

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 4, NO. 28

50 CENTS

MARCH 16, 2001

Five-Year-Old Calls 911, Saves Mom

Last Thursday, police were called to the home of Nikisha Reid and her five year old son Jared Boyce. Nikisha had apparently fallen in the house and was unconscious.

Her five year old son witnessed this and immediately dialed 9-1-1. He stayed on the phone with communications operator Shannon McGrath, who instructed him to try to awaken his mother. McGrath tried to gather information from him regarding his mother's condition. Jared told her that his mother had fallen from her bed.

Police officers Wayne Diana and Sherlyn Courtney arrived within two minutes and McGrath instructed Jared to unlock the doors and let them in.

Once inside, the officers administered first aid and called for the South Plainfield Rescue Squad and Mercy 6 paramedics. Once they arrived she was checked out and she declined medical attention and transportation.

Capt. John Ferrato interviewed Mrs. Reid by phone and she explained that she had instructed her son to call 9-1-1 just in case of any emergency.



Pictured are Mayor Dan Gallagher, Rich Naberezny, borough engineer, Councilman Ray Petronko and Joe Zekas, who has been actively helping with the plan for the new senior center. They are looking over a model of the new senior center.

New Senior Center Plans are Unveiled

Last Thursday, Architect Joe DeAndrea unveiled the plans for the new senior center. Plans have been delayed slightly because of changes requested by the seniors. According to Councilman Ray Petronko, many things were considered when designing the building and the seniors had a lot of good ideas that needed to be included.

Councilman Ray Petronko even built a model of the building, so seniors could get a better idea of what the center will look like. The

model shows where and how each room will be utilized. It can be seen at the PAL building.

Builder Jack Morris had promised to build a senior center free of charge, after receiving approval to build townhouses and condominiums on New Durham Ave.

The building will be just under 11,000 square feet and will be located on the corner of Lakeview and Maple avenues. The location is perfect for seniors who can walk to the library, Borough Hall

Continued on page 12

75th Birthday Celebration to Take Place Monday Night; Residents Invited to Attend

South Plainfield's 75th Birthday 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.

Program Coordinator Pat Vargo, who is also South Plainfield's Municipal Count Administrator, promises a memorable and enjoyable evening for all who attend the celebration.

"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," Vargo said. The Celebrations Committee is working with the Historical Society putting together a photo display, which reflects the development in

different areas in town. They will also be giving short presentations on the history of South Plainfield.

Natasha Kurilew, a student at South Plainfield High school will sing the National Anthem.

Refreshments will be served, including a birthday cake, at the end of the program.

"We have invited 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.

The event takes place in the Council Chambers at 8 p.m. This is a great opportunity for all residents to find out how South Plainfield became a municipality.

The Celebration Committee is planning additional events to recognize South Plainfield's 75th Birthday. They are still in the planning stages. The highlight of the celebration will be this year's Annual Labor Day Parade.

You're Invited

Referendum Vote Placed on Ballot With School Board Elections

The Board of Education voted to place the postponed Bond Referendum on the ballot with the Annual School Board Election to be held on Tuesday, April 17, 2001. The referendum was cancelled last week due to the predictions of inclement weather.

The School Board ballot will include electing three members to the board of education, approving or rejecting the Board of Education's \$39.7 million school budget and voting on the school bond referendum costing \$19.3 million, but only \$12.6 will be paid by taxpayers.

Six candidates are running this year for the three open Board of Education seats. Two incumbents, Dawn Jeffreys and Steven Bohn are seeking a second term. Patricia DeSantis and Po Pennisi, are both former board members. Christine Sienkielewski and Tim Morgan have not served on the board. Board member Marge Reedy chose not to run again.

The school budget for 2001/2002 is \$39.7 million. The budget has increased from last year, but because the towns tax rates have risen by \$40 million, school taxes will not increase this year. The assessed value will remain at

\$2.03 per thousand.

The bond referendum asks voters to approve bonding in the amount of \$12,636,380 for construction and renovations throughout the district. The total school project will cost just over \$19 million, with the state pledging aid in the amount of \$6,647,000 towards the project.

Tracy Hartmann, chairman of the publicity committee was devastated when the vote was postponed due to the weather. She had spent the last few weeks visiting every school and group in town to promote the referendum. Signs were erected all over town, saying "Vote Yes March 6." Hartmann says she will be busy repainting all of the signs and has pledged to continue with her quest, along with the other committee members, getting every registered voter to the poles and to get the referendum passed.

Hartmann has already scheduled two meetings at Roosevelt School on Thursday, March 29 and April 5, both at 7:30 p.m. Residents are invited to attend either presentation and learn more about the referendum, especially those who want to ask questions relating the bond referendum.

The referendum covers a new Roosevelt School, adding eight classrooms to Grant school, making it a fifth grade and sixth grade school. This will free up classroom space in the elementary schools for the expected increased enrollment to add art and music rooms, which now are being taught from portable carts. 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 computers in every classrooms in every school.

The item that the board removed, the track at Jost Field, is still under discussion. The board has indicated they have some sur-

plus funds which could be used for the track. But they will not commit the money until the referendum has passed. The field has been literally falling apart for the past few years, with temporary patches being applied to the track each year. The condition of the track has worsened so much that it can no longer be used.



Board of Education members with newly appointed Superintendent of Schools, Dr. John Krewer. Right to left are Dan Smith, Sue Peck, Steve Bohn, Frank Mikorski, Dr. John Krewer, Marge Reedy, Tom Delaney, Dawn Jeffreys and Ken LaFreniere.

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 19 Thursday, March 22

Monday, April 2 Thursday, April 5

Monday, April 16 Thursday, April 19

Monday, May 7 Thursday, May 10

Monday, May 21 Thursday, May 24

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 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 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 place sub-committee

The fourth Thursday of the month as follows:

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

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

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

Regular Board Mtg., Mar. 20, 8 p.m.

Curriculum Committee Meeting March 19, 7 p.m. Grant School Gymnasium

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

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

Log on to
southplainfieldnj.com
for the latest
meeting agenda

In My Opinion

Dear Parents:

I just want to let you know that we now have our very own website. You can access the entire site by typing in this address exactly as it shows:

<http://school.nj.com/school/kennedyelementaryschool>

The site has numerous informative pages about Kennedy School. It has a gallery of pictures and captions (Dr. Seuss Birthday Party, Variety Show '98, etc.), calendar of events, PTSO information, links to other interesting sites and areas for announcements.

We will try to keep it updated and current, so you can check it often.

Visit it and see for yourself.

**THANK YOU,
AL CZECH, PRINCIPAL**

To the Editor:

It is with great thanks that I write this letter. On March 9, 2001, the South Plainfield Middle School PTA held a benefit basketball game for the Robert Horne family. Bob was injured in a work related accident that has left him paralyzed from the waist down. Over 400 people were treated to a basketball game that featured the "Cops vs. Coaches." Due to the overwhelming response to the game and the generosity of those who attended, we were able to raise over \$4300 for his family to use towards the costs associated with his recovery. Also, raffle winners Jeff Peterson, who won a \$250 Stern's Gift Certificate, and Bella Nappe, who won a 20" combination TV/VCR, gave their prizes to the family. It was truly heart warming to see the way everyone came out and supported this wonderful event.

I wish to acknowledge the following people for all of their assistance in making this benefit a huge success, and I truly thank you one and all!

Coaches Team: Michael Allocco, John Bordick, Gene Clapsis, Rich Fonti (MVP), Bill Hamilton, Mike Lanza, Jeff Lubreski, Bill Mosca, Mike Nausedas, Fred Oberkehr, Don Panzarella, and Chris Walker.

Cops Team: Peter Arancio, Gary Cassio, Jim Darby, Dave Franchak, Rob Garnecki, Matt Mahoney, Jim Parker (MVP), Joe Petriello, Daryl Strothers, and Ed White.

Also, Joe Abbruzzee, Gina Baker, Pat Bayak, Mike Behr, Scot Bishop, Shannon Bishop, Joe Blondo, B to B Promotions, Mike Buggey, Bill Cochran, Cranford Bike Shop, Amy Curcio, Kim DeMato, Wayne Diana, Ralph Glass, Greenbrook Pontiac-GMC, Joanne Haus, Gary Kline, Jan Kratz, Matt Kravetsky, John Limyansky, Nancy Lubreski, Donna Mackey, Ashley Martin, Patty Martin, Betty McHenry, Janet Miller, Kevin Murtgah, Cathy Nguyen, North Central Jersey Printing, The Observer, Dennis O'Neill, Sharon Padula, ProCare/Scarpitto Family, The Reporter, Chuck Siedenburgh, SPHS and SPMS Cheerleaders, SPMS Student Council, Stern's, Donna Tierney and Jean Tietjen.

**SINCERELY,
DEBRA BISHOP
PRESIDENT, SPMS PTA**

To the Editor:

I would like to thank Mr. Barbieri and the Roosevelt School PTA, Ms. Erickson and the Franklin School PTA, and the Future Stars PTA and Mr. Lenox for their hospitality and willingness to let the Citizens Public Relations Committee come into their schools and give the School Referendum presentations and answer the parent's questions. These people were wonderful. Thank you to all!

