

# South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 4, NO. 41

50 CENTS

JUNE 15, 2001

## IT'S OFFICIAL!

### Robert Merkler is South Plainfield's Police Chief



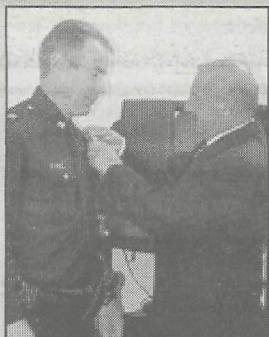
Last Thursday, a promotion ceremony held at Borough Hall named Robert K. Merkler, Chief of the South Plainfield Police Department. Merkler was named Acting Chief in February, succeeding his brother Steven, who retired.

The council chambers were filled with members of law enforcement, along with officials from around the state and county. Police Chief's from surrounding towns, as well as family, friends and members of our own police department were there to give Merkler their support.

Mayor Gallagher noted that since his appointment as acting Chief, Merkler has been answering his phone saying, Acting Police Chief Merkler. Gallagher said that he is looking forward to hearing him just say, Police Chief Robert Merkler.

Chief Merkler is a 23 year veteran of law enforcement, who began his career with the Coral Springs, Florida Police Department in October of 1977. In July, 1979 he returned home to New Jersey to become a member of the North Plainfield Police Department. He was employed by the NPPD until joining the South Plainfield Police Department in October 1983.

Chief Merkler has been married to his wife, Doreen for 23 years and



Top, Chief Merkler takes the oath from Borough Clerk Vincent Buttiglieri, while his wife, Doreen and sons Robert and William look on. Above, Councilman Dennis Cerami pins the chief's badge on Chief Robert Merkler.

has resided in South Plainfield since 1979. They are the parents of two sons, Robert Jr., 17, and William, 14.

Merkler was promoted to Sergeant in January 1989, Lieutenant in September 1993, Captain in January 2000, and Acting Chief in February 2001.

Merkler comes from a family of six boys and succeeds his brother, Steven, as Chief of Police.

## LIGHTNING STRIKES SULLIVAN'S AUTO BODY, SHOP IS DESTROYED



Sullivan's Auto Body Shop on Hamilton Blvd. was destroyed by a fire when hit by lightning on Monday night; 10 cars inside were all damaged.

Monday at about 11:30 p.m., a violent thunderstorm passed through South Plainfield and lightning struck Sullivan's Auto Body Shop, located on Hamilton Blvd.

The South Plainfield Fire Department responded on a report of a structure fire and the first responding Police Officer, Philip Campagna reported there was a fire at the rear of the building. The fire was brought under control in about an hour. Assisting in extinguishing the blaze were the New

Market Fire Department from Piscataway and Plainfield Fire Department. The building was extensively damaged. There were 10 vehicles inside of the structure and all were destroyed. The monetary loss at this time is unknown. There were no injuries reported.

The fire appears to have originated at the rear of the building on the outside. According to fire officials, a bolt of lightning struck the rear wall causing a ten-foot by ten-foot section of

brick facade to collapse off of the building. The lightning ignited the wooden roof and the fire spread across the interior of the roof. The vehicles inside the shop were damaged by smoke, heat, water and falling debris. Fire officials were on the scene all day Tuesday assessing the damage.

Middlesex Co. Hazmat, Office of Emergency Management responded to the scene. The South Plainfield Rescue Squad, 35 firefighters and five police officers also responded to the scene.

## Ann Zajkowski Honored For 40+ Years of Teaching

Story/photos by Patricia Abbott

The meeting appeared to be just another South Plainfield High School faculty meeting. Principal Tony Massaro spoke briefly and the business portion of the meeting flew by. History teacher Steve Novak took the floor and began by commenting on a 'famous SPHS quote'—one that student's of his have been hearing for many years, "It's nice to be important but it's important to be nice!" It was Novak himself that never let a student leave the classroom without this reminder. He spoke of another quote and of a teacher who has more than 40 years of experience. "No person can give more to a student than a precious part of their lifetime." Then he proudly commended SPHS business teacher Ann T. Zajkowski for her 40-plus years of service at South Plainfield High School. After the thunderous applause subsided, he spoke of her many years at SPHS and her dedication to her students. The array of emotions that appeared on her face were obvious, as she stood to acknowledge the well deserved accolades. She was pre-

Continued on page 14



SPHS Teacher Ann Zajkowski is honored for 40+ years of dedication.

## 2001 Census Figures Show Increase in Population in South Plainfield

According to the 2001 Census, South Plainfield's population has increased slightly since the last count.

Total population in South Plainfield in 2001 was 21,810, up from 20,489 in 2000. That is an increase of 1,321 in 10 years.

Other interesting faces were that the largest age group is the 35-44 years old, comprising 17.5 percent or 3,819. The senior population is about 23 percent and females make up 51 percent of our population.

South Plainfield has 7,307 housing units, 89 percent are owner-occupied. There are 783 renter-occupied units or 10.9 percent.

The average household size is 3.04

people in owner-occupied units and 2.74 in renter-occupied units.

### SAFTE Fishing Club Derby on Saturday

The South Plainfield Recreation Department and the High School S.A.F.T.E. Fishing Club invites everyone under the age of 18 to participate in their Annual Fishing Derby.

The Derby will take place on Saturday, June 16, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. It will be held in Spring Lake Park, and prizes will be given out to the winners. If you are planning to attend this event, please bring your own fishing equipment.



# South Plainfield Crossing Guards You're Doing a Great Job This Year!



Katherine Sykes and Elizabeth Kyle



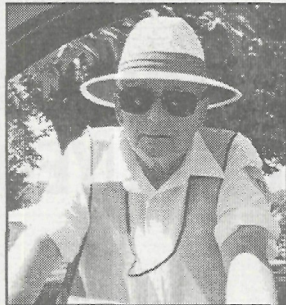
Eleanor Lewis



Philomena Snedeker



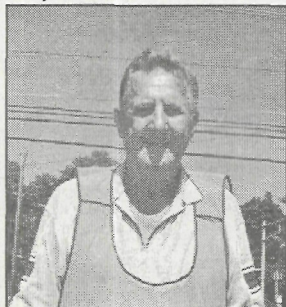
Frances Gielen



Harry Chiovarou



Katherine Moss



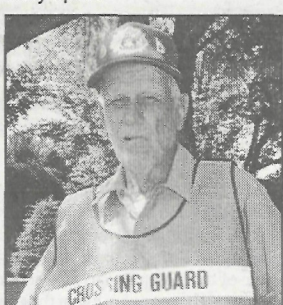
John Dudak



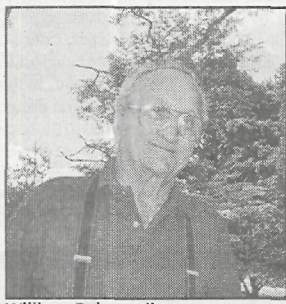
Mary Spisso



Ed Larsen



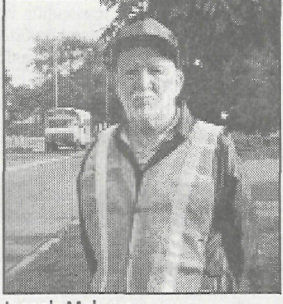
William Dotsko



William Raimondi



Clair Mosier



Joseph Malpere



Anna Vakerich



Donna Bonnano

This years crew of crossing guards have been doing a great job. Several times last year, we ran articles about problems with the crossing guards and the company that was hired to oversee them.

Many times guards simply didn't show up, leaving very busy intersections with no crossing guard and no substitute to replace them. When that happened, the South Plainfield Police Department must cover their posts. At times that was a difficult assignment, especially when four posts were vacant.

Crossing guards come under the jurisdiction of the borough, not the school board. Crossing guard companies are chosen by bid. Two years ago, when the bids were opened, Labor Management Concepts, (LMC) of North Arlington was the low bidder. This was the first time they were awarded the crossing guard bid. They didn't get off to a very good start when they approached the guards, who had worked in the borough the year before for another company. They offered them all jobs at less pay than they had been earning. Some guards agreed, some said no. The year was filled with no-shows and no-substitutes and lots of complaints. Several meetings were held, fines were imposed and the complaints were still coming in.

When the bids were opened last summer, DMS Systems, Inc. won the bid and everyone gave a sigh of relief. DMS had previously been the company the borough had hired and they had a pretty good record.

Throughout this school year, we have been keeping an eye on the school guards to see if this company was doing better. Through rain, sleet and snow the guards diligently were at their assigned intersections, making sure the children make it safely to school. We feel that their commitment to the safety of our children should be noted. These guards have become friends to many of the children, calling many of them by their first name.

According to Doretta McCarthy of DMS, "Our crossing guards are relentless in their commitment to the safety of the children. Many times they brighten the day of the youngsters on his or her way to or from school. My hat goes off the crossing guard staff of South Plainfield for protecting our most precious gift—our children."

Some crossing guards have been doing their jobs for 20 years, some have just started, but all of them take their responsibilities seriously. Just try to ignore one of them and see what happens.

We are asking parents to let their school crossing guards know how much they appreciate them. Before school lets out this year, just tell them thank you. They would love to hear from you. Unfortunately we could not get a picture of every crossing guard, but every guard deserves our thank you! Those crossing guards not pictured are: Stephen Krajewski, Lou Valenti, Jean McKimm, Joseph Barthel, June DeNise, Mary Harney, Joseph Mantz, Cliff Shaw, Joe Grassifulli, Anne Rowe, Nicolina Frascino, Bobbi Naylor, Joanne Dougherty, Alyce Terjek, and Adrian Teiler, and Joe Bergen.

## South Plainfield Observer

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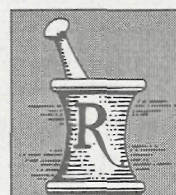
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### SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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.



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# southplainfieldpeople

## Milestones

### Holly McDede Wins Art Contest

Congratulations to Holly McDede for winning First Place for her artwork entitled "Picnic Time" at the recent Watching Arts Center's Children's Juried Art Exhibition.

Each spring, the Arts Center invites children throughout New Jersey to display their works of art. Holly is a third grade student at J.E. Kennedy School in South Plainfield and this was her fourth year in the Art Competition.



Holly McDede with her winning artwork, "Picnic Time."

### Kristy Ray takes First Place In Gymnastics Festival 2001



Kristy Ray, (pictured above in center, holding the trophy), took first place in the Level 4, age 9 division in the San Juan International Gymnastics Festival 2001, in Puerto Rico on May 26.

Kristy currently attends Hender-

son's Gymnastics Academy in Edison. Also pictured above, taking home fourth place trophies for the Level 4 Team were Kristy, Stephanie Trela, Christie Portera, Brianna Claybone and Allison Sharkey.

Congratulations to all of them!

### Historical Society's Quilt on Display

The South Plainfield Historical Society Bicentennial Quilt will be on display at the "2001 A Quilter's Odyssey," at the annual quilt exhibit of The State Quilt Guild of New Jersey, June 15-17. The show will be held at the Raritan Exhibition Center in Edison.

The quilt was pieced and sewn by members of local volunteer organizations and churches in the Borough in 1976. Each 20" x 20" square depicts some aspect of life in South Plainfield over the years. It was quilted in 2001, making it eligible for entry in this show. The pictures were sketched by former society member Rich Trexler, a local artist who taught classes in fine arts until his retirement a few years ago.

This quilt is irreplaceable, since sev-

eral of its creators have passed away. It has been safely kept by a member of the Historical Society, while they wait to obtain a museum in which to keep and show it, along with many other artifacts kept in storage.

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## Cast Named for Summer Drama Workshops 2001 Production of *Bye Bye Birdie*

The South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop held auditions earlier this month and have selected the cast for this year's production of *Bye Bye Birdie*.

Over 100 eligible students tried out for the production. Many who auditioned were new to the program this year.

All of the students who auditioned will be part of the show, with many of them being in the ensemble and given featured parts in the show, giving everyone a chance to avoid being lost as a face in the crowd.

