

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 5, NO. 11

50 CENTS

NOVEMBER 9, 2001

DEMOCRATS OVERWHELMING WINNERS

Cerami, Butrico for Council and Patrick Diegnan, SP's First Assemblyman



State Assemblyman Peter Barnes with newly elected Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan, Councilman-elect Charlie Butrico and Councilman Dennis Cerami, all winners in Tuesday's election.

The scene at the Knights of Columbus Hall Tuesday night, where the Democrats assembled to count the votes, was jubilant. South Plainfield voters once again choose the democratic ticket overwhelmingly. In addition Patrick Diegnan, a lifelong resident and Borough Attorney, won a seat in the 18th District of the New Jersey State Assembly, a first for a South Plainfield resident.

The top vote getters were Democrats Charlie Butrico with 3,481 votes and Councilman Dennis Cerami with 3,393 votes. Republican candidates Marjorie Reedy and Jerry Harris received 2,188 and 1,911 respectively. The democrats still hold all six seats on the council.

Patrick Diegnan and running mate Peter Barnes also won big. Incumbent Barnes received 31,495 votes and Diegnan got 29,769. Their Republican opponents Norman J. Van Houten and Sylvester Fernandez received 17,408 and 16,718, respectively.

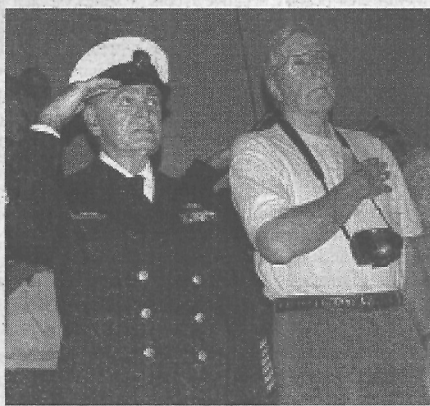
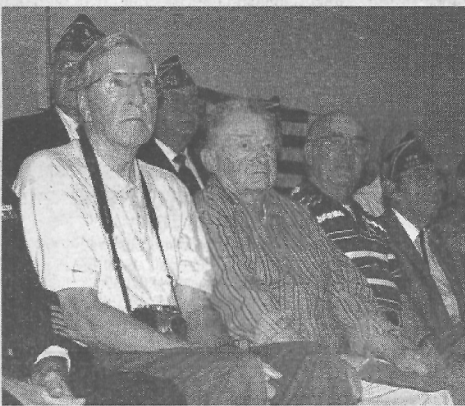
Dennis Cerami will be serving his third term on the council. Charlie Butrico becomes the freshman councilman. Pat Diegnan's election gives us a local voice in Trenton. Middlesex County Freeholder John Pulomena, also a South Plainfield resident, gives a local voice in the county.

The victory party was almost over by 8:45 p.m. Most guests jumped on a chartered bus to go to the New Brunswick democratic headquarters to watch the votes counted county and statewide. Jim McGreevey was elected governor. Middlesex County democrats won three freeholder seats, seats in the NJ senate and assembly.

Diegnan noted what a difficult campaign this became after the Sept. 11 terrorists attack. It was very hard to go out afterward, but we met the challenge. Residents were very positive as they canvased the town. He added that this year's theme "Democracy Works" was answered by the voters, loud and clear.

Franklin School Honors Veterans

Students go 'beyond the call of duty' in annual program



By Patricia Abbott

Observing an early Veterans Day, Franklin School students honored more than 30 local Veterans from World War II, the Korean conflict, Vietnam and Desert Storm. Cries of, "This way Grandpa!" rang through the hallway as students at Franklin School proudly led the Veterans to their seats. The youngsters presented their audience with poems, songs and original essays. Franklin is the only school in the district that formally observes Veterans Day.

