipal Count Administrator, promises a memorable and enjoyable evening.

"We expect to highlight notable events, which took place within the borough, from Revolutionary times to the present. A souvenir program will be distributed which will include a history of South Plainfield. The committee is working with the Historical Society to put together a photo display, which will reflect the development of our town. Refreshments will be served, including a birthday cake, at the end of the program."

"We are inviting our former living Mayors to attend the meeting and give a brief synopsis of what South Plainfield was like when they were in office," Vargo added.

Anyone interested in helping out or anyone with questions should contact Pat Vargo at (908) 226-7656. In particular, Vargo requests that all former elected officials call her and confirm their attendance at the March 19 meeting.

Additional events to recognize South Plainfield's 75th Birthday are in the planning stages. The highlight of the celebration will be this year's Labor Day Parade.

Osteoporosis? Back pain? Loss in height?

Are you a post-menopausal woman,
NOT taking Estrogen or Fosomax® and
interested in possibly participating in a
research study for Osteoporosis?

BONE DENSITOMETRY
FREE OF COST
and up to \$360.00
will be offered as compensation
for time and travel



Anderson & Collins

Clinical Research Inc.
908 Oak Tree Road, Suite H, South Plainfield, NJ
For More Information Call

(908) 561-5445

Ciccio's Pizza



134 Maple Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ
(Across From Firehouse) (908) 753-4060
Open 7 Days

Phone Ahead For Fast Pick Up

Mon. & Thurs. 11am to 10pm
Fri & Sat 11am to 12 midnight
Sunday 12pm to 10pm

FRIED ZEPS (FRI & SAT)

Serving South
Plainfield for Over
16 Years

BYOB

Ciccio's Pizza

2 Large Cheese Pizzas

\$13.95 + Tax

One coupon per customer. Not valid
with any other offers. Expires 4/2/01

Ciccio's Pizza

2 Medium Cheese Pizzas

\$9.95 + Tax

One coupon per customer. Not valid
with any other offers. Expires 4/2/01

Around Town

Lenten Fish Dinners at Sacred Heart Church

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; April 6

Back by popular demand, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of the Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield, will again be hosting their famous Lenten Fish Dinners on March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and April 6.

Dinners will be served in the Sacred Heart School cafeteria, 149 So. Plainfield Ave., from 5 to 7 p.m.

The menu will feature fillet of fish (fried, broiled, parmigiana) or pizza, fresh garden salad, french fries or macaroni and cheese, cole slaw, coffee, tea or cold drink, plus dessert. Take out orders are also available.

Admission is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors and \$4 for children. Pay at the door.

Stations of the Cross will be held in the Church at 7 p.m.

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, 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



Czestochowa to Present a Special Lenten Program

March 3

"His Last Days," a Lenten production, will be held at Our Lady of Czestochowa Church, Hamilton Blvd., on Saturday, March 3, at 7:30 p.m. This production is sponsored by Our Lady of Czestochowa Rosary Society.

The Herald Biblical Theatrical Company under the direction of Jo-Ann P. Havrilko and Choral Director Cal Schneider will present this moving portrayal of the last week of Christ's life. The production takes you from the glorious procession of Palm Sunday to the agony and death of Jesus and glorious resurrection.

Herald Biblical Theatrical Co. was founded in 1985. The ministry of Herald is to bring to life the words of scripture and to imprint on the hearts of those who see them perform, the great

act of Jesus' love in this crucifixion. The cast is made up 45 people, of many denomination and churches, all ages and walks of life. The powerful witness of this musical, should leave you with the reality of who Jesus is and how much He loves us... "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3-16)

VFW Hosts Country Breakfast

March 4

The VFW Post 6763, 155 Front St., will host a Country Breakfast on Sunday, Mar. 4 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Cost is \$5 and a children's menu is available.

The event is sponsored by the Pup Tent 41 Military Order of the Cootie. All proceeds will go toward Ward Bingo Parties at Lyons Veterans Hospital.

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

'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.

Submit your Events for Around Town:

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

tor, show tickets, baseball tickets, theme baskets and 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.

Polish Home Sponsors Show Boat Casino Trip

March 18

Polish National Home's Scholarship Committee is sponsoring a bus trip to Show Boat Casino on Sunday, Mar. 18. Cost is \$17 per person with a \$16 coin return. Bus will leave Polish Home parking lot at 12 p.m. Please call Millie at (908) 757-3428 or Ann at (908) 561-6551 for reservations or questions.

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.

Columbiettes To Host Lunch with Easter Bunny

April 1

The South Plainfield Columbiettes will host their second annual Lunch with the Easter Bunny, on Sunday, Apr. 1 at the K of C Hall, 334 Hamilton Blvd.

The luncheon will feature a hot and cold buffet. Doors open at 12:30 p.m. and the cost is \$10 per person.

All children seven and under will receive an Easter basket. There will be door prizes and the Easter Bunny will have gifts for all who attend.

Reservations must be made in advance by calling Mary Ann at (908) 226-1222. The deadline is Mar. 15.

Girl Scouts Sponsor Flea Market/Craft Show

April 7

South Plainfield Junior Girl Scout Troop #14 will be sponsoring a Flea Market/Craft Show on Saturday, Apr. 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The event will be held outside at John F. Kennedy School, 2900 Norwood Ave.

Vendors are currently being sought. Spaces are being sold for \$20 and you will need to bring your own table and chairs. All proceeds from this event will go toward a troop trip this summer to Hershey Park.

For information or a vendor reservation form, contact Robyn at (908) 769-7395.

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.

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, Taking Reservations

September 10-14

The PAL 5-day, 4-night trip to Cape Cod has 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 night 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, and motorcoach transportation will all also be included in this trip.

Prices are \$325 per person double, triple and quad occupancy. Single supplement is \$78. For more information and reservations, contact Mike English at (908) 226-7714.

—Out of Town— 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.

SAFAM Will Perform at State Theatre

March 4

On Sunday, Mar. 4, at 2 p.m., SAFAM will be performing at the State Theatre in New Brunswick under the auspices of the Rutgers Hillel Foundation.

For information, contact Hillel at (732) 545-2407 or Henry Frankel (732) 572-0036.

Tourette Syndrome Meetings

March 8, May 10

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

Note that the meeting night is different. For more information, call 732-283-1439 after 6 p.m. or contact www.tsanj.org.

Institute of Sri Ramchandra Consciousness Offering Free Meditation Course

March 10

The Institute of Sri Ramchandra Consciousness (ISRC) is offering a free one-day training course on meditation on Saturday, Mar. 10 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at 125 Northfield Ave., West Orange.

This is a spiritual event being organized by the ISRC, a non-profit organization.

For more information, contact Madhu Kumar at (908) 324-1470; kumarknm@yahoo.com, or <http://www.sriramchandra.org/isrc/>.

Share the Rainbow Experience With Godspell

March 17, 18, 24, 25

"Godspell," is a musical based upon the Gospel according to St. Matthew written by John-Micheal Tebelak, with a musical score by Stephen Schwartz, including many familiar songs such as *Day by Day*. "Godspell" has over 500 performances on Broadway and over 1000 performances off Broadway. There will be four performances; Mar. 17 and 18 at 8 p.m. at the First Congregational Church in Westfield and Mar. 24 and 25 at 8 p.m. at the United Church of Christ in Plainfield.

Tickets may be purchased in Westfield at Marylou's Memorabilia, 17 Elm St., (908) 654-7277; Town BookStore, 255 East Broad St., (908) 233-3535, and in Plainfield at Margie's Cakebox, 1348 South Ave. and at the Plainfield Performing Arts Center, 390 Leland Ave.

Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for children under five. For further information, call the First Congregational Church of Westfield at (908) 233-2494, and United Church of Christ at (908) 755-8658.

Former Novicky's Students Invited To Anniversary Party

March 31

Novicky's Music and Dance Studio, formerly located on S. Mainstreet in Manville, is looking for students and colleagues to come to a party on Saturday, Mar. 31, to commemorate 46 years of music and dancing.