Dear Friends:

I would like to take this opportunity to re-introduce myself to the residents of South Plainfield. My name is Pat DeSantis, and I am a candidate for the Board of Education. My husband Nick, who has lived in South Plainfield for 32 years, my daughters and I, currently reside on Oakmanor Parkway. Michelle, 16, attends South Plainfield High School, and Angela, 7, attends Kennedy School. I work in the financial department of La Prairie cosmetics. I am a member of Sacred Heart Church of South Plainfield, sing in the choir, teach CCD, and am a Eucharistic minister.



Pat DeSantis

Family and education have always been priorities in my life, therefore, I want our schools to provide the best education possible for all of our children, while managing a responsible budget. I have served this community as a board member from 1997 to 2000, in those three years I served on the following committees: financial chair, student activity, public relations chair, negotiations, personnel, grievance, the past two Referendum Committees, and the Middlestate Accreditation.

Exposure to these committees has given me a well-rounded overview of all the issues and functions that are addressed by the Board of Education, which effect the quality of education in our district.

I am not a politician, I am a parent, and taxpayer, as such, I want the best for all children. Arts, athletics and academics are all important for a well-rounded education. As a parent, I also know the importance of managing a responsible budget. While we need to use all of our resources to establish a sound education, we must not over extend ourselves into wasteful spending.

As I have said in the past, I remain of the strong belief that the foundation of our society rests on the shoulders of our children and grandchildren, and it is our duty as parents, teachers, administrators, and the community at large to strive for a solid education.

Improvement does not mean spending more, it means creating a learning environment with the appropriate tools. The tools of today differ from the tools of years ago, we as a community and as board members need to foresee these emerging changes, and react accordingly.

I am the candidate for the children, I wish to be their voices, and wish to make sure that the board decisions benefit the whole community. I know what it takes to be a board member, and understand the complexities and demands that the position requires.

I look forward to the opportunity of committing my service to our community and to our children.

Please, remember, vote line 4. 4-Education, Children, Community.

PAT DESANTIS

To all the citizens out there who still feel we don't need this new school and the Grant School addition and technology and electrical upgrades, I address you at this time. I would like to ask anyone who feels they are undecided on the upcoming referendum to come out to a presentation. I would like to hear why you feel this way and you deserve to have your voice heard. Also, if I can correct any misinformation or answer any of your concerns I would like an opportunity to do this. I would like to invite you out on Thursday, Mar. 29 or Thursday, Apr. 5 at 7:30 p.m. to the Roosevelt School gym. We will have two meetings set up to answer any questions and show you what is being proposed if needed. Please come out, I want to hear what you have to say.

Also, to anyone who is STILL not registered to VOTE in South Plainfield, go to the school offices, they all have voter registration forms. Please register to VOTE. Thank you.

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

Dear Editor,

I have a few questions about the Board of Education's wonderful plans of building a new school we do not need! How do they come up with a figure of getting 851 new students added to the system?

What got me laughing was that man comparing his taxes to eating at McDonald's. He ate at McDonald's for \$22 and only \$66 dollars more for taxes is nothing, if you are living

Continued on page 10

Send us Your Letters/Opinions.

We want to hear from you concerning what is going on around town. We will omit your name by request, but you must give us your name and phone number when you submit your letter. Send your letter/opinion to: *The South Plainfield Observer*, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield 07080. You can email us at GGNAN@aol.com or fax to 908-668-8819.

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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in *South Plainfield Observer*:

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

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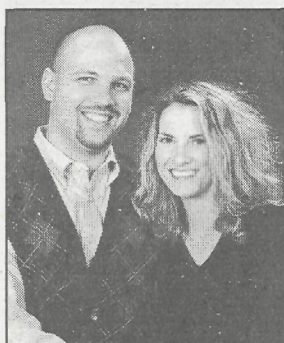
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Milestones



Philip Emma and Janine Towey

Towey, Emma Announce Their Engagement

Mr. and Mrs. S. Neil Towey of South Plainfield have announced the engagement of their daughter, Janine Marie Towey, to Philip Benjamin Emma, son of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Emma of Freehold, NJ, formerly of Parlin.

Their wedding is planned for August 11, 2001.

Daniel Temple Promoted to Major in U.S. Marine Corps

Daniel W. Temple, son of Ernie and Georgia Temple of South Plainfield, was promoted to rank of Major in the United States Marine Corps on March 1, 2001. Major Temple is a 1987 graduate of South Plainfield High School, a 1991 graduate of Temple University, and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in May 1991.

His military specialty is Armored Vehicles but he is currently serving as Aide-de Camp to the Commanding

General of Quantico, Va. Major Temple's previous assignments include a tour of duty in Somalia in 1992-1993, two overseas deployments, a three year tour of duty in Yokosuka, Japan, and positions as a Platoon Commander, Company Commander and Security Force Commander.

Major Temple, his wife Joanne, and son Dylan, 2, live in Woodbridge, Va., and are expecting another child in June 2001.

Gualano, Kuhn Announce Engagement

Diane L. Gualano and Gregory E. Kuhn have announced their engagement, which took place on Valentine's Day.

Ms. Gualano is the daughter of Robert Kuchera and the late Carole Kuchera of Muglia Place in South Plainfield. Mr. Kuhn is the son of Harry and Dominique Kuhn of Firth St. in South Plainfield.

Ms. Gualano is employed by the Stephen Izzi Trucking and Rigging Corporation, located in Edison. She works in the accounting department.

Mr. Kuhn is employed by Dasco Corporation in Edison. He is also a member of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department and the South Plainfield Rescue Squad.

The couple have a June 8, 2002

Gregory Kuhn and Diane Gualano
wedding planned aboard the Cornucopia Princess cruise ship.

Melody Hogan Named To Dean's List

South Plainfield resident Melody M. Hogan has been named to the 2000 Fall semester Dean's List at Messiah College.

Hogan, a freshman music education major, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Hogan, of South Plainfield.

Dean's List is earned by receiving

a 3.6 GPA or higher on a 4.0 scale.

Hogan is a 2000 graduate of New Life Christian School.

Messiah College, a private Christian College of the liberal and applied arts and sciences, enrolls nearly 2,800 undergraduate students in 50 majors. Established in 1909, the primary campus is located in Grantham, Pa., near the state capital of Harrisburg. A satellite campus affiliated with Temple University is located in Philadelphia.

Music Boosters Meeting

The South Plainfield Music Boosters will be meeting on Wednesday, April 4 at 7:30 in the South Plainfield High School band room.

Specialty Gift Baskets

Gourmet coffee, tea, popcorn, crackers and cheeses.

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South Plainfield Rescue Squad Seeking New Volunteers

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Training and uniforms are provided, free of charge. Start today, help save a life!

For information or to become a member, call

(908) 754-2343

Rita's Welcomes Back Customers With Free Italian Ice

So what does spring taste like anyway? It's refreshing, it's rewarding, it's sweet, and it's icy! In fact, South Plainfield residents will be tasting spring at Rita's, located at 1901 Park Avenue, on Tuesday, March 20. To celebrate its season reopening, Rita's will give a FREE medium ice to everyone who stops by.

"Every spring we mark our reopening and thank our customers by giving away Italian ice and invite new customers to come and taste it," says owners Dave and Mary Ann Hendri. "It's a time-honored tradition that our patrons look forward to and we really enjoy. For weeks before we reopen, people stop and ask when they can get a Rita's Italian ice."

Rita's Italian ices are made fresh daily and are available in more than 20 different flavors - from the traditional favorites like cherry and lemon to the exotic favorites like mango and piña colada.

In addition to Italian ice, Rita's menu features cones, shakes and other cool stuff. Rita's Old-fashioned Frozen Custard, available in chocolate and vanilla, can be served in either a cone or cup. Rita's famous Gelati provides frozen dessert fans the best of both worlds with its layers of ice and custard. Rita's Misto Shake is a blend of Italian ice with a creamy custard base that, when mixed together, forms a refreshing treat that can be enjoyed on the go. Rita's also offers Cream Ices for those who prefer a treat that is smoother and richer than Italian ice, but not as heavy as ice cream.

"We just don't think there's a better way to kick off the warm weather season than with a free icy treat," concludes the Hendris. "It's become an important part of Rita's history and an annual ritual for our patrons."

Today, Rita's is the nation's largest Italian ice chain that will have 250 operating stores by the end of 2001 throughout the Northeast and Southeast United States, and as far west as Ohio. The company expects to sell 32 million cups of Italian ice this year alone. Franchisee information can be obtained by calling 1-800-677-RITA. Stop and Taste the Rita's!

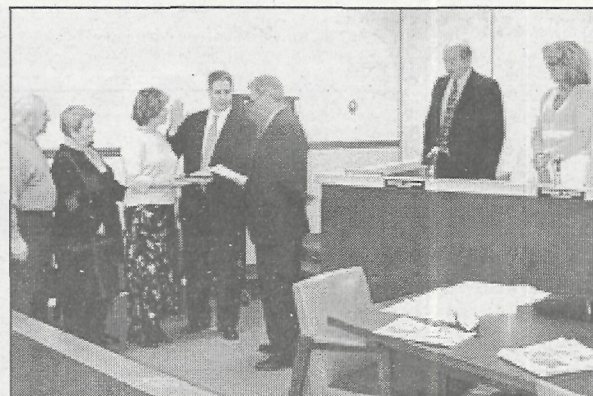
Volunteers Needed For Litter Clean-Up Week, April 21-28

Are you bitter about litter? Welcome spring by cleaning away winter's grime! The South Plainfield Clean Communities Advisory Board will sponsor a Borough-wide cleanup at the end of April.

