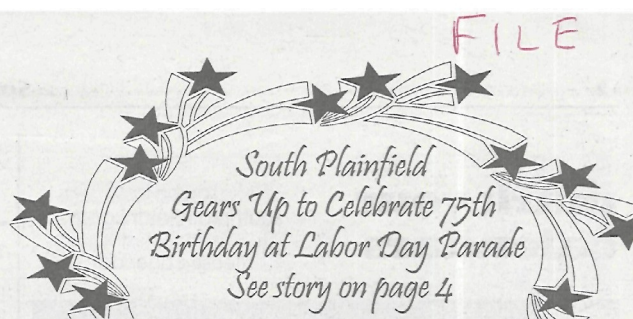


See next week's issue for  
complete pre-parade coverage



# South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 4, NO. 51

50 CENTS

AUGUST 24, 2001



## Local Resident Charged in Sex Crime

Israel DeLeon, a 23-year-old resident of South Plainfield was arrested for sexual assault and endangering the welfare of a minor.

DeLeon was a family friend of the 14-year-old victim. She reported that on at least five different occasions, from Feb. through May 2001, DeLeon had sexual intercourse with her at her home.

Det. James Darby and the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office Sex Crimes Unit conducted an investigation which led to the arrest and charges against DeLeon. He is currently housed at the Middlesex County Adult Correction Facility in North Brunswick.

## Wetdown 2001.... Fire Dept. Throws A Party!



## Plainfield Resident Charged in Bank Robbery

Thirty one year-old Plainfield resident Robert C. Smoot has been charged with a bank robbery that occurred on June 15 at the Summit Bank (now Fleet Bank) on Oak Tree Ave.

During the robbery Smoot entered the bank, presented a note demanding money and threatened to shoot the teller. He escaped with an undetermined amount of cash. No one was injured during the incident.

Forensic evidence was gathered at the scene by the South Plainfield Detective Bureau and turned over to the FBI for examination. The Somerset office of the FBI provided the South Plainfield Detective Bureau with the suspect's identity and an additional investigation was conducted, resulting in the robbery charge against Smoot. Smoot is currently serving time in the State Prison for an unrelated charge.

By Patricia Abbott

More than 1,500 people attended the Fire Department's Wetdown, proving that the South Plainfield Fire Department really knows how to throw a party. A Wetdown is the traditional way a fire department christens a recently purchased fire engine.

The day began with a dedication ceremony held in the fire department parking lot. Three new vehicles were officially introduced and dedicated—a 2000 ambulance, a 2001 Ford Expedition and a 2001 E-One fire engine.

Attending the ceremonies were Mayor Dan Gallagher, Councilmembers Ray Petronka, Darlene Pinto, Dennis Cerami and James Vokral, SPFD clergyman Jim Erickson, Rescue Squad Captain Ron Seidel and Assemblywoman Barbara Buono. Former South Plainfield Fireman Mark Hall traveled from Texas to attend the celebration.

Jim Erickson started the ceremony by offering a blessing. Mayor Gallagher and Councilman Cerami spoke briefly before the microphone was

turned over to Fire Chief Joe Abbruzzese.

Chief Abbruzzese praised a number of people for their support. He thanked Mayor Gallagher for his unending support of the fire service.

He also noted Councilman Cerami's efforts, saying, "This man is just incredible. He's been fire commissioner for a number of years. He's a true leader. I want to thank him for all the effort that he's put forth on behalf of the volunteer fire service. I also want to recognize the rest of the council, without them nothing would ever happen here and the Middlesex County Freeholders who played a very important role in the acquisition of this new fire apparatus." He went on to thank Deputy Chief Lawrence Del Negro, Deputy Chief Thomas Scalera, Captain Andy Juttner, Captain Paul Mellilio, Lt. John Reed and Lt. John Ferguson. He also recognized a very close friend of the fire department, Rescue Squad Capt. Ron Seidel. Chief Abbruzzese went on to acknowledge those who wouldn't be participating in the Wetdown because they would be answering potential alarms.

"There's a bunch of firefighters here today and I would like to change their title, firefighters, to what they really are, brothers. They are the fire departments from Colonia and New Market. While we're having fun today, these gentlemen will be in the position of protecting our town. These individuals are the epitome of the vol-

unteer fire service and I can't say enough good things about them."

In the 94 years since the founding of South Plainfield Fire Department, there have been only nine fire chiefs. Chief Abbruzzese dedicated the new engine, #56, to those nine chiefs: Hamilton, Kane, Delaney, Bori,

*Continued on page 6*

## THE ANNUAL POLICE VS. FIRE DEPARTMENT BENEFIT BASEBALL GAME

will be held on  
Friday Night, Aug. 24, 7:30 p.m.  
at Veteran's Park



This annual charity game benefits the South Plainfield Handicap Childrens' Society through the South Plainfield Elks Lodge #2298.

Last year the police department won by a whopping score of 32-24 and the fire department

is out for revenge. A variety of refreshments will be available, as well as a 50/50.

This is a fun event, so plan on coming out to not only have a good time, but to support a worthy cause.



## mark your calendars

Log on to  
[southplainfieldnj.com](http://southplainfieldnj.com)  
for the latest  
meeting agenda

### council meetings

Meets twice a month on the first and third Thursday.

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

**AGENDA MEETING** ..... **PUBLIC MEETING**

Tuesday, September 4 ..... Thursday, September 6

Monday, September 17 ..... Thursday, September 20

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

### planning board

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month

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

August 28, Sept. 11, Sept. 25, Oct. 9, Oct. 23, Nov. 13, Nov. 27,

Dec. 11, Dec. 25 (no meeting).

### zoning board of adjustment

Meets first, third and fifth Tuesday of the month

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

Sept. 4 (no meeting), Sept. 18, Oct. 2, Oct. 16, Oct. 30,

Nov. 6 (no meeting), Nov. 20, Dec. 4, Dec. 18.

### taxpayers advisory group

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

### site places sub-committee

The fourth Thursday of the month as follows:

August 23, September 27, October 25, November 22 (no meeting), December 27.

### recreation commission

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

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

September 10, October 8, November 12, December 10

### environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)

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

Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 9, 2002

### board of education meetings

Grant School Gymnasium on Cromwell Place unless otherwise noted

Committee of the Whole, Tue. Sept. 11, Oct. 16, Nov. 13, Dec. 11 at 7 p.m.

Regular Board Mtg., Tue., Aug. 28, Sept. 18, Oct. 23, Nov. 20, Dec. 18 at 8 p.m.

### business advisory group

Meets once a month (first Wednesday)

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

### traffic safety advisory commission

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

Sept. 26, Oct. 24, Nov. 28, Dec. 26.

## South Plainfield Observer

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

(908) 668-0010 • FAX (908) 668-8819

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The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

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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 Hamilton Ave. or at (908) 668-8819 or e-mail us on our web page at [spobserver.com](http://spobserver.com) or [ggnan@aol.com](mailto:ggnan@aol.com) or [ngrennie@ix.netcom.com](mailto:ngrennie@ix.netcom.com). Include your name, address, telephone number.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters may be submitted by mail to South Plainfield Observer, Editorial Dept., 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, by email at our website at [spobserver.com](http://spobserver.com) or faxed to 908-668-8819. Letters should not exceed 400 words. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. It is the editor's discretion to limit the number of letters submitted by one individual on the same subject. The opinions expressed in "Letters" do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Observer. Letters must be submitted with name and phone number, even if they request name their name be omitted when published.

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BOBBY HUNTER  
Sports Writer  
KENNETH MORGAN  
Correspondent  
ROXANNE CORTESE  
JANE DORNICK  
WILLIAM TUTHILL  
Advertising Sales

To the Editor,

As a member of the South Plainfield Community Pool, I would like to thank Jennifer Infante and the other staff members who made the recreational program at the pool so enjoyable for all the children. Weekly themes and events were planned, such as Christmas in July and Trip Across the United States. Jennifer's plans were creative, educational and fun.

In the beginning of the summer, a few children participated and by the end of the program it was overwhelmed by the response of the children. Jennifer was also instrumental in having one hour each day during the week set aside for Toy Time in the "big" pool. Children and adults were able to bring flotation devices and toys into the pool.

Under the direction of Mike English, Recreation Supervisor, the community pool has provided many enjoyable activities for the residents of this community. English has many innovative plans for the future.

With record winning swimming and diving teams, the community pool is definitely the place to be during the summer months in South Plainfield. If you haven't had the opportunity to be there, take advantage of the few days left of the summer and enjoy the friendships made there.