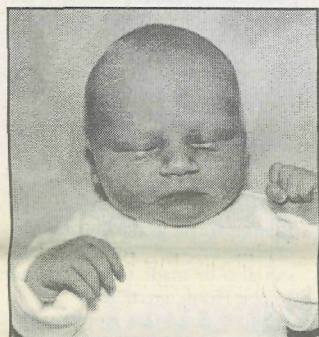
To join us for the event, please RSVP by Mar. 10. Call Regina Novicky at (908) 245-1525.

southplainfieldpeople Milestones



Michael Grennier was honored by the Raritan Bay Power Squad at their annual dinner last Saturday. The award is presented to a member of the club who has performed a valuable service. Grennier helped set up the power squadron's webpage during this past year.

O'Brien's Announce Birth of John Francis



John Francis O'Brien

Virginia and Donald O'Brien of South Plainfield are the proud grandparents of a new grandson, John Francis O'Brien, born on Dec. 28, 2000, at 8 p.m.

The proud parents are Mark and Joan O'Brien. His big brother Scott is very excited about having a new brother.

John weighed in at 8 lbs., 12 oz. and was 21" long and is as snugly as any parents could wish for.

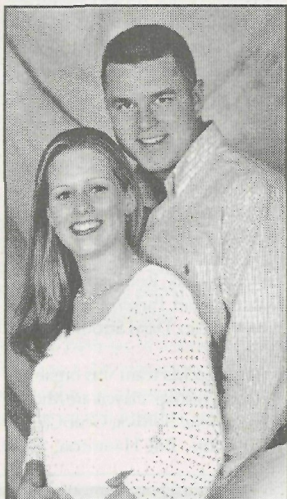
Kristen Kavka and Michael McLouth Announce Their Engagement

Paul and Kathleen Kavka, of South Plainfield, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Kristen Kavka, to Michael McLouth, son of William and Barbara McLouth, also of South Plainfield.

Kristen is a 1995 graduate of South Plainfield High School. She earned an Associates Degree in Marketing Art and Design from Middlesex County College and a Bachelors Degree in Computer Science from The College of St. Elizabeth in 2000. Kristen works in Human Resources for Sure Fit, Inc. in Allentown, Pa.

Michael graduated from South Plainfield High School in 1993. He attended Middlesex County College, where he received his Associates Degree in Criminal Justice. Michael is a police officer in Bushkill Township, Nazareth, Pa.

An October, 2001 wedding is



Kristen Kavka and Michael McLouth

planned at the Holy Family Chapel at The College of St. Elizabeth in Morristown.

Elaine Smith Named to Dean's List at College of New Jersey

Elaine Smith, a junior at The College of New Jersey, has been named to the Dean's List for the Fall Semester.

Elaine will also be inducted into the National Key Honor Society in a ceremony at The College of New Jersey in March.

**Patronize our Advertisers!
They All Support The Observer!**

Adam LaSpata To Perform at Pilgrim Covenant

Pilgrim Covenant Church has the distinct pleasure of welcoming *TwoCopperCoins*, a student musical group from North Park University, Chicago.

North Park is the denominational University of The Evangelical Covenant Church. One reason the church is so excited about *TwoCopperCoins* is that one of the members of the group is Adam LaSpata from South Plainfield and Pilgrim Covenant Church.

TwoCopperCoins is a group of four guys who met and became friends at North Park University. They include Jacob Ulasich, lead vocals and guitar, from Hopkins, Minn.; Adam LaSpata, mandolin, recorder and viola from South Plainfield; Adam Carlson, percussion, from Tokyo, Japan and Eric Sawyer, guitar, bass guitar and saxophone, from Brockton, MA.

The band came together at the beginning of the fall semester this year out of a combination of love for music and a desire to use their musical gifts to glorify God. They derive their name, *TwoCopperCoins*, from Luke 21:1-4, signifying their desire to give all that they are to Christ, both in their everyday lives and through their music. The main goal of their music is to point to the hope we have in Christ throughout all of life's complexities. They look to encourage God's people in their walk with Christ as well. Their main influences have been bands such as *Jars of Clay*, *Caedmon's Call*, *Third Day*, *Jennifer Knapp* and many other Christian bands.

Since this is their first real music tour away from North Park, they are excited to bring their message and their music.

Everyone from our community is invited to come to the concert. Refreshments will be served. The concert will be held in the sanctuary of Pilgrim Covenant Church on Park Ave. at 7:30 p.m., on Thursday, Mar. 15.

Call (908) 756-2474 for details or email us at pilgrimcovenant@home.com

Scrap Tire Removal Program Starts

In order to reduce the health threat posed by the West Nile virus, the county is asking residents and businesses to call and report on any discarded tires that need to be picked-up.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has implemented a Scrap Tire Management Program. Illegally discarded tires can collect water and have the potential to become breeding grounds for mosquitoes. Collecting and properly recycling/disposing of these tires will remove the breeding grounds and assist in reducing the mosquito population.

The Middlesex County Scrap Tire Management Program is a joint effort between the Division of Solid Waste Management, Health Department, Adult Corrections and Mosquito Commission.

Businesses will be monitored to ensure they are properly disposing of their tires. Anyone who is aware of clandestinely discarded tires is asked to notify the Borough Health Department at 226-7630.



Frank Smith is pictured with Softball Camp Director Al Snieder.

Frank Smith Wins Award at Winter Softball Camp

South Plainfield resident Frank Smith just returned from a two week vacation in Florida. The highlight of his vacation was the five days he spent in Alamoonte Springs, Fla. attending a Winter Softball Camp. The trip to the camp was a Christmas gift from his wife, Barbara, who also accompanied him to Florida.

This is a Softball Camp for seniors and is attended by softball players from all over the country. Smith, 69, qualifies as a senior in age only. His love for softball is evident during the

softball season. He plays on three different leagues, Union County Softball, Middlesex County Softball and the West Orange over 60 League.

During the Softball camp, the teams play two games a day for five days, including two games against All Stars from Florida.

The highlight of the week was when Frank's team became the Champions. All of the winning players were awarded jackets at the Awards Banquet.

Smith and his wife, Barbara, have resided in South Plainfield for over 38 years.



HAIR • COLOR
MAKE-UP
908.769.8330

THE
RAZOR'S
EDGE

25 South Plainfield Ave
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

SCOUTING NEWS

Pack #342 Tiger Cubs Compete in Pinewood Derby



On Wednesday, Feb. 14, the Tiger Cubs of Pack #324, J.F. Kennedy School, raced their Pinewood Derby Cars. The cars were all unique and everyone was ended a winner. Pictured are Dominic Eosso, Michael Grzenda, Ryan Riccardi, Jack Greene, and Troy Kurilew.

Riley School Scouts Take Part in Klondike Derby



Riley School Troop 124 Scoutmaster George Smith, Assistant Scoutmaster Harry Chiovarou Jr., scouts Nicky Hogan, Colin Slattery, Frank Hall, Prasanna Sridharan and Dunellen Troop 126 Leaders Tom Forsythe, John Jaworski, scouts Jared Forsythe and Mike Semone participated in the Munsec District 2001 Klondike Derby, held at the Watchung Reservation.

The Scouts pull and push their sleds, following a map of towns. At each town they are challenged with a problem that requires scouting skills to be solved and they are judged (up to 10 points each) on how well they

complete the problem. The number of points determines how many gold nuggets they receive towards first, second or third place.

The scouts are judged on the best decorated and most authentic sled. They were also judged on their patrol flag and patrol yell, which earn them extra points.

The Klondike Derby allows the scouts to relive the race as they did 100 years ago, with dogs during the sled across Alaska and Canada in the search for gold.

This event allows the scouts to earn credit for troop participation toward further advancement.

New Jersey Author Featured at "Read Across America"

New Jersey author Amanda Harte will be the featured speaker at South Plainfield's Grant Sixth Elementary school's "Read Across America" celebration on Friday, March 2 at 8:15 and 9:15 a.m. The public is invited to attend.

Harte, the author of eleven novels, two novellas and numerous articles for technical journals, will explain the writing process from inspiration to publication. She will also discuss the challenges of combining a writing career with a full time position as a director in the Information Technology department of a major New Jersey manufacturing company.

Harte admits that she believes in breaking the rules, at least the rules regarding romance novels. Conventional wisdom says that readers prefer certain locations and time frames, notably medieval England, Scotland and the American West. Buffalo, NY in 1853 meets none of these criteria, yet Harte's latest book *North Star* has garnered critical acclaim despite—or perhaps because—she broke the rules.

Romance Communications, a major online reviewer of romances, praises *North Star* as "a moving story with well developed characters and plot lines, which will entertain and please the romance reader with its depth and substance," while leading romance magazine *Affaire de Coeur* describes it as "a stunning tale," adding, "A story you won't want to put down once you start reading it. A real five-star!"