The main clean-up event will be on Saturday, April 21. Volunteers will meet from 9 to 10 a.m. in the Borough Hall parking lot at 2480 Plainfield Ave. to collect equipment and clean-up assignments.

We will target roadsides, parks, streams and vacant lots. All volunteers will be invited back to Borough Hall at noon for a Pizza Pickup Picnic, complete with environmentally friendly door prizes.

Residents are welcome to organize a crew, or to come on their own. Call Alice Tempel, the Clean Communities Coordinator, at (908) 226-7621 for more information.



Vinnie Buttiglieri is sworn in as Municipal Clerk by Mayor Dan Gallagher, while his parent, wife, Ray Jean and Councilman Dennis Cerami and Councilwoman Darlene Pinto look on.

Vinnie Buttiglieri Honored; Sworn as Municipal Clerk

During last Thursday's council meeting, Vinnie Buttiglieri was honored with a plaque from the mayor and council for his six years of service as a councilman.

The mayor read a resolution, recognizing all of his accomplishments while serving on the council. He was part of the implementation and continuation of Democracy Day, a 'pay as you go' type government. He has worked with the Taxpayers Advisory Group. Buttiglieri was chairman of the public works department and

while he was a councilman, more than 60 roads were repaved and constructed, without borrowing money to pay for them.

Also during the meeting, Buttiglieri was sworn in as Municipal Clerk, effective March 26 at a salary of \$65,000. Attending the ceremony were his wife, Ray Jean, his parents, relatives and friends.

Buttiglieri brings 15 years of financial experience to the job, including budget cost accounting and six years of management experience.

Mobile Passport Services Program Coming to SP

Elaine M. Flynn, Middlesex County Clerk, has announced that the county clerk's office is extending passport services to residents throughout Middlesex County through a program that sends staff members to a municipality requesting the service.

Individuals who avail themselves of this service will be able to apply for passports with the convenience of a trip to their local municipal building.

The passport service will be in South Plainfield from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday, Apr. 12, in the Township's Municipal Building. Applicants may pick up the applications and instructions in advance in the municipal clerk's office. Applications may also be downloaded from the department of state's website at

www.travel.state.gov.

Applicants 13 and older must appear in person. They must have a certified birth certificate from vital statistics with a raised seal and a file date, a previous United States passport or a naturalization certificate. Hospital birth certificates are not acceptable. Two passport photos are required, along with a driver's license. The fees are payable by check or money orders only—no cash is accepted.

Residents may still visit the county administration building in New Brunswick to apply for their passport.

Call the county clerk's office at (732) 745-3404 for hours of operation and directions to the county administration building.

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Events

Lenten Fish Dinners at Sacred Heart Church

March 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.

Boy Scout Chilifest at Kennedy School

March 18

The Boys Scouts will be holding a Chilifest on Sunday, March 18 at J.F. Kennedy School from 3 to 7 p.m.

The cost is \$4 per person and it's all-you-can-eat.

Elks Holding Annual St. Patrick's Dinner

March 17

The South Plainfield Elks Veterans Committee is sponsoring its annual all-you-can-eat corned beef and cabbage dinner, on Saturday, Mar. 17, from 4:30 to 9 p.m. Beverages are included. Cost is \$9.50 for adults and \$5 for children.

For directions or more information, call (908) 668-9750.

Knights of Columbus Hosts St. Patrick's Dinner

March 17

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus are having their annual St. Patrick's Dinner on March 17, from 4-7 p.m. Price is adults-\$7, children-5-12 \$3, under 5 free. Eat in or carry out. For more info or to buy tickets call (908) 756-0478

Polish Home Sponsors Show Boat Casino Trip

March 18

The 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 leaves the Polish Home parking lot at 12 p.m. 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.

Franklin School PTA Hosts Annual Auction

March 24

The Franklin School PTA will be holding their Fifth Annual Auction/Raffle Night. The event will be held on Saturday, Mar. 24, at 6:30 p.m. in the South Plainfield High School Gym.

Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door. For tickets call (908) 753-7117 or (908) 753-2864.

St. Stephens Church Hosts All-You-Can-Eat Spaghetti Dinner

March 31

St. Stephens Lutheran Church will host an all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner on Saturday, Mar. 31, from 5:30 to 7 p.m., at St. Stephens Lutheran Church, 3145 Park Ave.

Price is \$3 per person, and includes dinner, beverage and dessert. No advance tickets will be sold.

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 J.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.

Recreation Dept. Announces Annual Easter Egg Hunt

April 7

The South Plainfield Recreation Department will hold their Annual Easter Egg Hunt, on Saturday, April 7, at 1 p.m.

All South Plainfield children, ages newborn to 9 years old, are invited to attend the hunt behind the PAL building. Harvey the Bunny will be present.

Business Asso. To Host Golf Outing

May 1

On Tuesday, May 1, the South Plainfield Business Association will host a golf outing, at the Cranbury Golf Club in West Windsor.

The event will include green fees and cart, continental breakfast, open

bar, BBQ luncheon, and prizes.

For additional information, contact Bob Longo at (908) 753-7004.

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 Mets Vs. Braves Planned

June 23

Sacred Heart Church has planned a trip to the Mets vs. Braves on Saturday, Jun. 23. Seats are located in the downstairs loge.

Cost for the trip is \$43, which includes game ticket, transportation and driver gratuity. The trip is open to everyone. Reservations can be made by calling the parish center at (908) 756-0633, ext. 11, or Mary Ann at (908) 226-1222.

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.

Multi-Class Reunion Planned

May, 2001

An invitation is extended to all SPHS graduates from Sandi Spisso Connelly and Bobby Cobb, SPHS Class of 1969.

The 1969 alumni are planning a special "Golden 50th Birthday" Class Reunion for May of 2001, to be held as an all day outdoor event at Forest Lodge in Warren. Many people from a diverse range of graduating classes find the idea of a multi-class reunion appealing. It offers an excellent way to renew old friendships. Some classes lack reunion coordinators, sufficient number of alumni or both.

In view of this interest, the

Class of 1969 is inviting all SPHS alumni. The 60's Boardwalk theme will celebrate all those who once walked the halls of South Plainfield High School.

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

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 Cruisean evening of entertainment, a welcome reception, baggage handling, all taxes and standard gratuities. 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—

Circle Players Present Diary of Anne Frank

The Circle Players will be presenting the Diary of Anne Frank on Fridays and Saturdays evenings at 8 p.m. on March 9, 10, 16, 17 and 23, 24. Sunday Matinees will be held on March 11 and 18 at 2 p.m.

The Circle Players is located at 416 Victoria Ave., Piscataway. For ticket information call, (732) 968-7555.

Share the Rainbow Experience With Godspell

March 17, 18, 24, 25

"Godspell," is a musical based upon the Gospel according to St. Matthew. 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.

"A" Team FX Club Event

March 24

Come for a night of club music and dance by "A" Team FX, the new DJ team of Steve and Eric Ambielli. The event will be held on Saturday, Mar. 24, from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. at Wesley United Methodist Church on Plainfield Ave. The cost for admission is \$5. Tickets will be sold at the door, or can be reserved by calling (908) 561-4781 or email at AteamFX@hotmail.com. Tickets can also be purchased by calling Bill Mott at (908) 756-6461. Food and drinks will be sold. The event is being sponsored by the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop.

Adoption Support CHATS To Meet

March 26

CHATS (Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support), will meet 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. on Monday, Mar. 26, at Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church, 170 Watchung Ave., North Plainfield. Open sharing of adoption-related stories and light refreshments will be featured. Call Alyce at (732) 227-0607 or <http://community.nj.com/cc/chats> for information.

Tourette Syndrome Meetings

May 10

The Tourette Syndrome Association of Middlesex/Union County Family Support Group meetings have been scheduled for May 10. The meetings are held at JFK Medical Center in Edison, in the Neuroscience Institute Department, from 7 to 9 p.m. For information, call 732-283-1439 after 6 p.m.

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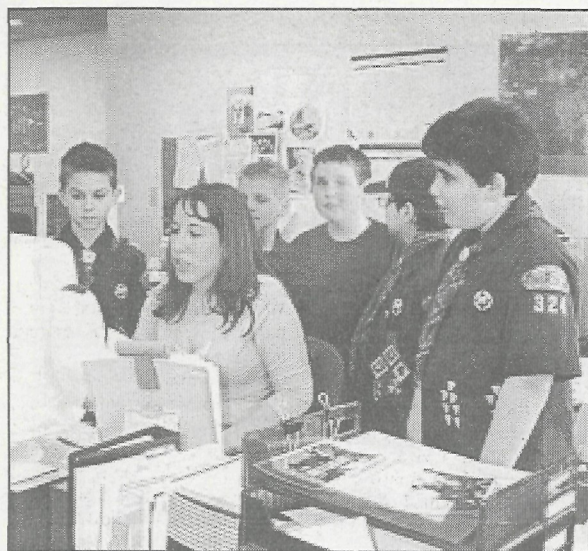
SPOTLIGHT. If you have had great service in South Plainfield share it with your neighbors through the newspaper.