**CHERYL NAGEL-SMILEY**

*Editors Note: We just found out that the South Plainfield Community Pool will be open to the entire community on Saturday, Sept. 8 from 12-6. This is a great chance to see what the pool has to offer.*

To the Editor,

It was difficult for my family to read the recent news articles about Jim Curcio. My family is one of the many fortunate in South Plainfield to be the recipient of community service, spirit and dedication to young athletes. Each of my children participated in Pop Warner and for a short time, the Recreation Wrestling Program. Each knew Jim Curcio and felt his contribution. I worked cooperatively with Jim recently on a Hall of Fame nomination for Al Ranger and, have many times over the years worked with Jim on recreation and community related activities. My husband coached many years under Jim's leadership in the Pop Warner Football organization.

I do not know all the facts, only what the media has deemed appropriate to report. I am not a close friend to the Curcio family other than my interaction as a fellow community service volunteer.

I do know, however, when trying to explain this to my two sons, who admire and appreciate all the time and dedication Jim has given to them personally and to programs they were and are involved in and have witnessed Jim's tireless dedication to the PAL and recreation programs that I need to remind them that all that was and is good is not erased.

My family has appreciated the hard work and dedication Jim Curcio has given to young athletes, that appre-

## In My Opinion

ciation is not tainted. He and his family are in our prayers. I hope the community he gave his time so freely to, will remember this, and support his family during this time. After all isn't that what being a part of a community is all about?

**SINCERELY,**

**DAWN JEFFERYS**

To the Editor,

Hopefully, at the upcoming Labor Day Parade, the spectators will remember that the American Flag represents the county in which we live.

A generation ago whenever the red, white and blue was paraded, people stood up, men doffed their hats, many folks saluted as the colors passed by, acknowledging and respecting the country for which it stands.

With so much unrest in the works, should we not be proud to openly demonstrate that we are Americans?

**IRMA TABISZ**

To the Editor,

The South Plainfield Fire Department Wetdown 2001 Committee would like to thank everyone who helped in making last Saturday's festivities a great day for the fire department and the town of South Plainfield.

A special thanks goes out to the South Plainfield Board of Education, the mayor and council, Our Lady of Czestochowa Church and the wives, families and friends of the South Plainfield Fire Department. Also, thanks to all the members of the South Plainfield Fire Department for their continued help to make this event the success that it was.

We would like to thank the following for their contributions and donations: Home Depot, McCrisky Home For Funerals, A-Tech Landscaping, Bulla Plumbing, RGT Electric, Formost Fire Protection, Scoops Ice Cream, Fyre Technology, South Plainfield Fire Prevention, South Plainfield Road Dept., South Plainfield Senior Citizens, South Plainfield Booster Club, Stilo Excavation Inc., Di-Lex Trucking Inc., Backsplash, Absolute Fire Protection, Flex Pack, Braco Mfg. Co., NAPA Auto Parts, KC Corner, Buy-Rite Liquors, Witty's Liquors, Sal's Spirit Shoppe, Halls Trucking, K&B Toys, Freihofer's, Marsh Assoc., Jay-Bees, Star Ledger, B & C Deli, Stan the DJ from KC Corner, Matthew's Service Center, Glasstech, Inc., Meineke of South Plainfield, Lordin Builders, Inc., South Plainfield Auto Repair, Sherwin Williams Auto, Seagrave Sale Service, AJV Auto, T/A Gulf Station, Zebro's Auto, Haris Foreign Cars Service, Kleiner Metal Specialties, Braco Mfg. Co., Day's Inn of South Plainfield, V.A. Tramontano and Son, Grant Ave. Block Assoc.,

Harris Steel, MedTech Group Inc., AL Servicer, Liquid Assets, Exxon Park Ave., Ron Pack, Nutro Laboratories, Inc., Corner Deli, Springer Tool Sales, Panzarella, Snap on Tools and International Catering.

Again thanks from the Wet Down 2001 committee.

**THOMAS "BUBBA" SCALERA,**

**JOHN "PEPERONI"**

**CELENTANO, KEN "PLUMBER"**

**BULLA, KEVIN BULLA, SAL**

**GANOTTA, RICH THOMA AND**

**MATT ANDERSON**

Dear Editor,

Please pass this information to your readers.

Last month I attempted to call my daughter in Charlotte and the phone was busy for over two hours. This was unusual, so I did what I have done all my life, I dialed the operator. I explained that I suspect that there is trouble on either her line or mine and could she check. Shortly I was connected to my daughter.

The following month a charge of \$4.31 appeared on my bill with a notation, "This month you have a new service provider." I called Verizon and was told that such calls are automatically transferred to another company. I told Verizon that I did not request a new service provider, was not told that my call was being transferred and that there would be an outrageous charge for someone to punch in a few numbers. I contacted the other company, of whom I have never heard and told them that they had the same chance of collecting the charge as a snowball has surviving in hell. I fired off a complaint to the FCC and my Washington representative. Verizon called to say the charge was being removed. My representative sent me a copy of his letter to the FCC and the FCC sent me a flock of stuff stating my rights.

The point is that if you now ask your local operator to try to dial a number on which you think there might be a problem, you are going to be switched to a no-name company and get an outrageous charge. I thought I would share this with you so you don't get scammed. I'll bet a lot of people just pay the charge.

**A CONCERNED CONSUMER**

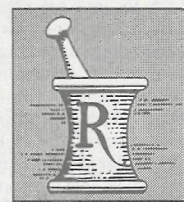
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**Have a Safe**  
**Summer!**



## Labor Day Parade Getting Bigger and Bigger

The Parade Committee has added a few more bands and groups to the long list of participants for this year's Labor Day Parade. Bands, marching groups and organizations from all over town will be marching down Plainfield Ave. starting at 10 a.m. They all end up in Veterans Park in front of the viewing stand, where the judges will determine who will be awarded a trophy. Trophies are given for various categories.

As we have previously reported, some of the attractions for the children will be rides, a moon walk, clowns, sand art and face painting. There will also be a picnic contest, an egg toss, a potato



sack race, a watermelon eating contest and finally a water balloon toss, run by the Recreation Department starting at 1 p.m. Prizes will be awarded. In addition the band *Back Splash* will be performing throughout the afternoon in the park.

Plenty of food will be available, including the Lions Club selling sausage, cheesecakes, drinks and beer; the high school cheerleaders selling water, candy, chips, pretzels and baked goods and the

Knights of Columbus will sell fruit cups. Other food available include zeppoles, funnel cakes, cotton candy and fresh lemonade. All vendors in the park are either non-profit organizations or

they will be donating some of their profits to the South Plainfield Fire Department or Rescue Squad. This is a great way to support these organizations, as well as partake in all the great food and drinks available that day. Zeppoles and funnel cakes will also be on sale in the fire department parking lot before the fireworks display.

Former Parade Grand Marshals have been invited to come to Veterans Park and sit in the reviewing stand to watch the parade.

The celebration shifts to Spring Lake Park that evening. Music will be presented in the gazebo until dark by *Sound Investment*, followed by another spectacular fireworks display. Serpico International, the same company as last year is putting on the fireworks.

Next week's Observer will list everyone marching, the tables and concessions in the park and all of the entertainment planned for the day.

For the latest information on the parade, log on to the borough's webpage at [southplainfieldnj.com](http://southplainfieldnj.com).

## southplainfieldpeople Milestones

### Eric Giuliano Receives Architect's License

Eric J. Giuliano has successfully completed the State of New Jersey's requirements to receive his license as a registered architect. Completion of a three-year architectural internship and successfully completing the Architect's Registration Examination are necessary to receive a professional license to practice architecture in New Jersey.

Giuliano is an active member of the New Jersey Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, the architects state professional association. He received his Bachelor of Architecture Degree from Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pa.

As project architect with the firm of Cornerstone Architectural Group, located in South Plainfield, Giuliano has designed and managed several significant building projects in Central New Jersey. Projects that he is responsible for include; the 52,000 square foot state-of-the-art Nathan Elementary

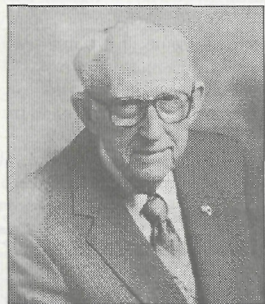


Eric Giuliano

School for the Carteret Board of Education and the expansion of the Middlesex Public Library.

After joining the firm as an intern during school summer break in 1996, Mr. Giuliano has steadily taken on additional project responsibilities. Eric and his wife live in Flemington, NJ.

### Ellis Williams Celebrates 96th Birthday



Ellis Williams

North Plainfield resident Ellis Downing Williams, former South Plainfield teacher, is celebrating his 96th birthday today, Aug. 24.

