

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 5, NO. 3

50 CENTS

SEPTEMBER 14, 2001



Superintendent of Schools Dr. John Krewer (second on the left) made it a point to march in this year's Labor Day Parade, along with Board of Education members (L to R) Dan Smith, Steven Bohn, Pio Pennisi and Thomas Delaney. Board president Frank Mikorski served as a parade judge.

Mayor and Councilman Speak To New School Board Members

With the new school year about to begin, both Mayor Dan Gallagher and Councilman Ed Kubala were on hand to speak, on two different occasions, to the newly hired teachers and Board of Education employees. Superintendent John Krewer has made a concerted effort to have the Board of Education work closer with the mayor and council. When he first came to South Plainfield, he made a point to introduce himself to the mayor. Dr. Krewer and Board of Education members marched in this year's Labor Day Parade, for the first time, and hopefully, for many years to come. They enjoyed marching and greeting the

thousands of spectators. Many teachers and all of the school principals were very visible in Veterans Park before the

5k race and all during the parade. Even former Superintendent of School Guy Ferri was on hand for the celebration.

Council Opposes Extending Voting Hours

The Borough Council will be sending a letter to Acting Governor Donald DiFrancesco to express their opposition to Assembly Bill A-3714. The bill, which would extend voting hours on election day, has already passed and been signed by DiFrancesco,

but they feel they need to express their opposition. Mayor Dan Gallagher said it is hard enough to get poll workers and that adding extra hours would be a hardship for poll workers and the school system.

2002 Municipal Budget Introduced

Calls for Six Point Increase in Tax Rate

The 2002 municipal budget was introduced during last Thursday's council meeting. After six years of flat taxes rates, homeowners will see an increase in their municipal taxes of about \$70 per household. Borough Administrator Frank Derosa has already sent in the paperwork to the State asking for discretionary aid for this year's budget. He is requesting \$500,000 and expects an answer after the first of the year. During the past few years, discretionary aid from the state has decreased each year. Last year South Plainfield received no state aid. Mayor Dan Gallagher accused the state of punishing South Plainfield because we have kept our budget flat and our tax rate

has remained stable. He said that it seemed that the municipalities that increase spending and taxes continue to receive state aid. Next year's proposed budget appropriation is \$20,370,832, an increase of about \$1.6M. The municipal tax rate will rise six points, or about \$70 per average household. The appropriations have risen, but Councilman Ed Kubala said that the increase in the budget was due to a rise in the cost of insurance rates and increases in wages of Borough employees. The municipal budget will be published in the September 21 issue of the *Observer*. A public hearing will be held on Oct. 4 at 8 p.m. in Borough Hall for the public to ask questions and place objections.

Board Working with Borough On Shared Services

Shared Services is a program that is getting more and more attention lately. Starting with our local government and the schools, costs of services, supplies and programs are shared with each other, neighboring municipalities, the county and the state. The Board of Education been participating in this program for years and are continuously adding to the list of shared services every year. One way they utilize shared services is by making the school facilities and ball fields available to the Recreation Department. The

schools are used for programs such as the men's basketball league, the summer recreation program (held daily in several schools this summer), baseball practice, recreation t-ball and teen ball, soccer club games, women's softball, adult volleyball, various youth sports camps and freestyle and midget wrestling. The school district print shop does printing for our police department, court system and recreation department. The district also makes space available to the police department. *Continued on page 12*

Public Works Auction Attracts Large Crowd

An auction held last Saturday at the Public Works Department to get rid of unwanted cars, engineering equipment and

bikes was well attended. Many residents called the *Observer* when they read about the auction, asking questions about

what the borough was selling and why it wasn't advertised earlier. For many residents the story in last week's paper was the first time they heard of the auction. Parking around the Public Works Building on Spicer Ave. was at a premium before the auction started. Many bidders were notified of the auction by the auctioneer, Dingman & James Auction Co. The company has a Web site and sends out notices to interested buyers. Cars, trucks, tractors, computer and electronic equipment and over 40 bicycles were up for auction to the highest bidder. Most of the items were things the Borough no longer used and were just sitting around. They could not be disposed of by law, so an auction was planned to sell



More than 40 bikes of all types were auctioned off last Saturday.



Bidders are getting ready to bid on this vehicle.

the items along with the 40 bikes that the police have not been able to find owners for.

The total revenue received from the auction was not known at presstime.

mark your calendars

Log on to
southplainfieldnj.com
for the latest
meeting agenda

council meetings

Meets twice a month on the first and third Thursday.

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

AGENDA MEETING **PUBLIC MEETING**

Monday, September 17 Thursday, September 20

Monday, October 1 Thursday, October 4

Monday, October 15 Thursday, October 18

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

planning board

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month

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

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. 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 place sub-committee

The fourth Thursday of the month as follows:

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

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

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, Oct. 16, Nov. 13, Dec. 11 at 7 p.m.

Regular Board Mtg., 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.

In My Opinion

To the Editor,

In response to the letter by the Curcio children...I'm assuming that you're saying to adults and the children that looked up to him, you can do the same and not pay for committing a white collar crime and pay the piper...He admitted to his guilt, because he was caught and his participation in the town was helpful, but also for his benefit. There are many people in the town who have helped to make it a better town; without ever asking or getting recognition...A man steals a loaf of bread and he's punished. There are no free lunches...Your dad certainly knew what he was doing even at 16.

NAME WITHHELD BY REQUEST

Dear Editor,

The Lions Club of South Plainfield would like to thank all who attended the festivities at Veterans Park on Labor Day. Because of you, we had another successful year. All proceeds collected from the sale of sausage and pepper sandwiches, cheese steaks, macaroni and cheese, corn, beverages and beer will go to benefit the blind and hearing impaired.

We would also like to offer special thanks to V. A. Tramontano & Son and Johnston Avenue Bakery for their contributions; as well as the South Plainfield Road Department and Tulio

Capparelli for all of their help at the park.

Once again, thank you and we look forward to serving you on Palm Sunday at our Annual Gourmet Breakfast.

Sincerely,

THE MEMBERS OF THE LIONS CLUB OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

To the Editor,

On behalf of the South Plainfield Polish National Home I would like to thank the members and public who attended our annual picnic on Aug. 26. Over 150 people enjoyed five hours of mimes, music and Polish and American food. A special thank you to Our Lady of Czestochowa for the donation of tables, the South Plainfield VFW for folding chairs and Piscataway Applebee's for donating a gift certificate.

Additionally, I would also like to commend the members and patrons of the Polish Home who helped prepare the food and set up days before the picnic itself.

Thank you again to all who attended for making our event a success, and I'm looking forward to seeing everyone next year.

Sincerely,

TOM KAUFMAN, PRESIDENT POLISH NATIONAL HOME

Editors Note: See photos of Polish Home picnic on page 10.



Alliance Bible Church Of Warren Hosts Warren's Wild West Fest

The Alliance Bible Church of Warren will host Warren's Wild West Fest on Sunday, Sept. 30. Festivities will begin at 11 a.m. with a worship service/praise fest which will conclude around 12:30 p.m. Immediately following the service, an afternoon of free activities and food has been planned for the entire family. Throughout the afternoon, until 4 p.m., guests will have the opportunity to dine at a country barbecue/pig roast complete with all the trimmings. Games and activities for younger family members will take place at the Children's Tent. In addition, there will be pony rides. For teens, an array of inflatable games including "Bungee Bull," "Bouncy Boxing," a two-lane Bungee Run and obstacle course will test agility and endurance. Square dancing and country music will round out the activities to provide a real "down home" atmosphere and a chance to enjoy an autumn afternoon with the family.

Following the afternoon's Wild West Fest, members of Campus Impact, the Alliance Bible Church youth group, will host Super Games III, a worship experience designed especially for teens by teens. The Campus Impact Band will perform contemporary Christian music during the service. Inflatable games used in the Wild West Fest will be part of the evening's activities. Food will be served. A \$4 admission fee will be collected to help defray the cost of the youth activities.

Both events will take place at Alliance Bible Church, located at 52 Mount Horeb Rd. in Warren, minutes off Interstate 78. Take exit 33 off I-78 and proceed toward Martinsville. Travel three miles and turn left onto Mount Horeb Rd. The church is less than one mile on the right.

For information or directions, please call (732) 469-1425.

