

South Plainfield Observer

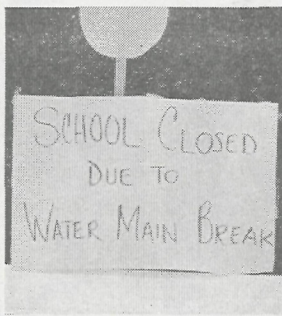
VOL. 4, NO. 35

50 CENTS

MAY 4, 2001



Residents who lost their water on Tuesday were able to obtain water at the Rescue Squad building. Pictured right is the sign on the door of Franklin School explaining their closing.



Water Emergency, Brings Quick Response by Officials

Residents on the southside of town who use Elizabethtown Water woke up Tuesday morning and found out they had no water.

By the time residents discovered the problem, Mike Zushma, Mike Grennier and Mario Abbruzzese, of Emergency Management had already been up since 3 a.m., dealing with the water problem. Zushma managed to get two water tanks. One was placed in front of the Rescue Squad and one at Cedar Oaks Care Center. The schools were notified of the water emergency

and both Roosevelt and Franklin schools were closed for the day.

Residents came to the Rescue Squad all morning to fill their containers with water.

During the day, water started to return to the affected homes and by evening everyone had water again, although they had to boil their water for a short time.

The water emergency was caused when a 60-inch main ruptured at the Raritan-Millstone Water Treatment Plant in Bridgewater.

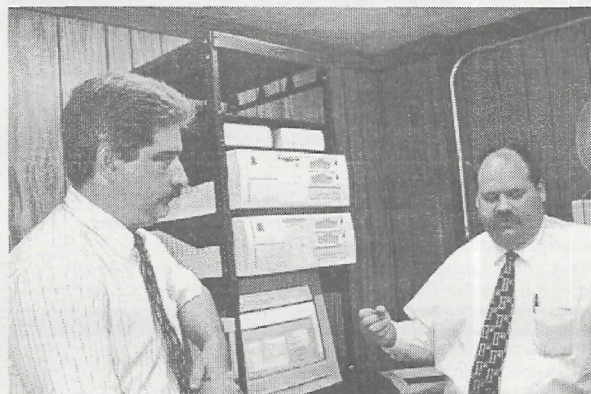
Police Unveil State-of-the-Art Forensic Computer Laboratory

The South Plainfield Police Department held an open house on Tuesday to show off their new state-of-the-art computer Forensic Laboratory. Attending were Mayor Dan Gallagher, Councilman Dennis Cerami, Councilwoman Darlene Pinto, Court Administrator Pat Vargo and several members of the South Plainfield Police Department.

Police Chief Bob Merkler explained that South Plainfield has had to investigate three computer crimes in the past year, involving adults soliciting children in the Borough through internet chat rooms. This new equipment will help investigate computer crime in several areas. Theft of identity, child pornography and credit card theft are just a few of these areas.

Lt. Michael Grennier and Det. James Foran have already finished taking a course, paid for by the White Collar Crime Div. of the Department of Justice. The new \$30,000 laboratory has been completely funded by forfeiture money the South Plainfield PD received last year, thus costing the taxpayers nothing.

The new computers and software



Det. James Foran, (left) and Lt. Michael Grennier demonstrate the new computer equipment used in the South Plainfield Police Department's Forensic Laboratory.

are setup to extract evidence on a suspects computer. This software is only available to law enforcement agencies. It has the capabilities of finding hidden or deleted files; even files which are purposely disguised with incorrect extensions to confuse investigators.

One computer, named FRED (Forensic Recovery of Evidence Device)

is equipped with every kind of drive a computer may have, zip, hard drive, CD Rom, etc. The new software also allows investigators to find specific photos or documents and can even detect computer passwords. FRED is also mobile. It can be taken to the site of an investigation and used on computers to obtain evidence.

According to Mayor Dan Gallagher, South Plainfield may be the first town to have their own forensic laboratory. Up until now, police had to send out their computer related evidence to either the FBI or Middlesex County in order to retrieve stored information.

Board of Education Members Sworn in; Frank Mikorski Elected President; Dan Smith Vice President



Marjorie Reedy receives a plaque from Frank Mikorski on behalf of the Board in recognition of service to the students of South Plainfield.

Last Wednesday, the Board of Education held their annual reorganization meeting. Three newly-elected members, Steven Bohn, Dawn Jefferys and Pio Pennisi took the oath from board attorney Dr. Nicholas Celso, III.

Frank Mikorski was elected president for a second year in a row by a vote of 7-1-1. By a vote of 5-4, Dan Smith was elected vice president. Dawn Jefferys, who was vice president last year, was also nominated.

This was also the first official meeting for our Superintendent of Schools Dr. John Krewer and he was officially welcomed by the board members.

Marjorie Reedy, who served on the board for nine years, was presented with a plaque for her dedication to the students of South Plainfield. While on

the board, she served as president as well as many other committees.

Prisco & Edwards were appointed project architects, subject to attorney review. This vote came after a long discussion on whether to table the appointment until after the attorney review was finalized. Board Administrator Ellen Johnson and several board members felt that any delay would also mean a delay in construction and renovations that were approved by the bond referendum.

Another long discussion ensued over the appointment of Dr. Nicholas Celso, III and his law firm as school board attorney. Board Member Sue Peck said she thought last year's legal fees totaling over \$125,000 were too high. Ken LaFreniere explained they had interviewed other firms and Dr. Celso's firm not only had the most experience, they also only represent school boards. New Member Pio Pennisi noted that Dr. Celso was attorney when he served in previous years and felt his firm did an excellent job.

2001 Hall of Fame Candidates Selected

The 2001 Hall of Fame Candidates were announced this week. They are Patricia Abbott, Philip J. Aiello, Sr., Dr. Thomas G. Klukoski, Pio Pennisi, John Patrick Santoro and the late Alfred H. Ranger.

Patricia Abbott, has been the *Observer's* writer and photographer for more than three years. Pattie is also a 25-year member of the Summer Drama Workshop, and a combined eight years with the Franklin and Roosevelt Drama Clubs, teaching and directing productions with students.

Continued on page 5



The 2001 School Board. Standing (l to r) are Pio Pennisi, Dawn Jefferys, Jeffrey Seider, Sue Peck and Tom Delaney; sitting (l to r) are: Steve Bohn, Frank Mikorski, Dan Smith and Ken LaFreniere.

Yard Waste Decals Available

The new Yard Waste Site/Compactor decals are available in the Municipal Clerk's office in Borough Hall on Plainfield Ave., from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. In addition, the Clerk's office will be open on Saturday, May 12, from 8 a.m. to 12 noon to distribute the decals.

Residents should bring their driver's license and the registration for the vehicle they intend to use to bring their yard trimmings.

The Yard Waste Site, at the end of Kenneth Avenue, is open to residents for brush, grass clippings and leaves on Tuesdays from 12 noon to 7 p.m. and on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For updates, call the Recycling Hotline at (908) 226-7620 or contact the Recycling Coordinator at: atempel@southplainfieldnj.com.

mark your calendars

Log on to
southplainfieldnj.com
for the latest
meeting agenda

council meetings

Meets twice a month on the first and third Thursday.

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

AGENDA MEETING PUBLIC MEETING

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 (NJSA 10:4-6 et seq) in the Council Chambers at 2480 Plainfield Avenue.

planning board

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month

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

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

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.

siteplace sub-committee

The fourth Thursday of the month as follows:

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

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

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

board of education meetings

Grant School Gymnasium on Cromwell Place unless otherwise noted

Committee of the Whole, May 15, 7 p.m., Regular Board Mtg., May 22, 8 p.m.

Committee of the Whole, June 12, 7 p.m., Regular Board Mtg., June 19, 8 p.m.

July -- No Meetings

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

South Plainfield Observer

The South Plainfield Observer is published every Friday

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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 at (908) 668-8819 or e-mail us on our web page at spobserver.com or ggnan@aol.com or ngrennie@ix.netcom.com. Include your name, address, telephone number.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

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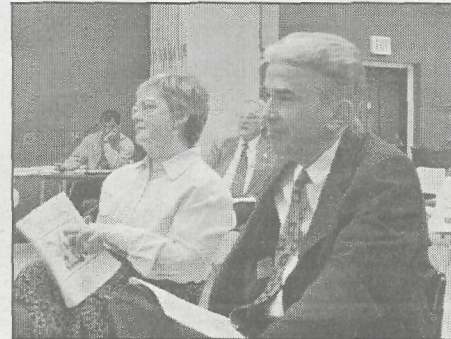
Annual Auction Fundraiser for Vision 2001



Photos by Patricia Abbott

Vision 2001 held their Sixth Annual Art Auction to a less than full, but enthusiastic crowd of about 60 people. Over 120 works of art, including a one of a kind oil and several signed photographs, were viewed by the eclectic crowd. Newcomers and art auction regulars listened while the auctioneer quickly provided the merits and value of each piece along with a running patter designed to keep the audience laughing.

The evening began with a brief introduction by Vision 2001 President Emile Leporino, who introduced the honorary Chairman former Police Chief Steve Merkler. Among those in attendance this year were new Superintendent of Schools Dr. Krewer.



In My Opinion

Letter to The Editor:

I am writing in response to Ms. Nova Jankoski's letter to the Editor of April 27, 2001. In it she states that she doesn't want her taxes raised because of the new "free" Senior Center. She goes on to say that if she had to choose between a new school and a new center, then her priority would lie with the future of the children of our community. Therefore it appears that in her view senior citizens are not as important to the community. I respectfully disagree. I believe that seniors should be afforded the same dignity and respect that all members of the community deserve.

It was the senior citizens of South Plainfield who helped to build this town into what it is today. They were the ones who contributed their tax dollars (and who, by the way, still contribute) for the educational needs of the community. They built and helped maintain many of the schools in use today. They also contributed to the funding for the recreational facilities enjoyed by the children of this town. Finally, it was through their volunteer work with various town agencies such as the fire department, rescue squad and sports programs, that allowed many of today's adults to grow and flourish in a safe and healthy environment. I believe that the town should give back a little to these people who continue to give of themselves and their resources.

Currently our town does not provide for the recreational, social and health needs of our seniors in a meaningful manner. There is not enough space available to provide for these needs, and as a result many seniors

have left our community to move to places that do provide for them. Some might think of this as a positive thing, but think of the consequences. Seniors who leave town sell their homes to people with young families. These families add to the already strained educational facilities that Ms. Jankoski writes about. As a result, more money is needed to provide for this growing population. Aside from this economic factor, the community loses a valuable resource in the form of people who have a lot of wisdom and knowledge that they would love to share.

The new Senior Center will provide the space needed to take care of the needs of all of the senior citizens of South Plainfield. Of course, as Ms. Jankoski points out, nothing is ever absolutely free. Everything worthwhile has a price, as those who are taxpayers know when they get their tax bill for "free" public education. But the price in this case is far smaller than it would have been if the Mayor and Council had not taken advantage of the opportunity given them. I applaud them for keeping their promise to an important segment of the community.

No one, including myself, likes to see their taxes raised. But I believe that a society is only as good as what it does to protect and provide for the most

vulnerable of its members—its children and its elders. Therefore I believe that we can and should do both. It can only strengthen and enrich our community.