Mr. Williams was chairman of the Math-Science area of South Plainfield High School from 1956 to 1973, until he retired.

After his retirement, Williams became a professional photographer. For years, before and after his retirement, he took pictures for the year book and of school functions. Williams still takes pictures each year at the high school awards and scholarship evening in the high school.

### Garfield to Appear in Labor Day Parade

The Patriots' Path Boy Scout Council is proud to announce the appearance of Garfield in the South Plainfield Labor Day Parade. Garfield, a nationally syndicated cartoon character, will don his cub scout uniform and proudly march with the members of the five cub scout packs in South Plainfield.

The Labor Day Parade traditionally signals the kick off for the cub scout recruitment in all the schools. South Plainfield is part of the Patriots' Path Boy Scout Council serving over 22,000 youth and 7,300 adult volunteers.

South Plainfield has five cub scout packs at the following schools: Pack #324 John F. Kennedy School, Pack #202 Sacred Heart School, Pack #205 Roosevelt School, Pack #224 John E. Riley School and Pack #207 Franklin School.

For info about recruiting dates and times, and adult volunteers, contact John Gioia at the Patriots' Path Council, (908) 654-9191, ext. 135.

### Raffle Quilt On Display At Library

The South Plainfield Historical Society's quilt, which is the first place prize in this year's Labor Day raffle, will be on display in the South Plainfield Library until Aug. 31.

The quilt is beautiful, hand-sewn and queen-sized from Kutztown, Pa. It is a modified log cabin pattern and is valued at about \$800.

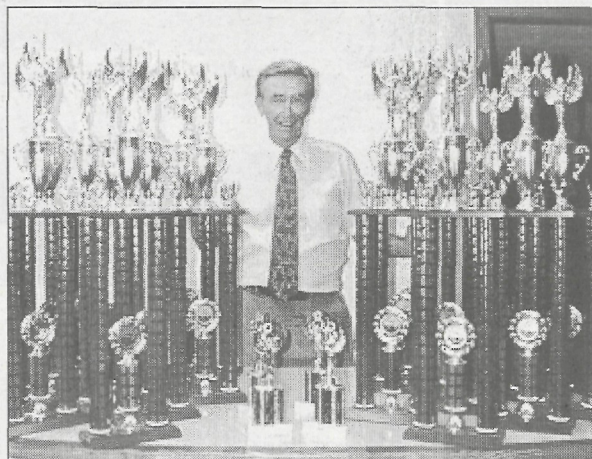
This year, the raffle also has second and third place prizes. Each prize is a gift certificate for two tickets on the brunch cruise aboard the Cornucopia Princess, valued at \$90.

All books, sold or not, must be returned to the Historical Society. They can be mailed to the SP Historical Society, PO Box 11, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, or you can give them to a member at the Historical Society's booth on Labor Day, no later than 1 p.m.

The Historical Society is asking for volunteers to help sell tickets along the parade route.

The raffle drawing will be held at Veteran's Memorial Park following the Labor Day parade.

For tickets or info, call Bill Tuthill at (908) 756-9654; Mary Mazepa at (908) 754-3503; or Arlene Anthony at (908) 753-7852.



Mayor Dan Gallagher, this year's Honorary Grand Marshal, is pictured with the trophies that will be awarded immediately after the parade.

## Borough Notes

### Council

■ The following street will be closed for block parties: Aug. 25-Harvard Ave. (between Garibaldi and Belmont) closed 10 a.m. to midnight; Aug. 25-Audubon Ave. (between Clarke Ave. and Carol Place) noon to midnight; Sept. 1-Selene Ave. (between Wexler Ave. and E. Hendricks Blvd.) noon to midnight; Sept. 2-Revere Rd. (from May Ave. to Putnam Ave.) noon to midnight; Sept. 15-Mahar Ave. (between Palmer Ave. and Tompkins Ave.) 10:30 a.m. to midnight.

■ Pasquale Politi, a borough mechanic, will retire effective Dec. 31.

■ Fleming White Appraisals has been awarded a professional contract to perform appraisal services for the borough at a fee not to exceed \$30,000.

■ Robert J. Tumolo, borough plumbing sub-code official, will retire effective Jan. 31, 2002.

■ Martin Diamant has been hired as a part-time groundskeeper.

■ Shannon McGrath has resigned as a full-time communications operator. She will continue there on a part-time basis, with no benefits.

■ The mayor and council voted to renew the contract for the Delta Dental Plan until July 1, 2002.

■ CME will review and analyze the commercial sanitary sewer billing at a fee of \$75,000.

■ The DPW Loader will be repaired at a cost of \$11,381.09 by Jesco, Inc., who is the only provider for John Deere equipment.

■ L.P. & Sons Brickwork received a payment of \$5,000 for improvement to Harris Structural Steel on New Brunswick Ave. This is part of the facade program which pays up to 50 percent of the improvement.

### Congratulations to Father John Skwara

on his  
70th birthday,  
August 29!!

Happy Birthday!



### Celebrating our 24th year in South Plainfield

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Monday, August 27 through August 31  
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<http://www.joannsdancestudio.bigstep.com>

### GUEST NIGHT....FREE CLASS

Thursday, August 30, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

### Ernie Temple's School of Karate

(located in the Dunellen Knights of Columbus,  
corner of Grove & South Ave., Dunellen)

New Class Starts September 6

- Adult Classes, Mon-Tues-Thurs, 7:30-9:30 PM
- Children's Classes, Mon-Tues-Thurs, 3:45-5:15 PM
- Karate Aerobics- Thurs, 6:00-6:45 PM, only \$5.00
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# Around Town

## Benefit Softball Game, SP Police vs. SP Fire Dept. Friday night

August 24

On Friday, Aug. 24, the Annual South Plainfield Police vs. South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department Benefit Softball Game will be held in Veterans Park at 7:30 p.m. This annual charity game benefits The South Plainfield Handicap Children's Society through the South Plainfield Elks Lodge #2298.

Last year the police department prevailed and the fire department is out to even the score. Residents are invited to attend and show their support. Refreshments will be available, including hot dogs and a 50/50. This is a fun event so plan on coming out to not only have a good time but to support a worthy cause.

## Elks Annual Picnic

August 25

The South Plainfield Elks will hold their annual picnic on Saturday, Aug. 25 from noon to 5 p.m. at the lodge on New Market Ave.

The menu includes roasted pig, clams, hamburgers, hot dogs, corn and salads. A horseshoe toss, amusement for kids and a DJ will be part of the festivities.

Tickets for adults are \$13 in advance (\$15 at the door), family price for two adults and two kids is \$30 (\$35 at the door).

For more information, call Dan Uken at 753-9196.

## Polish Home To Hold Annual Picnic

August 26

The Polish National Home will hold their annual picnic on Sunday, Aug. 26, from 1-6 p.m., rain or shine. There will be beer, wine, soda, food, games and prizes. Prices are as follows: children under five are free, senior citizens and children ages 6-

12 are \$6, members are \$10 and non-members are \$12. For more information, call (908) 668-9442.

## VFW Country Breakfast And Annual Picnic

September 2 and 8

VFW Post 6763 located on Front St. will host a Country Breakfast on Sunday, Sept. 2 from 8 to 11 a.m. The event is sponsored by Pup Tent 41, Military Order of the Cootie. The donation is \$5. The menu will be varied.

The Post will also hold their Annual Picnic on Sept. 8. Festivities scheduled are a moon walk, live music and games.

The menu will include hamburgers and hot dogs, kielbasa and sauerkraut, sausage and peppers, corn on the cob, baked beans, watermelon, coffee and cake.

Admission in advance is 13 years and over- \$10; 6 to 12 years- \$5; and under 5 are free. At the gate prices are \$13 and \$12.

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

## SP Fire Department To Host Wine Tasting Event

September 29

The South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department will host a Wine Tasting event on Saturday, Sept. 29, from 6 to 11 p.m.

The event will be held at the Embassy Suites, in Piscataway. Ticket price of \$70 per person includes a wine tasting reception, from 6 to 8 p.m., a buffet dinner from 8 to 9 p.m. and also features an open bar, DJ and dancing, held from 9 to 11 p.m. There are also special hotel room rates available for overnight stays.

For tickets or more information, contact John Celentano at (908) 757-5691 or Mike Gallagher (908) 755-9874.

## Open Your Heart to Cruise on Cornucopia

October 5

A benefit for children battling cancer and blood disorders will be held Friday, Oct. 5, aboard the Cornucopia Princess, sailing out of Perth Amboy.