Calling All Candidates

The political season in South Plainfield officially begins with the Labor Day Parade. Local candidates for Borough Council, as well as candidates for state and national seats, marched in the parade and greeted the residents.

We hope all residents will have the opportunity to get to know the four local candidates and then make an informed decision on election day.

Two council seats are open this year. Running for those seats are incumbent Councilman Dennis Cerami (D) and first-time candidates Charles Butrico (D), Margorie Reedy (R) and Jerry Harris (R).

We welcome letters and comments from the candidates and residents alike. We will try to publish any and all letters we receive from the candidates as well as letters from residents. Several state and national candidates have also been sending us press releases and we will publish them when space is available.

Our letter policy states that letter submissions must include a name and telephone number for verification. Upon request, we will publish letters anonymously (as long as they comply with the above request). We also reserve the right to edit letters for clarity and length.

We hope all residents will make sure they are registered to vote. It's very easy to register, just stop in the Municipal Clerk's office and fill out an application. Don't wait until the last minute. If you don't vote, you have no voice in democracy. It's a lame excuse to say your vote doesn't really count and believe me, every vote does count!

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, or it will NOT be published. Unfortunately we have had several letters we would not publish because names were not submitted with the letter.

Send your letter/opinion to: *The South Plainfield Observer*, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield 07080. You can email us at GGNAN@aol.com or fax to 908-668-8819.

A Special Thank You To...

*Pattie, Chris, Joan,
Carol, Joe and Jon
Sue, Wyatt and Justin
Barbara and Frank
Jane, Alex and Kim
and especially Wayne*

Thanks For Helping Out at the Labor Day Parade

Without You, I Would Be Lost!

Nancy

South Plainfield Observer

The South Plainfield Observer is published every Friday

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

(908) 668-0010 • FAX (908) 668-8819

Web page:
www.spobserver.com
For subscriptions, advertising or information, call (908) 668-0010.

The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

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

SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in South Plainfield Observer:

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

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Advertising Sales

Bill Would Require the State to Pay Half of Local School Budget

Assemblywoman Barbara Buono and Assemblyman Peter J. Barnes, Jr. are co-sponsoring Assembly Bill No. A3566, which would require that the State of New Jersey pay a minimum of 50 percent of each school district's operating budget.

Because of the disparity between the amount of money the State appropriates for various New Jersey school districts, Buono and Barnes feel it leads to unequal funding and educational opportunities in school districts.

They say this bill would help to correct this appropriation disparity.

Business Assoc. Announces Speaker for Sept. Mtg.

The South Plainfield Business Association will be resuming their monthly meetings, after taking the summer off. The meeting takes place at Sherban's Diner on Thursday, September 20 at 9 a.m. They meet every month on the third Thursday of the month.

Guest speaker this month will be a representative from Epix, a Professional Employer Organization (PEO) company. Epix provides human resources serviced to small businesses, that are usually only available to larger corporations. They provide health and medical packages that will help attract talented prospects to your business. Working with Epix will also help employers cut down on paperwork and administrative costs.

All South Plainfield businesses are encouraged to come out to the meeting, meet other businesses and tell the Business Association what you would like to see them target in future meetings. Bring a friend, the coffee is free and you might make a contact that will help your business in the future.



Gary L. Vesce is welcomed by the mayor and council. He was just sworn in as the newest member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Trail Maintenance, Communities Cleanup in Highland Ave. Woods

South Plainfield residents are being asked to volunteer to help the Friends of the Woods and the Environmental Commission with trail maintenance in the Borough's Nature Reserve. They will help plant trees, establish a new trail, trim vegetation back from paths, battle invasive weeds and pick up litter. Refreshments will be provided.

The forest restoration site is located on Carmine Ave. between Valley

Street and Pitt Street.

The event is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 23, at 9 a.m. A rain date will be announced.

Volunteers are being asked to bring any tools they can (pruning shears, shovels, rakes, hoes, wheelbarrows or carts), but this is not required. Pre-registration is suggested (908-561-8280), but people can simply show up between 9 a.m. and noon.

September is Rideshare Month in New Jersey

New Jersey commuters weary of constant traffic congestion will soon have an opportunity to take matters into their own hands. Acting Governor Donald T. DiFrancesco has proclaimed September 2001 as Rideshare Month, a time for drivers to try out alternative methods to their solo commute—carpooling, vanpooling or public transportation.

Working together toward a common solution, drivers have the power to change New Jersey's traffic situation for the better. Ridesharing saves time, money and frustration for the commuter, while improving mobility

and quality of life for all of the state's residents.

Keep Middlesex Moving, Inc. (KMM), one of the state's nine Transportation Management Associates, is working with the New Jersey Department of Transportation to promote ridesharing throughout September. Whether it's providing carpool and vanpool matches for drivers or distributing bus and train schedules, KMM is ready to provide transportation solutions to commuters.

Help for drivers is just a click away at www.driveless.com or by calling 1-800-245-POOL.

Terra Nova Garden Club Elects Officers

The Terra Nova Garden Club is pleased to announce the new officers for the 2001-2002 term. They are: Co-Presidents Sue Nuzzo and Susan Lauricella, Vice President Gail Sulinski, Treasurer Pat Gelon and Secretary Lenore Broyard.

Garden Therapy will resume at 1 p.m. on Sept. 19 at the Muhlenberg Adultcare Facility in Plainfield.

The Sept. monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 26, at a new time of 7 p.m. at the North Edison Library, 777 Grove Ave., Edison. New

members are always welcome.

Special reminder: the Terra Nova Garden Club is celebrating our 50th Anniversary with a luncheon on Thursday, Nov. 15. For ticket information contact Kay McCormack at (732) 548-1976.

Municipalities Settle Discrimination Dispute

South Plainfield was one of eight towns which settled a lawsuit filed by nine deaf people who claimed they were subjected to discrimination in municipal courts because of their disabilities.

The eight municipalities agreed to pay a total of \$157,000 to the plain-

tiffs who claim they were denied equal access to the courts and were also denied interpreters fluent in sign language or were told they would have to pay for one.

South Plainfield will now provide a sign language interpreter in municipal court.

Apgar Family Plans Reunion

On Sept. 15 Apgar family members will gather at 10 a.m. at the Whitehouse United Methodist Church on Old Rt. 28, Whitehouse. Reservations for lunch are required.

On Sunday, Sept. 16 family members will gather at the Cokesbury United Methodist Church, Cokesbury Rd., Cokesbury, at 11 a.m. They will attend Sunday services followed by a reception at the church and a car tour of the area, driving to various Apgar family homesteads in the Mt. Pleasant/Little York area of Hunterdon County.

If you have any questions please click on www.ApgarFamily.com or call George Apgar Jr. at (732) 297-6686.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

South Plainfield Free Public Library

Here's this week's news from South Plainfield Library:

At this writing, there's still space available for the bilingual computer class scheduled for this evening at 7:00. Gladys Hector, the Library's computer systems administrator, will give instruction on basic computer skills. Space is limited, so you must pre-register. Call (908) 754-7885 for details. (Para las personas que not hablan ingles, for favor de llamar 908-754-7885 y preguntar por Gladys).

The Friends of the Library will hold a special audio/video sale tomorrow from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. A selection of videos and audiocassettes will be available at special prices. Please be advised that while books will be available, they will be sold at their usual prices.

Once again, our children's Storytime programs have been cancelled for September. But your children are welcome to come over and see Miss Linda anyway so she won't get lonely.

We'll be holding another class on job searching on Saturday, September 29th, from 10:30 a.m.-12 noon. The class will cover preparing and starting a job search, with emphasis on Internet job resources. Reference Librarian Allen Kleiman will lead the class. Space is limited for this program, so please call ahead to reserve a spot. One note regarding Allen's ongoing computer instructional class: The class is full for September. If you're interested in signing up for October, please call for more information.

This month, both of our display cabinets feature a colorful collection of key chains, provided by local resident Keri Gould. This display will be in place until September 28th. (The key chains are for show, however. They aren't for sale.) In September, we're also displaying a variety of posters in observance of Banned Books Week (September 23-30). And our display wall features a selection of photos of the Highland Ave. Woods provided by the Friends of the Woods. They'll be here until September 29th.