**JOE ZEKAS, PAST PRESIDENT
S. PLFD. SENIOR CITIZEN'S CLUB**

To The Editor:

Every year when Mother's Day nears, I am reminded of a custom to honor our mothers, which has either been forgotten, or perhaps was never practiced in this area. In New York, where I grew up, everyone wore a carnation to honor their mother on her special day; pink if mom was living, white if she had died and red if she lived far away. Many people had parents in foreign countries. Usually one could buy a carnation outside of church after mass services. It was heartwarming to see men, women and children wearing a carnation to honor mom.

It occurs to me that to reinstate this custom, could also be a fund-raiser for church organizations! Just a single, short-stemmed carnation, plus a straight pin with which to fasten it, plus a little time and effort would show that we honor our mothers on Mother's Day!

IRMA TABISZ

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Milestones

Sosnak and Patetta Become Engaged



Jill Sosnak and Robert Patetta

Joann and Joseph Sosnak of South Plainfield have announced the engagement of their daughter, Jill Ann Sosnak, to Robert Patetta.

The future bride is a graduate of Boston University, with a bachelor of science and masters degree in elementary education. She is a fifth grade teacher at John F. Kennedy Elementary School in South Plainfield.

Her fiancée earned a bachelor of science degree in business and marketing from Kean University in Union and is an independent sales representative.

A July wedding is planned.

Rasmussen and Kennedy Engaged

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Rasmussen of South Plainfield have announced the engagement of their daughter, Kelly Ann Rasmussen of Hampton, Va., to Brion Thomas Kennedy of Hampton, Va., son of Ms. Terri Madera of Boynton Beach, Fla.

Miss Rasmussen is a 1996 graduate of South Plainfield High School and a graduate of UltraSound Diagnostic School for medical assisting. She is employed by Office Team in Newport News, Va.

Mr. Kennedy is a 1996 graduate of Brentwood High School in Long Island, NY. He attended Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken and

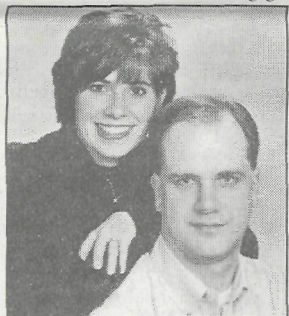


Brion Kennedy & Kelly Rasmussen

is currently serving in the U.S. Air Force. A June 29, 2001 wedding is planned.

Dick and Pullen Become Engaged

Paula and Brian Dick of South Plainfield have announced the engage-



Meredith Dick and Scott Pullen

ment of their daughter Meredith to Scott Pullen. He is the son of Connie and Lee Pullen of Smithville.

Miss Dick graduated from South Plainfield High School. She has a bachelor's degree in accounting from Montclair University and is also certified as teacher of the handicapped from Kean University. She is now teaching in Riley School in South Plainfield.

Her fiancée graduated from Florence High School and Rutgers University with a degree in accounting. He is a licensed CPA and works at Johnson and Johnson.

They will be married July 2001 at the Berkeley Plaza.

Borough Notes

Council Notes

• A-Tech Landscaping has been awarded the contract to purchase and plant trees for the Oak Tree Reforestry Program. Funds were made available through the Middlesex Co. Urban Forestry Grant and the Harris Steel Tree Trust Fund.

• Yolanda Toca has been hired as Docker Clerk in the Municipal Court, starting on April 23.

• Alaimo Group was awarded a contract for professional services to provide wetlands survey services for various parcels within the borough at a cost not to exceed \$5,000.

• The police department is purchasing a 2001 Ford Expedition from Winner Ford at a price of \$33,549. Drug forfeiture money received last year will be used for the purchase.

• Assistant Engineer James Analas has announced his retirement effective Feb. 1, 2002.

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ANNOUNCES THAT.....
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NOT JUST ILLUSIONS HAS
JOINED OUR STAFF,
CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT

Fourth Annual Police Bicycle Rodeo Coming

On Saturday, May 19, the Borough of South Plainfield Police Department will be hosting a bicycle rodeo. This event will be held in Spring Lake Park from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Featured will be an obstacle course presented and conducted by volunteer employees of State Farm Insurance. Proper riding techniques and rules of the road will be emphasized during this phase of the program and an On Bike Skills Development course will be conducted. Helmet wearing cyclists will negotiate a moderately challenging course of cones to improve their riding abilities.

For cyclists 14 years of age and younger, who do not have bicycle helmets, a limited supply of helmets, donated by the South Plainfield Traffic Safety Advisory Commission, will be provided to them. Participants wearing their own helmet to the rodeo and registering their bicycle with the South Plainfield Police Department, will be entered into a drawing to win a new bicycle or a locking device for their bicycle. Ron Sward, the director of the Physical Therapy Center in Woodbridge and a member of the South Plainfield Rescue Squad, has donated a bicycle for this event.

Safety oriented literature supplied by AAA and the South Plainfield branch of the N.J. Division of Motor Vehicles, will be provided to all participants. Bike N Gear from Middlesex will be on location to conduct safety inspections on all bicycles as well.

Halls Fast Motor Freight and Warehouse, Haagen Dazs Ice Cream, Pepsi, McCrisky's Home For Funerals, Rita's Italian Ice and Freihofer's Baking Co. have all donated refreshments.

In conjunction with our bicycle safety program, a unique bicycle registration/theft prevention program will be available to the public. The "Baron Von Pedaloff" program, designed by Officer William Frink of the Special Problems Unit, is specifically designed to reduce bicycle thefts. By encouraging bicycle owners to register their bicycle and taking anti-theft precautions, we can reduce the amount of bicycle thefts that occur in South Plainfield. "Baron Von Pedaloff" literature will be provided in an effort to remind all those in attendance, not to give anyone the opportunity to "pedal off" with their bicycle.

Don't forget, May 19, bring your bicycle, your helmet and be ready for a fun filled day. Any questions? Contact (908) 226-7678.

SDW "Bye Bye Birdie" Auditions

Auditions for the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop production of *Bye Bye Birdie* will be held on June 4, 5 and 6 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the South Plainfield Middle School Chorus Room. All South Plainfield residents entering seventh grade and completing 12th grade are eligible. Audition details will be upcoming.

\$65,00 Still Available for Facade Program

Councilwoman Darlene Pinto would like to remind businesses in South Plainfield that there is still almost \$65,000 in funding available for the facade program.

This money is in the form of a matching grant, not a loan, so it is well worth looking into.

Businesses that would like more information should contact Councilwoman Pinto at 561-1517.



Melissa and Lynette Morales have graduated from U.S. Marine Boot Camp.

Morales Twins Graduate from Marine Boot Camp

Lynette and Melissa Morales have just completed basic training in the Marine Corp. Both girls were home last week for a short visit and rest before they set out for their next assignment, which is a 17-day combat training course at Camp Lejeune, SC.

These identical twins joined the Marines together in January and trained together in boot camp.

Melissa, who is in the Marine Reserves, will be assigned as an administrative clerk in Red Bank.

Lynette, who signed up for four years in the Marine Corps, has no idea of where she will be going after school.

The girls admitted that boot camp was no fun and they are glad it's over. They both seem to be happy with choice of careers.

Terra Nova News

The Terra Nova Garden Club will provide Garden Therapy at 1 p.m. on May 16 at the Muhlenberg Adultcare Facility in Plainfield.

The May monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the North Edison Library, 777 Grove Ave. in Edison. New members are always welcome. Guest speaker for the evening will be President Gail Sulinski, whose presentation is entitled "Dried Weeds and Pressed Flowers." Instruction will include the selection of plant material for drying and/or pressing as well as methods of preservation, and ultimate uses of this material in design work.

The Terra Nova Garden Club will be off during the summer months enjoying the gardens we have planted. Monthly meetings will resume Wednesday, Sept. 26.

Special Reminder: The Terra Nova Garden Club is celebrating their 50th

Anniversary with a luncheon on Thursday, Nov. 15. For ticket information, contact Kay McCormack at (732) 548-1976.

Cragwood Rd. Burglaries Reported

The South Plainfield Police Department is investigating several burglaries which occurred at 50 and 51 Cragwood Road during the past weekend, April 27-30.

Several offices were forcibly entered at both locations by prying the office doors. Once inside, suspects removed a total of five laptop computers and a briefcase. No information on the make and model of the laptops is available at this time and total value of the loss is unknown. The victims are taking steps to prevent a recurrence.

Det. Gary Muccigrossi is the investigating officer.

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Around Town

Friends of the Library Book Sale

May 5

On May 5, the Friends of the South Plainfield Public Library will sponsor its annual Book Sale. It will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in front of the library. Book donations are being accepted at the library. We are asking that textbooks, encyclopedias, Reader's Digest Condensed Books or books damaged by mold or mildew not be donated. Anyone willing to bake for the sale is asked to sign up at the circulation desk.

VFW To Hold Country Breakfast

May 6

Pup Tent 41 Military Order of the Cootie, VFW Post 6763, 155 Front Street, will hold a Country Breakfast on Sunday, May 6, from 8 to 11 a.m. The menu is varied, with a children's menu available. Donation is \$5; all proceeds go toward Ward parties at the Lyons VAMC. For more information, call (908) 668-9751 after 3 p.m. daily and after 12 noon on weekends.

Fund Raiser Pampered Chef Kitchen Show

May 7

On May 7, at 7:30 p.m. the Future Star Preschool Parents Group is Hosting a Pampered Chef Cooking With Kids Kitchen Show at Grant School on Cromwell Place South Plainfield.

For additional information, please call Pampered Chef Consultant Marie Markey at 908-755-3213.

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.

Music Boosters to Hold Car Wash

May 12

Have mom's car washed for Mother's Day and bring dessert home to her.

The South Plainfield High School Music Booster Association will be holding a Car Wash/Bake Sale on

Saturday, May 12 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the South Plainfield Middle School. The cost for having your car washed is \$5 per car/\$8 per van or truck.

Cakes and other baked goods will also be available for purchase.

Funds from this event will be used for scholarships and the various music and band programs offered at the high school.

Anyone willing to bake for the sale or seeking additional information, call Maribeth Quinn, (908) 754-1518 or Diane Boyle, (908) 753-7859.

GFWC Flea Market is Looking for Vendors

May 12

The GFWC Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield will sponsor a flea market on May 12 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, Oak Tree Road. The club is seeking vendors.

Vendors are needed to make the market a success. Cost is \$10 for one space and vendors must supply their own tables. It will be possible to set up prior to the 9 a.m. opening for the public. Raindate will be the following Saturday, May 19.

Money raising activities contribute to scholarships, donations and other charitable works supported by the club throughout the year.

If interested, or for further information, call Grace at 908-753-5753.

Elks Lodge to Hold Mother's Day Breakfast

May 13

The South Plainfield Elks Lodge #2298 will be hosting their annual Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, May 13 at the Elks Lodge located on New Market Ave. The breakfast runs from 8 a.m. until noon.

All moms will receive a free Mother's Day carnation. Cost is \$6 for adults, \$2.50 for children 5-12 and children under five are free. For additional information, call (908) 668-9750.