Harte explains that she chose Buffalo for the setting because she wanted to destroy some readers' misconceptions about the city where she spent her teenage years. "I wanted to show them that there was more to Buffalo than blizzards and spicy wings," she explains, adding that Buffalo's colorful history and particularly its place on the Underground Railroad provided key elements of the story. Continuing to break the rules about settings, she hopes that her next book *Moonlight Masquerade* will help obliterate stereotypes of the Garden State.

Harte will also be signing copies of her recent books at Waldenbooks, located in the Middlesex Mall on Saturday, Mar. 3 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

SP Police Bust Brothel

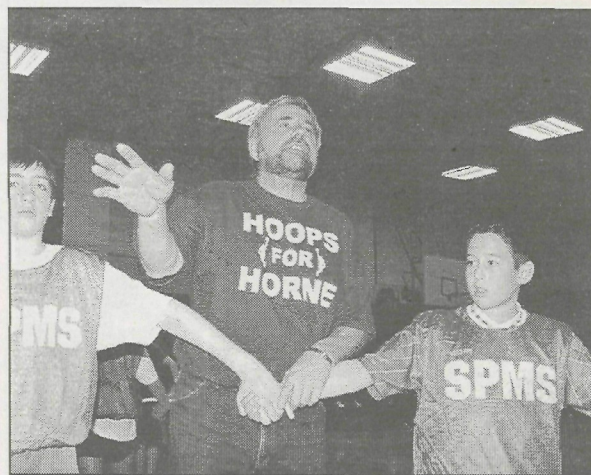
On Feb. 22, the South Plainfield Police executed a search warrant at The Personal Best Day Spa, located at 4475 South Clinton Ave., Suite 206.

The warrant was the result of a month long investigation into illegal activity involving prostitution. The detective bureau received complaints regarding the activity and conducted an undercover operation and surveillance at the location.

The execution of the warrant resulted in the arrest of Denise Munoz, a 39 year old resident of Guttenburg, NJ. She was subsequently charged with maintaining a nuisance.

Munoz was employed as a receptionist at the spa. She was released on her own recognizance.

The investigation is still continuing. The following items were seized at the time of the search: four massage tables, computer equipment, business financial records, telephones, television and additional office equipment.



Bill Mosca wears a T-shirt promoting the 'Hoops for Horne' fundraiser taking place on Friday, March 9.

'Hoops For Horne' Game to Benefit So. Plainfield Family

By Patricia Abbott

South Plainfield is a community that has always come together to support its citizens in times of triumph and tragedy. As a town, our people work together to help those in need or to celebrate the good news of others.

"Hoops for Horne" is a current example of South Plainfield's strong sense of commitment and community. The upcoming basketball game, "Hoops for Horne" is a benefit for Robert 'Opie' Horne, owner of Horne Tree Service. The 33-year-old resident suffered a serious injury in a work related accident. A section of tree that was being prepared for removal rolled off of the truck striking Horne on the head and rolling down his back. He suffered damage to his lower vertebrae, two broken ribs and a punctured lung. The accident has left him wheelchair bound at the present time. Horne, a lifelong South Plainfield resident, is an 1986 graduate of SPHS. He and his wife Debbie have two daughters, Nicole, 2 and Kaylee, 8 months.

According to his next door neighbor Mike Lanza, neighbors, friends and his family immediately began a support network, supplying cash donations, food and more to help the family. A benefit such as "Hoops for Horne" was the next logical step in the quest to support a fellow athlete, part of the communities effort to assist the Horne family.

All participants are volunteering their time for this worthy cause. The Cops team was organized by Sgt. Peter Arancio. Players are Peter Arancio, Gary Cassio, Jim Darby (coach), Dave Franchak, Rob Garnecki, Matt Mahoney, Jim Parker, Joe Petriello, John Petriello, Daryl Strother and Ed White.

The Coaches team was organized by Debra Bishop. Players are Michael Allocco, John Bordick, Gene Clapsis, Rich Fonti, Bill Hamilton, Mike

Lanza, Jeff Lubreski, Bill Mosca, Mike Nausedas, Fred Oberker, Don Panzarella (coach and player) and Bill Schulte. Referees are Dennis O'Neil and Michael Behr, announcer is Bill Cochrane, statisticians are Matthew Kravetsky and Shannon Bishop and security is being handled by Officers Wayne Diana and Chuck Siedenburg.

"Hoops for Horne" was created and organized by Debbie Bishop and Mike Lanza. Lanza wanted to do something more than just make a promise to help, the benefit was a perfect vehicle for this. He described Bishop as "the brains of the operation." Debbie was also instrumental in securing the Middle School PTA to sponsor the event. Lanza also suggested a way for everyone to show their support, regardless of their plans: "Can't make the game? Buy a couple of tickets anyway!" Private donations can also be made to Robert and Debbie Horne directly.

Bishop noted that Horne is currently in physical therapy. She explained that he has a very positive outlook and plans to walk again. Horne has been self-employed with his tree business since 1995. The accident has not stopped the business. It is currently being run by his father Robert Horne, Jr. and his cousin Jim Horne. Robert Horne and his family are looking forward to attending the game and will he personally award the MVP for each team.

The benefit basketball game will take place on March 9 at the Middle School from 7-10 p.m. The evening pits the Coaches against the Cops in what is sure to be an exciting, action-packed game.

Tickets are \$3 for adults and \$2 for students. The event will offer raffle tickets and a chance to win various prizes, as well as a 50/50. Refreshments will be sold. Both the high school and middle school cheerleaders will perform.

Tickets are available at the door. For more information call 754-2692.

Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.
South Plainfield, NJ

Rev. John Paul
Alvarado, Pastor

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Evening Mass 5:00 p.m.

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

Weekdays 9:00 a.m. (church)

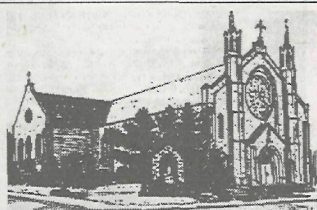
Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m.

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 11 a.m. - 12 noon, 4:15-4:45 p.m.

and after 5 p.m. Vigil Mass



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

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

At this writing, there's still some space available for tonight's "Creative Memories" scrapbooking program. Led by Dayel Giammarino, the program teaches how to preserve and store your family photos. Participants must bring a pair of sharp scissors and 10-12 photos; all other materials are provided. There's a fee of \$8 to cover the cost of the materials. To reserve a spot, please call us at (908) 754-7885.

The next meeting of the Friends of the Library is scheduled for Tuesday morning at 10:30. Both members and non-members are welcome to attend.

We'll be sticking with our usual schedule of children's Storytime programs next week. For those who haven't been taking notes, the programs are held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. Each program is for children ages three and over; no pre-registration is required. If you'd like more information, please check with Children's Librarian Linda Hansen.

Another special program is coming up on Friday, March 9, from 7 to 9 p.m. Local resident Dave Joshi will present a program on India and its culture. He'll answer questions from the audience, and talk about the state of the thousands of people of Indian descent who live in the Tri-State area. Everyone is invited to attend this free program; no pre-registration is needed.

This month's group of Circuit videos is now in place and ready to

be borrowed. Videos and DVDs may be borrowed, four at a time, for two days. On the other hand, there's been a delay in adding the new group of Circuit CDs. They should be available in a few days.

Here's a reminder about Books on CD. Recently, we've been working on expanding our collection of these works. With the advent of portable CD players, and players becoming available equipped in cars, they're starting to catch, particularly with those who have long commutes. Our collection presently features works by authors including Danielle Steel, Jonathan Kellerman, Mary Higgins Clark and John Grisham. A small selection of Books on CD is also included in each group from the Audiobook Circuit. Books on CD may be borrowed, four at a time, for two weeks. Most of the titles are available at the main desk. Feel free to ask for help in looking for a specific title.

While we try to encourage you to borrow as many items as you're able to, we realize that there are some things that you just aren't interested in. You've taken them off the shelf, but have decided not to borrow them. We ask that you please refrain from putting them back on the shelf. Putting them back in the right place can sometimes be tricky, particularly with the non-fiction items. And putting them back in the wrong order can cause all sorts of confusion. So, just leave them on a table or hand them to a staff member. We'll take it from there.