As we've previously noted, the response to the Lion's Club collection for used eyeglasses has been very good and we appreciate your generosity. Recently, though, one generous soul left their donation in our book drop. We ask that you refrain from doing this. Putting eyeglasses in either of our drop boxes risks them getting buried under heavy books or other materials and getting broken. We'd prefer that you actually bring them in and leave them in the collection box or at the main desk.

Lastly, a note to students. It's still early in the school year, but you'll soon be thinking about term papers and reports. And you're probably already dealing with required reading projects. We're more than willing to help you obtain necessary books and articles, provided that you give us enough time. If we don't have what you're looking for, we'll try to get it via Inter-Library Loan, but you'll have to allow a few days for the order to go through. Please don't come in the night before your project is due and expect immediate results. We'll try, but things just don't work that fast, even in the Internet Age.

That's about all for now. Catch you later.

Borough Notes

Council Notes

■ The council authorized the closing of Wells Drive from Meadow Terrace to the end on Sept. 29 from 12 noon to 7 p.m., for a block party.

■ Christopher Cochrane has been hired as a full-time public safety telecommunicator starting Sept. 17.

■ Lisa LaSardo and Danielle Gorini have been hired as part-time public safety telecommunicators effective Sept. 10.

■ Borough Administrator Frank Derosa will be drafting a request asking for proposals for Borough banking services.

■ Mike Zushma and Councilwoman Darlene Pinto have applied for a grant from Middlesex County to renovate the present senior center, located on South Plainfield Ave. The seniors will be moving to their new building on Lake Ave. when construction is completed. The old senior building will be used by Emergency Management.

■ Anita Lepelstat has resigned from the Cultural Arts Commission.

■ The council has accepted a renovation plan from Commerce Bank to

move the bus stop location in front of Borough Hall.

Board of Adjustment

■ Donald Jackson was granted a variance to construct a wood deck on his property on May Ave.

■ Robert Gillis of Audubon Ave. was granted permission to build a wrap-around porch with a roof.

■ Hamilton Gas, Inc. located on the corner of Amboy Ave. and Hamilton Blvd., was granted a variance to renovate their existing service station. Plans call for a solid five-foot fence to be erected along the entire rear of the property, new curbing along Hamilton Blvd. and the repair needed to curbing along Amboy Ave. The parking lot will be paved and a new kiosk with a canopy will be built.

■ Pilgrim Covenant Church was granted a use variance for a second principal structure of a 1½ story building to conduct a daycare/pre-school/kindergarten, subject to the submission of revised plans. The case will be carried until Sept. 18.

Elks Veterans Selling Entertainment Books

The South Plainfield Elks Veterans Committee will be selling Entertainment Books for \$30.

For more information on how to purchase one, please contact Lou Peralta at (908) 756-6406.

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South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department

WINE TASTING

Saturday, Sept. 29, 6 to 11 p.m.

Embassy Suites, Piscataway, NJ

Tickets - \$70 per person. Ticket price includes:
Wine Tasting Reception 6-8 p.m. Buffet Dinner 8-9 p.m.
Open Bar, DJ and Dancing 9-11 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

Around Town

Riley School Holds Annual Flower Sale

September 13-14

John E. Riley School will hold its annual sale of fall flowers on Thursday, Sept. 13 at 3 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. during Back to School Night. The sale continues into Friday, September 14 at 3 p.m. The sale will take place at the main entrance to the school located at 100 Morris Ave. All parents, friends and neighbors are welcome to come and shop.

Italian American Club Annual Picnic

September 15

The South Plainfield Italian American Club will be holding their annual picnic on Saturday, Sept. 15 from 1 to 6 p.m.

There promises to be plenty of food available, including hamburgers, hot dogs, and clams and a variety of beverages.

Members with paid-up dues will be admitted free of charge. Call 908-668-0865 for admission prices for guest members and non-members.

American Legion to hold Spaghetti Dinner

September 16

American Legion Chaumont Post #243, located on Oak Tree Ave. is planning to hold a spaghetti dinner on Sunday, Sept. 16 from 2 to 7 p.m.

The public is welcome to come and enjoy a delicious dinner out.

Prices are \$6 for adults, \$3 for children ages 6-11 and children under 5 are free.

For more information, call 908-668-9414.

AARP Meeting Set

September 21

The general meeting for AARP

Vendors Needed

Vendors are wanted for the Franklin School Annual Harvest Day Fest on October 6.

Tables are \$10-\$15.

Call Debra Krawiec at 757-9432

Chapter 4144 will be held on Friday, Sept. 21 at the PAL Building at 12:30 p.m. Speaker will be Ms. Sally Triolo, a distributor for four major health supplement companies, who has devoted herself to teaching others how to regain and maintain good health. Ms. Triolo does one on one consultations as well as group teaching on the traditional uses of medicinal herbs and advances in the national health industry. Visitors are welcome.

Also, the Board Meeting for Chapter 4144 will meet on Friday, Sept. 7 at the PAL Building at 3 p.m.

Cub Scout Pack 324 Holds Car Wash

September 22

Cub Scout Pack 324 from Kennedy School will be holding a car wash on Saturday, Sept. 22 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the front driveway of Kennedy School. Cost per car is \$5.

Profits will be used to help fund pack activities and events for the upcoming year. Webelos Scouts will also be working on the car wash as one step toward earning their Handyman pin.

Raindate is Sunday, Sept. 23.

OLC Rosary Society Spaghetti Dinner

September 29

Our Lady of Czestochowa will hold a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, Sept. 29 at Knights of Columbus Hall on Hamilton Blvd. from 4-8 p.m.

Ticket prices are: adults, \$7; seniors, \$6; children 5-15, \$3.50; children under 5 are free.

For more information, call Millie at 757-3925.

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, half pages and quarter pages 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.

Columbiettes Announce Fall Trips

Oct. 6, Nov. 3 & Nov. 25

The South Plainfield Columbiettes will be hosting a bus trip to Bingo World in Baltimore, a shopping spree to Reading and a trip to see a Christmas Show in Connecticut this fall. All events are open to the public.

On Saturday, Oct. 6, patrons will have a choice to attend either the Inner Harbor or Bingo World, both in Baltimore. The bus will leave at 7:30 a.m. from Sacred Heart Church parking lot and return at about 8:30 p.m. Cost to go to the Inner Harbor is \$35 per person, while Bingo World will cost \$55 and includes a \$49 admission package good for the main session only. Reservations must be made by Sept. 30.

The Columbiettes' annual shopping trip to Reading, Pa. will be held on Saturday, Nov. 3. The bus will leave promptly at 8 a.m. from the Knights of Columbus Hall on

Hamilton Blvd. and return at about 7 p.m. Cost is \$18 and includes a free lunch coupon and discount book. Dinner is on your own at the Cracker Barrel. Deadline is Oct. 26.

On Sunday, Nov. 25, the group will go and see the Christmas Show at the Spinning Wheel Inn in Connecticut. The bus will leave from the K of C Hall at 9 a.m. and return at 5 p.m. The \$65 cost includes the show and a four course meal, which is served in between acts. Deadline is Oct. 26.

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

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.

—Out of Town—

TheraPet To Hold Annual Pet Show

September 16

On Sunday, Sept. 16, TheraPet, Inc. will again sponsor its Annual Pet Show. Located in the pavilion area of the NJ Veterans Memorial Home at Menlo Park, 132 Evergreen Rd.,

Edison the Pet Show will begin at 1 p.m., with contest registration from 12 noon.

The Pet Show is open to dogs, cats and other pet animals as long as they are leashed, caged or otherwise under the handler's control at all times. A wide variety of fun contests will be held including Best Trick, Best Dressed Pet, Tail-Wagging, Biscuit Eating, Smallest, Largest and Most Medium Pet, Pet-Owner Look-Alike and others. A Best Pet of the Day will be selected from the winners of the other contests. An obstacle course will be available for dogs to compete against the clock.

Refreshments will be available for purchase. Tickets for entry into the various classes will be on sale at registration and all proceeds will support TheraPet, Inc.

New volunteers are always welcome and membership materials will be available at the Pet Show or by calling 732-340-0PET (0738). Interested members of the public are also invited to visit the new website at www.therapet-inc.com.

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.

Tourette Syndrome Assoc. of NJ Meeting

November 8

The Tourette Syndrome Association of New Jersey-Middlesex/Union County Family Support Group and the Somerset/Hunterdon County Chapter will meet on Thursday, September 13 and November 8 from 7-9 p.m. They will meet in the Neuroscience Institute of JFK Medical Center, 65 James St., Edison.