These students received character roles: Chris Baron will be Albert Peterson, and Kristin Turner will be Albert's long-time secretary and girlfriend, Rose Alvarez. They both manage the career of Conrad Birdie, to be played by Eric Ambielli.

When Conrad is drafted, he makes one last appearance in Sweet Apple, Ohio, and stays at the MacAfee house with Mr. MacAfee (Josef Rodriguez), Mrs. MacAfee (Allison Provoire), Kim MacAfee (Katie Mott), and Randolph MacAfee (John Roesch).

Kim's friends Ursula Merkle (Brittany DeNitzio), Helen (Gina Severini), Nancy (Jacqueline Muglia), Alice (Susan Mott), and Margie (Marissa Judd) are all thrilled that Conrad Birdie is coming to their hometown.

However, Kim's boyfriend Hugo Peabody (Chris Abbott) is determined to keep Conrad from giving Kim one last kiss. And everyone is thrown for



After declaring July 30 to Aug. 5, Summer Drama Workshop (SDW) week, Mayor Dan Gallagher, right, presents the proclamation to representatives from the SDW, Vinnie Carubia, Katie Mott, Kristie Butrico and Bill Seesselberg.

a loop when Albert's mother (Jamie Morris) comes to town.

Others cast in character roles are Huy Nguyen, Pam Cianfrocca, Amy Leso, Emma Fulton, Darryl Stevenson, Vincent Carubia, Danny Sierzega, Joey Sierzega, Wajdi Kanj and Leo Campos.

Other featured roles will be cast from members of the ensemble. All students who auditioned are in the show.

The first rehearsal will be Monday, June 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium. All cast members must attend with at least one parent. A rehearsal schedule and other details of the show will be available at that time.

For more information, call (908) 561-5255 or leave a message at our website, [www.spsdw.com](http://www.spsdw.com).

### School Board Groundbreaking Ceremony to be Held

On Wednesday, June 20 the Board will hold a groundbreaking ceremony for the construction projects so graciously approved by the voters in the April 17 referendum.

Please join us on the front lawn of the Middle School at 5 p.m. to witness the start of the construction program for which we have waited so very long.

# Times Change.

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Tony Feraro  
President

#### SOUTH PLAINFIELD HOURS

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THURSDAY	9 a.m.-6 p.m.	8 a.m.-9 p.m.
FRIDAY	9 a.m.-6 p.m.	8 a.m.-6 p.m.
SATURDAY	9 a.m.-12 p.m.	9 a.m.-12 p.m.
SUNDAY	9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

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# In My Opinion

Dear Editor,

On the weekend of June 1- June 3, the Special Olympians of South Plainfield took part in the State Special Olympics at The College of New Jersey. Throughout this huge event, 2000 of the state's premiere Special Olympians competed in the track and field events.

Again, I am proud to say that our athletes from South Plainfield met the challenge of competing with the state's best Special Olympians. Although the weekend was tampered by sudden downfalls of rain, the athletes proved to be brave and showed extreme courage to fulfill their goals for the weekend.

For the past three weeks since the Middlesex/Union Counties Track and Field Competition, the athletes have trained hard to prepare for the State Special Olympics. The dedication they put into practicing was evident as the Olympians brought home numerous awards. By the end of the weekend, the eight athletes managed to secure seven gold medals, seven silver medals, seven bronze medals, one fourth place ribbon, and a fifth place ribbon. Also, with the help of the unified team, which included some students from the high school, the athletes won eight more gold medals. This is truly a magnificent accomplishment for all of the athletes who participated in the events.

I would like to congratulate the coach of the athletes, Addison Williams, for a job well done. His dedication to these fine athletes helped prepare them for competition. Addison's encouragement and skills are a true asset to all the Olympians.

Also, I would like to thank Mrs. Petrocelli for her heartfelt support of all the athletes. Her care and guidance was surely appreciated by all the Olympians. THANK YOU!

This event ends another successful year of competing for our athletes in South Plainfield. I would personally like to thank these athletes for representing this town in such a positive manner. Their courage, bravery, and joy were portrayed daily at practice and on the days of competition. Once again, they proved to be true champions and demonstrated a will to win. Congratulations to all the Special Olympians who participated this weekend; win or lose, it was an honor once again to see all of you crowned champions!

**KEVIN HAJDUK  
VOLUNTEER**

To The Editor:

The Future Stars Preschool Staff would like to thank our Parents Group Officers Diane Zekas, Marie Markey, Donna Siepmann, Jill Quadrel and all our parents for the incredible effort

they put forth to support our school. We thank you for all our extra programs, your generosity and your time and effort to help make our school year such a success.

We feel very fortunate to have such wonderful parents and we send our heartfelt thanks and appreciation.

**SINCERELY,  
FUTURE STARS PRESCHOOL  
STAFF**

To The Editor:

*There are two sides to every story.*

On May 24, 2001 an article appeared on the front page of the South Plainfield Observer. The article titled "Mayor Promises Swift Action on Rat Problem at 1226 South 9th Street, South Plainfield." The address is presently a non-residing address as a result of a house fire, which killed a dog. The article states that the Mayor of South Plainfield, Mr. Gallagher, was unable at the time to contact the homeowners. Although, the homeowners oldest son's work sign, including a phone number had been displayed on the lawn of the premises since the fire. As soon as the son was contacted about the debris, he notified the homeowners immediately. Two days after the homeowners received notice from their son, action was taken. As a result, the homeowner immediately financed a dumpster and a work crew to remove debris from the premises.

Mr. Gallagher stated that the homeowners were allegedly in the midst of a divorce, which was incorrect. The homeowners have been divorced for several years. The female homeowner has been happily remarried and they were the occupants of the home at the time of the fire. Furthermore, they have been temporarily relocated to a different address in South Plainfield. The male owner of the house has been residing at a different address for several years.

My name is Anthony Calderone. I'm the youngest son the homeowners. It hurt me to see my childhood home burn down that night. It disturbs me even more to learn that Mr. Gallagher has allegedly commented on personal information and portrayed them in a negative light.

The homeowners of 1226 South 9th Street, South Plainfield are my parents. I love them both dearly. More over, I am appalled that Mr. Gallagher, with all the resources at his fingertips was unsuccessful at making direct contact with the homeowners of the house, especially since the female homeowner has been presently residing at a South Plainfield address. More care should be taken in the future so this type of embarrassment does not happen to any other public resident. I believe it was unnecessary for Mr.

Gallagher to allegedly make any comment in reference to my parents personal life and business.

As I had approached my mother's house the night of the fire, an officer of the South Plainfield Police department stopped me. He asked me who I was and said, "he had to get on his radio and speak with someone to give me permission to approach the house". The police officer told me everyone escaped the house okay and that they were allegedly having problems with the water pressure. I believe that this alleged water pressure problem that night deserves the front page of the South Plainfield Observer. It certainly should be a concern for every South Plainfield resident.

After the fire and during this litigation both homeowners of 1226 south 9th street were hospitalized due to heart conditions. This was an attributing factor in this situation. I think if Mr. Gallagher was as swift with the water pressure as he is with his words, perhaps I wouldn't be writing to the Observer. I feel that the health department should have placed rodent poison at the site immediately to ensure public safety and health. Until they were able to contact my parents about this problem. The safety of the residents should not have been compromised.

After Mr. Gallagher removes the rats from 1226 South 9th Street, he should swiftly remove all the walking and talking rats from city hall.

Finally, our family would like to personally apologize to the residents of South Plainfield for the unforeseen problem. We hope to have this property situation resolved quickly to restore South Plainfield to its original beauty. I would like to thank all the neighbors who helped us on the night of the fire. It is comforting to know that some people still care. Our family would like to thank all the firefighters and policemen for their dedication and bravery they illustrated that night. I still feel that South Plainfield is the best because of its residents.

God Bless everyone, everything and everywhere.

**SINCERELY,  
ANTHONY CALDERONE**

To South Plainfield Observer  
Readers:

Let me tell you a story of a vibrant, healthy young woman of 42. She was happily married with two children, ages 7 and 10. She had a passion for life and was very much loved by family and friends. Her only "flaw" was that she was a large person. She never shyed away from any physical or social activities. She was a just a large person. In fact, if you were fortunate enough to be with her socially, you were assured of having a great time. She had a wonderful sense of humor, a dry wit and was always very comfortable with her size, or so everyone thought.

She decided to have a surgical procedure to close off a portion of her digestive system. Her physician told her that she was healthy, with no immediate medical problems, therefore

the insurance company would not cover this procedure. He tried to dissuade her, but she was determined. She found a doctor who would "find" a medical reason for the insurance company. Her family and friends tried in vain to convince her not to do this radical surgery. They all loved her for herself, not what she looked like. She went ahead, had the surgery and was planning to come home three days later. Her children made signs welcoming her home and all was ready for her. On the third day, she started spiking a fever which progressively kept getting higher. They opened her up and saw that there was a leak where the tissue had been reconnected and was spewing out toxins into her system. They placed her in ice because now her temperature was up to 109 degrees. They went in again, but her systems were shutting down. And four days later after this "successful" surgery, Karen died.

I know you are asking why I am writing this letter. We, as a society, set standards for what is "normal" or "acceptable" which in a civilized world is necessary. But when it drives someone to seek out radical procedures to make their appearance conform to what is "normal" or "pretty" we have gone beyond civilized. We have forced our perceptions on people who fit into our society a little differently. What I am asking is, if you see someone who is too fat or too thin, has a funny looking face or hair color or just doesn't fit the mold of acceptance, remember Karen. Take the time to see the person underneath the wrapping. You might be pleasantly surprised to find a new friend.

**A DEEPLY SADDENED FRIEND,  
ROSE ANN AMIGRONI**

To the Editor,

On Saturday May 26, the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club held its first annual COACHES CARE Softball Marathon and Auction. While the weather didn't cooperate for the week leading up to the game, when the tarps were taken off the field at 9 a.m., the day proceeded as scheduled. Through the efforts of many fine people at the club, we raised more money than our goal of \$5,000 for the Children's Fund at JFK Medical Center. When events like this are

planned, there are many people that need to be thanked. The following companies donated the food and beverages: Roma Food, Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Central Jersey Provisions and Boulevard Wholesale and we would like to thank them all. Thanks to Charlie Decker and Moretti Realty for mailing all of the letters to the local businesses.

Each of our opponents played the host team for an hour and a half and they were, JFK Medical Center, South Plainfield Police Department, Roma Food, Ponytail Coaches Association, SPJBC C and B league Coaches and the Women's Auxiliary. It gave some, a reason to dust off the gloves and others just got some additional batting practice. Special thanks to Bill DeNizio and Jim Colapietro for donating their time and umpiring all 11 hours, while not missing a call....

To the people that worked the snack stand, Rick Walton, Anthony Romano, Debbie Lykes and many others, thank you very much. Also, thank you to the Observer for their support before and during the game, especially Nancy Grenier for coming out on a morning more suited for the ducks. Special thanks to the Dunphy-Smith Company for their donation of the Ward Burton NASCAR simulator. There were also many companies in and around our town that donated money and prizes for this event and I thank them all. To Dennis Moskal, thanks for keeping the fields playable, when I'm sure even he questioned whether we could play all day. To the Executive Board of the SPJBC, thanks for the vision and the support through this effort. To my friends in and around the club, especially those who played all day, words alone cannot express my gratitude.

This was an idea that began as a dream and became a reality. The proceeds from this day go towards ensuring each child who has a stay at the hospital is given a gift. We donate the money with the hope of not having to see its' benefit personally, but with the knowledge that we have brightened the lives of many children.

Finally, to RH for unknowingly providing the inspiration, and living proof that prayer's are answered.

**TOM MCCREESH JR.  
CHAIRMAN COACHES CARE**

## United Family Plans 125th Year Celebration

United Family & Children's Society in Plainfield, a non-profit counseling and adoption agency, is planning a celebration of its 125th year of service in April, 2002. Plans call for a special celebration to be held for this extraordinary anniversary. Couples and families who have adopted a child through United Family, those who have served on the agency's board of trustees in the past and former volunteers and employees of United Family are invited to call the agency to insure their name is put on the mailing list for the event.