Columbiettes Plan Trip to Bingo World in Baltimore

June 2

The South Plainfield Columbiettes are sponsoring a bus trip to Bingo World in Baltimore on Saturday, June 2.

The bus will leave the Knights of

Columbus Hall on Hamilton Blvd. at 7:30 a.m. and return after the last game of the afternoon session.

Cost is \$55, which includes driver gratuity and admission pack for the main session. We will arrive in time to purchase discount early bird packs.

For information and reservations, call Mary Ann at (908) 226-1222.

This trip is open to Bingo lovers.

Trip to The Lion King

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.

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.

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: spdeon@aol.com or racobb@epix.neto.

Elks to Hold Outdoor Chinese Auction

June 9

The South Plainfield Elks Club will be holding an outdoor Chinese Auction on Saturday, June 9. Doors open at 1 p.m., auction starts at 3 p.m.

There will be plenty of food and refreshments available, including hot dogs and hamburgers cooked on the grill. Rain date is June 10.

Prizes include Diamond Club Mets, Yankee and Somerset Patriots tickets and many gift certificates. Admission is \$5. For ticket information call Lisa at (908) 668-9750.

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 sec-

ond bus is being hired. The trip is Sept. 10-14, 2001.

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

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.

9th Annual "Shotman" Basketball Camp

July 30 - August 3

The 9th Annual "Shotman" Basketball Camp will be run from July 30 through August 3, at the South Plainfield High School.

For information, call Mike "Shotman" Lanza at (908) 754-2692.

AARP Has Tickets for Radio City Christmas Show

November 20

The AARP have announced they have a few tickets still available to the Christmas Show at Radio City Music Hall on Nov. 20.

The cost includes transportation from South Plainfield, lunch at an excellent restaurant and tickets in the mezzanine or orchestra. A deposit is required at time of sign-up.

Call Mary at (732) 752-3764.

—Out of Town—

Theology Course

May 10, 17, 24, 31;
June 7, 14, 21, 28

Searching for answers? Learn about philosophy and theology for ten weeks, starting April 26. This is a free event to be held at the Long Hill Chapel, 525 Shunpike Rd., Chatham. A buffet dinner and dessert will be served each night at 7 p.m., followed by a presentation and group discussion.

For more information, call (973) 377-2255, please reference course name of alpha.

Rotary Club Sponsors "Taste of Piscataway"

May 7

The Piscataway Rotary Club invites everyone to participate in their

First Annual "Taste of Piscataway" Fundraiser, to be held Monday, May 7, from 6-10 p.m., at the Embassy Suites in Piscataway.

Tourettes Syndrome Support Group Meeting

May 10

The next meeting of the Tourette Syndrome Association Family Support Group of Middlesex/Union County will be held on Thursday, May 10, from 7:30-9:30 p.m., in the Neuroscience Institute of JFK Medical Center, 65 James St., Edison.

The topic "Using Multiple Intelligence to Help Children Learn" will be discussed. The speaker will be Suzanne Mouldovan of SPAN (Statewide Parent Advocacy Network, Inc.)

For more information, call Marilyn at (908) 757-5074, or Debbie after 6 p.m. at (732) 283-1439, or visit www.tsanj.org.

Carteret WOWs Social

May 11

The Middlesex East WOWs Carteret Chapter will hold a dance for widows and widowers on Friday, May 11, from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m., at St. Demetrius Community Center, 681-691 Roosevelt Ave., Carteret. Admission is \$7 for members and \$8 for guests. Live music and refreshments will be provided.

For more information, call (732) 969-1123 or (908) 757-0515.

KISMET After-Work Social

May 11, 18

KISMET, a community organization for singles, will hold a "Single Professionals' After Work Social" on Friday, May 11, from 6:30 to 10 p.m., at The Inn, 161 Mount Bethel Rd., Warren. \$10 at the door includes refreshments.

For more information, contact (908) 232-8827 or www.thatskismet.com.

Brainy Boro Antiques Show

May 12

The Metuchen Area Chamber of Commerce will be holding a Brainy Boro Antiques Show, on Saturday, May 10, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Presbyterian Church Social Center, Woodbridge Ave., Metuchen. Donations are \$3, and verbal appraisals are \$5 each, with a limit of 3 items. Food and beverage will be available, and the show features a variety of quality antiques. For more information, contact the Metuchen Area Chamber of Commerce at (732) 548-2964.

How You Can Be a Part of the South Plainfield Observer.

ENCOURAGE YOUR ORGANIZATION TO SEND US THEIR UPCOMING EVENTS. We want to add them to AROUND TOWN. It can make your event more successful. Send them to us by mail, fax or e-mail.

SEND US INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR MILESTONES, i.e., promotions, births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, graduations. Include photos. Share your good news with the community!

IF THERE IS SOMEONE YOU KNOW WHO MAKES A DIFFERENCE in South Plainfield? Thank them by letting us know.

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SUGGEST A BUSINESS FOR US TO SPOTLIGHT. If you have had great service in South Plainfield share it with your neighbors through the newspaper.

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

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

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

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Rev. John Paul
Alvarado, Pastor

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Evening Mass 5:00 p.m.

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

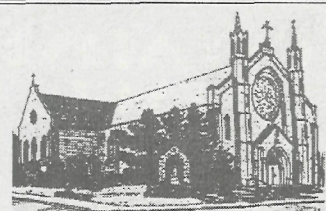
Weekdays 9:00 a.m. (church)

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

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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



Friends of the Woods...

Bird Watching Adventure Is Slated for May 13

By Dorothy Miele

The Friends of the Woods and the South Plainfield Environmental Commission are co-sponsoring a birdwatching excursion on Sunday, May 13 beginning at 7:30 a.m. A caravan will travel to four local birding "hot spots" in South Plainfield on this "World Series of Birding" weekend.

For thousands of years these same migratory bird species have arrived in the area from southern winter ranges about the second weekend in May. Many will spend a week or so feeding and resting before continuing onward to northern breeding grounds. Others stay here and breed, raise their young and return to winter home in the fall.

The Spring, however, is the best time to view the birds, for they are a technicolor treat for the eyes! The brilliant scarlet of the Scarlet Tanager, the glistening orange of the Baltimore Oriole, or the intense blue of the Indigo Bunting are breathtaking. In the late summer the birds will have moulted their colorful feathers and appear quite drab when they pass through again on their way south. Now is the time to see them in their finest display of color.

We will begin at the Maple Ave. parking lot in Spring Lake Park, where we'll look for Killdeer, Egret, Cormorants and Oriole (among other species). From here we'll travel the short distance to Veterans Park (across from White Star Diner and in back of the proposed Senior Citizens Center) to walk the nature trail along the

Cedar Brook and Bound Brook. This area produces Spotted Sandpiper, Kingfisher, Black-Crowned Night Heron and Swainson Thrush.

Next stop is along Metuchen Road/Dismal Swamp area. Before the apartments were built along Rt. 287, this area was the breeding ground for Scarlet Tanagers. Wood Thrush and Brown Thrasher are still seen, as are Blue Herons and Towhees.

The last stop will be Highland Avenue Woods Environmental Education Reserve (Sylvania Place off So. Clinton Ave.) for the warblers — Yellow, Black and White, Myrtle and who knows what else. One year Yellow-billed Cuckoos arrived in time to dine on their favorite food — tent caterpillars.

You don't have to be an expert birder to enjoy this event. Bring the kids, bring or borrow some binoculars; we have the field guides to help with bird ID's. Of course we can't guarantee what will be seen — much has to do with the weather and just plain luck. However, it's a great opportunity to experience America's number one hobby — birdwatching.

No fee or registration is required. Scout groups are encouraged — this will satisfy some badge requirements. For more information, call Dr. Alice Temple at (908) 226-7621 or Dorothy Miele at (908) 754-3073.

Hope to see you May 13.

Dorothy Miele is President of the Friends of the Woods and an Associate Member of the South Plainfield Environmental Commission.

Kennedy School's Math-A-Thon Helps St. Jude's

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital announced the successful completion of Math-A-Thon at John F. Kennedy Elementary School. Math-A-Thon, now in its 22nd year, is an educationally based fundraising program in which students obtain sponsors for the number of math problems completed in special workbooks provided for students in grades K-9. The third graders were chosen this year to represent the school. The program is sponsored nationally by Six Flags Theme Parks, who provide free passes to their parks for every student raising \$35 or more.

The students who participate in the program learn to do more than just math problems; they also learn the importance of helping children who are less fortunate than themselves. Through the Math-A-Thon, they are able to help provide a future for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Children with more than 200 forms of cancer and other catastrophic diseases find hope at St. Jude. Since its

founding in 1962 by the late entertainer, Danny Thomas, the survival rate for most forms of pediatric cancer have risen dramatically. In fact, today more than 70 percent of all children with cancer will survive their bout with the disease. St. Jude fully credits these successes in treatment to the generous support of people around the world, including the students at John F. Kennedy Elementary School.

"We are very proud of our students for working so hard on the Math-A-Thon," said Mrs. Teresa Luck, volunteer coordinator. "With their help, St. Jude Hospital will be able to create new treatments that may one day lead to a cure for many forms of cancer that will benefit the children of our state, our country, and around the world. I also want to extend our thanks to the So. Plainfield community for supporting our students. It takes all of us to make a difference in the lives of children with cancer, and we can all feel proud of our response."

VFW Celebrates Their 55th Anniversary



Retired Police Officer Bob Bender was honored for being chosen 'Policeman of the Year', not only locally but by the State of New Jersey.



VFW Post Commander Rudy Poczak and Auxiliary President Joan Jepson cut the anniversary cake at their very successful 55th anniversary celebration.

Members of the VFW, including many neighboring VFW Posts were on hand to celebrate the 55th anniversary.

The evening began with a cocktail hour, followed by a dinner buffet and dancing. The VFW also presented three special awards which were a surprise to the recipients.

Bob Bender was recognized as the 'VFW Policeman of the Year.' He not only received this award from the lo-

cal VFW but also the county and the state chapters.

McCriskin Home For Funerals was awarded a plaque for the many ways they honor Veterans, such as the tree they light in front of their funeral home in honor of the 101st Airborne. They also hosted the balloon release last year to raise money for the new WWII memorial.

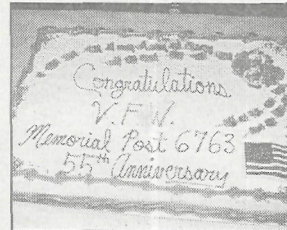
Nancy Grennier, publisher of the *Observer* also received a plaque for her



William McCriskin from McCriskin Home For Funerals was recognized for honoring Veterans, especially the tree lighting in Dec. in memory of the 101st Airborne.



Nancy Grennier of the South Plainfield Observer was honored for the many articles she publishes on our local Veterans.



extensive coverage of South Plainfield Veteran events around town.

2001 Hall of Fame Candidates Selected

Continued from page 1

Pattie graduated SPHS in 1976 and lives in South Plainfield with her son Christopher.

Philip J. Aiello, Sr., was a postal employee for 32 years and while working there received numerous awards. Phil is a 27-year member of the South Plainfield Jr. Baseball Club, as coach, serving on committees and administrative positions. He was appointed a Life Member in 1992 and the baseball club is named after him. Phil, a 1963 SPHS graduate lives in South Plainfield. He is married and has two sons.