Guest speaker at the Sept. 13 meeting will be Debbie Johnson of the Tourette Therapeutic Program at Rutgers University. She will explain the program and answer questions.

For more info, call Marilyn at (908) 757-5074 or after 6 p.m., Debbie at (732) 283-1439.

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 18, South Plainfield, NJ 07080; By phone: 908-668-0010; By fax: 908-668-8819; By email: ggnan@aol.com.

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

25th Anniversary Special!!

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
- NO CONTRACTS, Compare Our Low Weekly Rates!
- \$\$\$ Ask About Our Refund Policy \$\$\$

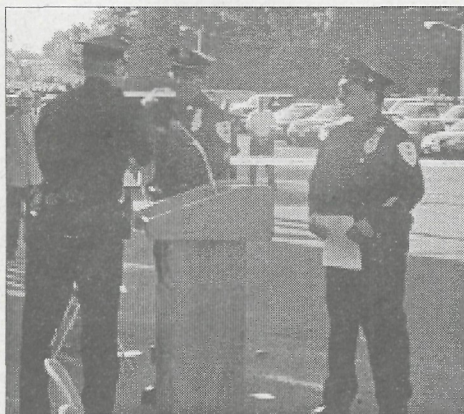
Call Now to Watch a Class

(908) 561-6464



40% OFF
Registration Fee
For Beginners
(With Coupon When Enrolling)

2 FREE
Classes Each Week
(For Enrolled Students)



South Plainfield Police Are Recognized With Awards



Labor Day began early for members of the South Plainfield Police Department with a dress inspection. Rev. Mingle started the ceremonies with a prayer. Attending were Mayor Dan Gallagher and members of the council. Police Chief Merkle held a special ceremony to present awards and commendations to several officers who performed their duty with honor. The following officers received recognition.

Garrett Cassio was issued a PERFORMANCE NOTICE.

On Jan. 1, 2001, Officer Garrett Cassio, while on routine patrol, observed an unoccupied vehicle parked on South Plainfield Ave. with its engine running. When an check of the plate revealed that the vehicle had been reported stolen, he immediately coordinated a multi-unit surveillance of the vehicle. Within a short period of time, the driver returned, entered the vehicle and was immediately arrested. A subsequent investigation revealed controlled substances in the vehicle and \$50,000 in outstanding warrants for the suspect. The suspect had prior arrests for assault on a police officer, domestic violence, burglary and theft.

Because of Officer Cassio's handling of the incident, an arrest was made in a timely manner and a potential pursuit situation was avoided.

Officer Brian Iarrapino was awarded the HONORABLE SERVICE MEDAL.

On Jan. 29, 2001, while on patrol, Officer Brian Iarrapino observed a man walk from the area of a building that was closed and enter a vehicle that was being operated on an adjacent roadway. His suspicions aroused, Officer Iarrapino conducted a motor vehicle stop. He observed the passenger lean forward and down, as though he were reaching under the seat. When the occupants' explanations seemed less than truthful and did not dispel the officers' suspicions, they were asked to exit the vehicle. Once the occupants were out of the vehicle, Officer Iarrapino uti-

lized his flashlight to illuminate the area where the passenger was seated and observed a semiautomatic handgun on the floor. The handgun had been reported stolen in the State of Georgia. The vehicle's occupants were arrested and charged with Unlawful Possession of a Weapon and Receiving Stolen Property.

Officer Wayne Diana was awarded the HONORABLE SERVICE MEDAL.

On August 10, 2001, Officer Wayne Diana responded to a house fire at 111 Thomas St. Upon his arrival, the interior of the home was filled with smoke and the homeowner was still inside. Officer Diana entered the home and despite a heavy smoke condition, located the homeowner and lead him from the building to safety, averting potential serious injury.

Officer Daniel Noonan was awarded the HONORABLE SERVICE Medal and **Officer Joseph Papa** was awarded a LETTER OF COMMENDATION.

On August 27, 2001, while on routine patrol, Officer Daniel Noonan observed a suspicious man in the area of a strip mall. The suspect was sweating and had a white powdery substance on his pants. He also matched the general description of a suspect from an earlier burglary. Officer Noonan conducted an investigatory stop and discovered that the suspect had in his possession a check made out to another individual. Officer Joseph Papa responded and began to check the area for possible undiscovered burglaries. Officer Papa climbed onto the roof of the strip mall and located an open hatch to one of the stores. The suspect was arrested and charged with the burglary. Through follow-up investigation, the suspect was charged with two additional commercial burglaries.

Due to the tenacity and attentiveness of Officer Noonan and the diligence of Officer Papa, three burglaries were solved.

Officer Daniel Noonan was

awarded a LETTER OF COMMENDATION.

Between Feb. 9 and July 2, 2001, members of the South Plainfield Police Department made a total of 56 narcotic arrests. Of those arrests, Officer Daniel Noonan was responsible for 50 percent of the narcotic arrests that occurred on his platoon and 25 percent of narcotic arrests departmentally. Officer Noonan, by his actions, demonstrated a high degree of self-motivation and tenacity in the battle against illicit narcotics.

Sergeant Peter Arancio and **Officer Philip Aquilina** were awarded the HONORABLE SERVICE MEDALS.

On Nov. 16, 1999, Sergeant Peter Arancio and Officer Philip Aquilina responded to a domestic dispute on South 11th St. As they approached the home on foot, a female victim ran from the backyard toward the officers, yelling that the suspect had a gun. The suspect was observed attempting to hide behind a stockade fence. When told to remain where he was, he momentarily disappeared from view. The officers, with their weapons drawn, approached the area where the suspect was hiding. As they did so, the suspect reappeared, but was not armed. A subsequent search of the area was conducted and a loaded semiautomatic handgun was located in the vicinity where the suspect was apprehended.

A subsequent investigation revealed that the suspect had forced his way into the home, occupied by his former girlfriend and pointed the gun at her. He threatened to kill the occupants of the home as well as himself. The suspect was arrested and charged with a variety of crimes, including Kidnaping, Aggravated Assault, Unlawful Possession of a Weapon and Possession of a Weapon for Unlawful Purposes.

Officer Brian Iarrapino and **Officer Brad Bullard** were awarded the HONORABLE SERVICE MEDAL and **Detective Gene Bataille** was awarded a LETTER OF COMMENDATION.

On Oct. 4, 2000, Officers Brad Bullard and Brian Iarrapino investigated a tip from a private citizen who reported a suspicious incident in which two individuals exited a vehicle and were lurking in the bushes near a local gas station. Upon checking the area, Officer Bullard initially observed a suspect matching the description, with a bulge in his waistband, walking alongside the roadway. When Officer Bullard turned his vehicle in order to conduct an investigatory stop, the suspect fled.

Officer Iarrapino initiated a check of the area and located the suspect vehicle, which was now occupied by two individuals. A motor vehicle stop was conducted. As the stop was being made, Officer Iarrapino observed furtive movements by the occupants. Officer Bullard quickly arrived on scene as a back-up and as they approached the vehicle, a wig was ob-



served inside the vehicle. Once the suspects were removed from the vehicle, a visual search of the area in which the suspects were reaching was conducted and a replica semiautomatic handgun was located, as was a knife, Mace and a Halloween mask. The suspects were arrested and transported for processing. Once at the station, Detective Gene Bataille was able to establish a rapport with one of the suspects and gained a full confession regarding a conspiracy to rob the gas station.

Due to the tenacity and attentiveness of investigative officers and the interrogation abilities of the detective, a robbery was prevented and an arrest made. The suspects were subsequently charged with Conspiracy to Commit Robbery, Possession of a Weapon for Unlawful Purposes and Prohibited Weapons.

Sergeant Peter Arancio, **Officer John McConville** and **Officer Garrett Cassio** were awarded the HONORABLE SERVICE MEDAL and **Officer Wayne Diana** was awarded a LETTER OF COMMENDATION.

On February 16, 2001, while maintaining surveillance on a home in which a large house party was taking place, Officer John McConville was approached by three citizens who stated that they were the victims of a robbery at gun point. The robbery occurred a short distance from the home under surveillance and based upon the description given by the victims, Officer McConville believed that he observed the suspects enter the home. When Sergeant Peter Arancio and Officer Garrett Cassio arrived as back-up officers, they entered the home and amongst the large crowd, observed four individuals matching the description of the suspects. A protective pat-down frisk was conducted and a .22 caliber revolver was located on the person of one of the suspects. The suspects were positively identified by the victims, arrested and charged with various crimes including Robbery, Unlawful Possession of a Weapon and Possession of a Weapon for Unlawful Purposes.