The Open Your Heart to Children Battling Cancer Foundation, a non-profit organization, formed by a group of Realtor-Associates at Century 21 Moretti Realty, is accepting

requests for seating reservations aboard the Cornucopia

Tickets can be purchased at \$100 per person, which includes dinner and dancing on two private decks aboard the Cornucopia Princess. Seating is limited, so reserve your seats by calling (800) 899-9199, extension 406.

Advertising space can be purchased for the Cornucopia Cruise Program. Advertising space is available from \$5 to \$100. A \$5 pledge will enable you to post a family name booster. Pages, halfpages and quarterpages can also be purchased.

Monetary pledges will also be accepted for this worthwhile cause. To find out more about how you can help, call (800) 899-9199.

## Recreation To Sponsor Two Trips To Broadway

October 13, December 16

The South Plainfield Recreation Department is sponsoring two trips to New York to see Broadway Shows. The first show, *Contact*, will be on Saturday, Oct. 13. The cost is \$60 per person and the bus leaves from the PAL Building at 10 a.m.

The second trip is to see the classic Radio City Music Hall's Christmas Show. Tickets are \$75 per person and the bus will leave the PAL Building at 1:30 p.m.

Each trip allows everyone to shop and dine before the show.

To purchase tickets, visit the Recreation Office, located in the PAL Building on Maple Ave. The office is open weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## SPHS Class of 1981 20th Reunion

November 23

Attention classmates! The South Plainfield High School Class of 1981 will hold its 20th reunion of Friday, Nov. 23 at Madeline's in Bound Brook.

For more information, please call Jane (Lacey) O'Dowd at (908) 479-1684 or Gina (Rosania) Capizola at (908) 526-3262.

## Submit your Events for Around Town:

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

## —Out of Town—

## Middlesex East Wows Carteret To Hold Dance

August 31

Middlesex East Wows Carteret will hold an All Welcome Dance on Friday, Aug. 31, at St. Demetrius Community Center, 681-691 Roosevelt Ave. in Carteret. Admission is \$7. Live music and refreshments. 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. For more information, call 732-969-1123 or 908-757-0515.

## NJ Repertory Company Presents One-Woman Show Through September 2

The NJ Repertory Company, Lumina Theatre, 179 Broadway in Long Branch is proud to present award winning singer/songwriter/guitarist/concert artist, Christine Lavin, in her new one-woman show, "Getting in Touch With My Inner Bitch," Aug. 9 through Sept. 2, Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased by calling the theater at (732) 229-3166. For more information, visit their website at [www.njrep.org](http://www.njrep.org). CHATS Adoption Support Group To Meet August 27

Adoption Support CHATS (Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support) group will meet on Monday, Aug. 27, from 7:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. at the Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church, 170 Watchung Avenue, North Plainfield. Patty and Bill Recents will lead a discussion of the book, *Ishaka: A Daughter's Memoir of Being Found*, by Sarah Saffian. Anyone is welcome, whether you have read the book or not; adoptee, adoptive parent, birth parent; or anyone with an interest in adoption. Open sharing of adoption-related stories are encouraged, and light refreshments will be provided. For more information, call Alyce at (732) 227-0607 or visit their website at <http://community.nj.com/cc/chats>.

## Kaleidoscope of Hope Walkathon To Benefit

## Ovarian Cancer September 9

Walkers of all ages, including corporate teams, are invited to Morristown's Loantaka Brook Reservation (South St. entrance) on Sunday, Sept. 9, to have a good time and show their support for ovarian cancer research. The Kaleidoscope of Hope Foundation is sponsoring its second annual Walkathon, with options for a one, three or five mile course. Registration is at 8 a.m., followed by warm-ups at 8:30, and the walk at 9:30. A celebration will take place from 11 a.m. to 12 noon, featuring food, entertainment and massages. Walkers are asked to bring pre-paid sponsorship pledges. Dogs are welcome for an extra \$10. Individual, group and corporate sponsorships are invited. Information on ovarian cancer will be available, as all the proceeds from this event will go toward research. For information and/or pledge forms, call (973) 644-0500.

## Burt's Bees Presentation Makeup Show

September 22

On Saturday, Sept. 22 from 1-3 p.m. Burt's Bees Presentation will be showing their fine line of makeup and more. Refreshments will be served. The event is being held at The Brass Lantern, 335 Main St., Metuchen. For more information please call (732) 548-5442.

## Terra Nova Garden Club To Celebrate 50th Anniversary

November 15

The Terra Nova Garden Club is turning 50! Come and celebrate with them at their 50th Anniversary Luncheon, to be held on Tuesday, Nov. 15 at the Metuchen Golf & Country Club, on Plainfield Rd. in Edison, from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Featured guests will be noted floral designer Winifred Applegate and pianist James Nuzzo.

For reservations or more info, call Kay McCormack, (732) 548-1976.

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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.

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

## South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department

123 Maple Avenue  
South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080  
(908) 756-4701

## WINE TASTING

Saturday, September 29, 2001  
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Embassy Suites, Piscataway, NJ

Tickets - \$70 per person

*Ticket price includes:*

Wine Tasting Reception 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Buffet Dinner 8 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Open Bar, DJ and Dancing 9 p.m. - 11 p.m.

*Special Hotel Rooms Rate Available for Overnight Stay*

**For Tickets or More Information Please Contact:**  
John Celentano (908) 757-5691

or

Mike Gallagher (908) 755-9874



From the South Plainfield Library

## Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Once again, here's news from the South Plainfield Library:

Monday is the last day you can borrow items from this month's Circuit video group. Titles for August include *Eight Club*, *Godzilla 2000*, *Remember the Titans*, *Of Mice and Men*, *Escape to Witch Mountain*, and, on DVD, *Deep Blue Sea*. Videos and DVDs may be borrowed, four at a time, for two days.

Next week, we'll follow our normal schedule of children's Storytime programs. Storytimes are held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. They're for children three-years-old and older; you don't have to register in advance. For more information, please check with Children's Librarian Linda Hansen.

We have a couple of additional notes from the Children's Dept. First, those who took part in the Summer Reading Club may pick up their certificates any time in the Children's Room. Second, following all the hectic activities of Summer Reading, Miss Linda needs some time to rest and reorganize. Thus, Storytime programs will be cancelled in September.

Just in time for the recent heat wave, and in preparation for future hot or cold weather, our Heating/AC system has been fully repaired. We thank you for your patience during the time that work was in progress on the system. Feel free to stop by and, depending on the season, warm up or cool off.

We've made another change in our internal arrangement. Our collection of Books on CD have been moved from behind the Circulation Desk to

the shelves at the tail end of the Adult video section. Circuit Books on CD are still behind the main desk, but details on them may be found in the binder with the Circuit Audiobook lists.

Lastly, here's a serious word. We're still having problems with some cheap and thoughtless people who steal and vandalize items from our collection. We're particularly irritated with wholly unnecessary damage done to the periodical collection. It seems the culprits don't want to walk down the block to buy their own copy of the paper, cough up 10 cents for a photocopy, or simply ask us to make a copy for free. (In some cases, we will.) It also seems that people will tear out coupons from our papers, thinking, "The Library doesn't need them." Absolutely wrong; said people don't realize that they're tearing up whatever article was on the other side of the page, as well as rendering the paper impossible to archive through binding or microfilm. We've found the only way to avoid this problem is to purchase two subscriptions to each periodical, one for the public and one for the archives. Unfortunately, this takes up a lot of needed storage space, and a lot of needed funds for new books, longer hours, more A/V items, and other things our law-abiding patrons deserve. So, we ask that you consider your fellow patrons and not abuse our collection. But, if that's not enough, consider this: If we catch you damaging our materials, you will be prosecuted to the limit of the law. THIS IS NOT A JOKE!

That'll just about do it for this week. See you next time.



Junioresette members (l to r) are: Erin Mackey, Alison Tietjen, Carrie Reilly, Julie Palmer, along with a representative from the Valerie Center, are pictured with some of the hats and goodies, as well as the check they presented to the Center. "Petunia the Spring Bunny" on the right (Erin Mackey), waves during the Junioresettes' spring visit to Overlook Hospital.



## Junioresettes Raise Money For Valerie Center

This past year, the South Plainfield Junioresettes have been hard at work, fundraising for the Valerie Center at Overlook Hospital. The Valerie Center at Overlook is one of many facilities designed to aid children with cancer, as well as their families. The Valerie Fund was chosen as one of the state projects for the Junior Women's and Junioresette Clubs in the area.

The South Plainfield Junioresettes have been raising money for the Valerie Center by selling pins at local craft shows and to families and friends. The girls have also visited the Center several times. Colorfully decorated tissue-paper covered toilet paper rolls filled with candy and toys were distributed to the children at the center this past April, by the

girls, along with a visit from Petunia the Spring Bunny.