Dr. Thomas G. Klukowski has served as a ring physician for Golden Gloves Boxing fundraisers. Dr. Klukowski was co-captain of the football, basketball and baseball teams while at So. Plainfield High and was the most valuable player on each team as a senior. He graduated SPHS in 1985. His medical offices are located in South Plainfield and Cranford. Dr. Klukowski lives in Piscataway.

Pio Pennisi is presently the Dunellen Middle School principal. He was just elected to the Board of Education. He previously served on the BOE in 1990-1992 and 1994-1996, serving as president in 1995 and vice president in 1996. He is a member of the Junior Baseball Club and the Traveling Soccer Club. Pio lives in South Plainfield with his wife, Lynn and children, Kelly, 17 and Christopher, 11.

Alfred H. Ranger is a native of South Plainfield, who attend North Plainfield High School; because at that time we had no high school. In 1952 he taught biology at South Plainfield High School, beginning his 37-year career in the district. Al was the SPHS wrestling coach for 23 years, amassing 20-years of winning seasons. Al died in 1997, leaving behind his wife Andrea, three children

and three grandchildren, who are all students in the South Plainfield School District.

John Patrick Santoro is Executive Director, Leadership Communications at Pfizer Inc. John graduated from Sacred Heart School in 1967 and SPHS in 1971. He earned his Eagle Scout Award in 1971 while in Troop 24. His volunteer work includes the United Way of Morris County, Boy Scouts of America, Christian Children's Fund and St. Joseph's of Yorkville. John lives in Morristown with his wife Pam and son Michael.


The "Hall of Fame" was established at South Plainfield High school to honor graduates for achievements in business, government, academia, community service and the humanities. Acknowledging these successful

graduates recognizes them as leaders in their field and also provides current high school students with positive role models from their own community.

The six new inductees will be honored on Wednesday, June 6 with a luncheon at the Holiday Inn in South Plainfield. An induction ceremony will take place at 7 p.m., in SPHS's auditorium, preceding the annual academic awards.

Discounted Tickets Available at PAL

2001 discounted amusement park tickets are available at the PAL for Sesame Place, Hershey Park, Great Adventure-ThemePark, Great Adventure-WaterPark and Dorney Park. Purchase tickets at the PAL Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.





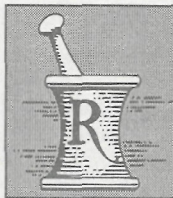
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Seven South Plainfield Teachers Honored

Seven South Plainfield educators have been named as Governor's Teacher Recognition Program 2001 Award Recipients. They are Diane Boyle, Maria Campagna, Camille Deutsch, Jean R. Madden, Marilyn Winston, Doris Younken and Ann T. Zajkowski. These teachers will be honored at a reception and awards ceremony for Middlesex County recipients on May 16 on the Cornucopia Princess-Spirit of Perth Amboy.

Diane Boyle is a 32-year veteran teacher who has taught first through fourth grades at John F. Kennedy School. She received her undergraduate and graduate degrees in elementary education from William Paterson University. At Kennedy, Diane has served as Student Council Advisor from 1990-1998. She is a member of SPSHS Music Boosters and has served as the organization's Corresponding Secretary. Diane enjoys chaperoning the SPSHS Marching Band during football games, competitions, and indoor guard competitions. As a local resident, she served as an officer of the South Plainfield Welfare Board for many years, and was an Executive Board member on Sacred Heart's Home School Association. She is also a member of SPEA and NJEA. Her spare time is spent at the shore with her family and pets.

Maria Campagna has taught in South Plainfield for thirteen years, but has been in education full-time for sixteen. Most of that time has been spent in her current position of first grade teacher at John E. Riley School. She taught kindergarten at Sacred Heart School and pre-school for "Saturday Scene." Maria received her undergraduate degree in Home Economics from Brooklyn College, Brooklyn. Her graduate degree in Early Childhood Education was earned at Rutgers University, Graduate School of Education. She is a member of KDP (Kappa Delta Pi-International Honor Society in Education), AAUW (American Association

of University Women), ASCD (Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development), NEA, NJEA, and SPEA. Maria is also a member of the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment. At Riley School she has been a provisional teacher, mentor and a cooperating teacher for student teachers. She has been awarded "Outstanding Cooperating Teacher" from Kean University. Maria's interests include travelling and reading.

Camille Deutsch is currently teaching at the newly formed Grant Central Six Elementary School. She has taught in South Plainfield for twelve years, starting with several long term substitute positions, before becoming a permanent sixth grade teacher at South Plainfield Middle School. Camille began her teaching career in the New York City school system, first as a third and fifth grade teacher, and then as a remedial reading teacher for grades six through eight. She has been an educator for more than 20 years. She received a BS in Elementary Education from St. John's University in Jamaica, NY. Her MS degree in Remedial Reading/Elementary Education is from Queens College in Flushing. Camille is a member of NEA, NJEA, NJRA (N.J. Reading Association). This year in Grant she is serving as a mentor for a provisional teacher. In her spare time she enjoys reading, word puzzles, Scrabble and New York Mets baseball.

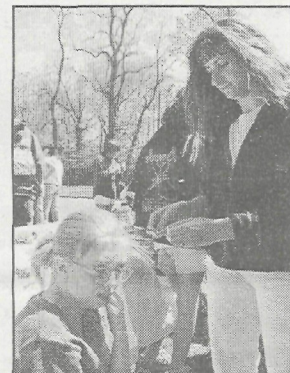
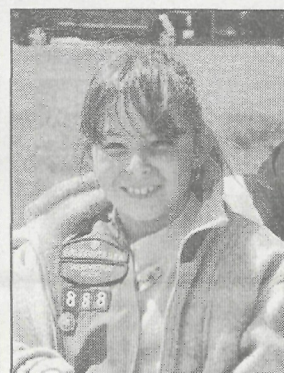
Jean R. Madden will be completing 30 years in education, 27 of them as a teacher in South Plainfield, following three years in Plainfield. She is currently teaching second grade at Roosevelt School, but has also taught kindergarten, extended kindergarten, first grade and middle school. She received her BS degree in Education at Jersey City State Teachers College (now New Jersey City University) and is a member of NEA, NJEA, and SPEA. At Roosevelt School she has served as PTA teacher representative. Jean had been previously honored as

a Governor's Teacher Recognition Award Recipient in 1989.

Marilyn Winston has taught for 37 years, 33 of them as an educator in South Plainfield. Currently she is a first grade teacher at Franklin School, but has also taught in Massapequa, NY. Her undergraduate degree in Political Science is from Hunter College, followed by a graduate degree in Elementary Education from Queens College. She is a member of SPEA, MCEA, NJEA, NEA and the Alzheimers Association. At school she has been the Student Council and Project Read advisors. Her outside interests include a variety of crafts, such as dollhousing, needlepoint, crocheting and scrapbooking. But Marilyn's proudest accomplishment is as "World's Best Mom!"

Doris Younken is currently the seventh and eighth grade music teacher at South Plainfield Middle School and one of the sixth grade music teachers at Grant Central Sixth. She has been a music educator for 33 years. Prior to coming to South Plainfield, she taught in Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Texas. For the past 30 years, she has served South Plainfield's students as both an instrumental and vocal music teacher in grades K-6 at Riley, Kennedy and Roosevelt, as well as the Middle School and Grant. She also teaches at the New Jersey Workshop for the Arts. Doris received a BS degree in Music Education from Lebanon Valley College, Annville Pennsylvania. She has done graduate work at Hartt School of Music (University of Hartford), Central Connecticut State University, Montclair University and Roanoke University. Her professional affiliations include NEA, MENC (Music Educators National Conference), VoiceCare Network, and Middlesex County Teen Arts Festival Steering Committee. Doris is a "Nationally Registered Music Educator." She is the district's Music Team Leader and Gems director and has been a chaperone for the Stokes and eighth grade Washington trips. Outside-of-school activities include, playing French horn in the Westfield Community Band and singing in the choir at First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen. In her spare time, Doris enjoys swimming, needlework and sewing.

Ann T. Zajkowski has been a business educator for 44 years, 41 of them at South Plainfield High School. She has also served as the district's Supervisor of Adult Education. She received her undergraduate degree in Business Education/English from Misericordia College and her graduate degree in Supervision/Administration in Business K-12 from Rider University. Her professional affiliations include Delta Phi Epsilon, New Jersey Business/Technology Association, South Plainfield Education Association, Middlesex County Education Association and National Educational Association. She has been advisor to the classes of 1965, 1973, 1977, 1990, and 1994. Ann previously received the Governor's Teacher Recognition Program award in 1994 and is being honored again this year.



Girl Scouts Family/Fun Fair Enjoys Large Crowds

By Patricia Abbott

South Plainfield's Girl Scouts had perfect weather for their annual Family Fair and Flea Market. The event,

the front lawn was packed with games and crafts, all manned by the Girl Scout Troops from South Plainfield. The food court had a wide variety of selections from breakfast and lunch items to a table full of baked goods.

The main booth sold tickets for the entire event, as well as recruiting new scouts. A variety of booths kept young visitors busy with games of skill and chance, such as bowling, spin art, fishing, treasure hunts, roulette wheel and candy sand and sand bottles. Craft tables included making your own buttons and key chains. The older scouts offered the ever popular wet sponge toss. Youngster delighted in landing a soaked sponge on the face of a tolerant teenager.

Families toted multiple prizes and purchases around the grounds, or relaxed on the lawns and curbside with lunch or treats. Youthful hands pulled mom or dad to "just one more game." At days end, the scouts and their leaders cleaned up the remnants of yet another successful Girl Scout fundraiser.



held at the Middle School, offered a flea market in the parking lot, with merchandise ranging from used treasures to new merchandise, crafts, Beanie Babies, Tupperware and more. The side lawn of the Middle School became a corral for pony rides, while

High School Junior Prom To be Held Friday Night

By Patricia Abbott

On Friday, May 4 the SPSHS gym will be transformed into a Hollywood premiere for the Junior Class Ball, the theme is "A Night In Hollywood." The prom theme was chosen via a survey of class members. The Junior Officers and the prom committee met almost daily to plan this spectacular event.

Junior Class President Billie Jean Sarullo said, "It's going to be a night to remember."

The catered event will have a DJ

providing dance music and a photographer, for those oh-so-important prom photos. Billie Jean hinted at numerous unique things that will make the prom special. She added, "The officers, advisors and I are perfectionists. We won't settle for anything less than fabulous. This prom is going to be amazing."

The event takes place this Friday night, May 4. Family and friends are welcome to come at 6:30 p.m. to take pictures and watch the "movie stars" walk down the red carpet as they make their grand entrance.

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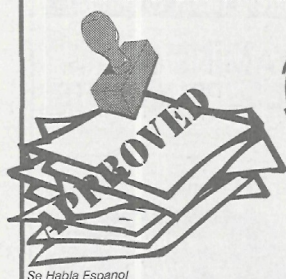
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Franklin School Plans Orientation

Franklin School will hold an orientation session for children and their parents on Thurs., May 17 and Thurs. May 24 from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m.