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

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

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

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



Cub Scout Troop #324 from Kennedy School's Den #10 visited the Observer last week. The scouts were earning their communications badge. Pictured are Barry Brown, Matthew Brazza, Ricky Walton, Anthony Usuriello, Alan Kasmer, and Observer staff member Carrie Reilly. The troop was accompanied by troop leaders Donna Brown and Donna Kasmer.

Snowstorm Causes Emergency Blood Shortage

New Jersey Blood Services has declared a severe blood shortage emergency. Due to storm warnings, blood drives scheduled to run last week were cancelled, leaving the NJ Blood Services unable to collect the 1,000 units scheduled to be donated at those drives. "This loss represents almost a three day supply of blood. Due to this loss, we are down to a one-day supply of Type O and Type B blood and we have absolutely no supply of Platelets," states John Giandlone, Executive Director of New Jersey Blood Services. "We are appealing to all who live and work

in the communities we service to help us in this crisis by donating blood or scheduling a blood drive. Over the next few days we must collect the 1,000 units lost so that we can supply NJ hospitals with the blood that is so desperately needed," adds Giandlone.

As stated above, NJ Blood Services is in desperate need of all blood types, especially Type O Negative, which is used in emergency situations when there is no time to blood type the patient; O positive, because it can be transfused into 85% of patients; while only 10% of donors are Type B, the demand for this blood type among patients exceeds the supply from our volunteer blood donors. Platelets are also critically needed for cancer patients to help them survive while they are undergoing treatment.

NJ Blood Services urges you to call toll-free 1-877-90-BLOOD for a convenient time and location to donate. Anyone interested in scheduling a blood drive at their place of employment or in their community can call that same number.

Anyone between the ages of 17 and 75, weighing over 110 pounds and in good general health can donate. If you are on medication and are not sure if you are eligible, please call us at (732) 220-7026.

All donors receive a free mini medical exam (temperature, iron count, pulse and blood pressure), and refreshments are served. Donor must also know their Social Security number and show photo/signature ID.

Historical Society Notes

The South Plainfield Historical Society met on Tuesday, Mar. 13 in the Media Center of the High School. The Historical Society will be participating in South Plainfield's 75th Birthday Celebration next Monday, March 19.

The Mayor and Council will convene in the Courtroom of the Municipal Building in a re-enactment of the first Council meeting in 1926. The Historical Society will present a display of pictures from their archives and tell some of the notable events that took place in South Plainfield over the years.

Many dignitaries, past and present, as well as borough residents, have been invited for the program. There will also be a big birthday cake!

Project Graduation Auction/Raffle Held



By Patricia Abbott

More than 400 people attended the annual Project Graduation Auction/Raffle on Saturday night. Chairpersons Ellen Melanson and Pat Anderson declared it "sold out" days before the big event. Tables decorated in green and white were filled with people ready to win or have fun trying. Each group hosted their own mini-party. More experienced auction attendees were prepared with all the necessary edibles. Coolers filled with cold beverages were stashed under tables. The food ranged from sub sandwiches, chips and dip to gourmet platters of shrimp, cheese, crackers and more. For those new to the auction scene there was a variety of food offered for sale.

Wayne Otlowski was the MC for the evening. Prizes of all shapes and sizes lined the bleachers and the walls of the gym. Committee members were kept busy selling tickets right up to the last minute. Nearly every business in South Plainfield donated to this worthy cause. Sixty two families donated gifts as well. Seven SPHS seniors helped keep the evening running smoothly as they steadily moved the prizes, picked tickets and delivered to winners. Participating were: Megan Melanson, James Tanzola, Jason Cisz, Nicole Adorna, Jacquie DeAngelis, Jason Bataille and Heather Pedersen.

The much sought after larger prizes were drawn at the end of the evening. Anticipation filled the room as the numbers were called. The Mega Prize, a Dell Computer was won by Karen Licato of South Plainfield. Debbi Stani won the 32" TV. Other grand prize winners included: Joann Krantz of South Plainfield, Lisa Valle of Piscataway and Sandy Jackson from Howell.

"The evening made enough money to give the students of the Class of 2001 a Project Graduation evening that they will not forget!" remarked Melanson and Anderson.

Project Graduation is an all night substance-free party for graduating seniors. The party is held at the Ricochet Raquet Club.

The auction/raffle is sponsored by the SPHS PTA. The Project Graduation committee holds a number of fundraisers throughout the year to offset the expenses of the Project Graduation Party.



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South Plainfield Residents Turn Out to Support "Hoops for Horne" Fundraiser



The residents of South Plainfield responded to a call for help last Friday, filling the Middle School gym in support of the 'Hoops for Horne' basketball game. More than 400 turned out for the fundraiser. According to Debbie Bishop, over \$4,300 was raised to help the family with family/medical expenses incurred by Robert Horne. Even those winning raffle prizes donated them back to the Horne family.

Robert 'Opie' Horne, owner of Horne Tree Service, suffered a serious injury in a work related accident. He was injured when a tree rolled off of a truck and 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 a 1986 graduate of SPHS. He and his wife Debbie have two daughters, Nicole, 2 and Kaylee, 8 months.

The Cops team was organized by Sgt. Peter Arancio. Players were 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 were 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 were Dennis O'Neil and Michael Behr, the announcer was Bill Cochrane. The statisticians were Matthew Kravetsky and Shannon Bishop and security was handled by Officers Wayne Diana and Chuck Siedenburgh.

"Hoops for Horne" was created and organized by Debbie Bishop and Mike Lanza to do something more than just make a promise to help, and the residents of South Plainfield didn't disappoint them. They once again showed where their hearts were in the right place.

Does anyone have any pictures of the race track that was once located in South Plainfield near Tompkins Ave. Call 668-0010 If you have information.



The Chicks Have Hatched!

Future Star Preschool began a "Chick Hatching Project" a few weeks ago. Under the direction of the Future Stars Parent's Group, Quiver Farms of Pittsburgh, PA delivered 48 eggs and four incubators to Future Stars classes.

Parents and teachers took home eggs over the weekend when the weatherman predicted the snowstorm. Some chicks hatched during the weekend and some during the week. A total of 12 chicks survived and are heading back to Quiver Farms on Thursday. Future Stars are enjoying this great opportunity and are learning at the same time.



Riley School Students Give Veterans a Valentine's Treat

John E. Riley School's kindergarten, first, and second graders were busy in February making Valentine cards for the veterans at the Lyons Hospital. The children, along with their teachers and parent volunteers, made and decorated the cards and wrote letters, which were delivered to the veterans by Mr. Ernie Smolko.

The children at Riley have been making cards and writing letters to the veterans at Lyons Hospital for several years. This project began with kindergarten teacher Mrs. Dolores Allen, and has continued even though Mrs. Allen has since retired. The

teachers who currently participate are Mrs. Helen Lay, Mrs. Pat Publik, and classroom aide Mrs. Debbie Czech (kindergarten); Mrs. Lydia Svoboda, and classroom aide Mrs. Linda Meixner (Transitional First Grade); Mrs. Linda Bohl, Mrs. Maria Campagna, Mrs. Jennifer DeHart, and Mrs. Jennifer Pietrewicz (First Grade); and Mrs. Paula Lando, Mrs. Susan Mariani, Miss Lisa Ventriglia, and classroom aide Miss Jennifer Schlacrun (Second Grade).

"It is always an enjoyable and worthwhile project for the students," said Mrs. Campagna.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

Tomorrow is St. Patrick's Day. Before you settle back with the parade and maybe "The Quiet Man", here's some news from the South Plainfield Library:

We'll be following our usual schedule of children's Storytime programs next week. The programs will be held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. Each program lasts about an hour and features stories, music and a craft activity. They're for children ages three and over; no pre-registration is required. Also, this month's Kidcraft program is set for next Friday afternoon at 4. This program is for children ages six and over; space is limited, so you must register in advance. If you'd like more information, call us at (908) 754-7885; ask for Linda Hansen, the Children's Librarian.

After an unplanned delay, the latest group from the Compact Disc Circuit is now available. Artists featured in this group include Fleetwood Mac, Marian Anderson, John Tesh, Linda Ronstadt, Lynrd Skynrd and Roy Orbison. CDs may be borrowed, four at a time, for two weeks.

We've had a fairly good reaction of late to some special programs we've hosted, including the George Washington program last month and the Indian Culture program last week. The Library is available to host other programs for local organizations,

when our operating schedule permits. If you'd be interested in having your group hold a program here, call us for further details. Ask to speak to Sundra Fenn, our Director.

Time for a bit of clarification: Items featured in the ongoing book sale are located in the sale area in front of our display wall. In this case of discarded items from our collection, you'll note that the spine labels have been crossed out. In the case of donated items, there's no spine label or, when appropriate, there's an affixed price label. If you don't see any of these qualities on an item, it's probably not for sale and is merely on display. If you're not sure, it's best to go to the main desk and ask.

And here's another bit of clarification: You'll note that many of our audio/visual items have a sticker marked, "Do Not Put in Bookdrop". That sticker is correct; we'd prefer that A/V items not be put into the bookdrop, where they'll very likely end up crushed under the latest Tom Clancy book or some exhaustively-researched reference work. When you return A/V items after hours, please put them in the A/V drop, right next to the bookdrop. If the item won't fit in the A/V drop, then you may feel free to use the bookdrop.