That's all for this week. We'll be back next issue with more.

Students Compete in Battle of the Classes

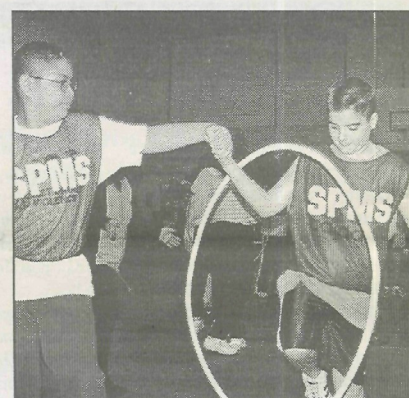
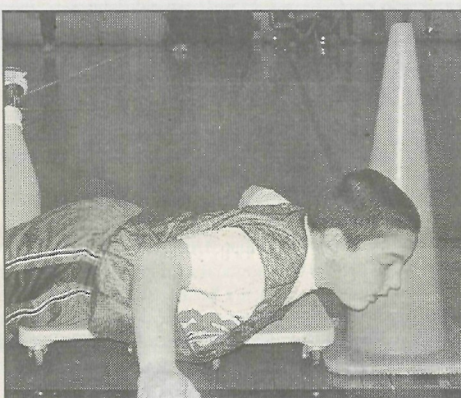
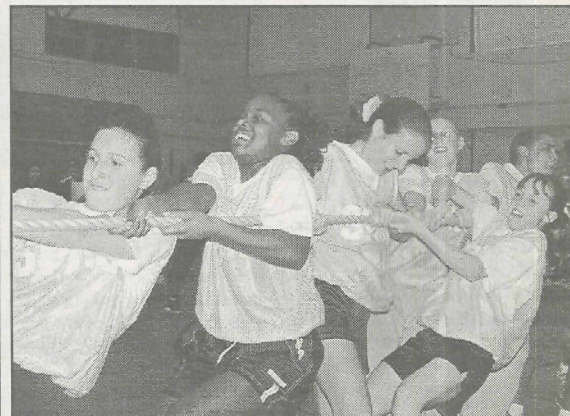
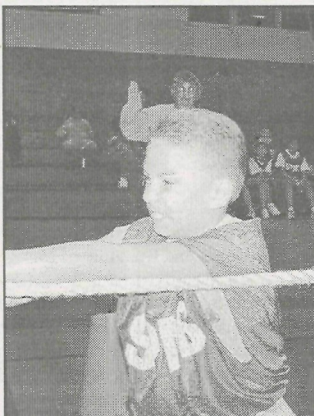
Story/Photos by Patricia Abbott

The South Plainfield Middle School Eighth Annual "Battle of the Classes" took the major change in their school structure in a stride. The competitive, team-effort games pitted two grades against each other, with two teams per grade.

The Battle of the Classes was created as a fundraiser for the Middle School's Tiger Gold program. Sponsored by the PTA, the program, which is based on social development, rewards positive behavior. Tiger Gold awards worthy students with Tiger Gold Certificates when they are "caught being good." The students can redeem the certificates for various prizes.

The crowd was sparse compared to previous years. Yet the performance the kids gave was worthy of a review or two. The seventh grade teams were Royal Blue and Kelly Green and the eighth grade teams were Burgandy and Gold.

Master of Ceremonies was Kevin Murtaugh. He also provided music for the evening. The four teams competed in eight events that included foul shooting, tug-o-war, relay races and more. The teams also received one point for each ticket sold in support of their team and one point for each student who wore the team color to school the day of the battle. Winners of the event were the eighth grade Gold Team and the seventh grade Blue Team.



Borough Notes

Council News

- The mayor asked that all residents get out and vote at next week's school board referendum on Tuesday, March 6.
- Douglas Tackach has been appointed as a member of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department.
- Councilman Bob Cusick commended Sewer Department employee's Zeon Mielnikiewicz and Victor Kurilew for their swift action in aiding the rescue squad when a man fell into a ditch. They brought out their equipment and hoisted the man to safety.
- The vacant house at 127 Kosciusko Ave. will soon see relief. The lawyer handling the foreclosure has sent word to Borough Attorney Pat Diegnan that final a judgement is coming to an end. The house will be rehabilitated within 5-6 months.
- Traffic on Main Street, off of Hamilton Blvd. has been increasing since the apartment complex, The Villages, has opened. Tractor trailers parking along the road may hamper fire and rescue vehicles from using that entrance. Lt. Ken LaVerne, from Traffic Safety, is asking that parking along Main Street be prohibited to help solve the problem.
- The council will be celebrating the 75th birthday of South Plainfield at their March 19 meeting. They will reenact the first council meeting and hope to have past mayors and councilpersons in attendance. The public is invited to join the celebration. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

Herald Biblical Theatrical Group Presents Dallas Holm's **HIS LAST DAYS**

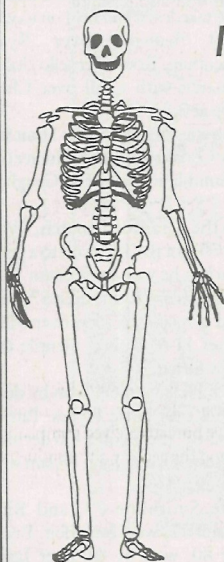
Saturday, MARCH 3, 2001 - 7:30 PM
Our Lady of Czestochowa R C Church
Hamilton Boulevard South Plainfield, NJ
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Goodwill Offering

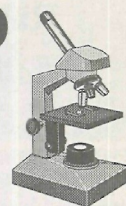
Sponsored by OLC ROSARY SOCIETY



OSTEOPOROSIS?



If you have **OSTEOPOROSIS**
and are Postmenopausal,
You May Qualify for an 18 month
Investigational Drug Research Study.



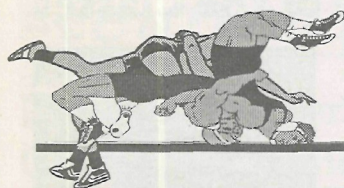
Study includes:

**Bone Densitometry and
Compensation for Time and
Travel Up to \$225.**

Anderson & Collins

Clinical Research Inc.
908 Oak Tree Road, Suite H, South Plainfield, NJ
For More Information Call

(908) 561-5445



TIGER WRESTLING NEWS

Sports

Tigers Crown 8 District Champions

By Bob Hunter

If you are a wrestling fan, you've got to love this team. Our very own Tigers own the state record of 17 consecutive District 12 championships and they did it in a big way, advancing all 13 Tiger wrestlers to the Region Tournament, which will be held at Union High School. The Tigers crowned eight champions, two second place winners and had three third place winners. The Tigers dominated the field scoring 261 points. Watchung Hills was second with 144 and North Plainfield third with 124.5.

Freshmen Danny DeAndrea got the Tigers rolling by winning the 103 pound title with an 11-5 decision over Omar Carter of Plainfield. Rich Gebauer 28-0 at 112, won his second district title by fall at 2:51 over Mike Ciento of Colonia.

Matt Anderson followed at 119 and was stunned when Nick Griffith

took an early 6-2 going into the second period. Anderson however, scored the next nine points to win his third district title 11-6.

Roberto Ramos 125, was named the tournament's Outstanding Wrestler, after winning his fourth district title. He was only the second wrestler in District 12 history to win four consecutive titles. Former Tiger state champion Steve Giordano was the other. Ramos took early control over Carl Riccio of Watchung Hills and cruised to a 13-5 major decision.

Matt Gati 135, was the next winner, winning by decision 13-7 over Jimmy Keane of North Plainfield. Gati won his second district title.

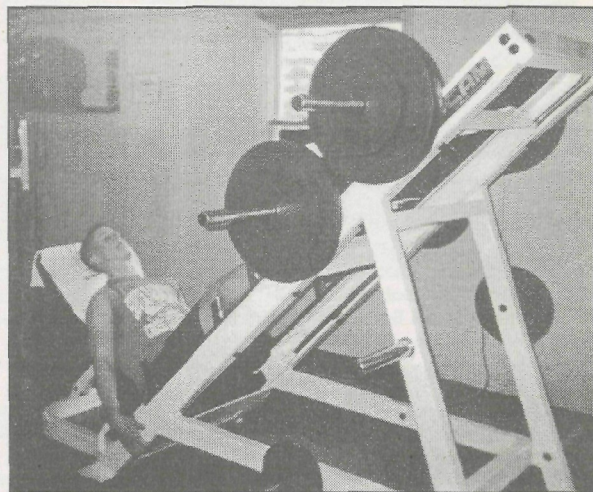
Scott Doerr 140, had to be the most satisfied wrestler in the tournament. Doerr, who was not eligible to wrestle in the tournament last year because of a disputable call in last year's Group II semi-final match against Sterling, would not be denied

this year. He won a 7-0 decision over Derrick Shallcross of Watchung Hills.