Parents may register for one of the two dates during Kindergarten Registration on May 10 in the lobby at Franklin School. The program is open to students entering Franklin School Kindergarten in September, 2001.

If you have any questions, call Suzanne Butrico at (908) 561-8128.

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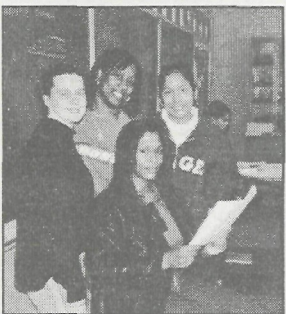
MC Blue Visits YMCA Kids Place

In cooperation with the Middlesex County Improvement Authority, MC Blue-the Robot, visited the kids at YMCA Kid's Place located on Park Ave. MC Blue is a talking robot that is used to promote recycling in

Middlesex County. Kids are encouraged to find and identify things that can be recycled.

MC-Blue sang and danced his way into the hearts of the both the kids and teachers at YMCA Kids Place.

Black History Month Celebrated at Middle School



Testing, academic matters and snow postponed the Middle School's Black History Month activities once (and almost a second time), but they finally took place. The Black History Month activities in the Middle School consisted of some of the many activities used in the past, but new ones set the stage for the celebration, appreciation and an awareness of different cultures to move to a higher level in the Middle School. As usual, there was the trivia contest. Winners were Alicia Silas, Michael Glover and Michael Phillips. Assisting the students in the contest were teachers, parents, Barbara Shrank, Middle School librarian, and her assistant Thia Kirshoffer.

New activities included a mother, father, grandmother, or family friend visiting many homerooms and reading the story *Two is a Crowd* by Kristen Hunter. The teachers read the story in the classrooms who didn't have a reader. It was organized and coordinated by Mrs. Alpha Langlais, the aunt of a past student. She is a member of the New Jersey Storytellers' Association and currently the official storyteller for the public schools of Piscataway and assistant principal of the Middle school, Phyllis Savage. The readers were Reverend Alice Bishop, Dr. Willa Coffield, Dr. Barbara Gadegebeku, Mrs. Mamie Weaver (95-years-old), Mrs. Ann Garry, Mrs.

Pepper, Mrs. Petties, Mrs. Malone (a parent and past student), Mrs. Walden, Mrs. Gray, Mr. Jones Marquis, Mrs. Silas, Mrs. Williams (Michael), Mrs. Frazier, Mrs. Benson, Mrs. McDonald, Mrs. Cole (parent and past student), Mrs. Bradley, Mrs. Boles, and Mr. Wiseman. Jonathan Wiseman and Nicholas Fierro assisted Mrs. Weaver in the wheelchair.

There was also a door decorating contest to honor past and present famous African Americans. The students were highly motivated and supported by their teachers and did a superb job creating innovative, inspiring and educational door coverings. Mrs. Schwebel and Mrs. Smith added a lot of excitement to the competition by creating good natured competition between their homerooms. The homeroom winners were: first place-Mrs. McHenry; second place-Mrs. Schwebel and Mrs. Smith; third place-Mrs. Cocco; fourth place-Mrs. Roberts and fifth place-Mrs. Dixon. The winning homerooms received a juice and donut breakfast, Black History Negro Baseball League hats and Black History Month pencils for the students who worked the hardest on the doors. On the day the breakfast was given, there was a treat in store for everyone. Parents Mrs. Boles, Mr. Tim Beverly of One Stop Barber Shop, Mrs. Marie Smith of Maree's Hair Kleez, and Mr. Pittman of Jam Auto Transport donated enough money for all of the homerooms who participated to have donuts and to pay for the prizes.

The Middle School students and staff are grateful for the educational experience, support and the donuts, juice, tea and coffee, (we at the Middle School love to eat!) and look forward to the reading program continuing and growing to include other cultural content. In fact, the Irish Readings are scheduled to take place next.

Submitted by Phyllis Savage

Le Centre Dance Ensemble To Perform at New Jersey Performing Arts Center

Le Centre Dance Ensemble, the resident dance company of Jo-Ann's Dance Studio located on South Clinton Ave., has been invited, along with two other youthful and dynamic dance companies, to perform at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) in Newark. The performances will run from Wednesday, May 9 through Saturday, May 12 and is called *Dance Jam*. This program is sponsored by the Arts Education Department of NJPAC under the direction of Philip Thomas, Vice President, Arts Education, and Sanaz Hojrah, Associate Director of Performance.

The company will be performing in various pieces of choreography, under the Artistic Direction of Tara Faulkner-Catalina. *Dance Jam* will culminate in a finale choreographed



especially for the performances at NJPAC and featuring all of the participating dance companies.

Six out of the seven performances will be showcased to various schools as a tool for promoting arts educa-

tion. The final performance on Saturday, May 12, at 2 p.m., will showcase all three companies in a "Family Time" presentation.

Le Centre Dance Ensemble was founded in 1986. The company performs in shows, sponsors workshops and participates in master classes with guest artists. Recently they hosted and performed in a benefit concert that raised over \$3,000 for COSAC (Center for Outreach Services for the Autism Community); and through their efforts, raised autism awareness in the community. Tara Faulkner-Catalina is Jo-Ann's daughter and the director of both the dance company and the studio. Tara grew up in the dance business, training at her mother's studio and then studying with the Princeton Ballet School and in New York at the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance. Tara has won many awards over the past several years for her innovative and creative choreography. She is also a special ambassador for the NJ Center for Outreach and Services for the Autism Community.

Jo-Ann Faulkner, founder, owner and director of The Performing Arts Centre, started her very successful dance studio over 20 years ago with the goal of providing quality dance instruction programs for all students.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Well, the temperature is warm, the sun is shining, the flowers are in bloom and your allergies are really acting up. Let's take your mind off all that stuff with news from the South Plainfield Library.

If you're looking for bargains, don't forget about the Friends of the Library annual Book and Bake Sale tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. A variety of items will be available, including hardcover and paperback books, videos, audiocassettes and baked goods. The sale will be held outside the Library or, in case of inclement weather, inside Borough Hall. Stop by and take advantage of the low, low prices.

Turning to other Friends of the Library news, they'll be holding their next meeting on Monday, May 7 at 1 p.m. Both members and non-members are welcome to attend.

Next week, we'll be following our usual schedule for children's Storytime programs. They're 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 is for children ages three and over. No pre-registration is required. If you'd like more details, please check with Children's Librarian Linda Hansen.

The next meeting of the Library Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday evening at 7:30. The meeting will include a public comment time near the beginning of the session. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend what promises to be an informative meeting.

The latest group from the Video Circuit is now available. Titles in this group include *The 13th Warrior*, *Sum Falling on Cedars*, *Malcolm X*, *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*, *Disney's Melody Time* and, on DVD, *Star Trek: Insurrection*. Videos and DVDs may be borrowed, four at a time, for two days. This group will be available until May 26.

Here's a reminder about our Internet permission forms. In the interest of information availability and convenience, we have not installed blocking software in our Internet terminals. However, we do require that patrons read and sign a form showing that they understand our Internet usage policy. Once the form is signed, the patron is cleared for Internet access. (In the case of a minor, the form must be signed, in the presence of a Library staff member, by the child's parent or legal guardian.) Clearance may be revoked, though, if the patron is found to have intentionally

damaged our equipment or has repeatedly violated our policy for Net usage. We hope this clears things up; if you have a question, feel free to ask.

Finally, with the weather warming up, we'd better remind you about the sometimes-bad results of leaving A/V items in your car. On warm, sunny days, the inside of your car can get pretty hot pretty quick. This can easily damage A/V items, usually by causing them to warp or even melt. Therefore, we do not recommend that you leave said items inside your car for any length of time. If you have no choice, we recommend that you put them in the trunk, where they'll at least be out of the sun.

That'll just about do it for this week. Catch you next Friday. Meanwhile, enjoy the weather and stock up on tissues.

South Plainfield Kindergarten Registration

Registration of children for the September 2001 Kindergarten class will take place in the individual elementary schools of the South Plainfield Board of Education during the week of May 7-10, between the hours of 8:45 a.m. and 3 p.m. Please call 754-4620 Ext. 291 (Barbara) for an appointment. To be enrolled in Kindergarten this September, children must have been born on or before October 1, 1996. There are no exceptions to this regulation. Parents/guardians of prospective kindergartners are required to submit the following documents when registering their children.

1. APPLICATION FOR ENROLLMENT - completed and SIGNED by the parent or legal guardian.
2. NOTE: Official CUSTODY documents will be required if child does not reside with both parents.
3. CHILD'S ORIGINAL BIRTH CERTIFICATE WITH RAISED SEAL.
4. CHILD'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER.
5. IMMUNIZATION RECORDS
6. MEDICAL RECORD FORM (Kindergarten/new USA residents only) with required immunization records - dates, stamped and SIGNED by child's doctors.
7. PROOFS OF RESIDENCY:
 - a. Original deed or closing statement (or legal contract showing purchase of home) and
 - b. Any two utility bills (i.e., PSEG, cable, water, sewer, or tax bill from South Plainfield tax office); or
 - c. Original legal lease/rental agreement; and
 - d. Any two utility bills (i.e., PSEG, cable, water, sewer, or tax bill from South Plainfield tax office)
8. COMPLETED 4506 TAX FORM

In order to expedite the registration process, parents are encouraged to assemble, complete, and bring the above documents with them at the time of registration.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS MUST OBTAIN BLANK ENROLLMENT AND MEDICAL FORMS PRIOR TO KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION WEEK (MAY 7-10) IN THE ENROLLMENT CENTER OR ROOM 3, SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL, 2201 PLAINFIELD AVENUE, SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080 BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY.

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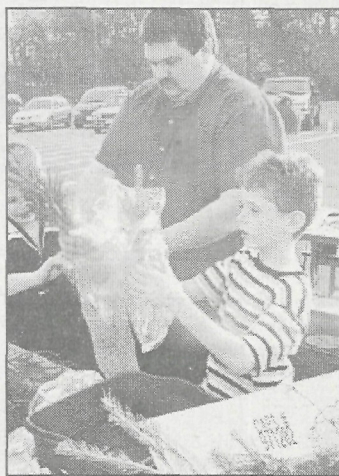
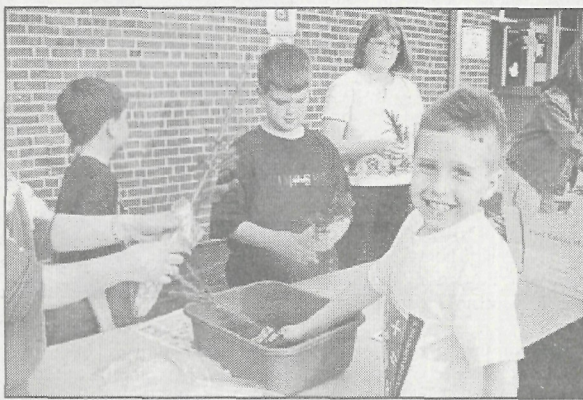
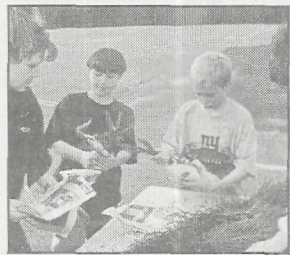
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South PlainfieldScouting

Franklin Scouts Celebrate Arbor Day

Cub Scouts from Franklin School spent an evening last week wrapping tree seedlings. They were distributed to all South Plainfield third grade students in honor of Arbor Day.