Sure and that's just about all for this week. See you next Friday for more.



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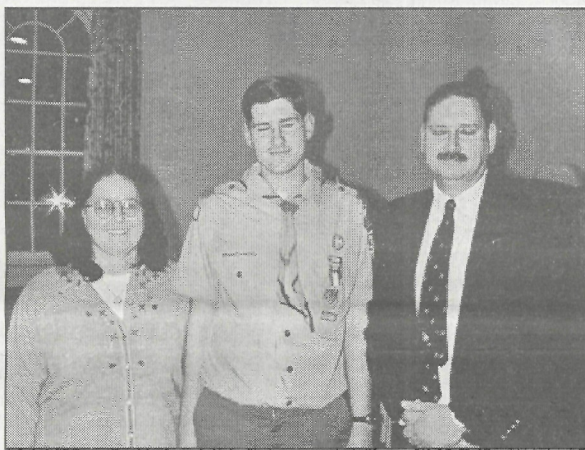
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South Plainfield Scouting

Justin Gaynor, Tom Sniscak Earn Eagle Scout Awards



Eagle Scout Tom Sniscak with mom, Carol and dad, Tom.



Eagle Scout Justin Gaynor with mom, Rita English and dad Jack Gaynor

Troop 309 from Wesley Methodist Church had two scouts reach the rank of Eagle last week. This makes the 24 Eagle Scouts in their 33-year history. Both boys were also honored with letters and commendations from dignitaries and groups from all over the country.

Justin Gaynor and Tom Sniscak, of South Plainfield, were awarded the ranking of Eagle Scout, on Sunday, Mar. 11, at a Court of Honor Ceremony held at Wesley Methodist Church.

Justin and Tom both completed community service projects in order to receive this prestigious award among Scouts.

For his project, Justin created a website for his local Elementary school, Kennedy school, located on Norwood Avenue in South Plainfield. This website allows students, parents and teachers to interact regarding school activities and school assignments. He spent over a year working on the website and had several meetings with the school's principal to discuss different options. Part of his project included taking pictures of the school and collecting information from several teachers and administrators. People who visit the site can get a brief description and history of the school, a listing of the school's faculty members, and school statistics such as enrollment information and class sizes. Other scouts helped him by evaluating his work at several points along the way, and by giving helpful suggestions to improve the site.

Justin describes the project as "a good experience for both me and the school." He says, "I was able to help the school by creating an informative and interactive website for them, while at the same time this project

provided me with more experience in the career field which I plan to pursue after college."

Tom's project was to hold an Easter Dinner at the Keystone Community Residence in South Plainfield, which is a home for mentally retarded adults. Keystone had nothing out of the ordinary planned, so Tom decided to organize an Easter party. The aim of the project was to cheer up these people and bring some happiness to their Easter holiday. Tom spent January through March 1999 writing letters to local restaurants and stores asking for donations. After writing to and

visiting enough places, he was able to get everything donated, including the food, table settings, decorations and an Easter basket for each resident. Finally, on Easter Sunday, April 4, 1999, the main part of the project took place. The dinner was a tremendous success, and the residents and everyone else involved enjoyed themselves. According to Tom, the most touching part of this project was not the excitement on the faces of the residents, but the sense of accomplishment seen on the faces of the volunteers.

Kenneth Van Kleef is Watching Your Tax Dollar

Kenneth Van Kleef was appointed as the Central Registrar for the South Plainfield Board of Education in Jan. 2000. In the year that he has held this position, Van Kleef has succeeded in bringing all district registration under one roof. Previously, only grades K-5 were registered from a central office location. High school students and middle school students were registered on site and trying to register classified students was a nightmare. Now, a parent registering students in the district need only make one stop, at Mr. Van Kleef's office in the Middle School, to register all of their children. Under his watch, 600 new students have been registered.

This year, Mr. Van Kleef will pilot a new kindergarten registration program. In the past, the district had designated one week, during the spring, when parents were encouraged to register their kindergarten students. In an effort to make it more convenient for the parents and more efficient for the district in determining class placement, the district will set appointments for registration and will complete necessary paperwork at the child's expected school of residence during designated hours. With this program, it is hoped that the district will have a better idea of the number of children expected in the kindergarten classes before the end of the current school year. There will always be those who choose to register at the last minute, but this new program should minimize the problem.

Another facet of Van Kleef's job is to identify those students who attend the South Plainfield schools, but are not residents of the district. Over the course of these past 13 months, Mr. Van Kleef has identified 47 such students, all of whom attended the South Plainfield schools illegally. Of those 47, fifteen have since become legal residents of the district. Three of the students identified were classified students. One was in an out-of-district placement which was approved at a cost of \$27,500 per year. The district is no longer paying for that placement and is negotiating with the student's district of legal residence for reimbursement of the dollars spent on behalf of that child. Two other students were also classified. In those cases,

the children were assigned to special programs within the district. When it was discovered that South Plainfield was not the legal residence for those students, the home districts were contacted and they have agreed to assume the financial responsibility for this school year.

Van Kleef pointed to the fact that transferring a student out of South Plainfield to the district of legal residence does not stop with the issuance of a transfer card. "Once the child leaves our district, I bill the parents for the tuition owed for the time the student was here illegally. For the 2000/2001 school year, the State-established rate for per pupil spending in South Plainfield is \$8,642. If the student was here, illegally, for 60 days, I send the parents a bill for that amount of time," Van Kleef explained. Of the 47 illegal students he identified, only two requested a formal hearing before the Board of Education. In both instances, those cases are currently before the Commissioner of Education.

Van Kleef is quite proud of the fact that his diligent work has freed up classroom space for legal residents of the district. Additionally, any money recovered in tuition payments is used to supplement programs currently in use for our students.

The district feels that their investment in Van Kleef was a wise one. In the year that he has been on the job, the district has seen a marked decline in the attempts to enroll illegal students. It seems that the word is out that enrollment in the South Plainfield Public Schools is serious business, that legal proof of residence must be produced; that the established policies must be followed and that expectations to the rules will not be made.

The district is proud of Van Kleef's successes and fully support him in sharing his methods with other districts. To date, Van Kleef has been the keynote speaker at two seminars. The New Jersey Association of School Administrators and the Somerset County Superintendents' Roundtable. He is happy to share his experience and knowledge with other districts, but his primary concern lies within the boundaries of the Borough of South Plainfield—where he lives and works.

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LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Ordinance #1558 entitled: A CAPITAL ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$35,000.00 FROM THE GENERAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF AN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT VEHICLE, IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Borough Council on Thursday, March 8, 2001 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ATTEST: Patrick Diegman, Esq., Borough Attorney
\$15.00 March 16, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Ordinance #1559 entitled: BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS 2001 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (THE "BOROUGH"); APPROPRIATING \$300,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$285,600 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Borough Council on Thursday, March 8, 2001 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ATTEST: Patrick Diegman, Esq., Borough Attorney
\$18.00 March 16, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

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

Ordinance #1560 entitled: AN ORDINANCE REGULATING PARKING, STOPPING AND STANDING ON A PORTION OF MAIN STREET IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY; be adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, March 16, 2001 and that a public hearing be held Thursday, April 5, 2001 at 8:00 PM in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey.

ORDINANCE NO. 1560

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING PARKING, STOPPING AND STANDING ON A PORTION OF MAIN STREET IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY,

- 1) It shall be unlawful for any person to park, stop or stand a vehicle at any time along either side of Main Street, from the intersection of the southerly side line of Hamilton Boulevard (50 feet wide) to a point approximately 750 feet south along Main Street to the entrance of the apartment complex.
- 2) Appropriate signs will be posted indicating 'No Stopping or Standing'.
- 3) Any person or persons violating the provisions of this Ordinance shall upon conviction thereof, pay a fine of not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00).

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption and publication in accordance with New Jersey Law.

Approved March 8, 2001

Daniel J. Gallagher/Mayor

ATTEST: Patrick Diegman, Esq., Borough Attorney

\$45.00 1T March 16, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Norman Samuel requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the erection of a 14'x20' and 9'x12' wood deck, proposed deck lacks the required 8' side setback, 7' being proposed and any other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 137 Lot 10 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on April 17, 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 Building Inspector's Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

\$35.00 1T March 16, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Patrick & Mary Muglia requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the erection of an 18' x 24' x 52' high, above ground pool, proposed pool lacks the required 20' rear and 8' side setback, 3' being proposed for both and any other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 392 Lot 4 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on April 3, 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 Building Inspector's Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

\$35.00 1T March 16, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by David Martin requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the erection of a 22' x 24' first floor and a 22' x 24' second floor addition, proposed addition lacks the required 30' front side setback from McDonough St., 10' being proposed; lacks the required 20' rear setback, 11.6' being proposed and exceeds lot coverage by 43.5 s.f. and any other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 7 Lot 33 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on April 17, 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 Building Inspector's Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

\$35.00 1T March 16, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

ADVERTISEMENT AND NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED proposals will be received by the Borough of South Plainfield in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey at the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ at 10:00 AM prevailing time on Thursday, April 5, 2001, and at the time and place publicly opened for the construction of a project known as:

DURHAM AVENUE ROAD WIDENING

Approximate Quantities for This Contract are:

275 Tons	Bituminous Stabilized Base Mix 1-2 (6" thick)
125 Tons	Bituminous Concrete Surface Course Mix 1-5 (2" thick)
650 L.F.	Concrete Curb and Gutter
115 L.F.	15 Inch Reinforced Concrete Storm Sewer Pipe Class IV
2 Unit	Construct Type "B" Inlets
1 Unit	Construct Type "E-Special" Inlet
1 Unit	Construct Type "D-Special" Inlet

All construction shall take place between the hours of 9:15 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. ONLY.