Mike Butcas 160, won his first district title when he pinned Jamar Collins of Plainfield at 1:09. Senior John Foscolo 25-1 won his second district title with an 11-0 major decision over Eddie Zappullo of Colonia. Foscolo, the anchor of this team finished 7/8th in last years State Tournament and looks to improve on that this year.

Sophomore Steve Johnston 152, finished second and freshmen Joe DeBiase 171, lost a 12-5 decision to Joe Keane of North Plainfield for second place. Winning third place medals were Rickey Ringel 130, Glenn Gross 145 and Ryan Elliot 215.

I asked head coach Bill Pavlak how it felt to win number seventeen and he smiled and said, "Great! This win was a great way to finish the year in team competition." Good luck in the Region and State Tournaments.



Joe Dezmin is working the leg-sled in the South Plainfield PAL weight room. He was pushing 375 pounds.

By Tony Cassano



juniorbaseballclubnotes

SPJBC tryouts will be held this Saturday, March 3 at the PAL. Notifications were sent out earlier this week to all registered player's in Small Fry A, B and C League's. Times will range from 8:30 a.m. to roughly 3 p.m. Any child not registered yet should show up at 8:30 to sign up. The Woman's Auxiliary will be selling clothes at tryouts.

ALL CANDY SALES ARE DUE THIS SATURDAY MARCH 3—All Easter candy sales are due back by no later then this Saturday, March 3. Candy sales must be returned during tryouts at the PAL between 8:30 and 3 p.m.

LITTLE MISS BASEBALL UPDATE—The SPJBC Woman's Auxiliary has received three names for 'Little Miss Baseball for the 2001' season. Pictures of all nominated girls will be displayed around town in local stores. The winner will be announced during our Opening Day ceremonies on April 7.

IN NEED OF SIGN SPONSORS FOR ALL FIELDS—Our Sign Sponsor Committee, headed by Guy Moretti and Charlie Decker (both of Century 21-Moretti Realty) is currently contacting local business in the community and any other interested parties, regarding sponsoring a sign for the 2001 season. All signs (4 by 8 ft) are hand painted with the customers company logo and all pertinent info. It's a great way to advertise and lend support to the SPJBC. Costs are \$300 for 1 year and \$400 for 2 years. Renewals are less once the sign is painted. For further details call Guy or Charlie at 908-755-5300 or the SPJBC at 908-754-2090.

NEXT MONTHLY MEETING SET FOR MONDAY, MARCH 5 at 7:30. Our next regularly scheduled monthly meeting will be held this upcoming Monday, March 5 at 7:30 pm. FYI, all voting members have been notified regarding a special vote to be cast for two proposals made at the February meeting. Attendance is required to vote on both issues. With only six weeks to go to Opening Day (Saturday April 7), we still have a lot to do as we prepare for the 2001 season. Volunteers are still needed for several committees. Current and new members are welcomed. We encourage you to attend and participate.

PRE-SEASON WORK DETAIL TO START ON SATURDAY, MARCH 10 at 9:00 A.M.—With less then six weeks to Opening Day, the first work detail for the 2001 season has been set for next Saturday March 10, starting at 9 a.m. Managers, coaches and volunteers are needed to pitch in. Work details will be held every Saturday in March. Any volunteer with a pick-up truck/wheel barrel, who can bring it along is encouraged. Work detail times/shiffts will run from 9 a.m. til 11 a.m. or 11 a.m. til 1 p.m.

Physical Therapy Center of South Plainfield

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

Serving Union And Middlesex Counties For Over 15 Years

Lynne Glasser-Sward P.T. Lic# QA02309

(908)668-1951

1110 Hamilton Blvd. • South Plainfield



Community Pool Memberships Rates Remain the Same

Early Specials Until April 15

Rates at the South Plainfield Community Pool will remain the same in 2001 as last year, according to an ordinance introduced at last months council meeting.

Once again this year there will be early bird rates in effect until April 15.

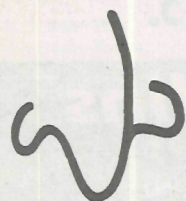
Group	On or before 4/15	After 4/15
Family	\$250 plus 10 free passes	\$280
Family/FT child care	\$305 plus 10 free passes	\$335
Husband and Wife	\$195 plus 10 free passes	\$225
Individual	\$140 plus 10 free passes	\$170
Individual/family	\$ 70	\$100
Single Parent Family	\$220 plus 10 free passes	\$250
Senior Citizen	\$ 50 plus 10 free passes	\$ 60
Family/nonresident	\$470 plus 10 free passes	\$470
Individual/nonresident	\$240 plus 10 free passes	\$240

Sign up for the Community Pool at the PAL Building on Maple Ave. Residents should have received a brochure in the mail with their tax bill explaining all requirements and information.

Exciting Opportunities

Right under your nose.

Attract prospects where they live....right here in South Plainfield - where 21,000 people reside who are ready and willing to spend.



South Plainfield
Observer

Call 908-668-0010 for details on advertising rates and discounts.

tech fall 15-0 over Mike Molarity. Nick Heilmann 63, kept the momentum going with a 32 second fall over Steve Baker.

Billy Ashnault 77, got the Tigers back on track with a fall at 1:31 over Henry Knabe. Bryan Hunt 80, then won by major decision 13-0 over Bryan Richards. Nick Dorey sealed the win with a 28 second fall over Shane Clark.

Sam Martin 90, wasted little time when he pinned BJ Johnstone at 0:34. Mark Wagner 95, took early control, then pinned Ed Poole at 1:28. Brad Martin 102, got three back points in the third period to come from behind to win 3-2 over Greg Duruya.

Danny Pompilio 110, got a second period takedown and held on to win a 2-1 decision over Ryan Hockenbunrg. Rocco Petriello closed the match with a fall over Chris Bishop at 0:31.

Also wrestling were Tyler Hunt 50, Jeffrey Conroy 53, Patrick Hunter 67, Jake Smithline 70 and Tim Gaughan 73.

In the Cranford match, Tyler Hunt 50, got the Tigers off to a great start when he won by decision 15-9 over Ian Henry Ryan Sacco 57, then scored a major decision over Mike Fliesher 11-0. Robert Gentile 60, won by forfeit.

Nick Heilmann 63, won by decision 8-2 over Jessie Hynes. Patrick Hunter 67, then won a 4-0 decision over Resut Ozcan. John Wylam won by forfeit.

Jake Smithline 73, and Billy Ashnault 77, won by forfeit. Bryan Hunt 80, won by fall over Jason Kardel at :58. Mike Jakubak 85, won by decision 4-2 in OT over Jeb Dennis. Sam Martin 90, Mark Wagner 95, and Danny Pompilio all won by forfeit. Rocco Petriello heavyweight, pinned Nick Espuga in 41 seconds to end the match.

Also wrestling were Jeffrey Conroy 53 and Brad Martin 102.

Get the Home Delivery of the Observer —Subscription Blank on Page 9

Sports

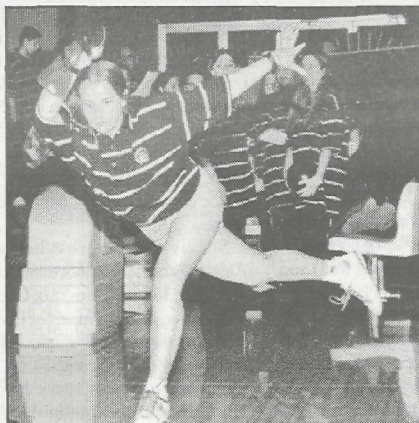
Ed Niemczyk's Youth Basketball League

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 24 games.