After the officers initially entered

the home, Officer Wayne Diana arrived and was instrumental in securing the scene and insuring the safety of the officers as they conducted their investigation.

Officer John McConville and **Officer Brian Iarrapino** were awarded the HONORABLE SERVICE MEDAL and **Officer John Petriello** was awarded a PERFORMANCE NOTICE.

On August 10, 2001, officers were dispatched to a reported house fire on Church St. As they were arriving, the nature of the call was changed to a stabbing. Officers John McConville and Brian Iarrapino arrived and observed the suspect, armed with a knife, standing over two victims, both of whom had serious stab wounds. Officer McConville, with his weapon drawn, ordered the suspect to drop the knife a number of times. Even though Officer McConville may have been justified in utilizing deadly force, he refrained from doing so and continued to give verbal commands until the suspect started to fold up the knife. Officer Iarrapino quickly approached the suspect and attempted to gain physical control. Officer John Petriello, who had just arrived on scene, immediately assisted in controlling and handcuffing the suspect.

Investigation revealed that in addition to stabbing the victims, the suspect attempted to start a fire in a bedroom. The suspect was arrested and charged with Aggravated Assault, Arson and Possession of a Weapon for Unlawful Purposes.

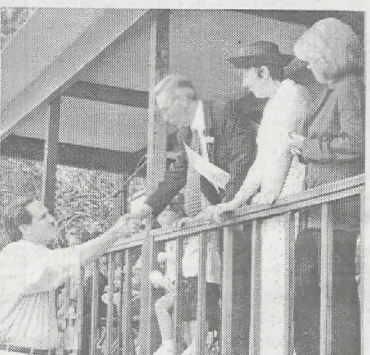
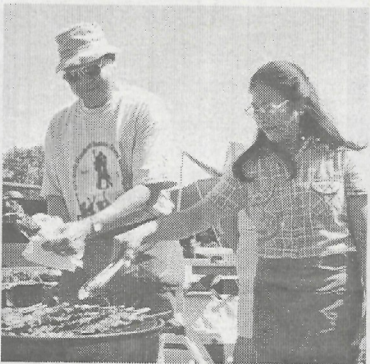
Officer Wendell Born and **Officer Michael Molinaro** were awarded the LIFE SAVING MEDAL for their actions.

On July 18, 2001, Officers Wendell Born and Michael Molinaro responded to the Cedar Oaks Nursing Home on an unconscious, unresponsive male resident. Upon arrival, the officers found that the patient had no pulse and was not breathing. Working as a team, they initiated CPR and utilized the AED to administer a shock and resuscitate the patient.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD POLICE OFFICERS WHO WERE RECOGNIZED!!

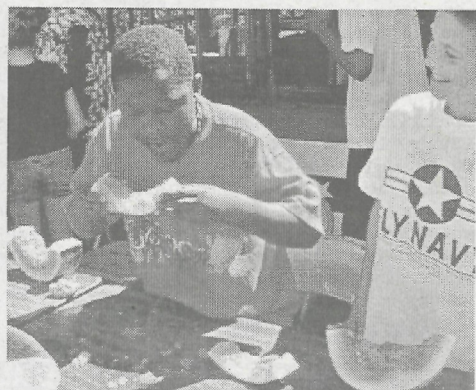
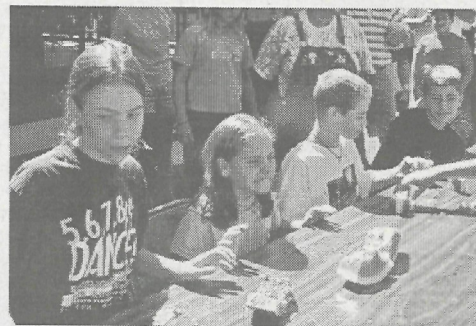
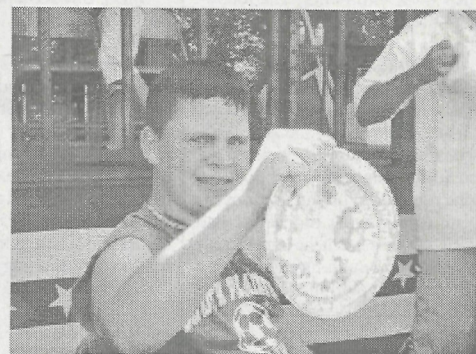
44th ANNUAL LABOR DAY PARADE

It Gets Bigger and Better Every Year...



Congratulations to the Contest Winners!

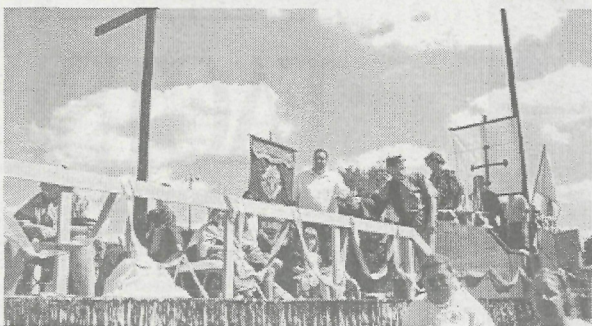
- Pie Eating — Jeff MacIntosh
- Egg Toss—David Miglis and John Orlando
- Watermelon Eating — Batthew Broxmyer
- Balloon Toss—Kyle Wood and Matthew Broxmyer



Photos by Patricia Abbott and Jane Dornick

44th ANNUAL LABOR DAY PARADE

...Pride in South Plainfield





Labor Day

5k Race

Record Number
Competes at
Labor Day 5k Run

14 & UNDER

Boys

- 1-Galen Johnson
- 2-Christopher King
- 3-Kevin Hohner
- 4-Chris Weakley
- 5-Robert Didario
- 6-Mike Wardenski
- 7-Scott Davinos
- 8-Nick Desimone
- 9-Matt Jeglinski
- 10-Robert Strani

Girls

- 1-Jenelle King
- 2-Jennifer Komalko
- 3-Jessica Miller
- 4-Stephanie Stellakis
- 5-Caitlyn Seamster

20-29

Males

- 1-Greg Cassio
- 2-Robert LaPorte
- 3-Paul McCullen
- 4-Franisco Javier
- 5-Nathan Quiring
- 6-Mark VanKleef

Females

- 1-Vanessa Delucas
- 2-Meredith Cullen
- 3-Kiera Yealy
- 4-Donna Moschello
- 5-Camille Woolcockbrow

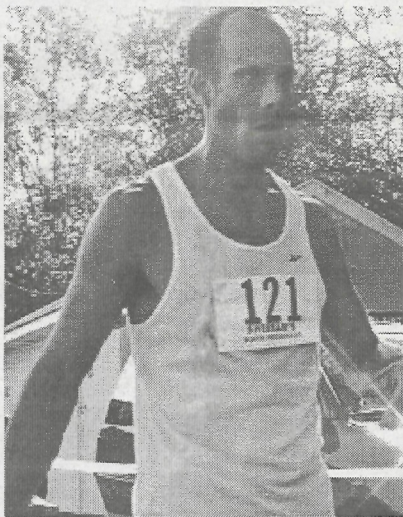
40-49

Males

- 1-Ed Halper
- 2-Rich Gebauer
- 3-Leonel Gonzalez
- 4-Stuart Bruno
- 5-Danz Doyle
- 6-Jeff Hurling
- 7-Aldwyn King
- 8-Vincent Lee
- 9-Robert McGill
- 10-Larry Rolbal

Females

- 1-Roseanne Russo
- 2-Elaine Nestel
- 3-Gina King Young
- 4-Lois Bucholt
- 5-Kathy Borenstein
- 6-Janice Haus
- 7-Debbie McGrane
- 8-Kim Vernon
- 9-Shelley Davinos
- 10-Marianne Baumpane



50-59

Males

- 1-Mark Sepkowski
- 2-Charles Schneekloth
- 3-Cecik Vincent
- 4-David Henderson
- 5-Walt Kaczka
- 6-Ronald Winner
- 7-Joseph Rotunda
- 8-Russ Mattoon
- 9-Mitchell Kagan
- 10-Hubert Reeder