All work and material shall be in accordance with Plans and Specifications prepared by the Borough of South Plainfield. Plans, Proposal Forms, Specifications and Instructions to Bidders may be obtained at the office of the Borough Engineer located at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ for a NON-REFUNDABLE FEE OF \$50.00.

Each proposal must be enclosed in a sealed envelope with the name of the project "DURHAM AVENUE ROAD WIDENING" and addressed to the Borough of South Plainfield, Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080, Attn: Vincent Buttiglieri, Borough Clerk.

Each proposal must be accompanied by a certificate from the bidders bonding or surety company stating that it will provide the bidder with the required performance bond if the bidder is successful in his bid, and a certified or cashier's check or bid bond in the amount of 10% of the amount of bid but not more than \$20,000.

Bidders must also complete the Non-Collusion Affidavit, Equal Employment, Bidders Qualification Questionnaire, and Corporate/Partnership Disclosure forms included in the proposal, Bid Document Submission Checklist, and Acknowledgment of Receipt of Changes to Bid Documents Form if applicable.

The Borough of South Plainfield reserves the right to reject any or all bids and/or waive any informalities as may be deemed to be in the best interest of the Borough of South Plainfield.

All bidders are required to comply with the requirements and provisions of P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27); New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act Chapter 150, Laws of 1963 effective January 1, 1974 and N.J.S.A. 10:2 — Any Corporation or partnership submitting a bid shall complete the statement setting forth the name and address of all stockholders or partners who own a ten percent (10%) or more of the stock of any class of the corporation, or own a ten (10%) or greater interest in the partnership.

All materials used in the project shall be products of the United States whenever available.

By order of the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield.

Frank DeRosa
Borough Administrator
March 16, 2001

\$115.00 1T March 16, 2001

Sports

By Tony Cassano



juniorbaseballclubnotes

2001 T-Ball/Teener Ball Registration

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

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

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

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

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

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Alfred Adorna requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the 1,140 s.f. second floor addition, with a 2' front cantilever, proposed addition lacks the required 30' front setback, 29.1' being proposed and existing front porch lacks required 30' front setback, 25' being proposed; and any other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 38 Lot 19 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on April 3, 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 Building Inspector's Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

\$35.00 1T March 16, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COMBO NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by LORDINA BUILDERS, INC. requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit A THREE LOT SUBDIVISION (WITH NO VARIANCES REQUIRED) AND A SITE PLAN APPROVAL for said property being located on Block 387, Lot 2 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, March 27, 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 Building Inspector's Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

\$35.00 1T March 16, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Phyllis Ortiz requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the second story 32' x 28' addition to a pre-existing residential home in the M-3 zone. Also requesting bulk variances for front setback 50' required and 38.43' being proposed and side yard setback 30' required and 12.28' being proposed and any other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 472 Lot 17 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on April 3, 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 Building Inspector's Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

\$35.00 1T March 16, 2001

MARCH MONTHLY MEETING HELD THIS PAST MONDAY—Due to last weeks snow, our regularly scheduled monthly meeting was held this past Monday, March 12. Two changes were voted on and passed at the meeting. One involved the SPJBC becoming affiliated with Babe Ruth Baseball for this season. Additional discussions center around the on-going preparation needed for Opening Day and the season ahead. Drafts were held over the last several days in all Small Fry Leagues, Pony will be completed by the end of this weekend. With only three weeks to go to Opening Day (Saturday April 7th), we still have a lot to do as we prepare for the 2001 season. Volunteers are always welcomed and needed.

PRE-SEASON WORK DETAIL EVERY REMAINING SATURDAY IN MARCH—We held our 1st work detail this past Saturday March 10th. Thanks to the many volunteers that showed up, we got off to a good start but still have a lot to do. Work Detail 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/shifts will run from am till 11 a.m. and/or 11 a.m. until p.m.

2001 C-LEAGUE ORIENTATION - THIS SATURDAY MARCH 17th (9 a.m. -10:30 a.m.)—This season, we are inviting all C-League parents, coaches and players to join us on Field 1 on Saturday, March 17 between 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., as we hold our first 'Future Foundations' C-League Orientation. There will be 12 individual stations with instructions for both adults and players. As you begin your tenure with the SPJBC, we know this will help you and your child with the transition. Stations will include, pitching, batting, fielding, Women's Aux., Boosters, Snack Stand and more. (RAIN DATE IS NEXT SATURDAY, MARCH 24)

CAST YOUR VOTE FOR LITTLE MISS BASEBALL—Voting boxes for Little Miss Baseball for the 2001 season are located at Ciccio's, Quick Check and B&C Deli. Pictures of the three girls nominated are currently on display. Please come out and vote. The winner will be announced during our Opening Day ceremonies on April 7th.

IN NEED OF SIGN SPONSORS FOR ALL FIELDS—Pur Sign Sponsor Committee, headed by Guy Moretti and Charlie Decker (both of Century 21-Moretti Realty) is currently contacting our local business community and any other interested parties regarding sponsoring a sign for the 2001 season. All signs (4 by 8 ft) are handed painted with the customers company logo and all pertinent info. Its 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.

SPJBC COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE BY APRIL 1st—The SPJBC is now accepting applications for our college scholarship. Applications can be picked up at the club or at the guidance department at the SPHS. Filing deadline is April 1, 2001. Call club for further details at 908-754-2090

THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD OBSERVER IS SEEKING A STUDENT OR PARENT TO SUBMIT SPORTS INFORMATION TO THE PAPER. WE ACCEPT STORIES AND PICTURES. IF INTERESTED, PLEASE CALL 908-668-0010.

Trip to World Champion Yankees Versus Red Sox

The South Plainfield Recreation department is sponsoring a trip to see the World Champion New York Yankees versus the Boston Red Sox on Wednesday, May 23. The bus leaves the PAL at 4:30 p.m. Cost is \$45 per person. Register at the PAL Building. Only 45 seats available.

908-753-0290

Liquid ASSETS

GENTLEMAN'S CLUB

Saturday March 17...

St. Patrick's Day Celebration

FREE BUFFET—CORN BEEF AND CABBAGE SPECIALS—ALL IRISH TAP BEER & WHISKEY

118 NEW MARKET AVE. SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Sports

HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING

Anderson, Gebauer, Doerr and Foscolo Place at NJ State Tournament

By Robert Hunter

South Plainfield High School wrestlers fared well this past weekend at the New Jersey State Wrestling Championships. South Plainfield had advanced eight wrestlers to the state tournament.

At the end of the tournament, four Tigers stood proud to accept their medals in front of 10,000 spectators at the Continental Arena at the Meadowlands.

Matt Anderson (119), was a returning state champion. He won at 103 pounds last year and this year again reached the finals. He was faced with a difficult challenge

of beating Joe Dubuque of Glen Ridge, who was the 112 pound champion last year and nationally ranked this year at 119 pounds. Anderson 35-1 had a plan to keep him on the mat, where he felt he had a chance to score the needed points to upset the number one seed. Dubuque with a game plan of his own, would not let Anderson wrestle his match and scored four takedowns to control the match and secure an 11-5 victory for his second consecutive state title. Anderson, who had a 71 match win streak going in, will be back next year and will look to win his second state title.

Also placing for the Tigers was Rich Gebauer, 112. Gebauer, the hardest worker in the off season, had a great run in this tournament. Losing in the quarterfinals to Zach Cunliffe of Howell, he then wrestled back to reach the wrestling back finals, only to face Cunliffe again and lose a 8-3 decision for fourth place.

Scott Doerr (140), who had a good tournament finished in 7th/8th as did John Foscolo (189).

Congratulations to the place winners and to all the Tiger wrestlers and coaches for a great year of wrestling.

Opening day for South Plainfield Soccer Club

The South Plainfield Soccer Club opens its season this Sunday, March 18 with six home games and six away games. Riley field in South Plainfield will host three of the six games starting at 11:30 a.m.

The first game scheduled at Riley and making his debut as Head Coach is Greg Arndt and his U-19 girls the Sting. Followed by Comets our U-11 girl's team coached by Jen Baldassarre. Coach Wally Bolivar's U-12 boys United will play at 3:30 as they attempt to defend their flight championship.

South Plainfield High School will host the other three home games starting at 11:30 am with Coach Pete Kelly coaching both Galaxy U-14 boys and Lightning U-13 boys. The late game at the High School will be the U-12 girl's team coached by Tom Hardy. The six away games consist of Carlos Gonzalez's U-10 boys Blast vs. Centennial Patriots, Paul Baldassarre and his U-9 boys Fire will battle in Colonia, Tsunami's U-10 boys coached by Mike Izzi will play in Westfield and Coach Pio Pennisi and his U-11 Typhoons who will also try and attempt to defend their flight championship as they battle New Providence. Newly formed U-16 boys coached by Len Olim travels to Branchburg and back for the spring season. Pete Arancio's U-19 boy's Hurricanes go head to head with

West Windsor.