Troop 324 Attends Council Meeting

Scouts from Troop 324, at St. Stephen's Church attended last month's council meeting to earn their 'Citizen's in the Community' Badge. In addition to attending the meeting, council members will each be attending one of their scout meetings, explaining what his and other council members duties entail and what goes into being on the council. The mayor will also be paying the scouts a visit.

During the council meeting, the mayor stopped and took the time to explain each action the council was taking, including how they pass new ordinances, resolutions and pay the bills.

Attending the meeting were Michael George, Christopher Burke, Jeff Seesselberg, Matthew Zebrowski, Andrew Roibal, David Sangster, Charlie George, along with Assistant Scout Master Jim Lamberti.



Combined Troop Meeting Crafts Puppets To Entertain Pediatric Patients

Fourth grade Junior Girl Scout Troops 314 and 759 enjoyed getting together and carried out the Girl Scout Law of "helping others" by making finger puppets at a recent joint meeting.

Phillip Stein of Staten Island showed the girls how to create finger puppets from felt, pom-poms and other simple craft items.

Stein (a.k.a. "The Puppet Guy") is a member of the Salaam Shriners in

Livingston. He explained how he had recently retired and started making puppets because "it looked like fun, tried a few and found that they were easy to make."

He began giving the puppets to the children he met while visiting Shrine Hospitals. Since then he has made hundreds of them and is now teaching other groups how in hopes that they will help produce enough puppets to send at least one to each pa-

tient at the 26 Shrine Hospitals in the US and Canada.

He explained that the Hospitals, which are run by the Shriners, are noted for the treatment and care they provide free of charge to children with burn and orthopedic problems.

The first puppet the girls made was a bumble bee with a yellow felt body striped with black felt, a yellow pom-pom head, black felt wings, bead eyes, a small red felt mouth, and artificial flower stems for the antennae. Once the girls learned how simple it was to create the bee puppet, they combined their new skills with their vivid imaginations to create angels, clowns, and people puppets.

The only "cost" for the workshop was one puppet from each girl, which is being donated to the Philadelphia Shrine Children's Hospital. Many of the girls made several to be donated, thus spreading the Girl Scout spirit of giving and having fun — all at the same time - with no strings attached!

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Sports

By Tony Cassano



juniorbaseballclubnotes

SNACK STAND VOLUNTEERS NEEDED — We are still looking for two Snack Stand captains for Saturday and Sunday nights. In addition we need volunteers and captains for our annual July All-Star Tournament that we hold at the club. The Snack Stand is very important to the club and raises a lot of income for us. Our goal is to put out a consistent food product and serve our baseball community with an inexpensive but enjoyable food experience. Please see Tom or Sally Curtis for details or contact any Board Member for information.

ATTN ALL PARENTS - SPJBC COMPLEX SAFETY—As mention previously, our season is fully under way and games are being played every night and throughout the weekend. The SPJBC tries to offer a safe environment for our kids to play ball and enjoy themselves when they are there watching their friends. Its important that we don't overlook the responsibility we have as parents when leaving or bringing our kids to the complex. Bikes, skateboards, rollerblades etc., are not allowed around the third base dugout of Field 3 or in the Snack Stand area. In addition, let's not forget that games are being played while the fans/kids are left to hang out and socialize. Please remind your children about their behavior and what is expected of them when they are at the complex. This is your club and all kids and fans should feel safe when visiting. Please keep this in mind and should you see or hear of a problem that might jeopardize the safety of your child or the SPJBC complex, please feel free to see the 'Board Member on Duty' or contact me directly at the club.

WORK DETAIL - THIS SATURDAY at 7 a.m. and **SUNDAY** at 9 a.m. Our standard scheduled weekend work details start at 7 a.m. on Saturdays and 9 a.m. on Sundays. Where very close to finishing several pre-season projects and need volunteers to finish them. If you have an hour or two, please come by on either day.

SOMERSET PATRIOT TICKETS FOR JUNE 8TH ON SALE THROUGH MAY 11TH —Tickets are on sale for our annual trip to the Somerset Patriots. This years game, set for Friday June 8 is against the Newark Bears. Former Yankee great and Scron Hall Alumni - Rick Cerone is the owner. The team features Jose and Ozzie Canseco along with recently signed x-Yankee Jim Leyritz. Tickets are reasonably priced at \$8 a piece. Come share in a great time with your friends and family. Contact John Rayho at 908-754-8904 to purchase tickets or pick up a form at the SPJBC clubhouse.

CASINO NIGHT - MAY 19 - SOLD OUT - \$\$ DUE — This years annual 'Casino Night' has been sold out. Please insure your 'reserved' spot by paying the Women Auxiliary ASAP. Please contact Stacy Lake to make payment or see any Women Auxiliary member to finalize your seats.

UPCOMING EVENTS / IMPORTANT DATES at the SPJBC Clubhouse

May 7th - Raffle Distribution - ALL MANAGERS REQUIRED TO ATTEND MTG (8:30 p.m.) TO PICK UP RAFFLES

May 13th - SPJBC Complex closed - Mothers Day

May 19th - Casino Night - (SOLD OUT) All tickets have been sold. Price of \$45 per person-includes Open Bar, Buffet Dinner, Entertainment along with \$500 of play money - Contact Stacy Lake to make payment @ 757-9531

May 21st - Bi-Monthly General Membership Meeting (8:30pm @ the SPJBC Clubhouse)

May 26th - COACHes Care Foundation -Softball Marathon Tournament - The SPJBC has established a 'Coaches Offering Assistance for Children's Health' (COACHes Care) Foundation. On May 26th, the Coaches will be playing softball continuously for 12 hours, to help raise money for the Children's fund for the JFK Medical Center. In addition, there will be a Chinese auction and an authentic NASCAR Ward Burton #22 Caterpillar Simulator. For a cost of \$250 teams can play for 1-1/2 hours against the coaches on the Small Fry B field. There are a few spots available, interested teams can contact Tom McCreesh at 755-8468. Letters have been sent out to local businesses and we hope that the community will rally around this most worthy cause. Log on to our website <http://members.aol.com/spjbc/spjbc.html> for information

May 27th & 28th - SPJBC Complex Closed - Memorial Day

June 3rd - All Star Sunday

June 3rd - Raffle Drawing

June 8th - Tickets are on now on sale for our 'Annual Somerset Patriot' trip. Contact John Rayho at 754-8904 to purchase tickets.

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Sports



Ponytail Softball Batters Box

By Sharon Miller

College Scholarships-Filing Deadline is May 4—The Ponytail Parents' Association is sponsoring two \$500 college scholarships. Applications are currently being accepted and can be obtained from the South Plainfield High School guidance office. To qualify for the scholarships, the applicant must be a high schools senior graduating this June, a current resident of South Plainfield, and have played for a minimum of three years in the South Plainfield Recreation Department's Ponytail Softball League. The filing deadline is May 4, 2001. All completed applications should be returned to SPPPA, P.O. Box 441, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

All-Star Try Outs on May 6

Try-outs for the summer All-Star teams will be held on Sunday, May 6 at 1 p.m. at Pitt Street Park for the 12 & under and 14 & under teams. There has been a revision to the try-out date for the 10 and under team. Try-outs will now be held on May 5 at 4:30 p.m. One team per age group will be formed.

Age Requirements

C League Team - Girls must be 10 & under as of 12/31/00. Tryouts will take place on field B.

B League Team - Girls must be 12 & under as of 12/31/00. Tryouts will take place on field A.

A League Team - Girls must be 14 & under as of 12/31/00. Tryouts will take place on field C.

Recreation Tag Day—May 10, 11 and 12

Our annual tag day will take place on May 10, 11 and 12. We need the participation of all players in order to make this fundraiser a success. Coaches will advise team of the scheduled date and time.

All-Star Tag Day—June 9

All-Star tag day will take place on Saturday, June 9. It is a mandatory requirement that every All-Star player participate in two tag days. The tagging requirement can be fulfilled by participating in any two of the four tag days. If a player is unable to tag on June 9, they will be permitted to tag during any two of the three recreation tag days.

Pool Party on June 8

The Ponytail Parents' Association will be sponsoring an end of season pool party. This event is open to all Recreation Ponytail softball players. Please join us on June 8, at the South Plainfield Community pool. In the event of rain, the end of season party will be held indoors at the PAL Recreation Center.

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

South Plainfield High School Softball Tournament

S. Plainfield 4- Vernon 3

In the first game of the South Plainfield Tournament, the Lady Tigers were victorious over opposing Vernon. It was a tight game until Candace D'Aleo got a hit that brought in the first run for the Tigers. Danielle Schweers followed with a hit, scoring the second run. In the bottom of the sixth inning, Shannon Bishop's line drive double to left center field brought in two runs to secure the win.

South Plainfield 11-Union 1

In the second game of their tournament, the Lady Tigers yet again came up with a win. The offensive bars were hot and their defense proved to be superb, as they were able to hold the Union team to only one run.

Regular Season Play

S. Plainfield 3-J.F. Kennedy 2

In the pursuit to the GMC White

Division Title, the Lady Tigers defeated the J.F. Kennedy Mustangs, a division rival, for the second time this season. In the bottom of the first, down by two, Danielle Schweers stole home on a passed ball. Then Kelly Eustice ripped a line drive to left center, scoring Kimberly Bishop and Meaghan Schweers. Meaghan Schweers was the courtesy runner for pitcher Christine Strani, who reached first on a walk. Candace D'Aleo's line drive in the bottom of the fourth brought home Kimberly Bishop to seal the victory for the Lady Tigers.

S. Plainfield 2-Sayreville 0

Last Thursday, April 26, the Lady Tigers defeated Sayreville by a score of 2-0. Danielle Schweers was two for three and Christine Strani was one for three with a double in the first inning to knock in both runs.

Submitted by Debra Bishop

SOCCER

Blaze U-12 Girls Mellow Princeton Roar, 4-1

South Plfd Blaze vs. Princeton Roar, April 21

The South Plainfield U-12 girls traveling soccer team beat Princeton Roar 4-1 in an away game in Princeton. A solid defense, that has only allowed one goal in the last seven games in the fall and spring season of 2000-2001, clearly is the key to our success.

Leading the way is our keeper, Becky Keller, who in the first half preserved her shut out streak. Our talented fullbacks on the right side Megan Boyle and Ashleigh Gaspari and on the left side Tiffany Smith, again had an outstanding game. Elizabeth Flannery, Jenna DeLillo and Jackie Miller playing in the sweeper and stopper positions, all did a great job shutting down the middle. Jackie

Miller also giving us a gallant effort in as keeper for the second half.

Our midfield wings, Lauren Fry, Ashley Little, Joy Maszczak and Katelyn Conrad, did a fantastic job keeping the play wide. Center midfielder Jennifer Copeland and Dorian Bishop were excellent in the midfield controlling the tempo of the game while our left striker Denise Lopez played a smart game in helping to keep a key defensive player out of the game.