Females

- 1-Joann Coffee
- 2-Pauline Powell
- 3-Alice Kempel

60 & OVER

- 1-Sid Howard
- 2-Humberta Torres
- 3-Andrew Boyajian
- 4-Vincent Matthews
- 5-David Quiring

- 6-Michael Kauka
- 7-Jack Walsh
- 8-John Wall
- 9-Bob Hoesly

14 & UNDER

Males

- 1-Tim Morgan Jr.
- 2-Philip Balderose
- 3-Ross Bucholt
- 4-Philip Deguzman
- 5-John Wiekowski
- 6-Frank Navarro
- 7-Calvinjohn Smiley
- 8-John Rayho
- 9-Matthew Peloquin
- 10-John Foscolo

Females

- 1-Allison Ligorano
- 2-Jenna Regnault
- 3-Jesa Jones
- 4-Shannon Dabio
- 5-Claire Sullivan
- 6-Tarryn Carlton
- 7-Johanna Hedler
- 8-Christina Dematos
- 9-Jeanette Susino
- 10-Meghan Elsmen

30-39

Males

- 1-Stephen Lewicki
- 2-Peter Buccino
- 3-Juan Lopez
- 4-David Wong
- 5-Joseph Lewicki
- 6-Dennis McNeeney
- 7-Thomas O'Connor
- 8-Prince Licorish
- 9-David Maszczak
- 10-David Wotanis

Females

- 1-Karen Maszczak
- 2-Cheryl Hughes
- 3-Kithika Seshadri
- 4-Lynda Bronzellino

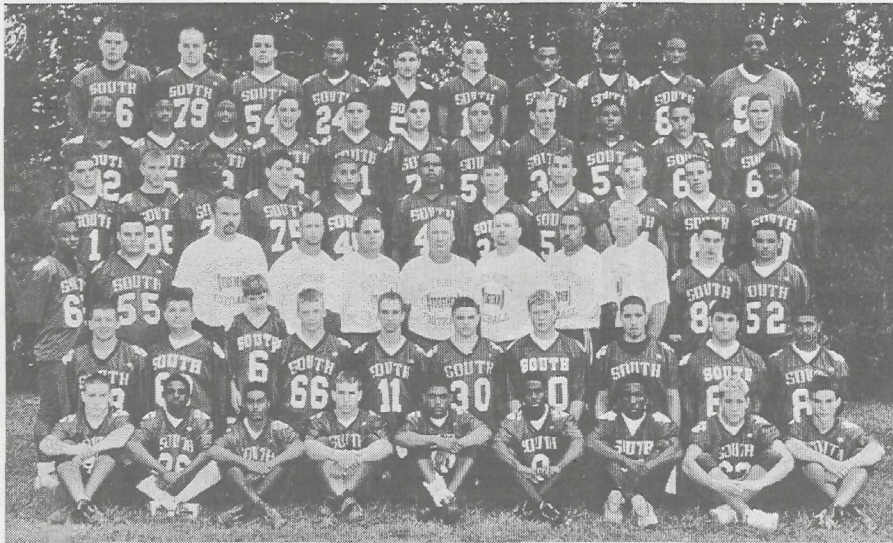


FACTS:

The Youngest Runners were: four 12-year-old boys and two 11-year-old girls.
The Oldest Runners were: a 69-year-old male and two 52-year-old females

Sports

South Plainfield Tiger Football Teams



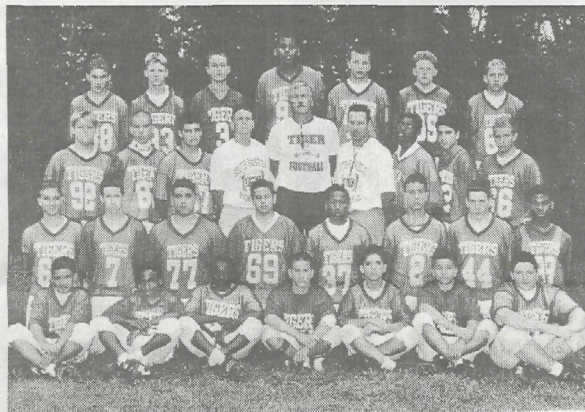
2001 Varsity Football Team

The 2001 Football Roster is as follows: Head Coach, Philip McGuane; Asst. Coaches, Rich Fonti, Bill Schulte, Billy Hamilton, Joe Cirigliano, Tom Rizk and Scott Horowitz.

The Seniors are: James Bender, Sal Carrano, Rafael Diaz, Johnathan Fredericks, Andrew Fyffe, Chris Grevious, Sean Grevious, Christopher Lamberti, Robert Merkler, Frank Salerno, Joey Sierzega, Thomas Toolan, Ulysses Russell.

The Juniors are: Okle Annum, James Bush, Gary Curcio, Brian DeStefano, Eric Forde, Frank Gaspari, Jim Hearne, Travis Hollis, Appi Iyengar, David Jacobs, Cedric Johnson, Rodney Jones, Tim Keller, Chinedum Okparacke, Steve Porcelli, Kyle Prendergast, Michael Raynes, Joseph Sorrentino, David Spayder, Ryan Vroom, Michael Wiczorek, Frank Wrublewski, Phil DeRosa.

The Sophomores are: Marcellus Abrams, Jimmy Bataille, Jonathan Buggy, Zac Coppola, Chris Czapinski, Amir Davis, Kevin Frank Demarest, Christopher Dickerson, Nicholas Doell, Ryan Elliot, Ian Robinson, Jon Rodger, Michael Salerno, Guy Severini, Adam Tamzoke, Jermaine Thomas, Ray Jainarine, George Watkins.



2001 Freshman Football Team

The Freshmen are: Joe Agrillo, Kyle Baker, Chris Bojarski, Nicholas Cesare, Anthony Costante, Fred Cummings, Nicholas Curcio, Peter DeAndrea, Doug Dietzold, John George, Jason Grieb, Joey Jaghab, Nicholas Jefferys, Ryan Kenny, Rob Maistickle, Danny Manning, Johnny Martin, Billy Merkler, Andrew Miller, Billy Moates, Chris Moore, Paul Nicolosi, Michael Pedersen, JaQuon Pickwood, Jeremy Rodas, Darryl Stevenson, Jeff Toolan, Viet Vo and Mike Williams.



Ponytail Softball Batters Box

By Sharon Miller

Ponytail Softball Association Meeting—September 25—
The South Plainfield Ponytail Parents' Association will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 25 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 Sept. 25. 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.

Free Baseball Clinic Offered to 13-17 Year Olds

Ron Hunt, former All-Star second baseman for the New York Mets, will host a baseball clinic at the Middlesex County Vocational and Technical High School baseball field located on Rues Lane in East Brunswick. There is no charge for the clinic, and youths 13-17 years old are welcome to attend. The clinic will stress the baseball fundamentals of hitting, fielding and base running. Pitchers and catchers will also receive valuable tips from Ron. The clinic will run for two consecutive days, starting each day at 9:30 and ending at 3 p.m. on Sept. 15 and 16. Attendees should plan to be there for both days and bring their own bats, gloves, hats and safety equipment. An athletic supporter is required for males. The first day will begin with position assignments, fielding and base running activities. The second day will include a scrimmage game. Proof of insurance and a signed letter of permission to play

MUST be completed at the field at 9:30 a.m. the first day, in order to participate. There will be no exceptions to the insurance and permission requirements.

Ron Hunt has founded the Ron Hunt Eagles Baseball Association, Inc. and has two teams, divided by age group, that compete in a summer program at his camp in Wentzville, Missouri.

Attendees may participate in the Clinic with no obligation to try out for the Ron Hunt Independent Eagles program. Ron has donated his time each year for the past nine years, to return some of the support that he received as a player from the NY/NJ area. He also holds clinics in Canada, a return to the area he lived in when he played for the Montreal Expos.

Additional information: Call R. Hopps, (732) 238-3495 in East Brunswick.

Aerobics Are Back at The PAL

Starting Monday, September 10, the Recreation Dept. will be offering an aerobics class. The fee is \$35 per person for 20 lessons. Classes are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9-10 a.m. Babysitting is available.

For more information, call the PAL at (908) 226-7713.