According to Tom Reedy, LCSW, agency executive director since 1997, "The rich and venerable history of the agency will be highlighted at the event. United Family was established in 1877 and has touched many thousands of individuals over this time. Having a service footprint in three separate centuries is an awesome privilege and responsibility for United Family." UFCS offers professional counseling, mental health services for children, adolescents and families, anger management groups, special programs for pregnant and parenting teens, infant foster care and adoption services.

The agency is a member agency of the United Way and is a NJ licensed

adoption agency. United Family & Children's Society has locations in Plainfield, Watchung and South Plainfield and serves portions of Union, Somerset and Middlesex Counties. Please call (908) 755-4848 for more information on UFCS programs or to add your name to the mailing list for the April 2002 celebration.

## Need to Contact the Mayor or Council?

Recently, South Plainfield's Mayor and Council released new phone numbers that residents can use to directly contact them.

All numbers are area code 908. The numbers are as follows:  
Mayor Dan Gallagher 226-7691  
James Vokral 226-7618  
Ed Kubala 226-7619  
Darlene Pinto 226-7658  
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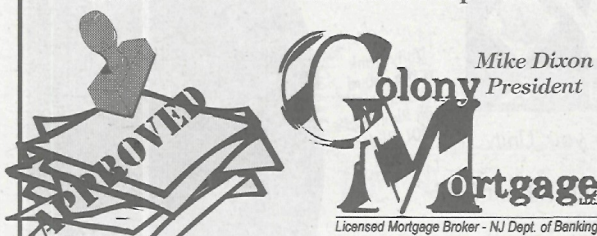
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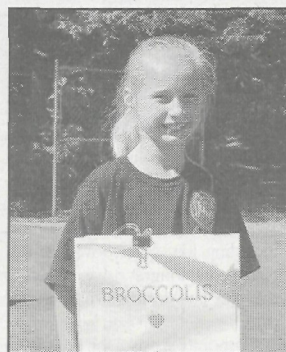
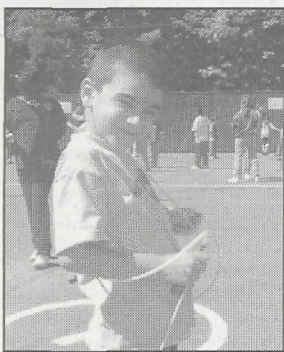
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### Send us Your Letters/Opinions

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



## Franklin Students Jump Rope for Fundraiser



By Patricia Abbott

"Ya Gotta Have Heart" and Franklin School has proven that it has a lot to spare. The school recently participated in their Seventh Annual Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser for the American Heart Association.

Fifty-three teams, totaling 180 students, had fun exercising and helping others at the same time. They skipped

and tripped over jump ropes, beginners and experts, fast and slow, they jumped alone and in long lines all to raise money for the AHA.

By the end of the afternoon, the students had raised over \$11,310. Parents and teachers encouraged and applauded as the students jumped, then rested, while team mates took over. Music blared as Physical Education teacher Drew Smith called out,

"Change jumpers!" A nearby table held snacks of orange slices, crackers and juice. Franklin School was the first school to participate in this program. They have raised over \$43,000 since 1994.

Other schools have jumped on the band wagon and 'Jump Rope for Heart'. The event was run this year by Drew Smith and chairperson Mary Cargill.



Unity Bank, located on South Plainfield Ave. has been awarded the South Plainfield Clean Communities Glitter Award. Unity planted flowers and did extensive landscaping in front of the bank. Pictured above are Clean Communities member Emil Leporino, Unity Bank Vice President of Financial Services Jacqueline Hancock, Unity Bank President Tony Feraro and Clean Communities member Joe Diegnan.

From the South Plainfield Library

## Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

We'll follow the usual slate of children's Storytime programs next week. Each program lasts about an hour and is for children ages three and older. The programs are held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. You don't have to sign up in advance. Also, our Summer Reading Club starts very soon. Registration begins on Monday, June 25. If you'd like more information about any of our children's programs, please check with Children's Librarian Linda Hansen.

Please don't forget about the special program presented by the Friends of the Woods, "The History of South Plainfield", Tuesday night at 7:00. The speaker for the evening will be Larry Randolph, a historian/archaeologist, who is the Chairman of the South Plainfield Environmental Commission. The evening will also feature a Q&A session and a slide presentation. No pre-registration is required; refreshments will be served. For further details, please call Dorothy Miele at (908) 754-3073.

For the last several days, our display wall has featured artwork by South Plainfield High School student Julio Lopez. If you'd like to see this display, you'd better hurry, though; it's scheduled to run only until Monday afternoon. Our display cabinet features a number of antique items provided by the South Plainfield Historical Society. Meanwhile, in our Children's Room, we have a display of the Library staff's favorite children's books. Feel free to borrow them and see if your kids' tastes run parallel to ours.

Tomorrow is the last day you may borrow titles from the present group

of Circuit CDs. Artists in this group include Tangerine Dream, Bing Crosby, Stevie Nicks, Paul McCartney and Wings, and B.B. King. If you're interested in something from this group, don't hesitate.

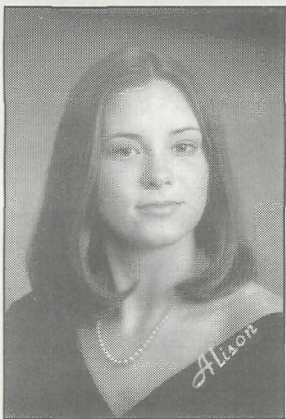
We've made a revision of our Internet policy, specifically in regard to one particular computer terminal. The Internet terminal provided by Comcast Cable is now restricted for use only by Library staff. This allows the terminal to be free for use by Reference librarians aiding patrons, particularly students working on school projects. The other terminals, however, remain available for anyone who's been cleared for access.

Recently, we've had a bit of an upswing in the number of donations to the ongoing book sale. As a result, we're a bit overstocked. Please help us deal with this problem by coming in and picking up something. Prices remain at rock bottom level; a variety of books, audiocassettes and videos are available. (Speaking of donations, special thanks to the unknown patron who donated several new children's videos to our collection; we appreciate your generosity.)

Here's an advisory. We'd like to ask parents to refrain from allowing their younger children to come to the Library without supervision. We do our best to make the Library as kid-friendly as possible, but our staff just can't keep close track of your children at every moment. Rather than risk a problem, we'd prefer it if you accompanied your children here yourself or arranged for a responsible adult to look after them. It lessens the burden on us and makes more sense as far as safety is concerned. As always, we really appreciate your cooperation on this.

## South Plainfield Scouting

### Alison Tietjen Earns the Girl Scout Gold Award



Alison Tietjen earned Girl Scoutings Highest Award.

Alison Elisabeth Tietjen, a member of South Plainfield Girl Scout Troop #521, Washington Rock Girl Scout Council, has earned her Gold Award. The Gold Award is the highest honor in Girl Scouting. The focus is on skill development, leadership, community service and career exploration. In order to achieve this Award, five requirements must be completed and they all demand efficient time management, organizational and leadership skills. The Gold Award candidate must earn: four Interest Project Badges related to the Gold Award Project, the Career Exploration pin, Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award (30 hours), Girl Scout Challenge and the Gold Award Project (at least 50 hours). The project provides the opportunity to combine leadership skills,

interests and personal values to serve the community.

Alison's project, called Dress For Success, provided needy women with outfits for job interviews and office work. While the majority of the women were economically disadvantaged, some were victims of domestic violence who fled their homes without any possessions. Alison also compiled information on how to interview and how to write a resumé. Family, friends, SPHS staff and friends of friends donated outfits, shoes, jewelry, and pocketbooks. The clothes ranged from new to nearly new. Alison targeted specific women based on the need for varied sizes. The response was overwhelming and she extends her thanks to everyone for their generosity. The receiving agencies were presented with cleaned, pressed, mended and coordinated outfits. The donations were made to Women Aware — the domestic violence agency in Middlesex County, Interfaith Hospitality — a homeless shelter agency in Union County, The Lord's Closet in Hunterdon County and Working Women's Wardrobe in Somerset County.

Since becoming a Girl Scout twelve years ago, community service has been a part of Alison's life. Girl Scouts, as well as other community service organizations, such as Junioresettes and Friends of the South Plainfield Library, have given her the opportunity to give back to the community. "Girl Scouting has had the biggest impact on my life. It teaches young girls confidence and provides them with the will to achieve and set goals," said Alison. She plans to continue to be active in community service throughout college and beyond. In the fall, Alison will attend Steven's Institute of Technology in Hoboken, where she will major in chemical engineering.

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# Events

## AARP Chapter 4144 to Install New Officers

June 15

The June 15 meeting of AARP, Chapter 4144 will be held at the Willows Restaurant, located on Washington Ave. in Greenbrook. It will be a luncheon meeting.

AARP Chapter 4144 will install the following officers at that meeting: William E. Hannah-President, Marian Fischer-Vice President, Mary A. Stevens-Secretary and Jerome Mendel-Treasurer. Board of Directors are Stephen Machat-three year term and Guiseppe-three year term.

There will be no meeting held during the summer months. The next meeting will be in September.

## Elks Lodge Hosting Spaghetti Dinner

June 16

The South Plainfield Elks Lodge will be hosting a spaghetti dinner on Father's Day eve, June 16. The dinner will be held at the Elks Lodge, located on New Market Ave. from 5 until 8 p.m.

The "All You Can Eat" menu will include, salad, meatballs, sausage, Italian break, beer, wine, soda and coffee and tea. Cheese cake will be available for dessert at a small additional charge.

Cost is \$6 for adults, \$5 for senior citizens, \$4 for children 12 and under.

## South Plainfield Rec Department and SAFTE Fishing Club Host Derby

June 16

The South Plainfield Recreation Department and the South Plainfield High School S.A.F.T.E. Fishing Club invites everyone under the age of 18 to participate in their Annual Fishing Derby.

The Derby will take place on Saturday, June 16, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. It will be held in Spring Lake

Park, and prizes will be given out to the winners. If you are planning to attend this event, please bring your own fishing equipment.

## Parenting Workshop to Be Held at Grant Central Sixth

June 18

What if you could learn a technique that could help your child become a better student, athlete, family member, or even a better member of the community?

The Grant Central Sixth PTO will be sponsoring a Parenting Workshop on Monday, June 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the school auditorium. It will be hosted by Russell and Lin Jones, the husband and wife team of the highly acclaimed Power Workshops.

After spending the morning with students in the school, The Power Workshop concludes the day with an interactive workshop for the parents. Just 60 minutes can put you and your children on a path toward real happiness and true success!

Refreshments will be served. You can also check them out at [www.powerworkshop.org](http://www.powerworkshop.org).

## Board of Education Student/Staff Awards

June 19

The South Plainfield Board of Education will hold a Special Public Meeting on Tuesday, June 19 at 7 p.m. Student/Staff Recognition Awards will be presented.

## Blood Drive at Sacred Heart Church

June 24

The South Plainfield Sacred Heart Church annual blood drive will be on Sunday, June 24 from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

Anyone wishing to pre-register can call the parish center at 908-756-0633 Ext. #10. Any one interested in walking in are more than welcome.

## Czestochowa Presents Spiritual Presentation

June 28

On Thursday, June 28, 2001 at 8 p.m., at Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish, located on Hamilton Blvd., the Life Foundation of the National Shrine of Divine Mercy will present a "Spiritual Audio and Visual Presentation" featuring the illuminated life size replicas of the Holy Shroud

of Turin, the original "Vilnius" Divine Mercy Image and the Tilma of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

The Life Foundation is a Lay apostolate founded in 1993 to invite people to pray for the end of the killing of infants not yet born as they promote the message of healing of the Divine Mercy for everyone. Join us and experience the diary of St. Faustina come alive reaching people, those strong in faith, those struggling with faith and those wanting to learn more about the splendor of the Roman Catholic faith. Come to gain a greater appreciation and love of our Lord truly present in the most Holy Eucharist. This presentation is for the whole family. A goodwill offering will be taken up.