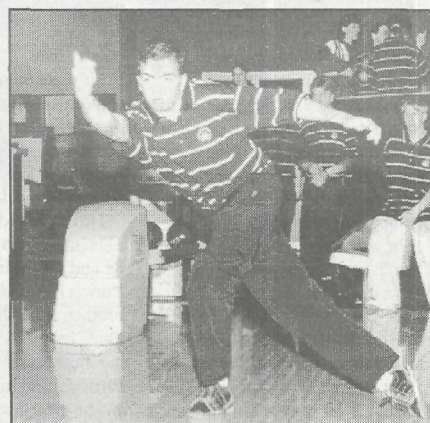
A LEAGUE	RECORD	TEAM'S HIGH SCORER
Cavaliers	10-2	Tom Holowka
Jazz	8-4	Chris Bakazan
76ers	7-5	Danny Piwowar
Bulls	7-5	Mike Downes
Nuggets	5-7	Andrew Miller
Spurs	5-7	Gary Houston
Knicks	5-7	Andrew Cupido
Rockets	1-11	Eileen Milcarek
B LEAGUE	RECORD	TEAM'S HIGH SCORER
Pistons	12-0	Andrew Pinto
Magic	11-1	Chris Pollin
Nets	10-2	Kevin Siedenburgh
Cavaliers	10-2	Peter Peregrin/Justin Basilone
Hornets	8-4	Danny McCreesh
Jazz	7-5	Erika Blaszak
Knicks	5-7	Joey Turrisi
Lakers	4-8	Matt Jeglinski
Bulls	3-9	Garrett Lake
Timberwolves	3-9	Charles Loiacono
Raptors	3-9	Mike Piazza
Heat	3-9	Zachary Gray
Supersonics	3-9	Anthony Petriello
Celtics	3-9	Joseph Stasio
C LEAGUE	RECORD	TEAM'S HIGH SCORER
Lakers	10-2	Vinnie Padula/Frank Alfano
Pistons	9-3	Blaire Houston
Timberwolves	9-3	Brendan O'Shea
Nets	9-3	Gregory Herbster
Knicks	8-3	Jalil Williams
Bulls	7-5	Grey Coppi
Magic	6-6	Troy Russell
Heat	6-6	Brian Fabino
Jazz	5-6	Daniel Phillips/Brandon Ullom
Raptors	5-7	Mike Dezmin
Celtics	5-7	Mike Boyle
76ers	2-10	Julie Garbowski
Hornets	1-10	Taylor Curtis
Cavaliers	0-11	Jared Christopher
D LEAGUE	TEAM'S HIGH SCORER	
Jazz	Gaganjot Dhaliwal	
Nuggets	Gerry Pinto/Zachary Haupt/ Elizabeth Pinto	
Timberwolves	Matthew Cesare	
Bulls	Emily Piekarski	
Nets	Anthony Baldasare	
Pistons	Shaun Boyle/Connor Gillis	
Spurs	Matthew Miceli	
Hornets	William Mott	
Heat	Logan Green	
Lakers	Iyanosa Ogbevoen	
Magic	Chris Richard	
Cavaliers	Jessica Ray	

Jamieson, Tomei Set Bowling Records



Senior Melissa Jamieson, with a 198.2 game average, recently set both a GMC and SPSHS record. With her high game of 267 and high set of 694, Jamieson set two SPSHS records.

In addition, Melissa made both the All Division



and All GMC Conference Team.

Senior Ray Tomei set an SPSHS record with a 198.48 average. Ray also qualified for the All Division Team, with a high game of 246 and a high set of 660. Congratulations to both Tiger bowlers!

2001 T-Ball/Teener Ball Registration

Registration for the 2001 T-Ball/Teener Ball season 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 partici-

pant (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 for new participants.

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

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 Wednes-

day, 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.

2001 GOLDEN GLOVE QUARTER FINALS



Doors Open at 7 pm
Bouts Start at 8 pm

Saturday ~ March 31, 2001

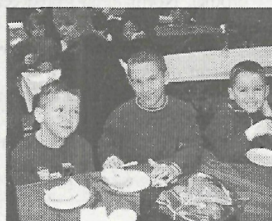
South Plainfield High School
200 Lake Street, South Plainfield, NJ

General Admission ~ \$ 8.00
GOLDEN RINGSIDE \$ 75.00
includes **DINNER AT 5:00 PM**

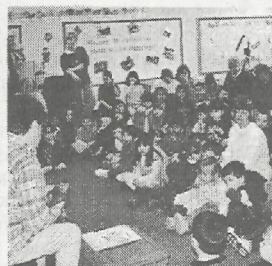
at **Café Piancone Restaurant**
2291 Hamilton Boulevard, South Plainfield, NJ

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.



*... In
South
Plainfield!*



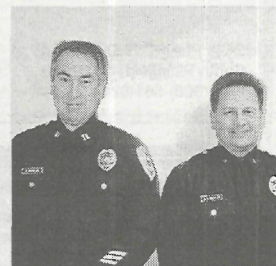
*There's
a lot
going on...*



**South Plainfield
Observer**
908-668-0010



*Subscribe
to the
Observer!*



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

Please send me home delivery of the Observer.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

Obituaries

Roberta Kane Eizenberg, 52

Roberta Kane Eizenberg of Springfield, died on Friday, Feb. 23 at the Overlook Hospital in Summit.

She was born in Plainfield and was a former resident of South Plainfield and Berkeley Heights, before moving to Springfield one month ago.

She was a 1970 graduate of the University of Bridgeport, receiving her BA in Art Education. She was an elementary school art teacher for the Westfield school district for 30 years before retiring last year.

She was a member of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield and St. Marks Church in Sea Girt.

She was predeceased by her parents, John and Marie Gassler Kane and her sister Maureen Thompson.

She is survived by her son, Kevin Manara of Hoboken; her husband, George Eizenberg; her brother-in-law, Art Thompson; an aunt, Frieda Walker of South Plainfield and her nephews Mike, Todd and Tim Thompson.

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

in South Plainfield, which he owned for 20 years. He was also the owner of the former Club Le-Hi in South Plainfield. He then became a realtor and builder for Uneeda Realty in South Plainfield for 20 years before retiring in 1980. He was known as the Christmas tree man and was the first one in South Plainfield to sell the holiday trees.

He was a member of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield and a member of the Holy Name Society. He was a member of the Italian American Progressive League in South Plainfield.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Theresa Butrico DiSesso; his daughter and son-in-law, Frank (Red) and Patricia Harris of South Plainfield; his brother, Moe DiSesso, of New Hall, Calif.; his grandchildren, Danielle and her husband Joseph Lacasale and Patrick J. and his wife Leigh Harris, and his great grandchildren, Anthony, Joseph, Patricia, Stephanie and Christopher Lacasale.

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

Vera (Nevar) Stesenko, 90

Vera (Nevar) Stesenko, of Cranford, died on Thursday, Feb. 22 at Genesis Elder Care in Westfield.

Born and raised in Pinsk, Russia, Mrs. Stesenko came to the United States in 1928, settling in Elizabeth, before moving to Cranford in 1940. She became a U.S. citizen in 1954.

She was a bookbinder with S.E. Veron in Elizabeth for 30 years, before retiring in 1975.

She is predeceased by her husband, Alexander Stesenko.

She is survived by her son, Alexander Stesenko of Scotch Plains; a brother, Kenneth Nevar of Oregon and a sister, Louise Kujath of Illinois. Also surviving are two grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at Dooley Colonial Home in Westfield.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in her name to your favorite charity.

Irene H. Eilea, 90

Irene H. Eilea died on Tuesday, Feb. 20 at Genesis Eldercare the Woodlands in Plainfield.

Born in Cyprus, she came to the United States in the late 1930's, settling in New York. She had resided there for most of her life before settling in South Plainfield in 1994.

She was a homemaker and very proud of her seven grandchildren.

She is predeceased by her husband, Jack Eilea, who died in 1997.

Surviving are her daughter and son-in-law, Jeanie and Thomas Cassio of South Plainfield, two sons and their wives, George and Taissa Elia and Paul and Marie Eilea, of South Huntingdon, Long Island.

Also surviving are seven grandchildren, George Elia, Jr., Thomas M. Garrett, Greg and Christopher Cassio, Valerie Drakos and Irene Eilea. Also surviving is one great granddaughter, Christina Elia.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Herbert H. Colton, 85

Herbert H. Colton died on Saturday, Feb. 24 at Cedar Oaks Care Center in South Plainfield.

Born in Newark, Mr. Colton had resided in the Newark and Central New Jersey area before settling in Perth Amboy in 1983.