We expect this season to be an exciting one and encourage all to come out and support our teams. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all that helped make last season a success and look forward to an even better season this year.

GO SOUTH PLAINFIELD! Visit our web site at www.soplfdsoccerclub.com.

Submitted by Tom Hardy

Little Miss Baseball Finalists Announced

The finalists for Little Miss Baseball 2001 are Corey Black, Elizabeth Gratta and Kelly McCormick. Voting boxes with pictures are located at Ciccio's, Quick Check and B & C Deli. Voting is cast by the "penny-a-vote" system. The boxes will be collected and counted on March 30. The winner will be announced at Opening Day ceremonies at the baseball complex and receive a \$25 mall certificate from the Women's Auxiliary.

So, come on out and cast your vote for Little Miss Baseball 2001. If you have any questions, please call Stacy Lake at 757-9531.

RECREATION WRESTLING

24 Tiger Wrestlers Prepare For Kids State Tournament

By Bob Hunter

Twenty-four South Plainfield Middle School and Recreation wrestlers have prepared for this weekend's Kids State Wrestling Championship's. To qualify for this tournament, each wrestler must place first through third at eight different regional qualifiers. South Plainfield is looking to match the success of the high school and is well represented.

Qualifying in the Bantam Division at Randolph were Mike Wagner (75) took first place.

In the Intermediate Division, qualifiers were Rob Maistickle (160), first place, Kyle Bostick (126), second place, Peter DeAndrea (119), second place and Paul Ritchey (112), third place.

At the Toms River qualifying in the Junior Division was Kevin

Crilley Hwt, first place.

At the Union Qualifier in the Bantam Division, Corey Hay (65), won second place, John Wylam (70) got third place.

Midget Division qualifiers were Danny Pompilio (95), second place, Rocco Petriello Hwt, second place.

In the Junior Division, Robert Gentile (60), won first place, Billy Ashnault (70), won first place, Jimmy Conroy (75) won first place, Bryan Hunt (80), got third place, Nick Dorey (85), got third place, Mark Wagner (90), got second place, Sam Martin (95), took second place, Brad Martin (100), took third place.

At the North Burlington qualifier, placing in the Midget Division were Nick Heilmann (60), took second place and Patrick Hunter (65), won first place.

Qualifying at North Hunterdon in the Bantam Division were Ryan Sacco (60), first place and Kyle Hughes (65), first place.

In the Midget Division, Nick Vallone (80), won third place.

In the High School Intermediate Division, Guy Severini (140), won second place.

It's nice to see that South Plainfield now has 24 kids among the top 24 wrestlers in their respective weight classes in the state. Good luck to all and go for the Gold.



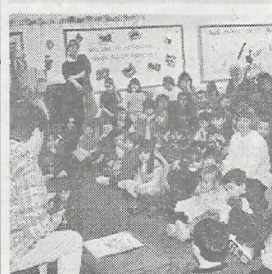
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a lot
going on...



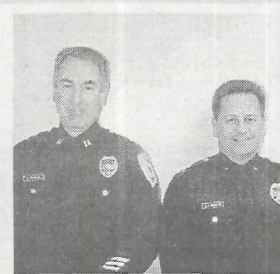
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✓ Please send me home delivery of the Observer.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

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

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 My Opinion

Continued from page 2

in a house valued at \$115,000. He makes it sound like the taxes are only going to be raised \$88 per household. The increase is 8.7 cents per \$100 of assessed value of each home. The new homes being built on the South Side have taxes of \$7-8,000 each, per year! Their tax increase will be more than \$88 per year.

Also, I have asked a total of 11 times what happens to the surplus money at the end of the year, but, was never answered. I was told a few weeks ago that the classes were over crowded. The Board of Education caused that before the last election.

A few weeks ago, printed in the Newark Star Ledger, was an article by the Superintendent of Schools. When asked about the teachers who want to be paid the difference between the amount they were hired at and the amount of money settled by the last contract.

He said they have 1.9 million dollars on hand right now in the Board of Education and he was afraid that the money would be used to pay the back pay the teachers want or the tax hike will be another 3.3%. Why can't some of that 1.9 million dollars be used to fix up some of the schools or build the famed running track that is wanted, or better yet, the Board of Education has been saying for two years that the Middle School, the former High School, needs heat and now air conditioning. Why is this amount of money being kept and not used? Why drain the tax payers more?

So, think when you vote, your taxes will be much higher than \$88 for building a school that is not needed and also might be paying more for back pay.

I also have contacted the State Commissioner of Education in New Jersey. I think it is about time this entire affair gets reviewed and evaluated. Your taxes are not going to be just \$88 more! Wake up! Unless you live in a home worth \$115,000.

Why does the Board of Educa-

tion need more administrative space than Chrysler Corporation?
TONY PISANIELLO

To The Person Or Persons Who Stole The "Caution-Deaf Cat" Sign From My Lawn On The Night Of March 12 On Pershing Place:

How could you do something so cruel and insensitive? I made that sign and placed it there for a reason. She is elderly; and yes, she is deaf. She isn't even my cat. I did it because I care and because I have seen too many people speeding down this street.

She has had some pretty "close calls" with some of these speeders, who don't even bother to slow down. They just assume the cat will get out of the way. Here's a clue people—NOT ALL IS AS IT APPEARS TO BE! If she doesn't see you, she can't get out of the way.

Some of these speeders live on this street (you know who you are) and should know better. Others, I refer to as "cut through"—they are the ones using our street as a shortcut to speed along to wherever they're going. There are also children on this street. How long until one of these MANIACS hits one of them? Perhaps if there was police presence on this street, some of these speeders would either slow down or find another short cut! The police have my permission to place the "Speed Warning Sign" on my lawn if it would help!

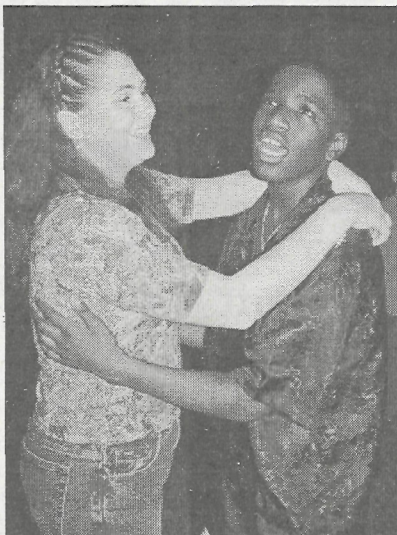
I had a cat killed by a car myself, so I know what that feels like. I performed an "act of kindness" for this cat, and the stolen sign was my reward for caring.

This was a COWARDLY, MEAN, HURTFUL thing to do! How would YOU feel if you had a pet that was killed because some THIEF stole a sign that was placed there to help?

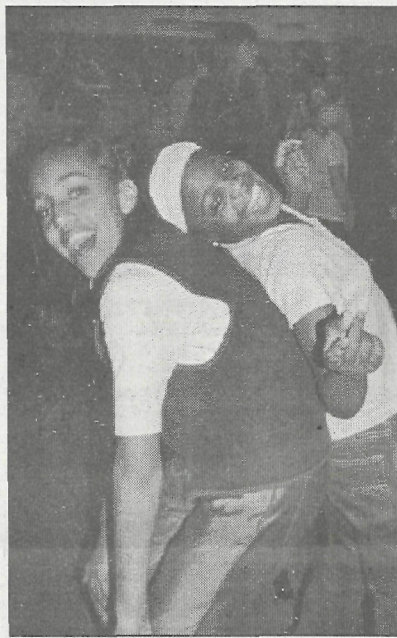
I'm pretty sure you don't have a pet. No pet guardian would EVER stoop so low as to steal a sign like that. I would hate to think of someone like you being a caretaker of a pet. I can only imagine

PATRICIA A. SPATZ

Grant Sixth Graders Hold Dance



The Sixth graders held a dance last Friday night, which was attended by over 220 students. The theme was "It's Spring Let's Dance," and dance they did, with the help of DJ Dennis from Holiday Entertainment. The kids had a great time and can't wait for their next dance.



police report

- On Monday a Plainfield women had three gold rings stolen from her room at Days Inn on New World Way. She had given her key to the housemaid while she put her belongings in her car. When she returned to her room the door was ajar and the rings on the table were missing.

- A Plainfield women was arrested at the A&P for shoplifting \$53 worth of Tylenol and Visine.

- At Kohls on March 7, a women was observed attempting to con-

ceal \$56 worth of items in a bag under her shopping basket. When confronted she dropped the items and ran from the store. Police are reviewing the video tape.

- Officers responded to the Ramada Inn on a call of a person with a gun. The two suspects had left by the time police arrived but were stopped on Hamilton Blvd. for questions. No gun was found.

- A Willow Ave. resident reported that someone used her credit card and withdrew money

from an ATM machine. The women hadn't used the card in several weeks therefore didn't know it was missing.

- On Friday there was an attempted robbery at Tumi, 1101 Durham Ave. An unidentified man was found in the President's office with a toiletry sample in his hand. When confronted he threw the sample down and retreated. The suspect fled into his car and took off.