## 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.

## OLC/Knights of Columbus Blood Drive

July 10

Our Lady of Czestochowa Church and South Plainfield Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a blood drive. It will be held at the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Hall on Hamilton Blvd. from 3 to 8:30 p.m. on July 10.

Contact Carolyn Yankoski at 908-755-2516 for more information.

## Knights to Sponsor Mom's Night Out Dinner

July 20

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a "Mom's night out all you can eat" dinner for the family on July 20, from 5-7 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall.

Call 908-625-4843 or 908-755-6203 for more details.

## 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.

## SPHS Tigers to Host 7th South Plainfield Open

August 8

The South Plainfield Golf Association has announced plans to hold the SOUTH PLAINFIELD OPEN on Wednesday, August 8 at Bunker Hill Golf Course. This is the Seventh Annual Golf Tournament held for the benefit of the South Plainfield High School Golf Team.

This year's entry fee of \$85 includes green fees, cart, prizes, food & beverages. Check-in is at 7 a.m., during which a continental breakfast will be served. There will be a shotgun start at 8 a.m. Prizes will be awarded for both men and women, including low gross, low net, low team score, longest drive, closest to the pin, and a special hole-in-one prize.

Corporate sponsorships are available. All proceeds go to support the activities of the High School Golf Team and the SPGA's scholarship program.

Registration is on a first come basis with a deadline of July 23. For more information contact Lynne Gaspari (908) 668-1867, or Dick DeAndrea (908) 755-1700.

You can also register for the tournament on-line and find out about the corporate sponsor programs at [www.spga.org](http://www.spga.org).

## —Out of Town—

## KISMET Holds Broadway Musical Dinner Show

June 23

KISMET will hold a community event for singles, on Saturday, June 23. The event, "Broadway Musical Dinner Show," will be held at The Inn at Mount Bethel, 161 Mount Bethel Road, Warren. Doors open at 6:30, and dinner will be served from 6:30 - 8 p.m. Showtime is 8 p.m. \$45.95 at the door includes dinner, show and cash bar. For more information, contact KISMET at (908) 232-8827 or visit [www.thatskismet.com](http://www.thatskismet.com).

## Theology Course

June 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.

## Comedy Club Fundraiser Slated

June 24

On Sunday, June 24, the Friends of Ship 243 will be holding a fundraiser to support the Sea Scouts B.S.A., Ship 243. The Sea Scout group is nationally recognized through its association with the Boy Scouts of America and helps to educate local youth in the areas of maritime skills, boating safety, swimming lessons and more. The Sea Scout base is located at Tremley Point Rd. in Linden and consists of young recruits from Linden, Rahway and the surrounding towns.

This event is being held at Rascal's Comedy Club in Ocean Township. Start time for the show is 8 p.m. and is smoke-free. In addition to the five opening comics, the headliner for the evening will be Carl Banks from TV's "Grace Under Fire." Tickets are \$10 each, with a two-item minimum.

Dinner arrangements can be made separately to coincide with the show, but are not required.

For more information or to purchase tickets, please call Dot at (908) 862-3092, ext. 915. Cash and checks accepted.

## NJ Repertory Company Premieres Play

July 12 through August 5

The New Jersey Repertory Company, Lumina Theatre, 179 Broadway in Long Branch, presents the New Jersey premiere of Stan Lachow's new comedy, "Harry and Thelma in the Woods." Performances run July 12 through August 5, Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m., with Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$25, with discounts available for students, senior citizens and groups. For reservations, call (732) 229-3166. For additional information, visit [www.njrep.org](http://www.njrep.org).

## Westfield Workshop To Present "Annie Junior"

July 26-27

We all know it's a *Hard Knock Life*, but join us at The Westfield Summer Workshop and we'll show you how a determined little girl changes her life to live on *Easy Street*. *Annie Junior* is an abridged version of the original *Annie*, but your favorite cast of characters are still the same. For more information on Studio One's production or to obtain a brochure, call (908) 518-1551.

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

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

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

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

**USE THE OBSERVER AS AN ADVERTISING TOOL.** Introduce your business to the community. Promote your specials or sales. Residents would rather patronize local businesses than travel out of town. It is more convenient and it's good for the local economy.

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

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

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

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

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## SPHS Department of World Languages Inducts Honor Society Members



On Thursday, June 7, a ceremony was held to induct the 2001 members of the French and Spanish Honor Societies at South Plainfield High School.

La Societe Honoraire de Francais was founded by the American Association of Teachers of French for students of French in American secondary schools. The South Plainfield chapter has been active since 1980. The Society demands a high level of scholarship and achievement in French studies and seeks to promote interest and enthusiasm in the study of Francophone culture and civiliza-

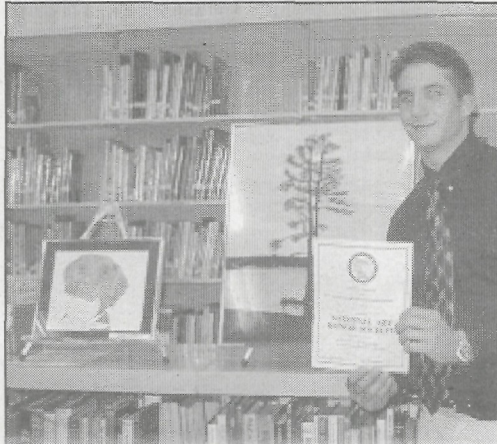
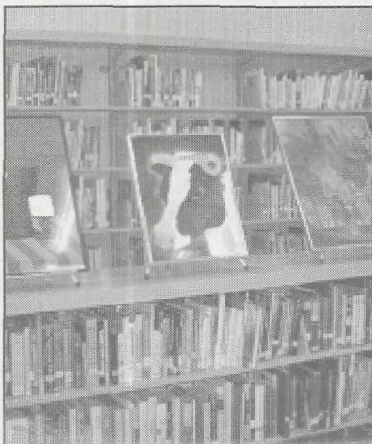
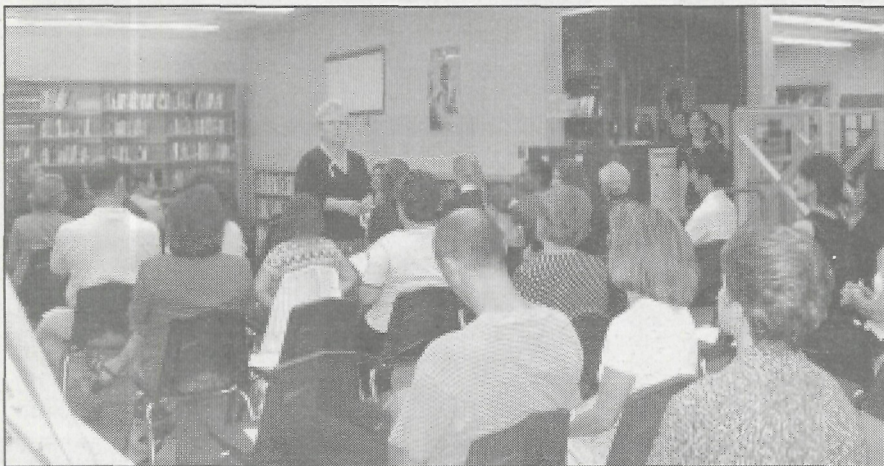
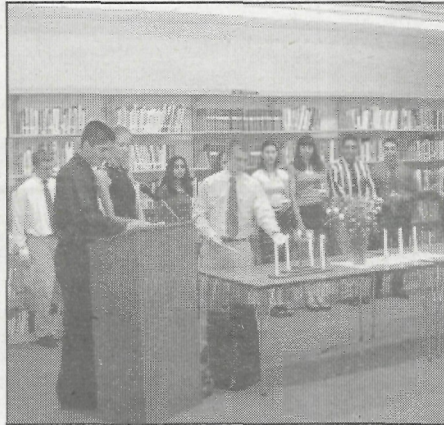
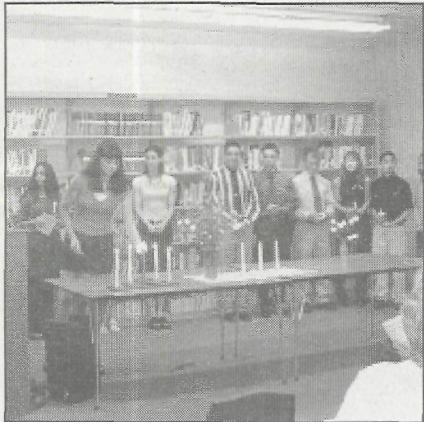
tion.

La Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica was founded by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese in 1953 for students of North American high schools. The original chapter at South Plainfield was founded by Miss Doris Cerwin in 1960. This honorary society demands a high level of scholarship in Spanish studies and entitles members to apply for study and travel scholarships. They may also contribute original works of art, prose and poetry to the official publication, *Albricias*.

The 2001 inductees of the French

Honor Society are Danielle Aronowitz, Lori Cushner, Joseph Dezmin, Loudna Idrissi, Rula Kanj, Janelle Kenny, Wendy Kollarik, Josef Rodriguez, Martin Seiz and Kristin Turner.

The 2001 inductees of the Spanish Honor Society are Christopher Addvensky, Joseph Adorna, Puja Amin, Cassie Bosse, Jody Chepulis, Denise DiMeglio, Norma Guevara, Alexander Huynh, Nathalie Londono, Christine Martinez, Gabriela Pineda, John Rayho, Joseph Sierzega, Thomas Sniseak and Victoria Zappi.



## Local Business Owner Pleads Guilty to Fraud

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG), Department of Defense (DOD), announced that on June 7, Moti Glaser of Staten Island, NY and his business, Technology Products Manufacturing Co. Inc., South Plainfield, NJ, were sentenced in US District Court, Newark, NJ. Glaser was sentenced to one year and one day in prison. Both Glaser and Technology Products were each fined \$257,525.50.

Glaser and his company both pled guilty on Dec. 13 to one-count each of the major fraud act. Glaser, d/b/a Technology Products Manufacturing Co., was engaged in manufacturing chemical and biological protective hoods for the DOD through three contracts valued in excess of \$10 million. The protective hoods were destined for use by military personnel assigned to regions around the world where the threat exists of chemical and biological weapons use. The hoods were also purchased for use by military and civilian personnel for environments where chemical and biological accidents had occurred and clean up was necessary.

The fraud allegations against Glaser and Technology Products included filing in excess of \$1.4 million in false progress payment claims against the contracts, switching random sample hoods selected by the Government for independent certified laboratory destructive testings; submitting false Government DD-250 (material inspection and receiving reports) claiming boxes contained hood quantities that were in fact empty shipping boxes labeled to deceive Government inspectors; and

certifying the hoods were in compliance of Government manufacturing specifications when, in fact, 95 percent of the protective hoods failed a reinspection of hoods previously shipped to the DOD. The failure rate criteria for the protective hoods, as required by the specifications, had to be less than two percent.

A DOD safety alert was issued for the protective hoods following the inspection and discovery of the numerous flaws. The protective hoods were removed from DOD inventory following the safety alert.

An emergency procurement of the protective hoods was initiated by the DOD following the safety alert and termination of the contracts for default. The replacement costs associated with the contract terminations totaled \$12 million. Total payment to Technology Products for the defective protective hoods totaled approximately \$5 million. Total loss to the Government associated with this fraud exceeded \$17 million.

This investigation is being conducted by the Defense Criminal Investigative Service (the investigative arm of the OIG, DOD), the FBI and US Army CID. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Scott Christie, District of NJ.

To report suspected fraud, waste and abuse within DOD programs, contact the Defense Hotline at (800) 424-9098, e-mail: [hotline@dodig.osd.mil](mailto:hotline@dodig.osd.mil) or visit them at <http://www.dodig.osd.mil/hotline/>

## South Plainfield Residents Perform in Recital

Three South Plainfield residents recently participated in Rifino-DeSorbo Music Studios Spring Recital Program. Rifino-DeSorbo, located in Dunellen, featured seventeen students who performed pieces that included jazz, popular, early classical, and romantic compositions.