The South Plainfield Recreation Soccer League Still Needs Several COACHES for this years Soccer Teams. Games are Played only on Saturdays.



To volunteer or for more information, call Mike English at the PAL, 226-7713.



... In South Plainfield!



There's a lot going on...



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908-668-0010



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✓ Please send me home delivery of the Observer.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____



Filipino-American Assoc. Installs Officers

On Saturday, Sept. 8, the Filipino-American Association of Sacred Heart Church installed their new officers at the 9 a.m. mass. The officers are: president, David Aguinaldo; first vice president, Jasper Baluyot; second vice president, Frank Campos; secretary, Pat Lapitan; treasurer, Regina Baluyot; auditor, Helen Banarara; prov., Lani Latouuo. Father John Paul Alverado administered the oath of office. Later a buffet was held in the school cafeteria for approximately 150 members and friends.

— Photo by Bill Tuthill

Obituaries

Jan (Jay) L. Heacock, 60

Jan (Jay) L. Heacock of North Plainfield died on Wednesday, Sept. 5, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

He was born in Plainfield and was raised and lived in North Plainfield his entire life.

Mr. Heacock was a plumber in the North Plainfield area for many years.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Marian Robinson Heacock; his daughter, Beth and her husband, Ward Scheiderman of Green Brook; his sons, Mark of North Plainfield

and Robin and his wife Paula Heacock of South Plainfield; his brother, Henry and his wife, Christine Heacock of Pittstown and his grandchildren, Robert and Stephanie.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory can be made to the American Diabetes Association, Vantage Court North, 200 Cortontail Ln., Somerset, NJ 08873.

Genevieve (Jean) Mazin Shumsky, 76

Genevieve (Jean) Mazin Shumsky of South Plainfield died on Saturday, September 8 at the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

She was born in Newark and has resided in South Plainfield for the last 48 years.

Jean was a bookkeeper for General Electric in Newark for many years then worked for Rapps Pharmacy in Plainfield for 10 years before retiring in 1998.

Mrs. Shumsky is a communicant of Our Lady Czestochowa Church

in South Plainfield

She was predeceased by her husband Stanley E. Shumsky who died in 1998.

She is survived by her daughters, Lisa Shumsky of South Plainfield and Lauren and her husband, Neil Greenspan of Jamesburg; her sister, Betty Poltritsky of Flemington; her brother, Stanley Mazin of East Hampton and her grandson, Andrew Greenspan.

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

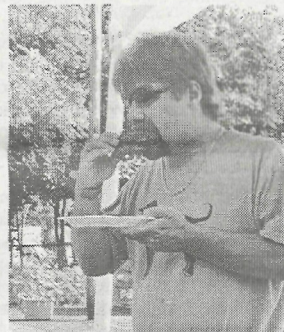
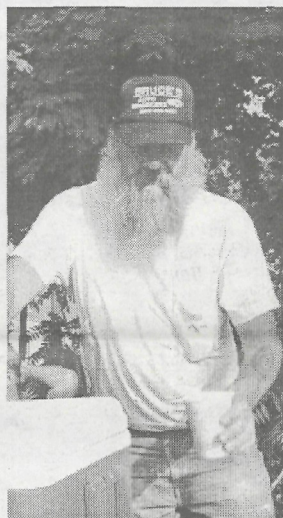
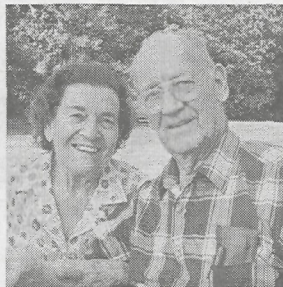
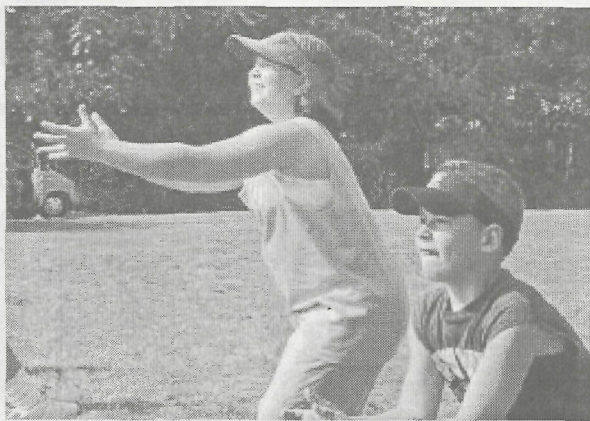
Scenes From Polish Home Annual Picnic

The South Plainfield Polish National Home recently held their annual picnic. Close to 150 people turned out. This annual picnic has been taking place for 50 years.

A buffet of hot and cold foods offered favorites such as perogies, keilbasa and sauerkraut, as well as hamburgers, chicken, hordogs and more.

Children enjoyed a water balloon contest, moon walk, face painting and ice cream cones. The adults tapped their feet and danced to DJ Nick L. Odean and enjoyed playing a messy egg toss contest.

The day concluded with a number of raffles and giveaways.



Legal Notice

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ORDINANCE 1573

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

Ordinance #1573 entitled: AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE A PORTION OF HOLLY AVENUE WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Borough Council on Thursday, September 6, 2001 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$19.00 September 14, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Danielle Bongard requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the existing 16.8' x 9.9' wood deck exceeds lot coverage by 162 sq. ft. or 2.2%; and other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 165, Lot 2 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of granting objections to or protests against the hearing of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on October 2, 2001 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

The maps and documents pertaining to this appeal are available for public inspection in the Building Inspector's Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

\$35.00 1T September 14, 2001

Consideration

It is far easier for the family if a family plot is arranged prior to need. The considerate staff at Hillside Cemetery will assist your selection. All lots are in 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

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ORDINANCE #1574

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

Ordinance #1574 entitled: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$25,000.00 FOR THE RESURFACING OF SYLVANIA PLACE WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD be adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, September 14, 2001 and that a public hearing be held at 8:00 PM on Thursday, October 4, 2001 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ORDINANCE NO. 1574

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$25,000.00 FOR THE RESURFACING OF SYLVANIA PLACE WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY THAT:

SECTION 1. There is hereby authorized pursuant to the applicable statutes of the State of New Jersey, as a general improvement, for the repaving of Sylvania Place, within the Borough.

SECTION 2. That the improvement described in Section 1 hereof shall be authorized as a general improvement for the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, New Jersey.

SECTION 3. It is hereby declared and determined by this Mayor and Council as follows:

A. That the maximum estimated amount of money to be raised from all sources for said purpose stated in Section 1, hereof, is \$25,000.00.

B. That the cost of said project shall be financed by Developer Contributions for Off Site Improvements in the amount of \$25,000.00, which said sum is now available for said purpose.

SECTION 4. That no bonds or notes are to be issued or indebtedness incurred for this purpose.

SECTION 5. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final adoption and publication according to law.

Approved September 6, 2001

Daniel J. Gallagher/Mayor

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$68.00 September 14, 2001

policereport

• A Plainfield Ave. resident reported that someone had scratched the driver's side and hood of her vehicle while it was parked in her driveway overnight.

• A South Ave. man was arrested for towing a stolen car with his tow truck.

• Carmen's Trattoria on Oak Tree Rd. was asked to remove the phrase from their advertising "Bring you own spirits" as there is a statute prohibiting such language.

REGISTER NOW for Girl Scouts

Registration for all girls interested in Girl Scouts will be held this Friday, 9/14/01 at Riley School in the cafeteria from 6-8:30 p.m. The cost is \$7. Leaders are also needed

Spaghetti Dinner
September 16
2 to 7 pm.
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Maltby Ave. in So.Plfd. 755-9471.

LOST CAT

TABBY CAT- GREY W/ BLACK stripes, white legs. Blind in one eye. Lost in Sampton Ave. area. Last seen Aug. 13. \$1000 reward. Call Helen, 908-222-1653.