Again, this past August, the Junioresettes visited Overlook Hospital to bring some more goodies, as well as hand-decorated hats and their fundraising efforts. Junioresette members Julie Palmer, Alison Tietjen, Carrie Reilly and Erin Mackey presented a \$500 check to the Center in order

to purchase a glider rocker chair for one of the children's rooms in the Valerie Center.

The South Plainfield Junioresettes will be regrouping in the fall and would like to welcome any girls between the ages of 12 and 18 to join them.

For more information, call Kathy Winner at (908) 753-7253.

## Karate School Celebrates 25 Years

Ernie Temple, an 8th Degree Black Belt in Isshinryu Karate is celebrating 25 years since opening his first school. His school is located in the Dunellen Knights of Columbus in Dunellen.

Temple, a low key business owner, offers his students a low cost approach to studying the martial arts. No chrome, no glitz and no trophies in the window. "All of my trophies are in the basement, right where they belong." Temple's first competition was in a small tournament in Fort Gordon, Georgia in 1965 and he has competed throughout the 70's, 80's, 90's and competed for the last time in 2000. A five time New Jersey AAU State Champion along with numerous wins on the tournament circuit, he takes great pride in watching his students compete.

Temple, married with three sons and four grandchildren, is retired from New Jersey Bell Telephone. He is also a professional ski instructor. Living in South Plainfield since 1950, he and his wife, Georgia enjoy spending free time riding their Harley.

His school is the largest adult school in Central New Jersey and is structured to provide children and adults with the opportunity to learn not only the physical applications of the mari-



Ernie Temple

tal arts, but more importantly, to learn about themselves. "I want them to understand that they can accomplish anything with their mind." He is a staunch advocate of using the mind before the fist. "There's far too much violence on TV and in the movies. Kids watch their favorite star solve a problem with a punch or a kick. Or worse yet, they pull out a gun. Now if that doesn't have a negative impact on them, what does?"

"Our goal is to parallel the values that the parents are teaching at home. I provide them with short term goals

and as they complete their requirements, you can see their self esteem and worth grow." He says, "High expectations equal high returns!!" There's no chanting special slogans or cute phrases or saluting foreign flags. Just hard work. It is a recipe that seems to work. Temple has three of his original students from his first class still studying with him 25 years later! Interested in watching a class with your child, or for the adults, you can participate in a free class on Aug. 30. For information call (908) 561-6464.

## Moretti Realty Forms Cancer Care Group

The Community Services Team of Century 21 Moretti Realty has formed a non-profit corporation to benefit children with cancer. Cancer affects all of our lives in some way and friends or family members who have battled this disease have touched us all. Children and cancer are two nouns which should never appear in the same sentence, but because they often do, their committee has made a long-term commitment to do all we can to help provide aid to the children and their families. They have chosen to support the Institute for Children with Cancer and Blood Disorders, a volunteer, non-profit organization dedicated to enhance and support the quality of life and care for children suffering from this disease.

Some of the services the institute provides include: inpatient cancer treatment, outpatient services, parent advocate group, cancer bereavement group, emergency financial fund and respite home for parents and siblings.

The institute has embarked on a very aggressive project. They have begun a capital campaign to renovate an off-site facility in walking distance from its main facility to serve as a place of respite for families of children undergoing treatment. A building has been purchased on Somerset Street in New Brunswick. The architects have completed their designs and the house will be modeled in some ways after



Mayor Gallagher accepts a \$3,000 check for the Putnam Park Project from Enterprise Rent-A-Car Vice President Michelle Bosch. Enterprise will be opening a new location at 1401 New Market Ave.




**The Family Place**

**Carousel Hair Salon**

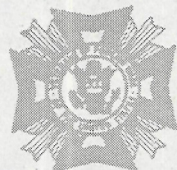
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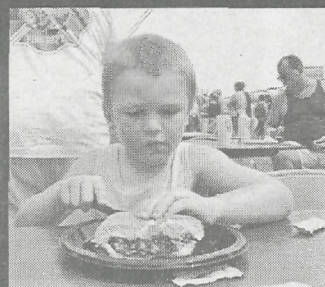


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Children 6-12 yrs. \$5.  
Under Six, Free



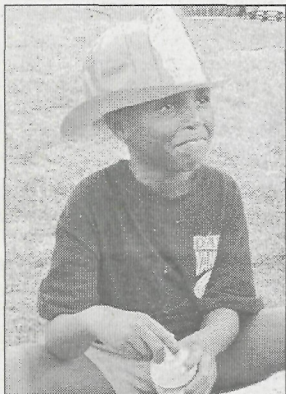




## From the Chief...

"All of this would not be possible if it were not for the volunteer firefighters of South Plainfield. I thought about what I wanted to say and to make sure you know how I feel about you—you know the position that you hold in my heart....For some reason I keep coming back to valor... No one here today, who has not been a firefighter, can truly understand what it is that you volunteered for. I can't accurately or adequately explain to anybody what it's like to crawl down a hallway with heat and flames, stretching a line and listening for a life in an attempt to control a hostile fire. I can't explain that to anybody!

But you know! I thought about the word valor and I realized that the act of valor that each one of you already committed to, was on the day that you raised your hand and volunteered to become a firefighter. Everything else you do afterwards pales in comparison to the fact that you volunteered to place your life on the line for others for free. So from me to you; I take my hat off to each of you and I truly appreciate everything you've done for us and me especially. Keep up the good work for the citizens of South Plainfield, the surrounding towns and each one of us." said Chief Joe Abbruzzese.



# Wetdown 2001.... Fire Dept. Throws A Party!

Continued from page 1

Savard, Diana, Cotone, and Mocharski. Delaney served as chief for close to 50 years. The initials of all the chiefs are inscribed in a logo on the side of the truck. The vehicles were officially christened with the traditional breaking of a bottle of champagne. With the formalities out of the way—the fun began in earnest.

Between thirty-five and forty fire departments from across the state were on hand for the Wetdown. Engine after engine sounded their sirens as they filed into the high school parking lot. The firemen were ready to play and it wasn't long before multiple hoses spewed torrents of water back and forth across the pavement creating a miniature lake. Across the field from the fireman's wet playground, Lake Street became a huge block party. Commemorative tee shirts and mugs depicting the new engine were offered for sale, as well as smaller plastic mugs. Unlimited soda or beer came with the purchase of a mug. There was something for everyone. Outback Steakhouse sold chicken sandwiches and hamburgers. The younger set preferred the hot dogs and Italian ices.

A money wheel and a dunking booth were kept busy throughout the day. Councilman Cerami took a turn in the booth and was dunked within the first few minutes. Two bands, *The Rockets* and *Back Splash*, alternately filled the air with music. Tables and chairs lined the sidewalk and the

street.

Visiting firemen competed in several games: water barrel, a version of tug-o-war using hoses to move a barrel hung above to the opposing team's side, a traditional tug-o-war and a wildly funny relay race aptly called the "bucket brigade." The goal was to fill a barrel with the most water within the time limit. A child's pool was filled with water and the men formed a human chain while they attempted to fill buckets riddled with holes and dump the water onto a specially designed roof complete with rain gutter and barrel.

Kids enjoyed pony rides, Albert the Airplane (moonwalk), a clown and a trackless train. They also enjoyed being drenched by the fire engines in the parking lot. It was a great way to cool off on a warm sunny day.

The day was a family affair for everyone including Deputy Chief Tom Scallara, who chaired the event. Scallara's wife Sharon and their five year old son, Dominick, along with Margie Celentano and Mickey Wrublevski, sold bottled water. Pam Mocharski, Beverly Bulla and Mary Abbruzzese handled mug sales for a good part of the day. Scallara noted that many of the firefighters' family members pitched in to help make the day a success.

Trophies were awarded at the end of the day. The Chief's trophy went to the Avenel Fire Department. The Wildest Company of the day was awarded to Middlesex Beechwood,

Best Fire Engine to South Amboy, Best Truck to Berkeley Heights, Best Rescue to Hopelawn, Best Pumper over 10-years-old to Bound Brook and Best Pumper over 25-years-old went to Fanwood for the 1947 truck, who also won Best Antique. Best Brush Truck Award went to North Brunswick for their 1942 vehicle, Furthest Distance to Lawrence Harbor. The Homes Marshal Fire Department won the tug-o-war and Middlesex Lincoln Hose won both the Bucket Brigade and Water Barrel contests.

SPFD members didn't participate in Saturdays games, but they brought home two trophies from a Wetdown recently held in Madison Park.

When the last of the guests had left members of the fire department, along with many volunteers, had a massive cleanup to handle. After Lake Street and the high school lot and fields were restored, fire department volunteers found they still had an abundance of energy. They returned to the station and held their own private Wetdown, dousing each other and the street in front of the fire house.