South Plainfield students performing were Laura Panton, a sophomore at SPHS, who played *Spinning Song* by Elmerreich.

*Valse Nobles No's 2 and 5* by Schubert was performed as a duet by Panton and David Zebrowski, a SPHS senior. David also played *Aspen Summer* by Jones and *Brian's Song* by LeGrand.

Matthew Zebrowski, a 7th grader at SPMS played *Reflections* by Beethoven and was accompanied by his brother David on *Alla Turca* by Diabelli. Their instructor is Anita DeSorbo.

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# Congratulations

## Future Stars Preschool!



Graduation ceremonies were held last Monday night in the high school auditorium for the Future Stars Preschool children. The classes put on a musical program to the delight of both parents and grandparents. Each student then crossed over the bridge to elementary school and received a diploma.



**Blue Room**  
**Monday/Wednesday/Friday - A.M.**

Renee Callanan, Joshua Donnell, Gerod James Dvorak, Austin Daly, Tyler James Darby, Sidney M. Dick, Nicholas Fasullo, Justin Mygel Floria, Matthew Gruver, Lauren Michelle Hill, Collin Robert Lynch, Chukwuma Anthony Obadike, Anjali Patel, Dale Roth, Jr., Jennifer Thao-N-Tran, Marcos L. Toapanta.  
*Teachers are Mrs. Patricia Waters, Mrs. Patricia Petronko (aide), Mrs. Pat Robustelli (aide), Mrs. Joanne Cox (aide).*

**Blue Room**  
**Tuesday/Thursday - A.M.**

Gianna Brana, Crystal Custodio, Louis John Fasano III, Michelle Alice Keane, Mai Lam, Meredith Malara, Joanna Marston, Danielle Rae Pisano, Marc A. Stasio, Uyen-Vi, Thomas Michael Willey.  
*Teachers are Mrs. Patricia Waters and Mrs. Pat Robustelli (aide).*



**Green Room**  
**Monday/Wednesday/Friday - A.M.**

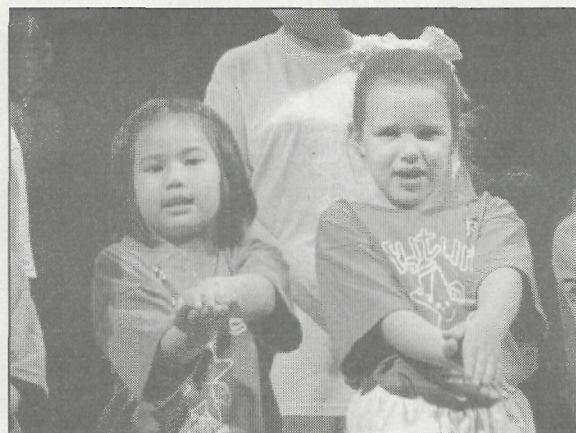
Devin Ellen Benison, Laura Grace Boyce, Nora Kortney Bruno, Ryan Matthew Chadwick, Javier Cruz, Deanna Geritano, Manuel Gonzalez III, Brandon Louis Quadrel, Juliana Nicole Reo, Stephanie Leigh Rocco, Dominick Joseph Scalera, Brittany Anne Titus, Joseph Anthony Valentino.  
*Teachers are Mrs. Sue Butrico, Mrs. Janet Errico and Mrs. Gail Klamm (aide).*

**Green Room**  
**Tuesday/Thursday - A.M.**

Nancy Samantha Avella, Shawn Bangaroo, Kristen Calderoni, Matthew Gerard Ciandella, Juliana Degutis, Kaitlyn Faustini, Jessica Lynn Geremia, Carlee Anjanessa Gonzalez, Kaitlyn Hughes, Marie Annabelle Lanza, Heather Henna Lee, Lily Mosca, Thomas R. Olah, Heather Marie Scofi, Meghan Lynn Skelly, Emma Elisabeth Sprigle, Kevin Tran.  
*Teachers are Mrs. Sue Butrico, Mrs. Janet Errico and Mrs. Gail Klamm (aide).*

**Yellow Room**  
**Monday/Friday - P.M.**

Kevin Abreu, Courtney Elizabeth Allocco, Colin James Patrick Berry, Patrick Michael Bogart, Jack Calvi, Cristina Maria Celentano, Dakota Cameron Cifrodelli, Garrett Kyle Cusick, Cody John Decker, Joe Demico, Carolyn Marie Kowalski, Richard Pangborn III, Heidi Anne Pilla, Courtney Arcia Ross, Amanda Jean Siedlecki, Shannon Sheedy.  
*Teachers are Mrs. Cynady Bloch, Mrs. Dorothy Ewing, Mrs. Terry Binder (aide), and Mrs. June Ward (aide).*





# Graduates

## Adult School

Last week  
the South  
Plainfield  
Adult

School held their 24th Annual Commencement exercises. Students return to adult school to learn English as a Second Language or to earn their high school and GED certificates.

These students are always the happiest graduates we see each year. The same goes for their parents and friends.

Adult School students choose to return to school because they want to earn their high school diplomas and GED certificates or because they want to learn the English language. There are many reasons that people do not graduate from high school, but these students have managed to overcome whatever obstacles they may have had and achieved their goals!

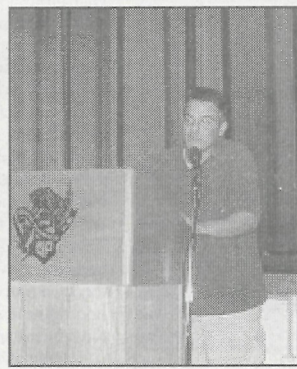
Speakers and guests for the evening were Superintendent of Schools Dr. John Krewer, Board Members Frank Mikorski and Steven Bohn, Councilman Ray Petronko, Adult School Principal Jim Lenox, Adult School Advisor Sophia Domogala and Career Counselor Phyllis Mincielli.

Three graduating students were also invited to speak. They



were Marcela Eussa, Sean Fritz and Alicia Bedner. All three talked about their determination to get a high school diploma and thanked their parents and friends for the support they have received over the years.

Graduates are as follows: Ilsay Alvarez, Rene Arenas, Alicia Bedner, Diane Bielski, Steven E. Bright, Jr., Kevin Casey, Robert T. Childers, Daniel Vincent Ciccone, Kristopher Collins, Mathew Corbin IV, Kelvin Cotton, Gregory Jason Cox, Sherry Cox, James Joseph DeCaprio, Katherine Anne DeMenna, Anthony Rocco DiNardo, LaSonya Dowling, Marcela Catalina Eusse, Sean Fritze, Marta Garcia, Mike



Gawler, Michael John Gula, Brian Johnson, Stacey Lawhorne, Erica Scercy McGill, Cliff McGovern, Corey Mills, Armando Muscaritolo, Guy Francis Perrette, Andrew Reiman, Joanna Pauline Dizon Sampang, Nickolas V. Sorrentino, Jon Charles Tabor, William R. Vedutis, Agnes Wukoder.

Adult high school staff is Marge Kopacsi, Health, John Hanlon, HSPT preparation, Linda Schwebel, Math, Arlene Valla, Science, Patricia Santillo, English I-IV and Sally Walters, History and Math.



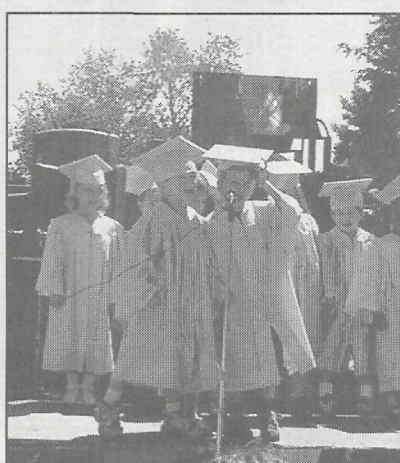
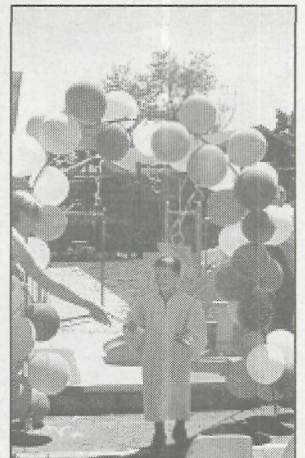
## Creative Kids Academy

*Creative Kids Academy pre-k class graduated in style last Friday complete with caps, gowns and balloons and flowers.*



Graduating from Ms. Heather's Pre-K class are Joseph Bermudez, Kayla Bridges, Shannon Butler, Heather Carr, Daniel Cooper, Brandon Graham, DW Greder, Jonathan Grennier, Shancequa Johnson, Carly Kensey, Haley Marks, Tucker Merkler, David Niedzielski, Kaitlyn Sheedy.

Graduates from Ms. Robin's Pre-K class are Nina Bavosa, Christopher Burton, Jason Carr, Anthony Chirumbolo, Joseph Deladvitch, Erika Holterman, Raymond Jazikoff, Shelley Luong, Mia Mathis, Corey Neiper, Brittney Papa, Allyson Piersanti, Jack Schiavo, Inan Sikel, Daniel Vargas.





# High School Prom Takes a Cruise on the Cornucopia



For the past ten years South Plainfield High School teachers Diana Joffe and Gina Baker have campaigned to separate the junior prom from the senior prom. The driving force behind the campaign was to ensure that seniors had their own special event. Joffe and Baker, 2001 class advisors also had a plan in mind for this year's prom, they wanted to hold the event aboard a ship. Their perseverance paid off and the separation of proms was approved along with approval for the dinner cruise.

In June of 2000, a full year before the event, a prom committee was formed. Their goal was to have the 'most elegant, exciting, and memorable prom that SPHS has ever had.' By September of 2000, they were well on their way to meeting this goal. They chose the Cornucopia Princess for location as well as its elegance. Advisors, Senior Class President Cathy Nguyen and the committee paid special attention to every detail, from the hors'd'ouvers, toiletry baskets and table settings, to the floral arrangements and the meal.

The rain did little to dampen the spirits of the guests. Students arrived in Perth Amboy starting at 6 p.m. and began boarding the 130 foot dinner cruise ship at 7 p.m. The ship sailed at 8 p.m. Students had the unique experience of an ever changing view as they sailed. They enjoyed the lit skyline of New York City and the awe-inspiring Statue of Liberty.

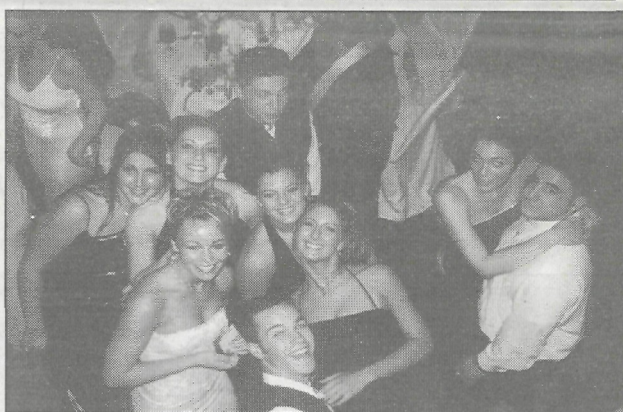
SPHS Principal Tony Massaro was pleased with the outcome of the prom. He said, "The evening of the SPHS Senior Prom was one of elegance. It was a wonderful opportunity to see out

students acquit themselves in such a manner. I am thankful to all of the staff and parents who contributed so much effort towards this evening."

"In our more than twenty years of experience in putting together proms, this year's senior prom was without exception the most spectacular event we have ever created. We couldn't have done it without the Senior Class President and the committee," commented Joffe and Baker. Committee members include Jen Reynolds, Cathy Nguyen, Kristen Anderson, Veronica Zappe, Heather Pederson, Erin Mackey, Kristin Turner, Phil Merlo, Tom Doyon, Matt Pulomena, Ryan Lindgren and Manjoor Amad.