- Nick Lemmo, the owner of Crystal Clean Car Wash on New Market Ave. reported that \$1,700 in cash had been taken from a desk drawer overnight. The alarm had been activated but there were no signs of forced entry.

- On Saturday \$682 worth of DVD's and a Playstation game were stolen from Hollywood Video on Oak Tree Ave.

- A Bennigan's employee was assaulted by another employee. The two had a verbal dispute during work and one was terminated. The former employee then returned several hours later and punched the other employee in the nose.

- An employee of White Rose in Woodbridge was attempting to make a delivery to Bravo Foods on W. 7th St. when another deliveryman complained that the driveway was being blocked and he could not drop off his goods. An argument ensued as the White Rose employee was moving his truck. When he got out the other driver pushed and punched him.

Obituaries

Natalie Stasiuk, 83

Natalie Stasiuk died on Monday, Mar. 5, in St. Joseph's Hospital in Paterson.

Born in Poland, Mrs. Stasiuk came to the United States in 1948. She resided in Baptistown, Bayonne and Lambertville before moving to Piscataway in 1959.

She and her late husband Gregory were the owners of the Boro Market in Piscataway for 15 years. Most recently, they were the owners of the Kingwood Freeze Restaurant in Baptistown for 12 years, before retiring in 1990. Her husband, Gregory, died on March 5, 1993.

She was a member of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church in New Brunswick.

Surviving are her daughters, Lynda Little, and her husband Dennis of South Plainfield; Susan Fariello and her husband, Paul, of Piscataway, and Irene Asack of Somerset; one sister, Stephanie Wowk of Poland and three brothers, Walter Bilyk and Marion Bilyk, both of Bayonne, and Geneck Bilyk of Ukraine.

Also surviving are her two granddaughters, Kelly and Erin Little.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Beauty

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

Hillside Cemetery
www.hillsidecemetery.com



McCriskin

HOME FOR FUNERALS

(908) 561-8000

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.



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- Pre Arrangement Specialists

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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.

GARAGE/FLEA MARKET

The South Plainfield Rescue Squad

Will Hold a

Garage/Flea Market

April 6 from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

April 7 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

April 8 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This Indoor/Outdoor Event
Will Also Include a 50/50 Raffle

Come out and support this
all volunteer organization

HELP WANTED

PART-TIME RECEPTIONIST for local veterinarian hospital. Saturday mornings and some afternoon/evenings. Call (908) 756-1488.

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.

HOUSEFOR SALE

4 BEDROOM COLONIAL, 2-1/2 baths, inground pool, hot tub, finished basement, fireplace, 2-zone heat & air conditioning. Walk to Kennedy School. Principals only. Call 908-753-7509.

PHOTOS FOR SALE

**COLOR COPIES OF
OBSERVER PHOTOS**

for sale.

Call Pattie,

756-8011 or 668-0010.

CALL BY MONDAY, 5 P.M.

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD 908-668-0010.

HELP WANTED P/T

COUNTER PERSON NEEDED P/T for Saturdays at Nischwitz. Call 908-756-0947.

GARAGE SALE

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High School Holds Mid-Winter Concert

By Patricia Abbott

South Plainfield High School's mid winter music concert recently played to a full house of family and friends. The annual event opened with the orchestra conducted by Mr. Bruce Mikolon. They were followed by the jazz and concert bands and a performance by the select all male vocal group the Jades. The bands were conducted by Mr. Mark Tweed. The jazz band featured an incredible drum solo by Brian Publik that had the crowd cheering and applauding. The Jazz band also featured: Melissa Jamieson, Danny Lammi, Greg Oganowski, Adam Toth, Danny Sierzega, Will Humber and Steve Janiszak.

The second half of the evening brought the SPHS chorus to the stage to present a concert version of La Traviata by Giuseppe Verdi. Adam Toth was accompanist. Nine excerpts were chosen for the mid-winter concert. Adam Toth opened the show with a piano solo. Featured soloists were: Jenevieve DeLosSantos, and Josef Rodriguez, Jamie Morris, Matthew Pulomena, Kristin Turner, Leo Campos, Malika Aaron, Christopher Baron and Allison Provair. The chorus and the Jades were conducted by Mr. Tracy Murray.

Principal Anthony had this to say about the concert. "Last evening's concert lived up to every single one of my expectations. It was great to see our kids perform and perform with such a high level of proficiency. I was also heartened to see so many parents and members of the community present to show their support for our students. Participating in and attending such events is a pause and a reminder as to what schools are all about, and what is so very right about South Plainfield High School students!"

DiFrancesco Designates "DeMolay Week" in NJ

New Jersey Senate President and Acting Governor Donald R. DiFrancesco has officially designated the month of March as "DeMolay Month" and specified March 18 to March 24 as "New Jersey DeMolay Week" to commemorate the 82nd anniversary of DeMolay, an international youth organization that encourages leadership, charity and civic services.

The Proclamation, signed by the Acting Governor and Secretary of State DeForest B. Soaries, Jr., calls upon the citizens of New Jersey to salute the young men of the Order of Molay, "whose fine examples contribute to the welfare of our community by addressing themselves to the building of good character, (and) aid in the development of leadership for tomorrow," by observing March as DeMolay Month in New Jersey.

Founded in 1919, headquartered in Kansas City, Missouri, and with Chapters throughout the United States, Canada, and nine other countries worldwide, DeMolay provides young men ages 12 to 21 a safe and positive environment that encourages leadership, personal growth, self-confidence, education, teamwork, and service to the community. Last year, NJ DeMolay Chapters held charitable and community events throughout the State, including organizing a charity baseball game with the DJs from the popular Metro radio stations 77 WABC and 95.5 WPLJ-FM. At that event, former WWF wrestling legend Jimmy "Superfly" Smuka pitched for the Clifton Chapter DeMolay team and raised over \$2000 for the Clifton Adult Opportunity Center in Clifton.

Famous Senior DeMolays include John Wayne, Senator Bill Bradley, astronauts Frank Borman and Neil Armstrong, Walt Disney, Mel Blanc, Olympic great Bob Mathias, Walter Cronkite, Willard Scott, The Smothers Brothers, Dallas Green, Dan Rather, David Goodnow and Fran Tarkenton, among its many notable government, sports, entertainment, business and industry leaders.

The DeMolay Leaders of New Jersey are organizing a variety of activities throughout the month to celebrate the occasion and invite the public to learn more about the group by participating in its events. Chapters are located throughout the State from Bergen to Cape May County and hold meetings twice a month.

For more information about DeMolay and the location of the nearest DeMolay Chapter, call toll-free (877) DEMOLAY (1-877-336-6529).

Welcome Spring with
your first Rita's Ice of
the Season.
It's FREE all day
Tuesday, March 20th.
Life is Sweet!



Architect Joe DeAndrea answers questions about the new senior center.

Senior Center Plans Unveiled

Continued from page 1

and Veterans Park, which is directly behind the facility. Parking will be available for up to 97 cars.

The building includes several dedicated rooms such as, arts and crafts, exercise/meeting, billiards, cards, conference/medical, kitchen and an auditorium with a stage. The entrance will also have a canopy cover that can be utilized during inclement weather.

Seniors attending Thursday nights meeting were more than pleased with the plans and just wanted to know when the construction will begin.

Seniors have been promised a new center for many years. "I hope someday you too will be able to use this building," one senior told the Mayor.

SP Teens Hunger To Change the World

On March 23-24, Pilgrim Covenant Church Youth will be going without food for 30 hours as part of World Vision's 10th Annual '30 Hour Famine'. World Vision is the largest, privately funded non-profit Christian relief and development organization in the world, serving nearly 85 million people in 88 countries. The 30 hour famine was designed to get youth involved in raising awareness and money to fight hunger overseas and in the United States.

Participants in the 'famine' ask family, friends and neighbors to sponsor them with pledges as they go without food for 30 hours to identify with the many children and adults throughout the world who don't have enough to eat. The youth (and participating adults) will go without food from Friday,

Mar. 23 at noon until Saturday, Mar. 24 at 6 p.m., consuming only liquids during the 30 hours. Games, videos and service projects in and around Pilgrim Covenant Church will teach youth and adults more about world hunger.

The funds raised during World Vision's "30 Hour Famine" will be used for both emergency relief efforts and long-term development projects in countries such as Tanzania, Peru and the United States, to help break the cycle of poverty.

If you would like to sponsor a teen to fast for 30 hours, if you are interested in participating in the famine or if you simply want more information, contact Pastor Cathy Stanley-Erickson at Pilgrim Covenant Church at (908) 756-2474.

Sixth Graders Invited to Attend "Sixth Graders Leading the Way" Workshop

All sixth graders are invited to observe a special day on March 28, in Middlesex County Schools housing sixth graders, "Middlesex County Day of Respect - Sixth Graders Leading the Way".

On Mar. 28, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Nicole Benak and Nicholas Pasquale, both students at Grant Central Sixth, will be attending this day at the AT&T in

Piscataway, to attend workshops based on respect for one another.

The program will include a performance by "Shades" a group from Rutgers University, on the theme of respect for each other. Students will participate in small group projects. AT&T is hosting this special event by providing a beautiful corporate setting and lunch for the children.

GARAGE/FLEA MARKET

The South Plainfield Rescue Squad

Will Hold a

Garage/Flea Market

April 6 from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

April 7 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

April 8 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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all volunteer organization