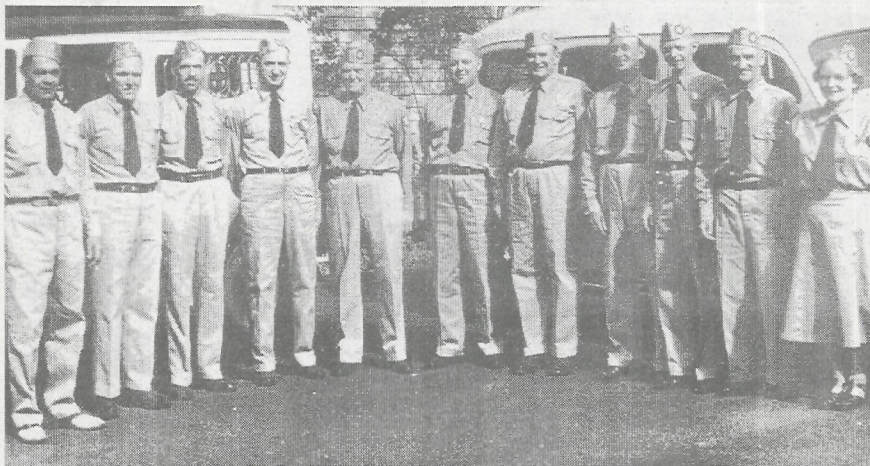
The last Wetdown held by the fire department was in 1967, dedicating both a new engine and the new building. Scallara said, "I thought it was a tremendous day for the community, the fire department and all the departments that visited. If you think this was great, wait until you see the 100th anniversary of the SPFD in 2007!"







The relatives of George and Julia Rude who helped identify the picture on the right are back row: Clark Rapatski, Dee Rapatski, Kathy Steiner and Guido Colandonato; front row: Jessica and Alyssa Rapatski.



Pictured are early members of the Rescue Squad: George Rude, George Kliner, Flubio Delessio, Milton Symond, Jr., Larry Hibbard, Richard Anthony, Luther McBride, Milton Symond, Edwin VanHorn, Arthur Uby and Mary Uby.

## Memories of South Plainfield's Rescue Squad Early Days

Last month we published a picture of members of the 1941 Rescue Squad and asked if anyone could identify the people pictured.

The very next day we received two phone calls, from relatives of George and Julia Rude, who were some of the founders of the South Plainfield Rescue Squad.

Dee Rapatski and Kathy Steiner, Rude's daughter, and Guido Colandonato and Clark Rapatski, Rude's grandsons agreed to come to the Observer office and they identified everyone in the picture. We are publishing that same picture again, but this time with their names added. Guido also let us borrow some of his pictures which are from the early days of the rescue squad. We thought you would enjoy seeing what the early ambulances looked like, along with some of the early recruits.

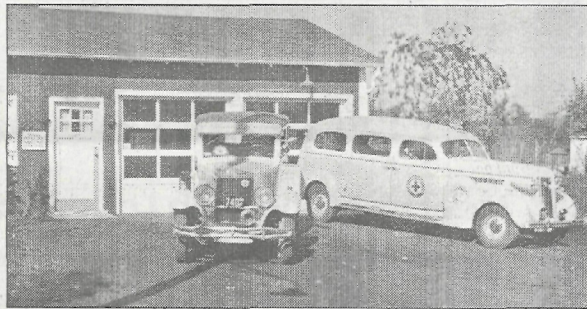
Some of our readers may remember George Rude as the owner of G & J Tackle Shop on New Market Ave.

Today's rescue squad looks a bit different then it did in 1940, but as we studied the early pictures, we noticed that somethings haven't changed at all. A few accident scenes picture cars hitting trees and smashing into each other. That seems about the same as occurs today. Also today squad members still participate in training classes regularly. Only the cars, clothing styles and type of classes have changed.

The South Plainfield Rescue Squad was started in 1944. Volunteer members met in a store across the street from the old Grant School, using a wood burning stove to keep the place warm. In 1946, they bought a little building on Randolph Ave. The building needed to be completely refurbished and the volunteers set out to do just that. They went house to house, explaining what they were planning on doing and asking for donations.

Soon after their creation, they joined the International Rescue and First Aid Squad Association.

In 1948, George and his wife Julia, started a Youth League in South Plainfield. The Youth League featured dances with live bands which were



held once a week. The teenagers ranged in age from 13-19. They also helped make up baskets and clothing to distribute to the elderly. The Rude's also started a Rescue Teenage Squad, taught them first-aid and even held drills.

A lunch room in the Roosevelt School was also one of the Rude's ideas. They asked both the Borough Council and the Board of Education for permission to utilize a room in the school used for printing in order to make hot soup and sandwiches for five cents.

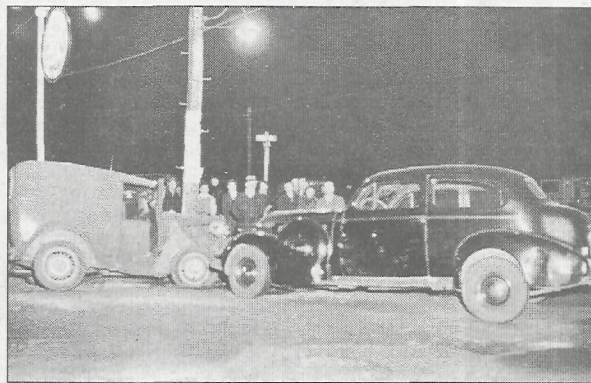
George Rude served as president of the Roosevelt PTA from 1945-46.

These are just some of the early pioneers who helped make South Plainfield the community it is today. These early pioneers who helped start the rescue squad had the hindsight to know that South Plainfield was growing and needed this volunteer organi-

zation.

Today the South Plainfield Rescue Squad is located on Plainfield Ave., behind the library. They have three ambulances (rigs), a crash truck and extensive modern medical equipment to help them carry out their duty. And as in the past, each volunteer still participates in extensive training. Rescue Squad members are very dedicated volunteers. They receive no pay and put in many volunteer hours helping the residents of South Plainfield when they are in need of medical aid.

As a footnote to this story, as we were talking to Dee, Kathy, Clark and Guido about the Rude's, we found out that George and Julia Rude's great-granddaughter, Jessica Rapatski (pictured above), was the winner of the contest to name the theme of this year's parade. She won \$100 and will join the parade riding in a convertible. It really is a small world!







Pictured left, Mike Waller, presenter for SkillsTutor.com, held a workshop on Aug. 21 for the district's school administrators. Coming this fall, students in grades three to twelve will participate in this program, another educational opportunity begun by Superintendent John Krewer. Parents and students should take the time to check it out at SkillsTutor.com. Also pictured are (starting second from left) Middle School Assistant Principal Phyllis Savage, South Plainfield School District Technology Coordinator Russ Mattoon and Middle School Principal Fredrik M. Oberkehr. We will have a complete story on this new program in next weeks *Observer*.

## Rutgers Football Team Parties at the Pool

Last Thursday, the South Plainfield Community Pool closed early to allow the Rutgers Football Team to have an afternoon of fun, food and swimming.

Some pool members were a little surprised when they were asked to leave at 3 p.m. and expressed their displeasure with pool employees.

According to Mike English, the early closing had been posted on the bulletin board for more than a week.

English said the Rutgers pool party was an opportunity to earn some extra money for the pool. Membership is down this year and this is a way to gain revenue for the pool.

### Community Pool Open on Saturday, Sept. 8.

The community pool will be open on Saturday, Sept. 8 from noon to 6 p.m. All South Plainfield residents are welcome come and spend the afternoon at the pool.



## Going The Distance For Blood Cancers!

In Nov. 2001, Allison Shand of Cliffside Park and Dawn Frazzano of Belleville, will be walking the Great Bermuda Marathon through Team in Training, a fundraising effort of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. They will be walking in honor of Allison's mother, Theresa Maruschewitz who passed away due to complications from Hodgkin's Disease, Thomas Monaco who passed away at the age of five from Leukemia and Brett Rosen, who was diagnosed at

age eight with Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia and is currently in remission. They are also walking in honor of Leukemia, Lymphoma and Myeloma patients everywhere.

Their goal is to raise \$6,600 between the two of them! All proceeds benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma, Hodgkin's Disease and Myeloma and to improve the quality of life for patients and their families.

To make a donation, send your TAX deductible check or money or-

der, made out to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, to Allison Shand, P.O. Box 1893, Cliffside Park, NJ 07010.