Advisor Diana Joffe said, "These students are terrific. They worked so hard to make this prom successful. This was a 'first' at South Plainfield High School—a prom on a boat. To help these students organize, plan and successfully carry out this project was a very rewarding moment for me. The view of lower Manhattan and the Statue of Liberty was awesome. Thank you to everyone for working so hard for our kids." Advisor Gina Baker added, "This was a wonderful evening. IT was so good to see our kids engaged in such a fun activity. Everyone had a great time in a wholesome atmosphere."

Adding to the success of the evening were compliments from the employees of the Cornucopia as well as the DJs and the photographer. They noted that the SPHS students were the most well-mannered, respectful group of young adults they have ever been in company with.









## PUBLIC NOTICE

# TAX SALE NOTICE

## NOTICE OF SALE OF PROPERTY FOR NONPAYMENT OF TAXES, ASSESSMENTS AND/OR OTHER MUNICIPAL LIENS

Public notice is hereby given that I, Richard Lorentzen, Collector of Taxes of the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, will sell at public auction on, **Thursday, June 28, 2001** at the South Plainfield Municipal Complex, Council Chambers, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey, at 10:00 am or at such later time and place to which said sale may then be adjourned, all of the several lots and parcels of land assessed to the respective persons whose names are set opposite each respective parcel as the owner thereof for the total amount of municipal liens chargeable against said lands respectively, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:5-1, et seq. as computed to the 28th day of June, 2001.

Take further notice that the hereinafter described lands will be sold for the amount of the municipal liens chargeable against each parcel of said land assessed as one parcel, together with interest and costs to the date of sale. Said lands will be sold at the lowest rate of interest bid, not to exceed 18%. Payment for said parcels shall be made prior to the conclusion of the sale in the form of cash, certified check or money order, or parcels will be resold. Separate checks are required for payment of property taxes and for sewer fees and partial payments will not be sufficient to remove these items from the sale. Properties for which there are no purchasers shall be struck off and sold to the Borough of South Plainfield at an interest rate of 18%.

At any time, before the day of the sale, I will accept payment of the amount due on any property with interest and costs. Payments must be in the form of cash, certified check or money order. Industrial Properties may be subject to the Spill Compensation and Control Act (N.J.S.A. 58:10-23.1 et seq.), the Water Pollution Control Act (N.J.S.A. 58:10A-1 et seq.), and the Industrial Site Recovery Act (N.J.S.A. 13:1-k-6 et seq.). In addition, the municipality is precluded from issuing a tax sale certificate to any prospective purchaser who is or may be in any way connected to the prior owner or operator of the site. The lands to be sold are described in accordance with the last tax duplicate as follows:

## TAX SALE LIST

Block	Lot	Qual	Owner Name	Amount	Block	Lot	Qual	Owner Name	Amount	Block	Lot	Qual	Owner Name	Amount
1	5		BYNUM, SHADRICKA	294.25 S	169	7		VASQUEZ RAMOS, NANCY	909.81 T	311	47		RAJKUMAR, RAYMOND & INDIRA BENI	770.78 T
2	8		CARELL, GLADYS C/O C. CARELL	1,424.40 TA	171	16		MELISZER, JAMES & DOROTHY	954.54 S	311	49		TUWAIDAN, CHRISTIAN & VONNY	695.15 T
3	4		CHARLES, ENOCK & JOSEPHINE	294.25 S	171	19		SPRINGFIELD, ROBERT J. & GABRIELLE	297.80 S	311	50		MAROTTO, JOSEPH & LISA	297.80 S
3	6		FORDE, PHILIP & JESSIE	1,053.93 T	172	34		HUGHES, KEVIN & CHERYL A.	297.80 S	313	1		ORDONEZ, FALSTO & DIANA & GARCIA, E	77.88 S
3	11		DEVANE, JOHN E. & VIRGINIA	2,259.11 T	173	20		ROBERTS, COLETTE	1,950.98 S	313	8		BUSHMAN, O. C/O DENNIS BUSHMAN	847.67 TS
3	23		BANKERS TRUST CO. OF C.A. N.A.	294.25 S	174	6		SALAB, KARAM & FATEN	176.15 S	313	14		BEHARRY SINGH, MARGARET	4,963.33 TS
3	41		J.W.V. INC. %APPEZZATO BLDG CON.	176.15 S	174	17		GITTO, ROBERT T.	3,480.64 TS	313	20		GEORGE, GARY & FRANCES	297.80 S
3	42		DOBOSIN, SKI, KATHLEEN	944.69 T	174	34		SHINE, WILLIAM J. & KATHERINE E.	1,079.62 T	314	12.03		CHO, YONG-UN & HYONSUR	1,289.71 TS
3	45		SCHLACK, LAWRENCE	76.31 S	176	3		DUBON, JOSE & RODRIGUEZ, MARLENE	1,640.45 T	315	15.01		PELLEGRINO, ANTHONY & MARK	1,684.48 T
5	1		GRANADOS, ANAMARIA	176.15 S	182	4		HONDO, RICHARD & LINDA S.	300.12 TS	315	20.05		ROBUSTELLI, LEE A.	2,157.54 T
6	6		HOLIDAY, NATHANIEL & PARHAM, LELLA MAE	297.80 S	184	5		CASEY, PAMELA & JOSEPH	294.25 S	315	25		PENDOLINO, EUGENE & MARGARET	2,867.16 TS
6	13		VASQUEZ, ROSA P. & MELGAR, JOSE	3,854.24 T	188	4		BUCK, JAMES A.	960.06 T	315	29		TENORE, MICHAEL	287.30 S
7	4.01		GATEAU, JEAN & MARCELLE	723.72 T	188	9		GARCIA, ADRIEN F. & CLEODILDE	4,731.88 TS	315	60		ROLOLA, PHILIP & BARBARA	1,108.53 T
7	13.02		RIBRO BUILDERS INC.	1,459.87 TS	188	14		NOBLE, HARRY & MERYL. SCHOEN	1,029.48 T	315	62		C0003 BERBERBER, DORIE & BABEE	206.07 T
7	23		NELSON, JAHMAL	1,322.48 T	188	27.01		LEONARD, WALTER C. & GARTHNA M.	3,523.28 TS	319	1		LEIGHTON, ROBERT A.	962.80 S
7	28		HASLAK, MARK J.	224.10 T	188	33.02		PLATE, PATRICK F. & ALBINA M.	1,662.60 T	319	3		SEC OF HOUS & URBAN DEVELOPMENT	1,553.83 T
7	31		KOONCE, MARTIN	825.38 T	188	64		STELLAKIS, JOHN & ELLEN	297.80 S	322	11		CALLAND, BEVERLY P.	3,184.44 TS
7	51.08		CALDERONE, MANUEL & THERESA	927.05 T	189	11		WILLIAMS, ROSA & CAROLE	97.83 S	332	2		PENYAK, JOSEPH & MADELINE	280.09 T
7	59		SCOTT, DAVID & DIANE	1,335.33 T	189	11		BROOKS, PRECIOUS & HAYWOOD	2,050.67 T	332	3		PENYAK, JOSEPH	280.09 T
7	65		MILLER, WILLIAM D. & DORIS	4,770.73 TS	190	1		SMITH, RENEL	4,362.61 T	334	2		BARBATO, LOI S.	654.83 T
8	1		BAEZ, NELSON (V) & MAGDA	176.15 S	190	5		ELEAZER, RALPH & FLORA	1,013.60 T	335	6		RAHEMTULLA, ALNOOR & SHYROSE	675.37 T
9	26		TOGA, MARCO & SILVIA & PAREDES, O.	821.66 T	190	9		TERRELL, THOMAS & ZOMA(S)	945.26 T	335	11		CLARK, EARLE & MARGALL	1,873.25 TS
10	4		PHIFER, BETTY M. C/O TAYLOR	316.70 A	190	11		HARRI, S. EDNA	365.64 TS	336	2		ALVAREZ, MARGARET T. & MERCEDES A.	2,287.70 TS
10	7		STEWART, KEVIN & IRENE	1,162.31 T	191	6		ARMSTRONG, CHARLES E.	294.25 S	337	13		RUIZ, JULIO C. & IRIS	525.50 S
10	12.01		ROCKE, STEPHEN & ZOISA	4,289.52 TS	192	4.01		CHURCH-PEOPLES BAPTIST	870.08 T	338	5		DURFEE, RICHARD & BARBARA	4,429.59 TS
10	20.02		HISHMEH, JAMES AND LAURA	176.15 S	193	1		WATKINS, GEORGE (D) JANICE A	1,025.92 T	339	15		STEWART, ROBYN WALLACE	879.99 T
10	21		ROMANO, MICHAEL & LINDA	176.15 S	193	8		CAGA, JOHN & BOWKER, MICHELLE	297.80 S	341	9		CAMPBELL, JOHN C.	1,176.04 T
11	1		STEPHENSON, ROBERT L. & BARBARA J.	3,693.95 TS	193	12		MOORE, JAMES G. & SHARON D.	2,640.82 T	342	1		MALINSKI, ROBERT & NICOLE	1,210.90 T
11	4		CORDNER GRACE	801.02 T	193	14		CAGA, JOHN & BOWKER, MICHELLE	349.20 T	343	7		KOZIEL, BERNARD J. & JOAN H	8,310.14 TSA
12	21		HENSFERGER, THOMAS & DEBRA	4,033.44 TS	194	9		MOSS, ROBERT & KATHERINE	3,400.80 TS	345	3		GALARZA, ADA	822.87 T
12	47		PARAS, SONIA L.	1,302.41 T	195	3		ROBSON, ROBERT G. & ROBERTA F	1,615.87 TS	346	10		DONALD, LEONARD & DEBRA	428.82 T
13	4.05		COLBY, JAMES	3,044.27 T	195	40		PISCITELLI, DAVID (V) & LENORE	89.78 S	346	9		GLYN, THOMAS V. & DIDONATO, WALTER	206.16 T
13	6.01		DUDLEY, GARY K.	985.03 T	195	51		ALJIAN, MARK & ODOM, JOAN	964.86 T	352	1		VOCISANO, DOMINIC & SAVERIA	206.16 T
17	12		KIDELL, CHESTER	2,314.89 T	196	8		SMITH, MARCUS	3,930.15 TS	353	4		GASTER, JOHN & SUE ANN	740.96 A
18	4		PIPER, TREVOR S. & IMOGENE E.	879.16 T	196	15		KELLY, PETER & JENNIFER	88.65 S	355	8		BOARD OF EDUCATION-ROOSEVELT SCHOOL	78.59 S
22	4		BROWN, THEODORE C. & ROBIN L.	294.25 S	196	15		TACON, JOSEPH & BARBARA	176.15 S	355	10.05		LITTREAN, STEVE & DENISE	6,872.35 T
24	7		HUNTER, DAVID M. & TERESA A.	176.15 S	199	3		KAPINOS, CAROLE	753.13 T	355	14		GARRY, MICHAEL & ROBERTA	756.50 T
24	38		GENTILE, ELLEN M. & ROBERT J.	176.15 S	200	8		GONZALEZ, FRANK & MARIA	176.15 S	357	2.07		ANTHONY MOCCI	401.08 T
25	13		NOLTY, RICHARD F. SR. & CAROL N.	4,028.88 TS	200	10		HARRI, S. EDNA	816.99 T	358	12.01		HUFFSMITH, GARY & MARY	3,057.00 T
26	3		RIDDLES, ANNE E. & REED, DEBORAH A.	198.32 S	200	18		ROST, ALBERT R. & PATRICIA K	953.10 T	360	1.08		SOUTH PLAINFIELD DEV. C/O COHEN	114.73 T
27	2		SANKS, DARRY	1,876.50 TS	201	3		HART, D. & S. & GUILLIANO, E. & A.	953.10 T	368	10		EZWAY CORPORATION	4,935.49 TS
27	3		KULAWIAK, CAROLANN & WALTER P.	3,693.95 TS	201	3		AVERSA, MARY & TANZOLA, JOHN	1,430.34 T	368	12		DON SMALLEY CONSTRUCTION CO	1,324.13 T
29	5		KELLY, JEANETTE	1,836.91 T	201	22		NEGRA, JOHN S. & AUDREY A. TRUSTEES	1,032.08 T	369	13		HELEN PV, L.L.C.	739.55 TS
32	1		SELLA, MICHAEL G. & KELLY A.	297.80 S	201	55		BUCKLEW, JAMES F.	5,445.25 TS	369	3		SMALLEY CONSTRUCTION CO, INC.	422.82 T
33	12		CALDERONE, JOSEPH M.	618.18 A	202	2		SENATORE, FRANK & SHEILA	1,058.96 T	392	12.01		ADAMS, SCOTT T. & FRAUENHEIM, T.A.	297.80 S
35	14		STARK, GARY W. & STARK, DENISE	83.35 S	205	11		RUSSELL, WILLIE, SR. & FARNUM, J	179.30 S	400	3		MILLS, JOHN LEE & ROSLYN THOMAS	294.25 S
37	9		DIPASQUALE, PHYLLIS	4,547.57 TS	205	18		OLANO, JAMES P. & PATRICIA	176.15 S	402	6		C0001 DARJI, PRADIPKUMAR & HEMANGINI	4,142.68 T
38	10		MAKAREWICZ, GEORGE & BETTY L.	3,355.93 TS	206	3		CACCIATORE, DEBRA R.	1,064.01 T	402	6		KERTES, FRANK M. & L.	2,611.35 T
41	1		BOLIVAR, WALTER A. & MABEL I.	920.33 T	206	1		EXXON CORP/STATION #3-3855	62.22 S	404	05		CAMPOS, RAUL L. & EVA F.	1,262.30 T
41	13		SUTTON, JEFFREY S. & SUSAN M.	77.45 S	208	1		STRUHL INVESTMENTS, LP	84.95 T	404	05		PENDERS, C. & T. & PEDERSEN, J. & H	2,437.34 TS
42	11		COLVIN, FRANK JR. & KAREN	3,835.80 T	210	5		FIORENTINO, ANTHONY & IRENE	958.24 T	406	02		BARDEN, HERBERT & DELLA	4,326.89 TS
42	17		ROSS, KENNETH & JOANNE	3,140.73 TS	210	7		KNEMOLLER, THOMAS W. & SHEILA	880.84 T	406	03		RODRIGUEZ, CIPRIAN	297.80 S
51	1		PLAINFIELD MERIDIAN LTD	529.59 T	211	2.02		SLOAN, JAYNE A.	1,083.55 TS	407	4		NORRIS, LISA & ALBERT, H. & NIXON, R	294.80 S
54	2		SANCHEZ, ROSARIO B. & RENE	294.25 S	213	1		HICKS, ETHEL JUANITA	953.10 T	407	13		BOLIVAR, WALTER E.	294.80 S
56	12		HERMANIA, J. & SUMARDI S.	287.30 S	213	1		FESSOCK, PAUL & LEONOR	963.17 T	407	13		SCHUEFERMAN, FRANK	2,539.37 TS
57	16		BOZZO, EUGENE & CARMELLA	1,142.98 T	216	1.04		RUSSELL, GEORGE & MOTTOLA, DAWN	1,353.88 T	407	21		YERKO, GREGORY & BRIGITTE N.	4,411.70 T
59	14		GARCIA, JOSE & LIGIA	4,425.47 T	216	1.12		GAWLER, GARY J. & NANETTE	5,453.61 T	407	27		BOWERS, HOWARD JR. & PATRICIA	176.15 S
59	1.01		PULOMENA, JOHN & TUFARO, RICHARD	179.51 S	216	8		GUZZO, HELEN	1,119.79 TS	414	7		CALDRONE, JAMES E. & BETH ANN	297.80 S
59	8.01		HOUSE, GREGORY R. & MAUREEN E.	173.40 S	221	4		EVANS, THOMAS & VICTORIA S.	1,119.79 TS	416	19		MARTINEZ, LUIS & DAISY	880.08 SA
60	17		BOTTOM, LOUIS & JULIE	1,033.76 T	222	1		KIROAK PARK LPPO. 5020	498.19 T	420	3		HILL, ROSCOE JR.	294.40 S
61	1		INNES, JAMES S. & MARGARET B.	176.15 S	222	5.03		HARRISON, MICHAEL	2,643.80 T	420	7		PASOLA, DANIEL & CHRISTINA	880.92 T
61	10		YATES, JR., GEORGE T. & LYNN R.	1,014.44 T	222	26		ETTORE, REGINA	176.15 S	420	11.05		VANGUARD RESEARCH IND., INC.	75.44 S
64	1		1907 PARK AVE MEDICAL ASSOC.	8,329.44 T	225	10		NOVKOVIC, PATRICIA	4,460.64 T	420	12		SWIFT TRANSPORTATION CO. INC.	544.13 S
64	5		CUMMINGS, JAMES K. & EDNA	933.78 T	225	21		SIMPSON, RONALD & ANGELA	176.15 S	425	5		F & M DECORATORS INC. A NJ CORP	2,147.10 T
65	1		MESSINA EMMA & RICHARD C.	119.83 S	229	12		PIETSCHER, SCOTT & GRANSKI, SUSAN	197.38 T	425	6		F & M DECORATORS INC	4,015.32 TA
65	9		RAASAM, RAMAKUMAR V.	80.94 S	231	12		HOH, ANTONIA J.	1,025.76 TS	426	8.01		JANUS, RONALD & DIANE	1,162.98 T
67	2		FRANZON, RICHARD F. & MARGARET MARY	297.80 S	233	11		HOH, ANTONIA J.	1,025.76 TS	426	11		EL-SAYED, CHRISTOPHER M.	2,233.28 T
75	4		COLON, MARIA J.	77.00 S	233	31		ST. JEAN, JENNIFER	1,083.55 TS	427	8		MILLER, LORRAINE A.	1,393.80 T
75	11		YERMAN, EMIL	3,618.97 TS	234	8		BAYAK, PATRICK & PATRICIA	296.61 S	427	19.01		MOONINGHOUGH, LEON	7,109.66 T
76	4		BALL, WILLIAM M. & BEVERLY	965.94 T	238	8		AFRENIERE, KENNETH E. & CHRISTINE	1,311.70 T	427	24		WM B.MC LAINE REALTY CO.	93.63 T
79	17		DONOHUE, DOROTHY & JENNIFER	791.61 T	242	13		WILLIAMS, MARVIN B. & ALMA D.	1,225.54 T	427	24		HOGAN, WILLIAM	1,854.48 TS
81	7		HEFFERNAN, THOMAS	796.81 T	245	5		VO, THO NGOC & BACH TRAN	1,021.15 TS	437	4		RIBRO BUILDERS INC	1,753.05 T
81	11		WILHELM, RICHARD W. & SYLVIE D.	187.06 S	245	21		BOYLE, THOMAS & DIANE C	1,262.96 T	438	1		RANKIN, S. CAROL A. LEE & CLYDE S.	493.80 S
81	27		DORNICK, JONATHAN & JANE	4,211.86 TS	249	34		AMERICAN LEGION, CHAUMONT POST#243	183.19 S	438	3		SORIANO, NELSON A. & ANA F.	976.62 T
94	26		GIORDANO, WILLIAM & JEANNETTE	297.80 S	249	66		PELECH, DAVID M. & ZAMPPELLA, HEIDI M.	972.42 T	445	7		SUNSET ACRES REALTY INC.	2,528.75 T
94	30		FINN, DALE M. & WILLIAMS, BARBARA I.	297.80 S	249	75		HEIM, THOMAS & DOLORES H	176.15 S	445	10.05		M & S REALTY LC	17,022.91 TS
97	9		JARAMILLO, WINSTON H. & JENNY F.	1,129.30 T	250	1		KOUSHULIS, THEODORE P. & ROSEMARIE	904.98 T	446	1.031		SAFETY KLEEN CORP.	1