The first score of the game came in the 17th minute, when on a corner kick right attacker Kate Hardy scored her first "Olympic Goal. The second score in the 31st minute came on a breakaway when Kate Hardy nailed the back of the net. Three minutes later our talented center midfielder

Dorian Bishop scored on a beautiful shot from the eighteen. At halftime Princeton made adjustments and in the 45th minute scored ending our shut out streak. The final score of the game came in the 50th minute of play when center midfielder Jennifer Copeland sent off a nice crossing feed to Kate Hardy who scored a hat trick and put the game out of reach for Princeton.

Mid way through the spring 2001 season Blaze finds themselves undefeated with a record of 4-0 and tied for first place with Delaware Valley Scream which sets the stage for next week's showdown in Delaware Valley. Visit the South Plainfield Soccer Club web site at www.soplfdsoccerclub.com.

Submitted by Coach Hardy

Typhoons Turn Back Tornadoes

The Boys U11 Typhoons Soccer Club came from behind and captured their sixth straight win of the season by beating an aggressive and tough New Providence Tornadoes, 2-1.

South Plainfield played much of the first three-quarters of the game rather sluggishly while New Providence muscled their way to a 1-0 lead. And while it appeared the Typhoons didn't have an answer or were willing to hold their ground against the physical opponents, they managed to put enough pressure on the goal midway

through the second half when David Alston returned a deflected shot into the net to tie it up. This was just what the team needed to give them momentum and the energy to return the physical play that had been delivered to them all game long.

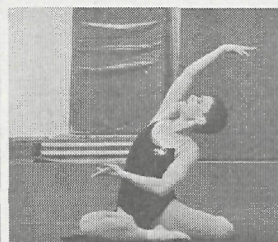
As the action continued, goalie Grey Coppi once again (as he did in the first half) stepped up big and held off two serious threats with some beautiful saves. Then with under five minutes remaining, Dan Pompilio sent the ball ahead perfectly to

Brendan O'Shea who proceeded to out run the defense and put the ball deep into the net for a final score of 2-1.

The boys displayed a lot of heart as they were clearly beaten through much of this game. But with their backs against the wall, they responded and are now in full control of first place with a perfect 6-0 record and four games remaining.

Their next game will be this Sunday at 11:30 a.m. on the High School field against West Orange.

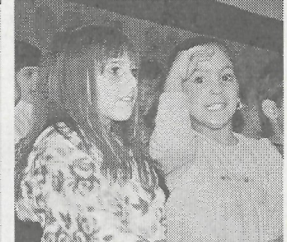
Submitted by Jeff Marcoux



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Obituaries

Charles E. Arnold, 77

Charles E. Arnold of South Plainfield died on Tuesday, April 24, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Mr. Arnold was born in Newark and resided in Irvington before moving to South Plainfield in 1950.

He had been employed for 42 years as a manager with the A&P Co. of Montvale. Throughout his career, Mr. Arnold had been with various A&P stores in the Middlesex and Union County areas, before his retirement in 1988.

Mr. Arnold was a member of the AFL-CIO Union Local 464 of Little Falls. He was also a member of St. Francis Episcopal church in Dunellen and had served in the U.S. Coast Guard during WW II.

Surviving are his wife, Barbara (Hall) Arnold; a daughter, Linda Lant of Middlesex; two sisters, Doris Brown of Allaire and Audrey Lame of Irvington. Also surviving are three grandsons, Sean, Courtney and Wesley Lant and two great granddaughters, Bayleigh and Cameron Lant.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

Memorial donations may be made to the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center Hospice Program.

George F. Long, 95

George F. Long of South Plainfield died on Tuesday, April 24, at the Greenbrook Manor Nursing Home in Green Brook.

He was born and raised in Plainfield

before moving to South Plainfield 45 years ago.

Mr. Long was a machinist for American Aluminum in Mountainside for 10 years before retiring in 1980.

He is survived by his son, Kenneth Long of Tampa, Fla.; two sisters, Sara Benikosky of Union and Margaret Rubas of Middlesex and seven nieces and two nephews.

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

Alexander C. Gorski, 89

Alexander C. Gorski died Wednesday, April 25, at Rahway Hospital.

Born in Newark, Mr. Gorski grew up in Newark and was a classmate of the 1927 graduating class of Westside High School in Newark, the first graduating class of that school. He later resided in Irvington and Maplewood, before settling in Westfield in 1985.

He was employed by Fidelity Union Trust Company (now known as First Union) in the Ironbound section of Newark for 48 years, before retiring 24 years ago. He began his career with them in Newark and later worked in East Orange before becoming the branch manager in the Ironbound section of Newark.

He was a 32nd Degree and Past Master of the Franklin-Century Lodge #10, of the Free & Accepted Masons of South Orange, now merged with the Atlas Pythagoras Lodge #10 in Westfield, serving as their treasurer. He was the past patron of Livingston Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, formerly known as Mizpah and a member of the Newark Ironbound Rotary Club for many years and had held the office of treasurer as well.

His wife, Margaret (Birdsall) Gorski of 61 years, died March 2, 1998.

Surviving are two daughters, Carol Ann Loftus of Westfield and Joan Corbo of Somerset and a sister, Eleanor Ryan of Scotch Plains. Also surviving are three grandchildren; Stephanie and Michele Corbo and Cindy Loftus and two great grandchildren, Forrest and Adain Elliot.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home for Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to the Masonic Home, 902 Jacksonville Rd., Burlington, NJ, 08016.

Ferdinando J. Mistretta, 74

Ferdinando J. Mistretta died on Saturday, April 28, at Robert Wood Johnson University Medical Center in New Brunswick.

Mr. Mistretta was born in Brooklyn, NY and grew up there. He later lived in Hicksville, NY for 11 years before moving to Matawan eight years ago.

He had worked as a district supervisor for NYNEX in Minneola, NY. He was with the company for 35 years, before retiring 14 years ago.

During WW II, he served with the U.S. Marine Corps and was stationed at Paris Island.

He was a long time NY Yankee fan. He was predeceased by his wife, Mary Ann Mistretta.

Surviving are a daughter, Lisa Mistretta of San Francisco, Calif.; a son, Joseph Mistretta of South Plainfield; a sister, Rose Arena of Hicksville, NY and three grandchildren, Harly and Tiffany Mistretta and Brendan Barrios.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home for Funerals.

Virginia (Van Denplas) Donnenwirth, 82

Virginia (Van Denplas) Donnenwirth of South Plainfield, died on Saturday, April 28, at her home.

She was born in Scranton, Pa. and was a former resident of New York before moving to South Plainfield 37 years ago.

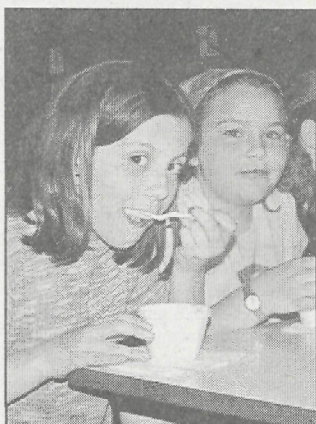
Mrs. Donnenwirth was a former member of the Pilgrim Covenant Church in South Plainfield and a member of Widow's to Widower's and the Senior Citizens Club, both of South Plainfield.

She is predeceased by her first husband, Donald C. Rogers, who died in 1977 and her second husband, Joseph Donnenwirth, who died in 1986.

She is survived by a son, Donald K. Sr. and his wife, Kathy Rogers of Virginia Beach, Va.; a daughter, Sharon Rogers of South Plainfield; three grandchildren and four great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

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

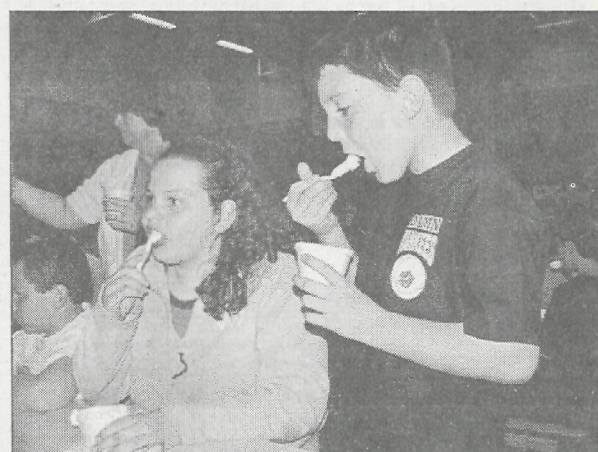
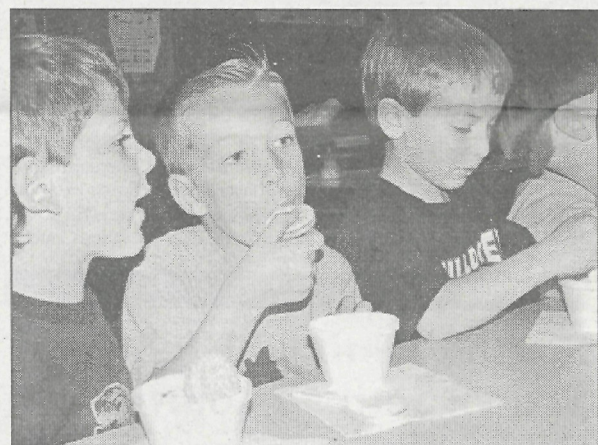
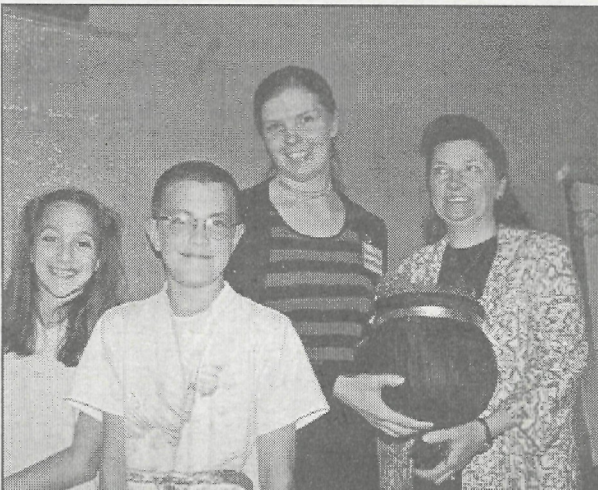
Riley School Read-a-Thon Kids Rewarded With Ice Cream Party



Riley School Students who participated in the Read-a-Thon were treated to an Ice Cream Party. The students collected \$211.90 through their reading efforts. Students in the younger grades were asked to bring in ten cents for every book read, while children in the older grades brought in ten cents per chapter.

The money was presented to The South Plainfield Public Library for use in the Children's Room. We applaud all children for their participation. A special thanks to "Here's the Scoop," for helping to make this ice cream party possible.

Submitted by Marie Markey



Because We Care



by Robert Hunter

A NORMAL RESPONSE

Grieving is a normal response to loss that leads to resolution and recovery. The first phase of mourning often begins with sensations of shock and numbness, which give way to the contradictory emotions of denial and preoccupation. Often, mourners oscillate between denial and disbelief and a preoccupation with the lost loved one. The second stage of grief is frequently characterized by disorganization and depression. And, while this is the most painful and protracted stage of the grieving process, it slowly leads to the third and final stage of reorganization and acceptance. The mourner's spirits gradually rise and life returns to normal. While death exerts a pronounced effect on our lives, the grieving process tempers us to make us stronger.