He was employed as a real estate agent for various agencies in the Central Jersey area for many years.

Mr. Colton was also an entertainer during the 1920's and 30's as a singer and dancer. He performed in various shows throughout the area and was honored to perform at Madison Square Garden and most notably, for President Calvin Coolidge at the White House.

He is predeceased by his wife, Ann (Davis), who died in 1978. His brother, Norman, also predeceased him.

Surviving are two sons, Edward Colton of Perth Amboy and Sid Colton of Chicago, Ill. and a brother, Erwin Colton, of Florida.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Joseph DiSesso, 90

Joseph DiSesso, of South Plainfield, died on Sunday, Feb. 25 at the Woodlands Genesis Eldercare Center in Plainfield.

He was born in Long Island City, NY and was a former resident of Jersey City before moving to South Plainfield 71 years ago.

In 1937, Mr. DiSesso opened DiSesso Market on Hamilton Blvd.

Beauty

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

Hillside Cemetery
www.hillsidecemetery.com

aroundtown



WELCOME TO SOUTH PLAINFIELD—Pops Communication recently opened a store in the Golden Acres Shopping Center, right next to Scoops Ice Cream. They sell Voice Stream phone systems. See their ad in the Business Professional Section on page 11.



This was the scene outside the Observer's office last Thursday evening. Traffic was at a near stand-still for hours due to the snow storm.



South Plainfield Volunteer Firefighters were called out last week to a car fire on Durham in front of Motorola. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Photos by Bill Tuthill



(908) 561-8000

McCriskin
HOME FOR FUNERALS

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

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

It's Time for Voters to Decide

Continued from page 1

and music room, which now are taught from a portable cart. Plans also call for new boilers at the Middle School, upgrading electricity and technology in all schools, so they will be able to have state of the art in computers in every classroom in every school.

One item that has been taken off the table is a new track at Jost Field. Since the state refused and state aid to build a new track, it was removed from the referendum. Superintendent Guy Ferri said it to add it to the bond would be unwise, since it would not last for the life of the 20 year bonds.

Last week's Board of Education meeting brought out many residents who angry with this decision and are demanding that the track be built now. The board has not made any promises on when the track will be rebuilt.

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

*James W. Conroy
Funeral Home*

Serving the Area Since 1949

"Because We Care"

- Forethought Funeral Planning
- N.J.D.A. Choices
- Complete Care Financing
- Serving All Faiths
- Cremation Services
- Pre Arrangement Specialists

ROBERT HUNTER JR.
Owner-Manager
756-2800
2456 Plainfield Ave.
South Plainfield

"Consult the Families We Serve"

Classifieds

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

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

HELP WANTED

CENTRAL NJ ARCHITECTURAL
Firm seeks a part-time receptionist for afternoon hours. This is a frontdesk position for a person with good communication skills. Duties include answering phones, greeting guests and clerical duties. Working knowledge of Word Perfect helpful. Please send resume to: Cornerstone Architectural Group LLC, 202 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield, NJ 07080, 908-753-7004, FAX 908-753-0202.

TECHNICIAN—OPENING FOR A
Lab Technician/chemist, having experience in synthesis and characterization of chemicals/dyes or formulating inks. Send resume to JP Labs, 120 Wood Ave., Middlesex, NJ 08846.

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD PLANNING BOARD BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

An application has been filed with the Planning Board of the Borough of South Plainfield by Squire Corrugated Container Corp. requesting Final Major Site Plan approval to permit the installation of a 10,150 square foot warehouse addition onto the existing manufacturing facility. Preliminary Major Site Plan Approval and approvals for requested variances and waivers were granted by said Planning Board on May 9, 2000. The Applicant will additionally request such other permits, variances, approvals, waivers and exceptions as may be required or deemed necessary by the Planning Board. Said property which is the subject of said Application is located at 111 Somogyi Court, South Plainfield, New Jersey. It is described as Block 255, Lot 28 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, March 13, 2001, in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 P.M.

The maps and documents pertaining to this appeal are available for public inspection in the Zoning Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M.

Dated: February 22, 2001

STERN, DUBROW & MARCUS
Attorney, for Applicant
Squire Corrugated Container Corp.

B-

\$53.00

1T March 2, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD NOTICE OF SALE

Take notice that the undersigned shall expose for sale, in accordance with R.S. 39:10A-at public auction on Monday, March 12, 2001 at 9:00 a.m. at On Time Towing, the below described vehicle:

1994 Honda Civic Serial #2HGEJ6671VH536406 which came into possession of On Time Towing through abandonment or failure of owner to claim same. The motor vehicle may be examined at 200 Eastern Blvd., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

\$35.00

2T March 2 & 9, 2001

HELP WANTED

ROSEDALE TRANSPORT, INC. has openings for OTR drivers to run out of Middlesex County. Great benefit package to include Hospital Ins., Life Ins., 401K, Perdiem, Paid Holidays, late model conventional. No Sat-Com. Must have past 23rd birthday, have CDL class A w/Hazmat, clean MVR, good work history, 1 year experience. Call 1-800-486-3681 EOE.

PHOTOS FOR SALE

COLOR COPIES OF OBSERVER PHOTOS

for sale.

Call Pattie,

756-8011 or 668-0010.

HELP WANTED

OPENING IN MUNICIPAL COURT FOR DOCKET CLERK FULL TIME

Seeking ambitious, bright, self-starter for data entry, phone & general clerical. Good office, computer and people skills required. ATS/ACS experience a plus. Very busy office. Spanish speaking a plus.

Hours: 9 am to 5 pm
Monday thru Friday
Evening court session every Wednesday

Salary \$19,643. + benefits
Preference given to
South Plainfield residents.

Contact
Pat Vargo, Court Administrator
908-226-7656

Applications available at Municipal Court office

HOUSE WANTED

SO. PLD. HOME WANTED—
Qualified buyer looking to purchase house w/updated siding, roof, kit & bath. Move in cond. Call 732-549-6526.

AUTO FOR SALE

1997 AVENGER-LS, 12,000 miles, V-6 Automatic, P/S, A/C, Jade Green/w camel interior, sun roof, CD, Cass. radio. Asking \$2,600 days-(908) 769-4111, evenings (908) 757-2520.

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

OFFICE/HOME CLEANING

LET ME DO YOUR DIRTY WORK—
5 years exp. in SP area. Weekly, Bi-weekly, or one time only welcomed. Ref. avail. (908) 875-8969-leave message.



ADVERTISE YOUR
GARAGE/YARD
SALE IN THE
OBSERVER FOR ONLY
\$15.
CALL
908-668-0010

Business & Professional

To advertise, call
908-668-0010.

CELL PHONES

POPS COMMUNICATIONS INC.
VoiceStream
\$14.99/mo.*
325 mins.
75 mins weekly-250 min Weekend
FREE Phone
908-222-2188
*After Rebate
Golden Acres Shopping Center
3600 Park Ave. South Plainfield

MORTGAGES

FAST APPROVALS...
GREAT RATES...
PERSONALIZED SERVICE...
Colony Mortgage
Mike Dixon, President
908-822-0090
2325 Plainfield Ave. Suite 2E
South Plainfield, NJ
Se Habla Espanol

ROOFERS

**J.T. PENYAK
ROOFING CO.**
COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL
RESIDENTIAL
908-753-4222
FAX 908-753-4763
124 CAMDEN AVE.
SO. PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080

CONTRACTORS

**BUILDER &
GENERAL CONTRACTOR**
NJ DCA LIC #019771
Since 1981
Lordina Builders
908-753-3850
ADDITIONS-KITCHENS -
BATHROOMS-
Office Renovations
FREE ESTIMATES

KARATE CLASSES

**It's 3:45 PM-DO YOU KNOW
WHAT YOUR CHILD IS DOING ???**
Enroll Them now for the March 1 Course
**Ernie Temple's
School of Karate**
Located in the Dunellen Knights of Columbus,
Corner of Grove & South Ave., Dunellen
Call Now to Watch A Class!
(908) 561-6464

APPLIANCE REPAIR

**ALL
Appliance
Repair**
FREE ESTIMATES
• Washers • Dryers
• Stoves • Dishwashers • Refrigerators
• Hot Water Heaters
Call (908) 822-1132