## SACRED HEART SPORTS

## Sacred Heart Holds Annual Sports Banquet

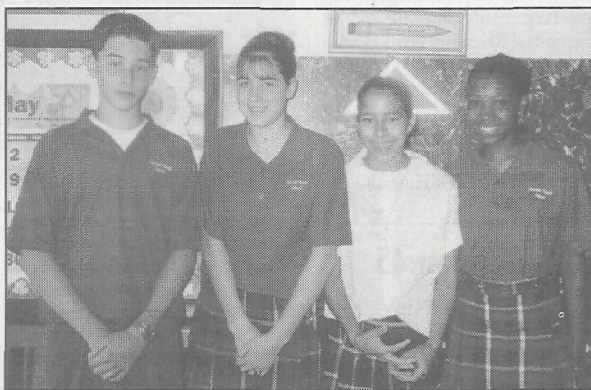
Sacred Heart School's Athletic Association capped off their year at their annual sports banquet, held at McAtreers Restaurant in Somerset on Friday, May 25. The dinner was a celebration of the year's accomplishments, as well as an opportunity for the athletes and their parents to enjoy an evening of dinner, music and dancing.

There were over 300 people in attendance at the dinner dance. The attendees represented a comprehensive sports program which includes basketball, cheerleading, fall cross-country, spring track and girls softball. All teams compete in Diocese of Metuchen leagues, as well as numerous tournaments throughout the year.

Awards were given to eighth graders who displayed excellence in both athletics and sportsmanship. This award, called the Sacred Heart Hawk, was presented to Zaida Castillo for track, Mary Lillis for both softball and basketball, Monea Nash for cheerleading and Kevin Hohner for basketball. Kevin Hohner also received a \$200 savings bond for winning an essay contest which addressed the theme of how faith and family help an athlete achieve his goals.

Special Guest of Honor at the dinner was Danielle Todman, who graduated from Sacred Heart in 1998. Danielle, an honors student at Bishop Ahr High School in Edison, is also a very talented athlete who has excelled in track. Her achievements have led to an invitation to compete in Australia this summer. Danielle spoke to the eighth grade athletes about setting high goals and working diligently to meet these goals.

Recognition was also given to Peter Smith, who is stepping down from the position of Association President after serving for 7 years. Under Mr. Smith's guidance and leadership, Sacred Heart has developed a thriving and competitive sports program which provides opportunities for students in grades K through 8 to par-



Left to right are Kevin Hohner, Mary Lillis, Zaida Castillo and Monea Nash.



ticipate. He also initiated fund raising programs which allowed the Association to make improvements to the gym, update equipment and team uniforms, make charitable contributions, and most recently, build a softball field in the back of the school.

The 2000-2001 season was extremely successful for Sacred Heart School with all of the school basketball teams making the league playoffs. The boys and girls Junior Varsity teams both achieved the distinction of being league champions, while the boys fourth grade team ranked second place in the league. The Junior Varsity Cheerleaders won two first

place trophies in tournaments.

At competition in the Central Jersey Catholic Schools Track Conference, records were set by sixth grader Alicia Presley in the 800 meter at 2:41.86 and eighth grader Kevin Hohner in the 1600 meter at 5:25.85. Eighth grader Kyle Thomas also took first place in the Shot Put with a 29'1" throw. At the relay championships, Sacred Heart won first place in eight out of 18 events and set three new conference records.

The Association looks forward to meeting new challenges and to continuing to make positive contributions to the Sacred Heart School community in the 2001-2002 school year.

By Tony Cassano



## juniorbaseballclubnotes

**SPJBC PLAYOFFS UNDER WAY**—This past weekend, our annual in-house double elimination tournament started with games in the SFB and SFC leagues. By the time this article is read, SFA will be under way and Pony B is on track to start this Sunday, with Pony A to follow early next week. Overall, to date the games have been very competitive and stakes are much higher now as each team plays to win. We expect that all leagues will be finished by the end of next week and/or the end of the month. Champions in each league will be awarded trophies at this year's annual picnic scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 8. Good luck to all the players, coaches and fans during this year's SPJBC Tournament.

**SPJBC SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS ANNOUNCED AT SPHS CEREMONY**—On Wednesday, June 6, this year's two deserving recipients of the annual SPJBC Scholarship Award were announced during the Awards Ceremony held at the SPHS auditorium. Congratulations to both Tom Daly and Ken Wiczorek for their selection as this year's scholarship award winners. Tom and Ken will each receive \$2,000 to be used towards their college education. Once again, congratulations to two very fine young men and best of luck in your future endeavors.