Demonstrating that there is a light at the end of the dark tunnel of grief and depression is one of the most considerate services that friends and relatives can perform. Whether this is accomplished by visits, letters, emails, or phone calls, it is important not to let contact lapse due to lack of response. These thoughts are brought to you by the JAMES W. CONROY FUNERAL HOME. To discuss our wide range of affordable, end-of-life services, please call our facilities, located at 2456 Plainfield Avenue in South Plainfield, at 756-2800.

"Know how sublime a thing it is to suffer and be strong."

--Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Spread the Word!

Submit your events for the AROUND TOWN column. Mail or drop off your stories and photos: The South Plainfield OBSERVER, 1100 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

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James A. Gustafson, Dir.
James F. Connaughton, Assoc. Dir.

Police Department is Accepting Applications

The South Plainfield Police Department is currently accepting applications for the position of part-time Communications Operator (\$12.32 per hour). The requirements for this position are:

- 18 years of age or older.
- Graduation from high school or possession of an approved high school equivalent certification.
- A citizen of the United States.
- Applicants that have completed

the Basic Telecommunications, Emergency Medical Dispatch and CPR courses will be given a preference.

- Be able to accurately type a minimum of 30 words per minute.
- The ability to work weekends, holidays and a minimum of 40 hours a month filling in for full-time personnel.

If you are interested in applying, submit a resume to Lt. Michael Grenier at (908) 226-7673.

Pampered Chef is Joining the Fight to "Help Whip Cancer"

Breast cancer affects the lives of families every day. This year, approximately 182,800 cases will be diagnosed and about 40,800 women will die of the disease. According to the American Cancer Society, early detection is the best protection.

Through its "Help Whip Cancer" corporate giving campaign, The Pampered Chef, Ltd., a leading seller of high-quality kitchen tools and specialty food items, has partnered with the American Cancer Society to raise both awareness and funds for breast cancer early detection and education programs.

At in-home cooking demonstrations throughout the month of May, The Pampered Chef's 60,000 Independent Kitchen consultants nationwide will encourage guests to purchase a special adjustable measuring spoons twin set, featuring pink measurement markings, or a pink twilit clip combo pak. For each adjustable measuring spoon set purchased, \$2 will go directly to the American Cancer Society's breast cancer early detection and education programs. And for each pink twilit clip combo pak purchased, \$1 will be donated to the American Cancer Society's breast cancer early detection and education programs. Both measuring spoons and unique pink colored clips come in a twin pack and include helpful information about the importance of breast detection. The Pampered Chef Kitchen consultant's further support the cause by promoting the sharing of the twilit clips and the measuring spoons with a friend, reinforcing the message of "hope, progress and answers" through early detection.

Help Whip Cancer Kitchen Show fundraisers held in May can be designated to benefit the American Cancer Society. A percentage of total sales are donated directly to the organization's breast cancer early detection and education programs. Last year, The Pampered Chef donated over \$400,000 to the American Cancer Society through its "Help Whip Cancer" campaign.

Rec. Swim Team Starting

The South Plainfield Recreation Swim Team season begins June 6, and ends July 28. It is free to all children ages 4 to 18 whose family is a member of the pool, and is a great way to stay active over the summer and meet some great people as well.

Practices are available in the mornings and evenings and each swimmer must attend a minimum of two practices per week. Meets are Wed. evenings and Sat. mornings. The season ends with a fun team picnic at the pool.

Registration and uniform measurements will be held on June 6, at 6:30 p.m. at the pool. If raining, we will meet in the PAL building.

Uniforms are not mandatory, but nice to have. This is the first year that a suit will be used for the 2001 and 2002 seasons. The cost is \$42 for girls and \$23 for boys. Payment is due the day of measurement.

Legal Notice

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

April 30, 2001

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the Planning Board at its meeting held on April 24, 2001.

A. Case #00-12—LORDINA, INC.—Block 362; Lot 2; Green Place, Spicer and Delmore Avenues—Applicant's request for a three lot subdivision to erect two single family dwellings, was hereby GRANTED.

Janice J. Muccilli
Secretly Planning Board

April 30, 2001 1T May 4, 2001

GARAGE SALE

FRIDAY, MAY 4
SATURDAY, MAY 5

9 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

201 MORTON AVE.
(OFF THOMPSONS AVE.)

GARAGE SALE

FRIDAY, MAY 4
SATURDAY, MAY 5

9 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

CORNER DELMORE
AND LORRAINE AVE.
(OFF BELMONT AVE.)

GARAGE SALE

SATURDAY, MAY 5
9 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

632 PITT STREET
(OFF NEW MARKET AVE. AT POLISH HOME)

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Books, Lots of
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Rates -- 3 line minimum-\$11,
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FOR SALE

WEIGHT BENCH w/weights, \$100; Futon \$75; Glass coffee table \$100. Call (908) 769-2073 So. Plfd.

POOL SUPPLIES: LADDER, heater, new filter, Best Offer, Cal 756-1255.

TWO BRUNCH CRUISE Tickets on the Cruise Cornicopia Princess, valued at \$90. For more information, or to purchase tickets, call Bill Tuthill at 756-9654.

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LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

PUBLIC NOTICE STATEMENT

The bond ordinance published herewith has been finally adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey on March 8, 2001 and the twenty (20) day period of limitation within which a suit, action or proceeding questioning the validity of such ordinance can be commenced, as provided in the Local Bond Law, has begun to run from the date of the first publication of this statement.

Vincent Buttiglieri,
Municipal Clerk of the Borough of South Plainfield

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ORDINANCE NUMBER 1559

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS 2001 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (THE "BOROUGH"); APPROPRIATING \$300,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$285,600 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) AS FOLLOWS:

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

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

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

Improvement or Purpose	Appropriation	Authorization	Down Payment	Useful Life
(i) The widening of Durham Avenue south of Hamilton Boulevard and south of Bushwick Avenue within the Borough, with a roadway pavement having a useful life or durability at least equal to that of a Class B Roadway (as defined in the Local Bond Law) and also including, but not limited to, as required, milling, joint stabilization, pavement striping, installation of curbs and storm drains and all work, materials, equipment, and appurtenances necessary therefor and incidental thereto and in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor on file in the Office of the Clerk of the Borough and available for public inspection and hereby approved;	\$125,000	\$119,000	\$6,000	10 years
(ii) acquisition of properties within the Borough for open space purposes, such properties being located (a) near the intersection of Clinton Avenue and Tompkins Avenue comprising 9.255 acres and described as Block 12, Lots 9, 12, 13, 16 and 17 on the official tax map of the Borough and (b) on Ralph Avenue near Sampson Avenue comprising 0.114 acres and described as Block 278, Lot 4 on the official tax map of the Borough, a lawful public purpose, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto and all in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor on file in the Office of the Clerk of the Borough and available for public inspection and hereby approved; and	475,000	\$71,400	\$3,600	40 years
(iii) various capital improvements to the Municipal Building located at 2480 Plainfield Avenue in the Borough including, but not limited to, roof repairs, alteration, subdivision, expansion and furnishing of interior office space and the repair and/or replacement of components, as necessary, of the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto and all in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor on file in the Office of the Clerk of the Borough and available for public inspection and hereby approved.	\$100,000	\$95,200	\$4,800	5 years
TOTALS:	\$300,000	\$285,600	\$14,400	

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

(c) The estimated aggregate cost of said improvements or purposes is \$300,000, the excess thereof

over the estimated aggregate maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued therefor, is the aggregate amount of down payment available for such improvements or purposes.

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

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

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

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

(a) The purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are not current expenses and are improvements which the Borough may lawfully undertake as general improvements, and not part of the cost thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefited thereby.

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

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

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

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

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

policereport

• KKK Trucking on Ryan St., reported being harassed after stones, that were being picked up by a customer, had scratched their truck.

• On Sunday, a Plainfield woman was arrested for leaving K-Mart with a shopping cart full of various items.

• Segun Ajboye, manager of Bacom International, Cragwood Rd., reported that his office had been burglarized. The drawers were pulled off of his desk and papers were spread around.

• A Park Ave. resident, who was visiting his girlfriend on Wooden Ave., found his vehicles tires slashed and rear window broken. They had received a call from someone stating that the vehicle had been damaged and the caller is believed to be the suspect.

• On April 24, a Bergen St. resident reported receiving a threatening phone call from a young woman who used to live at their residence.

• A Newark resident was arrested on April 25 for attempting to push \$255 worth of electronics and computer components out the front door of K-Mart.

• A Field Ave. resident reported that at 3:30 a.m. someone had attempted to open the rear kitchen window. The resident's dogs began to bark and presumably scared away the burglar. The suspect had used an ice chest to reach the window and then cut two small holes in the screen to get to the inside window, which was found partially open.

• Carl Blessing, owner of Carl Blessing Contractors Inc. of Elizabeth, reported that various tools were missing from his unlocked van parked in front of Facotum Industries on St. Nicholas Ave.

• An employee of Master Group Inc., Montrose Ave., reported that someone had broken her passenger side window and taken her CD player and two CD's.

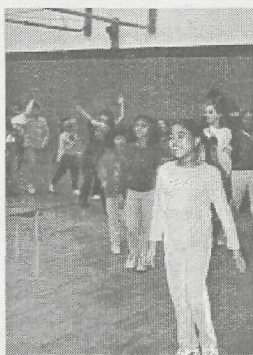
• A Tooz Pl. resident pulled into his driveway and observed someone standing in front of an upstairs window. He went to a neighbor and called the police. When police arrived they found the rear window was broken and the screen removed. The bedrooms had been ransacked. It was not known yet if anything was taken.

• On April 26, a Pacon Inc. employee reported that his vehicle had been broken into and the AM/FM CD player radio had been removed.

• An Aberdeen resident had left his vehicle parked on Snyder Rd., while utilizing his work van. He returned to find the passenger side window smashed and the door dented. It appeared that nothing had been taken.

• On Monday, STS Software Inc., Cragwood Rd., reported their office had been burglarized. There were pry marks on the doors and a set of keys were missing.

• On Monday, Inch Cape Shipping Service on Cragwood Rd. reported the theft of several laptop computers over the weekend. A pass card is needed to enter the building and the offices that were broken into needed a combination or a key to enter. The office cleaning company is being investigated.



Roosevelt Kids Hold Walk-a-Thon

After being postponed several times because of snow and rain, the students at Roosevelt School finally held their Walk-a-Thon, walking in the school gym.

The children solicited pledges from parents, families and friends which would pay according to how far they walked.

The money raised will be used for class trips and school assemblies.

Roosevelt School Plans Orientation

Roosevelt will hold an orientation program for children entering kindergarten in September, 2001.

The orientation program will meet on Tuesdays, May 22, June 5 and June 12. There will be two sessions offered. Mornings from 9:30 to 11 a.m. or afternoons from 1:15 to 2:45.

Registration for the program will be taken during Kindergarten Registration on May 9th in the lobby of Roosevelt School.

If you have any questions, call Gayle Butrico at (908) 757-0633.

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