For credit card donations, corporate sponsorship or additional information, please call the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society at (973) 376-9559.

For more information and to track Allison and Dawn's progress, visit [www.allisonp.pledgepage.com](http://www.allisonp.pledgepage.com).

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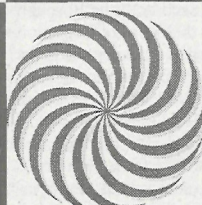
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2325 Plainfield Ave. Suite 2E South Plainfield, NJ

## Mark your calendars now!

Meet us at the 44th Labor Day Parade.....

Join us  
for giveaways!



Come help us celebrate  
our 4th anniversary at  
the Labor Day festivities!

• Balloons  
• Prizes

South Plainfield  
**Observer**  
Rain or Shine...It's Party  
Time!!



# Sports

## 2001 LBI Presidential Cup Open Champions

Pictured left to right are: Jim Flannery (MVP with scores of 91-82-87), Jeff Lubreski, Bill Pavlak, Kevin Flannery and Mike O'Brien. Competition took place at Eagle Ridge, Buena Vista and Ocean Acres.



## 2001 Pocono Open Ryder Cup Challenge Champions

Pictured are: Front row, left to right are Ralph Fech, Tom Casauant (MVP with scores of 92-87-83-87) and Bob Besser. Back row are Joe Sosnak and Bill Schulte. Not pictured is Bill Lane. Competition took place at the following golf courses: Apple Mountain, South Moore, Hideaway Hills and Buck Hills.

By Tony Cassano

## juniorbaseballclubnotes

### UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept. 7—Old Timers Game, Picnic Set-Up Volunteers Needed  
Sept. 8—Pony A Championship 11 a.m. on Field 4  
Sept. 8—Club Picnic 12 p.m. All SPJBC Players/Families Welcome  
Sept. 10—General Membership Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

## Ponytail Softball Batters Box

By Sharon Miller



Ponytail Softball Association Meeting—August 28—The South Plainfield Ponytail Parents' Association will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 28 at 7:30 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 Aug. 28. New members are always welcomed.

Ponytail Softball Online—You can now visit Ponytail softball online anytime at our newly created website...SPPONYTAIL.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 WEBMASTERSPPONYTAIL.com found on our home page.

THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD SOCCER Club is looking for boys AGES SIX AND SEVEN TO play in OUR 2001 AND 2002

SEASON.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, call Wally Bolivar, 908-561-6805.



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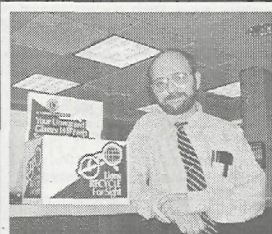
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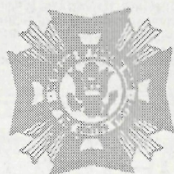


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## Obituaries

### Michael Telychan, 84

Michael Telychan died on Tuesday, Aug. 14 at his home.

He was born in Brooklyn, NY and has resided in Edison for the last 75 years.

Mr. Telychan was a tool and die maker for the former Hyatt-Bearing in Clark for 41 years before retiring in 1980. He was a member of the United Auto Workers Union Local 736 in Clark.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Mary Lances Telychan and his daughter, Barbara Telychan of Edison.

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

### Loretta A. (Santoro) Barylsky, 65

Loretta A. (Santoro) Barylsky of Mount Bethel, PA, formerly of South Plainfield died on Thursday, Aug. 16 at her daughter's home in Edison.

She was born in Newark and was a long time resident of South Plainfield before moving to Mount Bethel two years ago.

Mrs. Barylsky was a data entry operator for United Parcel Service in Somerset for 12 years and then worked for Weldotron in Piscataway for five years before retiring.

She was a member of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield. She enjoyed her trips to Atlantic City and playing bingo and cards.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Alfred J. Barylsky, who died in 1985; her brother, Nicholas Santoro and her sister, Gloria Zable.

She is survived by her sons John Barylsky, with whom she lived and Richard of Las Vegas, Nevada; her daughter, Linda Mantuano of Edison; her sisters, Lee Balasz, Mary DiNardo and Rita Lambert all of South Plainfield and Delores Watson of Edmond, Oklahoma; her grandchildren, Morgan O'Connell, A.J., Stephanie, Paige, Taylor and Brook Barylsky and her great granddaughter, Angel.

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

### Beauty

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

**Hillside Cemetery**  
www.hillsidecemetery.com

### William "Skip" H. Mothner, III, 52

William "Skip" H. Mothner, III died on Thursday, Aug. 16 at the JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Skip was born in Plainfield. He grew up in South Bound Brook and had graduated Bound Brook High School. After high school, he entered the U.S. Army and had been stationed in Vietnam, where he served for 15 months.

After his service with the Army, he moved to South Plainfield, where he has lived over the past 30 years. He had worked as a welder and a warehouseman for various companies in the Middlesex County area. Most recently, he had been a bartender at the Rusty Spicket Tavern in Plainfield.

He was a life member of the VFW Memorial Post #6763 in South Plainfield.

Surviving are his children, Billie-Jo Mothner of Hillsborough, William H. Mothner, IV of South Plainfield and Ronald Bell and his wife, Rebecca of Dery, Pa.; a sister, Audrey Grainger of Funderene and a grandson, David Bell.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

### Lillian (Angrisani) Freitag, 95

Lillian (Angrisani) Freitag died on Friday, Aug. 17 at Muhlenburg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born and raised in Newark, Mrs. Freitag had resided in Brick Twp. for 15 years and South Plainfield for eight years, before entering the JFK Hartwyck at Cedar Brook Convalescent and Rehabilitation Center in Plainfield seven years ago.

For most of her life, Lillian was a homemaker. She was predeceased by her husband, John Freitag, who died in 1990.

She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Jules and Pat Freitag of Seaside Park; two sisters, Elaine Vitale of Port Reading and Mae Viola of Bloomfield and by her grandson Jason Culver.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

Memorial donations in her name, may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Pl., Memphis, TN 38105.

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## VFW Building Is Vandalized

On Tuesday night, sometime between midnight and 8 a.m., the VFW located on Front St. was burglarized. Someone entered the building by breaking out a window. Once inside, the burglar removed approximately \$2,000 in cash from an office.

At presstime there were no suspects. Detective James Foran is investigating the case.

## Residence is Burglarized While Residents are at Home

Sometime between 2 and 3 a.m. on Tuesday morning, a house on Conklin St. was burglarized.

The burglar entered through a front window on the first floor and removed a purse and the keys to the family car. The residents were at home asleep at the time of the burglary. Their dogs, which were inside the house, were heard barking around that time.

The burglar exited the house and then stole the family's 1996 light green Toyota Camry, which was parked on the street. There was no contact between the burglar and family members.

Detective Gary Muccigrossi

is investigating the case.

Police report that it is highly unusual for a burglar to enter an occupied residence, whether during the day or at night. Police will be increasing their presence in the area. All residents are encouraged to report suspicious or unusual activity to the police.

## Other News..

- A Honesdale, Pa. resident reported the theft of his locked vehicle from the parking lot of the Ramada Inn.

- On August 15, a custodian at the South Plainfield Middle School reported that two young men were on the roof of the school for no apparent reason.

- The Gulf Station on Stelton Rd. reported that someone was trying to cash a fraudulent check. The customer took off when he was told that the police were being called.

- A Ledden Terr. resident reported the theft of his unlocked mountain bike, which was left outside of Lemmo's Bar and Grill on So. Clinton Ave.

- Joe Penyak, III of Penyak Roofing reported the theft of some sheet metal from their storage facility on New Market Ave. The suspect has been identified as a former employee.

- A Lyons, NY resident reported the theft of his locked vehicle from the parking lot of Days Inn.

- A Mahar Ave. resident reported that his porch and kitchen windows had been smashed. Also someone had entered the house and taken \$80 in loose change, a binocular case and two hunting knives.

- On Thursday, a Pulaski St. resident reported the theft of his wallet and a roll of coins from his unlocked vehicle which was parked in his driveway.

- A Metuchen women was arrested at Macy's for shoplifting \$150 worth of young women's clothes.

- The Board of Education reported that rocks had been thrown through four windows at Franklin School.

- A Metuchen women was arrested at Macy's for shoplifting \$176 worth of young women's clothing.

- A Caffrey Terr. resident reported that someone had been using her debit card to wire money over the phone to a Western Union in New York City.

- An East Fairview Ave. resident reported the theft of two specialized mountain bikes from the unlocked shed in the back yard.

- On Sunday, a Fairmont Ave. resident reported that her drivers side rearview mirror had been damaged while parked in the street.