**MID MONTH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ON MONDAY June 18 at 8:30 p.m.**—Our regularly scheduled mid-month general membership meeting will be held this Monday, June 18. As previously noted, elections were held at our June 4 meeting for the Executive Board and Trustee's. Congratulations once again to the following members for being elected to the Executive Board for the 2002 and 2003 seasons. Kevin Lykes-Commissioner, Dennis Moskal-Assistant Commissioner of Administration, Danny Wasnick-Assistant Commissioner of Finance, Chris Hubner-Assistant Commissioner of Communications. In addition, congratulations to Dominic Papa, Danny White, Anthony Romano and Pat Muglia for being elected as next year's trustee's. The new board will take over at the September meeting.

**RAFFLE DRAWING TO BE HELD THIS MONDAY**—As previously noted, this year's raffle drawing will be held during our mid-month meeting scheduled for this upcoming Monday. All raffles should be in by now. We apologize for any inconvenience the changing of the drawing date might have caused. First Place winner will receive a \$300 gift certificate to Menlo Park Mall, second place will receive \$200, third place \$100 and fourth place \$50. Thanks go out to Pat Kelly for all his time and effort for organizing, distributing and overseeing this year's raffle contest.

**FALL BALL TO BE PLAYED FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER AT THE SPJBC**—Plans are under way to organize a Fall Ball League for the first time ever at the SPJBC. Games will start in September with registration to be held this summer. More details to follow via school flyer distribution and in this paper. In addition, for some current details, please see the flyers located around the main snack stand or contact our Fall Ball Committee of Lee Flanagan, John Polizzano or Jeff Marcoux.

**SPJBC ALL-STAR TOURNAMENT TO START BY END OF JUNE (VOLUNTEERS NEEDED)**—The 28th Annual Invitational All-Star Tournament will start by the last weekend of this month. Teams from all over the tri-state area will be bringing their best traveling all stars in a winner take all round robin tournament to be held at our complex. The SPJBC will be entering teams in all age brackets (8's, 9's, 10's, 11's, 12's, 13's, and 14/15's). Volunteers are needed in the Snack Stands and for work details on the weekend. Please lend a hand if possible, but more so, please come out and support your friends and our teams during the tournament which will run daily through the month of July.

Ponytail Softball  
Batters Box

By Sharon Miller

All-Star Tournament — June 13, 14, 16 and 17

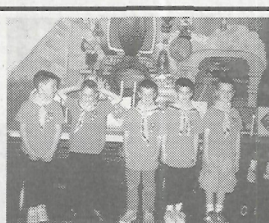
The Ponytail Parents' Association has established and will be hosting the South Plainfield All-Star Tournament. We need the assistance of parents and Association members in order to make this tournament a success. The tournament will take place on June 13, 14, 16 and 17 at the Pitt Street Park Complex. In addition to our South Plainfield All-Star teams, teams from Iselin, Colonia, North Plainfield, North Edison and Delaware Valley will be participating. Please join us in support of our All-Star players for this exciting event. Team schedules can be found on our website.

Ponytail Softball Association Meeting — June 26

The South Plainfield Ponytail Parents' Association will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, June 26 at 8 p.m. in the South Plainfield Middle School library. If you are interested in becoming a member and being involved in girl's Ponytail softball, please join us on June 26. New members are always welcomed.

Ponytail Softball Online

You can now visit Ponytail softball online anytime at our newly created website...SPONYTAIL.com. You will find the latest news/events, team rosters/schedules, game highlights/pictures, information on our Parents' Association, and All-Star teams. Please feel free to contact us by keying on the email link WEBMASTER.SPONYTAIL.com found on our home page.

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## Obituaries

### Donald Ernst, 73

Donald Ernst, a former area resident, died on December 2, 2000 in Bradenton, Fla.

Mr. Ernst was born in Rahway, lived in Edison and later resided in South Plainfield for 20 years before moving to Ellenton, Fla. 10 years ago. He retired in 1989 from American Products Co. of Union, where he had been a supervisor.

He was a Navy veteran of WWII and a former member of the VFW in Rahway. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. He was a member of various hunting and fishing clubs in New Jersey and in Florida.

Surviving are his wife, Elizabeth Cromwell Ernst, three daughters, Donna Ernst Silva and her husband John of Raritan Twp., Audrey Schuetz and her husband Karl of South Plainfield and Nancy Ernst of Bridgewater, and a son, Donald Ernst and his wife Cathy of Elizabeth, Colorado. Also surviving are nine grandchildren.

A memorial Mass of Christian Burial will be offered on Friday, June 15 at 1 p.m. in Our Lady of Czestochowa RC Church in South Plainfield. Interment will follow in Holy Redeemer Cemetery.

Funeral services are under the direction of the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

South Plainfield for 48 years before moving to Piscataway a year ago.

Mrs. Lowrie was employed as a Sales Associate for Sears in Watchung. She was also an Avon Representative for 20 years where she was awarded the President's Club Recognition numerous times for her sales efforts.

Mrs. Lowrie was an avid bowler, bowling for most of her life. She bowled with the Somerset Trio League, where she held many of their offices, including president.

She is predeceased by her husband, Alfred C., and brother, Roy Walter.

Surviving are three daughters, Carol and her husband John Kilgannon of Brick Twp., Patricia G. Bergold of Dunellen, and Linda and her husband Ted Gable of Manville; a son, Alfred Lowrie and his wife Noel, of Greenbrook and her brother, Don Walter of Harrison.

Also surviving are eight grandchildren, Alfred P. and Bryan Lowrie, Stephanie Graus, Jerry G. Nealis, Megan and Erin Kilgannon, Fred and Geoffrey Bergold, and four great grandchildren, Stephanie, Natasha, Jessica and Matthew.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

### Nick J. Perrucci Jr., 72

Nick J. Perrucci Jr. died on Friday, June 8 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

Born in Scotch Plains, Mr. Perrucci had resided in Plainfield before settling in South Plainfield 25 years ago.

He served in the United States Army during WWII as a Private First Class, assigned to the Signal Battalion at Fort Bragg as a truck driver.

Mr. Perrucci was employed by Levin Associates in North Plainfield as a foreman in the maintenance department for 20 years before retiring three years ago. Previously he worked as a mason in the Plainfield area.

He is predeceased by his brother, Robert Perrucci, Sr., who died in March and his sister-in-law, Marilyn Perrucci.

Surviving are his sisters, Anna Perrucci of South Plainfield; Edith

and her husband George Collucci of Clinton; his brothers, Mario and his wife Barbara of Forked River, and John Perrucci of Somerville and his sister-in-law, Rosemary Perrucci, with whom he resided.

He is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews and one great great nephew.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

### Teresa Meisnest, 45

Teresa Meisnest died on Sunday, June 10 at her home.

Born in Plainfield, she resided in Green Brook for 20 years before moving to South Plainfield in 1990.

Teresa was employed as a registered nurse for Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield. Previously she had been employed by Surgi-Care of Central Jersey in Watchung, and the Springfield Eye & Laser Surgery in Springfield.

She was a graduate of Elizabeth General Hospital School of Nursing where she received her R.N. degree in 1976. She also attended Union County College receiving her Associates degree in Nursing.

Surviving are her husband, Raymond F. Meisnest; her son, Kevin P., at home; her mother, Elizabeth (Coughlan) McNelis of Summerville, SC; five sisters; Elizabeth Hurley of Dayton, Fla., Kathy Maas and Susan deCoodt, both of Summerville, SC, Maureen Sloan of Burleson, Texas, Carolyn McNulty of North Plainfield and seven nephews and six nieces.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home for Funerals.

## Ann Zajkowski Honored For 40+ Years of Teaching



Ann Zajkowski with SPHS Principal Anthony Massaro.

*Continued from page 1*

sented with a corsage and plant.

Any resemblance of a 'faculty meeting' quickly vanished and well-wishers and colleagues, both old and new, formed a line. Each had a special congratulations or memory that made the guest of honor's smile broaden. A cake was wheeled into the room and after photographs were taken to commemorate the moment, Zajkowski cut the cake and a party atmosphere filled the room. A number of current SPHS teachers warmly remembered the days when they were students of Zajkowski. Superintendent of Schools Dr. John Krewer was also on hand to offer his congratulations.

Principal Tony Massaro said, "Ann has been my friend, my colleague and my mentor. I am very fortunate that most of my days at South Plainfield High School begin with an exchange of greetings around 6:30 a.m. or so.

I value her counsel and her friendship. I am in awe of her ability to be as enthusiastic about teaching today as she was at the beginning, over forty years ago. In very real terms, Ann Zajkowski is a hero in educational circles!"

Zajkowski has been a business educator for 44 years; 41 of them at SPHS. She has served as the District's Supervisor of Adult Education, as well. Her professional affiliations include Delta Phi Epsilon, New Jersey Business/Technology Association, South Plainfield Education Association, Middlesex County Education Association, and National Education Association. She has been advisor to the classes of 1965, 1973, 1977, 1990 and 1994. She received the Governor's Teacher Recognition Program award in 1994 and is being honored again.

### Helen A. Lowrie, 77

Helen A. Lowrie died Monday, June 4 at Beth Israel Hospital in Newark, NJ.

Born in Plainfield, she resided in

### Compare

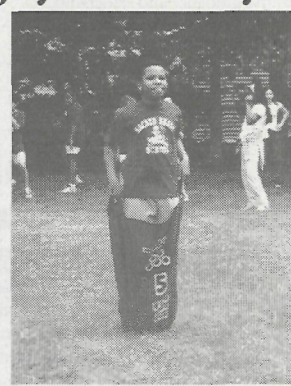
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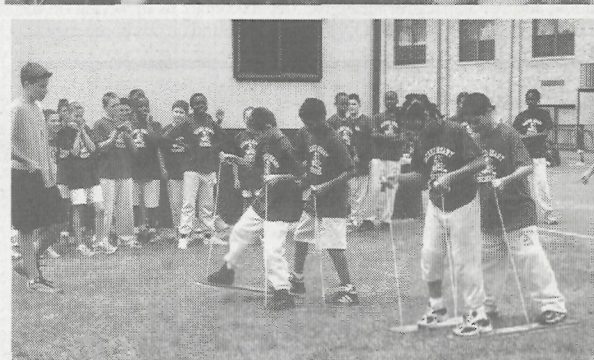
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## Sacred Heart School Kids Enjoys Fun Day



Sacred Heart Students enjoyed their annual Fun Day recently, playing games and enjoying good food and refreshments.



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## policereport

• On June 6, an employee of Eckerd Drug on Park Ave., reported that a woman had run out of the store without paying for her film developing.

• Richard Carmen of Ferraro Foods on Hadley Rd., reported that an employee had items that came from their warehouse in the back of his car, covered by a blanket.

• An Elizabethtown Ct. resident reported that she had left her car running in front of her home and came out to find her car was gone.

• On June 7, an Arlington Ave. resident reported that a rock had been thrown through her front bay window.

• First Union Bank on Plainfield Ave., reported that the lense cover on the lobby ATM was scratched, possibly with a key.

• On June 8, a Cosmed employee reported that \$640 worth of computer equipment had been stolen from behind a locked door.

• A Bergen St. resident reported receiving numerous harassing phone calls from his ex-wife at work on a daily basis.

• A Bound Brook resident, attending the fair at OLC, reportedly left his wallet unsecured on the back of his motorcycle and drove off. He went back to look for it but couldn't locate it.

• A Flemington woman reported her pocketbook being stolen while at Liquid Assets.

• A Delmore Ave. resident reported her front license plate had been stolen somewhere in South Plainfield.

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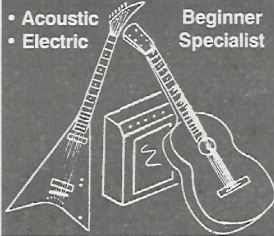
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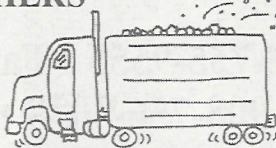
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