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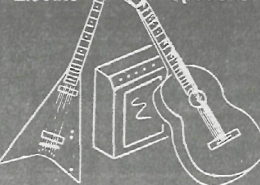
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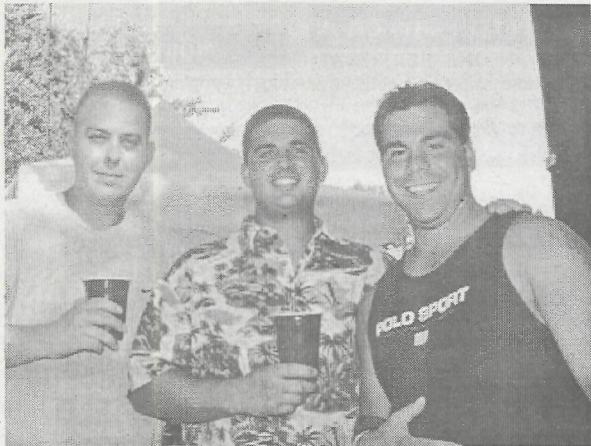
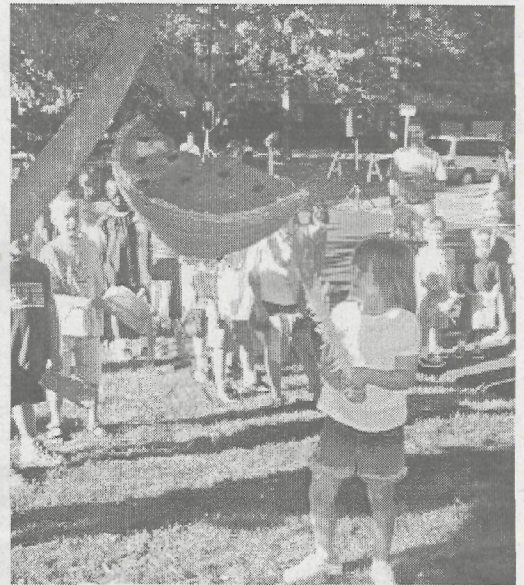
Selene Ave. Residents Rock the Block

Selene Ave. is a small quiet road off of Maple Ave. The entire street is barely three blocks long and has about 15 houses. Several neighbors decided it was time to liven things up a bit and organized the First Annual Selene Ave. Block Party. The street was closed off between East Hendricks and Wexler Ave. Everyone joined in the spirit and contributed something.

There was a wide array of hot and cold foods to choose from as well as hamburgers and hotdogs hot off the grill. The popular band Backsplash

and their DJs, along with neighbors from surrounding streets joined in the fun with friends and family of Selene residents.

In fact, the block party boasted between 200 and 300 people in attendance throughout the day and into the evening. The kids had a good time with a pinata and visiting with a fire truck. Later in the day the DJs brought out karaoke equipment and the more daring souls tested vocal skills. The party continued well into the evening.



School Safety Tips

By Patricia Abbott

Often parents assume that their children know what to do, that they remember the "Don't talk to strangers" chats of early childhood. Constant reminders are not to be considered overbearing in this day and age but essential, simply a necessary fact of life.

Today there are so many more reasons to be vigilant with the age-old safety rules. The rules bear repeating over and over. Community Policing Officers Allen Lamonda and Joe Papa remind us that this checklist should be used all year and not just for back to school. Safety precautions are essential year round and reminders are just a part of that process. Parents and children should review the list together. Some rules seem less important as a child grows older, they are forgotten with time, yet it is these very rules that often keep a child safe.

Below is a Back-to-School Safety checklist provided by the Community Policing Officers. Originally there were two lists, one for kids and one for parents. This is a combined list. Follow these simple rules and have a safe and fun school year.

• Parents, work out the safest, quickest route to your child's school. Use streets with crossing guards when-

ever possible. Test the route chosen with your child. Avoid empty lots, parks, field or places where there are not many people around. Walk with a friend, a brother, sister or neighbor when going to school.

• Kids, know your home phone number as well as that of trusted family members and adults. Carry enough change to make a call or carry a phone card. Parents, make sure your younger children know their home phone number including the all-important area code as well as their home address and parent's work number.

• Make sure that all children know how to use 911 for emergencies. They should be able to give their full home address and phone number. Tell them never to be afraid to call the police if they are afraid; better safe than sorry.

• Make sure that children know road safety rules, whether walking or biking to school, they must obey all traffic signals, signs, officers and safety patrols. Remind them to be extra careful in rainy, foggy or snowy weather.

• If you carpool, drop off and pick up children as close to school as possible. Don't leave until they have entered the school.

• The eternal reminder.... Never talk to strangers, never accept rides or gifts. Adults do not need to ask direc-

tions from children and children are not obligated to reply or listen to an adult. No matter how nice they seem, they are still strangers. This is a reminder that can never be repeated enough. Run away from anyone you don't know, or who makes you feel uncomfortable. Yell, scream if you need to, and run to the nearest house. Older students need to bear this in mind as well. Anyone you don't know is a stranger and potentially dangerous, no matter what your age.

• If you bike, skate or scooter to school, wear a helmet. Lock up your bike with a sturdy lock. Do not rely on inexpensive locks as they can be cut or bypassed easily.

• If you stay after school, let a parent know. Get permission to play at a friend's home.

• Parents, set up a "home alone plan." Be specific as to what the children can and cannot do. Set rules for locking doors and answering the phone or door. Discuss rules for inviting friends to your house. Kids, when you are home alone after school, check in with a parent or neighbor as soon as you walk in the door. Do not invite friends over when no adult is home unless you have permission. Lock the door and follow your family's "home alone plan."

• **TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS!** In school, on the playground or anywhere in-between, if someone/something makes you feel uncomfortable, if you feel something is not right about a stranger or anyone else, report it, tell a parent or a teacher.

If a bully bothers you or you witness someone causing damage to your school, tell a teacher or an adult. Parents take all complaints about bullies seriously.

School Board and Borough Share Services

Continued from page 1

ment's Juvenile Bureau. They also provided five department volunteers for the fire department's wetdown held recently.

In the past, the public works department constructed a basin and installed piping to restore the school soccer field to acceptable standards. Public works also worked with the county, correcting a standing water problem in front of the high school. Joe Glowacki, public works superintendent, also provided milled street material for use in some of the school parking lots.

The Borough recently received a grant for sidewalks at Chambers St. and Belmont Ave., which will make walking to school safer.

Lt. Mike Grennier and Court Administrator Pat Vargo assisted with the communication and technology issues in the school system.

Emergency Management Coordinator Mike Zushma has aided the district on a number of emergency problems, such as water main break emergencies, which affected Franklin and Roosevelt and, most recently, Kennedy School.

The construction and zoning staff at Borough Hall provided valuable assistance with the school construction program.

Police Chief Robert Merkler and his staff have been very responsive to

the district needs and instrumental in collecting used cell phones which are reprogrammed to be used in the schools. They also conduct DARE and character building programs.

The mayor and council, along with the Environmental Commission, have made the property behind Franklin School available for recreation and park purposes. They have also been helpful with planning at the new Roosevelt School.

The fire department conducts demonstrations during Fire Prevention Week and, along with the rescue squad, quickly responds and assists in all emergencies.

These are just some examples of what Shared Services means and how the Board of Education participates in the program.

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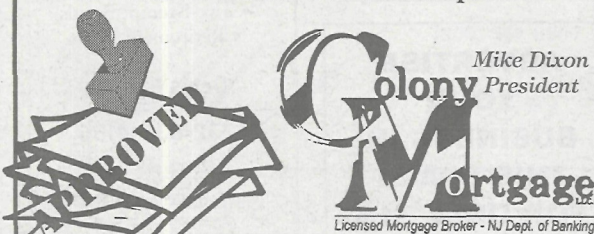
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COLOR PHOTOS FROM BLOCK PARTIES

on Randolph, Audubon, Selene, Harvard and Revere, as well as Elks, Polish Home, VFW picnics and the Labor Day parade are available for purchase.

Many unpublished pictures. To see proof sheets contact OBSERVER photographer Pattie @ 756-8011, leave message. Many school, scout, graduations and other photos available as well.

Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.
South Plainfield, NJ

Very Rev. John Paul Alvarado, Pastor

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Evening Mass 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.
Weekdays 7 a.m. (except Monday)
9:00 a.m. (church)
12 Noon (Chapel)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 11 a.m. - 12 noon, 4:15 - 4:45 and after 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

Monday Evening Mass

Monday: 3 p.m.
Eucharistic Adoration,
Exposition, Divine Mercy
6:45 p.m. - Miraculous
Medal, Novena, Benediction
7 p.m. Eve. Mass (church)
Holy Days 7 p.m. (Vigil);
7 and 9 a.m., 12:10 p.m. 7 p.m.