SWEDISH MASSAGE

SOLARIS
Holistic Health Center
SWEDISH MASSAGE
"Specializing in Hot Stone Massage"
THE PERFECT GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR
Mother/Fathers Day • Birthdays •
Anniversaries • Special Occasions
Roxanne Cortese, C.H.P.
Complementary Healthcare Provider
2701 Park Ave. So. Plainfield, NJ
(908) 561-1511

GARBAGE DISPOSAL

**PINTO BROTHERS
DISPOSAL**
Andrew & Matthew Pinto
P.O. Box 263
So. Plainfield, NJ 07080
Phone **908-561-8231**
Fax 908-561-9889
CONTAINERS FROM 1 TO 40 YARDS
Residential, Commercial & Industrial Service

LANDSCAPING/DESIGN

**A-TECH
Landscape Design**
Offering the following services:
• Lawn Maintenance
• Retaining Walls
• Brick Pavers
• Water Gardens
• Snow Plowing
Fully Insured
Free Estimates
(908) 769-9698

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

**GKG Electrical
Contracting, Co. Inc.**
NJ License #14579
Industrial, Commercial, Residential
Fiber Optic Installations
Family-Owned Local Business
(908) 294-3518
(732) 469-5178
Pager: **(732) 989-2373**

ATTORNEY

Kathy C. Wong-Taylor
ATTORNEY AT LAW
General Practice with Emphasis on:
• Criminal Law • Municipal Court
• Immigration Law • Family Law
• Worker's Compensation
Bilingual - Spanish
(908) 412-0020
142 Oak Tree Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

TUTORING

PRIVATE TUTOR
For Elementary, High
School or College Students
BA & MA Degrees in English
Certified in Elementary
& Secondary
English
(all subjects)
Over 20 Years Experience, including ESL.
Call Pat
908-757-6447
(South Plainfield Resident)

MULCH/TOP SOIL/STONE

Call
KLK Trucking for:
Top Soil, Mulch, Sand, Infield
Mix, Decorative & Crushed Stone
Sanding • Salting • Snowplowing
Pick up or Deliv., Mon. thru Sat
908-757-4434
265 Ryan Street
South Plainfield

PRINTING/TYSETTING

• Invitations
• Brochures
• Resumes
• Flyers
G&G GRAPHICS
1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
908-668-0010 • Fax: 908-668-8819
email: ggnan@aol.com

**It's Cold
Out...**
Get Home Delivery
of the Observer.
Call 908-668-0010

LOOK For Professional Help on This Page

These local
merchants
support your
local paper—
Why Not
Support Them
With a Call

ADVERTISE YOUR
BUSINESS IN
THIS SPACE FOR
ONLY \$15 PER
WEEK.

Must commit to 10
weeks. Can run weekly
or every other week.
Call 908-668-0010 for
more information!

policereport

• On Monday, two unidentified males were observed on surveillance cameras to have stolen three camcorders from an unlocked display case at K-Mart.

• A worker at the Grand Buffet on Stelton Rd. was attacked with a baseball bat while trying to escort a drunken patron from the premises.

• A rock was thrown through the window of Artists and Models Hair Salon on Park Ave. on Feb. 20.

• A Bedminster resident was caught trying to obtain a driver's license at the South Plainfield DMV by using a fake birth certificate.

• On Rauer Ct. a worker for Vazquez Dry Wall is suspected of taking \$2,100 worth of equipment that had been left behind at the job site overnight last Tuesday.

• A Plainfield women had her purse stolen out of a shopping cart at Shop-N-Bag on West 7th St. on Friday.

• A Highland Ave. resident reported she has been receiving harassing phone calls since December.

• A Skene Dr. resident reported items being stolen from his vehicle. He had left the door open over night and found his car radio, CD player and cell phone missing.

• An Oak Tree Rd. resident reported some collectible coins had been taken from his locked bedroom. The door lock had been pryed open.

• Cheryl Miller, Sr. Branch Assistant at United National Bank on St. Nicholas Ave. reported that a woman with Arkansas identification had tried to obtain a \$4,800 cash advance. The same woman had been in the bank on two prior occasions with the same request, however this time she was told that it was Saturday and bank security was not working. She left the bank without her driver's license and credit card.

• A Scotch Plains woman reported that she had left items at Heritage Marketplace on South Plainfield Ave. for consignment back in Oct. Since then she has been unable to contact anyone at the store and upon arriving at the store, found that it was closed and empty.

• On Feb. 21 there was a car fire in the parking lot of Motorola on Durham Ave. The car belonged to a construction worker who left his window partially open. The cause of the fire appeared to be suspicious and it is under investigation. (See photos on page 10).

• A Plainfield woman reported her purse being stolen at the Middlesex Mall last Tuesday.

Please note: The police reports are a matter of public record.

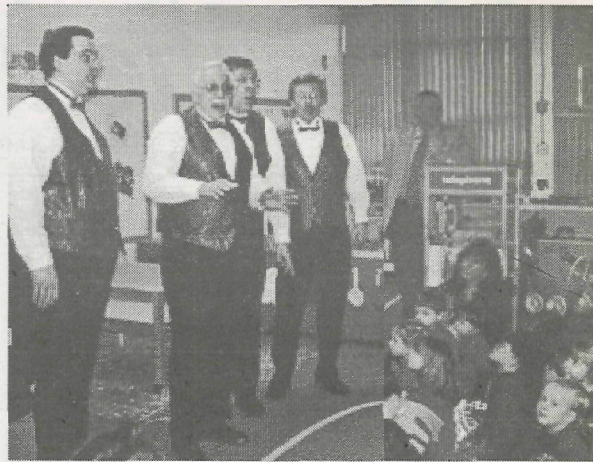
United Way Quartet Sings Their Way Through South Plainfield

The United Way Quartet spent Valentines Day singing their way through South Plainfield. The quartet, known as "In Concert" consists of Mark Dubivsky, baritone; Clayton Echan, base; Andy Harris, tenor and Bill Simpson as lead.

The quarter started the day off at the Ricochet Racquet Club at 7:30, and spent the day moving from one place to another serenading people with love songs. They were at the Fountain Blue Dinner to sing to a School Board member's wife and to all their waitresses, much to their delight. They also appeared at the several schools and many businesses in town.

Each member of the quartet takes the day off of work and spends the day running around to over a dozen spots, donating their time and their voices for a great cause, the United Way. This year the group raised over \$1,175 in donations. Those were fortunate enough to catch them were delighted with their performance. Great job guys!

This fundraiser has been very successful during the past three years and this year many spectators were seen giving them a donation as they were singing. They sang two songs, presented the recipient with both a flower and candy, making Valentines Day a perfect day for many.



Something's Hatching at the Future Stars

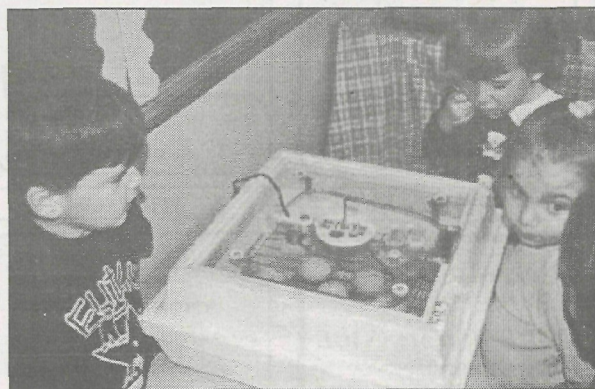
Future Star Preschool, began a "Chick Hatching Project" this week. Under the direction of Future Stars Parents Group, Quiver Farms delivered 48 eggs and 4 incubators to Future Stars classes.

During two separate presentations from Farmer Ruth of Quiver Farms the children learned all about the eggs, the stages the eggs will go through, the incubators and even about the mother hen and the father rooster who both visited the school.

The teachers are now Mother Hens for the week. Mrs. Foscolo, one of the teachers of Future Stars, feels this is a great opportunity for all the students. Teacher Hens are in charge of keeping the temperature of the incubators and turning the eggs to keep them warm. The staff and students are all excited about this program.

The farm predicts that each class can have anywhere from 6 to 12 baby chicks by next week. We anticipate the little arrivals. Stay Tuned...

Submitted by Marie Markey



PLEASE NOTE!

The March 2 and March 9 issues of the Observer will not be delivered to the stores in South Plainfield until Friday morning. Subscribers will receive their papers in the mail on Friday as usual. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

HOW SWEET IT IS!

Subscribe to the *Observer*,
908-668-0010