- Hall's Warehouse reported that there was graffiti on their sign on Oak Tree Ave.

## Legal Notice

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

WHEREAS, the Borough of South Plainfield requires the services of an appraisal service, and

WHEREAS, a proposal for the conduct of professional engineering services to perform said appraisal service, was submitted by Fleming White Appraisals as per the attached fee proposal and to be awarded as a Professional Services Contract not requiring advertising for bids, and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of South Plainfield has certified the availability of funds for said purpose in the attached certification.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of South Plainfield that:

1. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A: 11-5(1)(a).

2. This contract is not to exceed \$30,000.

3. This resolution shall be printed once in the Observer as required by law.

ATTEST:  
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$35.00 August 24, 2001

**BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD**  
ORDINANCE NO. 1572

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

Ordinance No. 1572 entitled: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$30,000 FOR REVIEW OF THE BOROUGH SEWER ORDINANCES was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Borough Council on Thursday, August 16, 2001 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ATTEST:  
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$18.00 August 24, 2001

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

WHEREAS, a need exists for the review and analysis of the sanitary sewer billing for commercial properties located within the Borough of South Plainfield, and

WHEREAS, CME Associates has submitted a proposal to perform such services for the Borough, and

WHEREAS, this contract is exempt from the bidding requirements because of the designation as "professional services".

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Borough Council that a professional services contract be awarded to CME Associates to review the commercial sanitary sewer billing for the Borough of South Plainfield at an initial fee of \$7,500.00.

Funds for such are available in Ordinance # 1572.

ATTEST:  
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$30.00 August 24, 2001

**BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD**  
ORDINANCE NO. 1573

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

Ordinance No. 1573 entitled: AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE A PORTION OF HOLLY AVENUE WITHIN THE BOROUGH be adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, August 24, 2001 and that a public hearing be held at 8:00 PM on Thursday, September 6, 2001 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080

ORDINANCE NO. 1573  
AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE A PORTION OF HOLLY AVENUE, WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Borough Council as follows:

SECTION 1. Whereas, JWV Inc., received preliminary subdivision approval from the Borough Planning Board on March 27, 2001 and final major subdivision approval on July 10, 2001, and

Whereas, as part of the conditions of the approval by the Borough Planning Board, JWV Inc., needs to obtain approval by the Borough for vacation of a portion of Holly Avenue, and

Whereas, the Borough Planning Board believes that the JWV Inc. project would be enhanced by the vacation of a portion of Holly Avenue, and

Whereas, the Mayor and Borough Council hereby vacates said portion of Holly Avenue, as shown on the Tax Map on file with the Borough of South Plainfield and which is described below:

BEGINNING at a point lying South 13 degrees 13 minutes 00 seconds East, a distance of 202.88 feet from a point marking the intersection of the westerly right-of-way line of Holly Avenue (50' R.O.W.); thence

(1) Along a tangent curve to the left, having a radius of 150.00 feet, a central angle of 48 degrees 11 minutes 26 seconds, an arc of 126.16 feet, and a chord bearing and distance of South 37 degrees 18 minutes 43 seconds East, 122.47 feet to a point lying on the westerly lot line of Lot 16 in Block 78; thence

(2) South 13 degrees 13 minutes 00 seconds East along said lot line, a distance of 182.10 feet to a point marking the intersection of Lots 6 and 21 in Block 78 with the southerly right-of-way line of Holly Avenue (50' R.O.W.); thence

(3) South 72 degrees 59 minutes 04 seconds West along southerly right-of-way line, a distance of 50.11 feet to a point marking the intersection of Lots 5 and 6 in Block 78 with the westerly right-of-way line of Holly Avenue (50' R.O.W.); thence

(4) North 13 degrees 13 minutes 00 seconds West along said right-of-way line, a distance of 287.22 feet to the point or place of BEGINNING.

The above described parcel contains 10,906 S.F. (0.25 Ac.) more or less, all as shown on a map entitled "HOLLY AVENUE - ROAD VACATION PLAN" prepared by Menlo Engineering Associates, Inc., Job No. 98050; Drawing No. RVP-1; dated January 15, 2001.

SECTION 2. If any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision so adjudged and the remainder of the ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

SECTION 3. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with or in conflict with the ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take effect 20 days after final passage, adoption and publication according to law.

Approved September 15, 2001  
Daniel J. Gallagher/Mayor

ATTEST:  
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$100.00 August 24, 2001

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# Mom, What's For Breakfast?

From Marie Markey

Now that school is about to start, parents are faced with the question, "Mom, Dad, what's for breakfast?" Tired of the same old things? Here is a fun breakfast goody that you can make. Not only is it yummy, it is a kid-friendly recipe that you can make with your children.

## Toasty Breakfast Pockets

6 slices (3/4 ounce each)

American Cheese

2 hard cooked eggs, peeled

2 ounces sliced deli turkey

breast, chopped (1/2 cup)

1 tablespoon mayonnaise

24 slices soft wheat or white bread

3 tablespoons butter or margarine

1. Preheat oven to 400°F. Using cut-n-seal, cut six circles from cheese slices on cutting board. Cut each circle into quarters using my safe cutter. Wrap in plastic wrap and refrigerate. Cut the remaining scraps of cheese into small pieces and place in classic batter bowl.

2. Slice each egg using egg slicer plus. Turn the egg a quarter turn and slice again to make small pieces. Add egg pieces to batter bowl. Using a food chopper, chop turkey. Add turkey and mayonnaise to batter bowl. Mix lightly.

3. For each pocket, place one bread slice on a cutting board. Gently pat down center of bread. Using a small scoop, place a level scoop of egg mixture in center of bread slice. Gently pat down center of second bread slice and place over filling. Seal with cut-n-seal.

4. Arrange pockets on flat baking stone placed in rack. Place butter in small micro-cooker. Microwave on high for 30 seconds or until melted. Using pastry brush, brush tops of pockets with butter.

5. Bake 11-12 minutes or until lightly browned. Using oven mitts, remove baking stone to nonstick cooling rack. Top each pocket with two pieces of cheese and sprinkle with paprika, if desired. Return baking stone to oven and continue baking one minute or until cheese begins to melt. Serve warm. Yields six servings (12 pockets).

*This recipe is printed with permission of the Pampered Chef and is from the Kids in the Kitchen Cookbook. Recipes and tips are shared at Kitchen Shows demonstrated by Marie Markey, Independent Kitchen Consultant for the Pampered Chef. For additional recipes or any questions please call (908) 755-3213.*

# Time Out For Caregivers

Nearly one in four households are currently providing informal care to a relative or friend age 50 or older. This translates to over 750,000 caregivers in New Jersey and more than 30,000 in Middlesex County.

If you are an unpaid caregiver for a senior or disabled family member, neighbor or friend, the Middlesex County Office on Aging currently has openings in a program to help relieve caregiver stress by providing an occasional break. You can start taking care of yourself without neglecting your loved one, and you will be a better caregiver in the long run.

Under the statewide Respite Care Program intermittent services include: companion, homemaker, home health aide, medical or social adult day care, temporary care in licensed medical facilities and private duty nursing. A sliding scale cost share may be included depending on the care recipient's income.

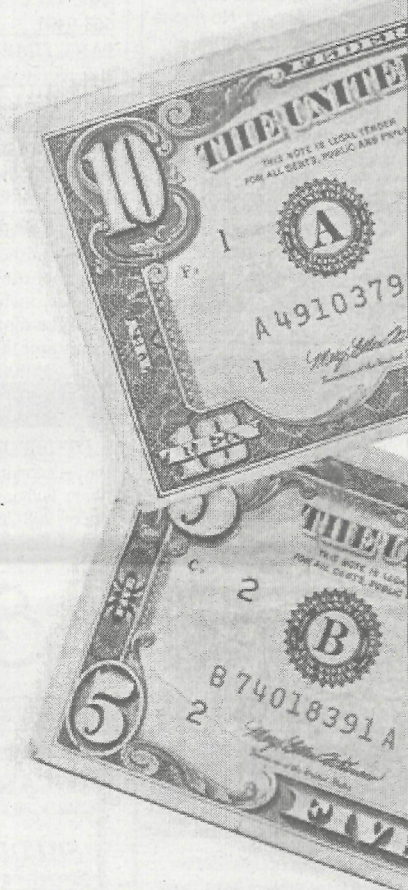
For further details and application contact the Middlesex County Office on Aging at (732) 745-3295.

## South Plainfield Historical Homes – The Smith-Ohl House



Pictured above is the Smith-Ohl House as it is today (left) and how it looked in 1780 (right). The house was incorrectly described and pictured in South Plainfield's 75th Birthday Celebration commemorative book.

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