The ceremony began with a welcome from Franklin School Principal Nancy Erickson, followed by the school band's rendition of the "Marine Hymn" and the presentation of colors. Students dressed in army fatigue jackets marched down the aisle carrying service flags representing each

branch of the armed forces. The guests stood at attention and saluted the American flag as it was placed center stage. Before retiring the flags fifth grader Rebecca Deffler recited, "I Am The Flag."

Eight first grade students displayed their newfound knowledge of Veteran's Day in a skit. The youngsters had obviously worked hard learning their lines and presented them in clear, confident voices. Participating were Nicholas Graves, Bobby Kolvites, David Landy, Michelle Lesniak, Gabrielle Smith, Catherine Emery, Renee Parisi, and Corey Stasenko.

The essay contest is an important part of the annual program each year. The four winners read their essays aloud. Jaime Parelo's essay started, "... On September 11 we saw what war can do....In New York our twin towers went down, but our flag went

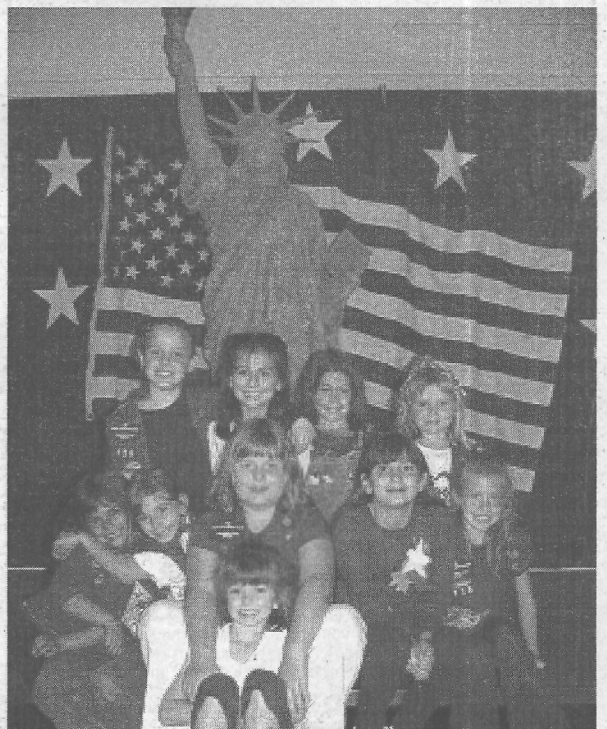
up... Thank you. I love my freedom." Other winners were Patrick Landy, Nicholas Rinco both in third grade and Lacey Hogan grade four.

Among the Veterans was former teacher Anthony Cotoia, who spoke of Ms. Erickson's role in providing the Franklin School community with knowledge and pride in our country's veterans. He noted that if Franklin School were a military unit, Erickson would be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for going beyond the call of duty. Cotoia awarded Ms. Erickson with a commendation recognizing her service to the school.

Students spent many days rehearsing patriotic songs. Among the tunes that brought smiles and applause were "Anchors Aweigh," "God Bless the USA," and "We Are The World." Nine first grade youngsters held hands

Continued on page 10

The public is invited to join Memorial Post 6763 Veterans of Foreign Wars in observation of Veterans Day with services at the Post Home, 155 Front St. on November 11 at 11 a.m. An open house will follow. For more information, call 908-668-9751.



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, December 3 (*note change) Thursday, December 6, 2001
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
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
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.

siteplace sub-committee

The fourth Thursday of the month as follows:
Nov. 22 (no meeting), Dec. 27

recreation commission

Meets once a month on the second Tuesday of the month, except July and August
PAL Building, Maple Ave. 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7716
Dec. 4

environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)
Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-561-8280
Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 9, 2002

board of education meetings

Grant School Gymnasium on Cromwell Place unless otherwise noted
Committee of the Whole, Nov. 13, Dec. 11 at 7 p.m.
Regular Board Mtg., 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
Nov. 28, Dec. 26.

Community-wide Thanksgiving Worship Services Are Planned

The South Plainfield Clergy Group will hold their annual Community-Wide Thanksgiving Worship Service. Each year, the clergy groups come together to celebrate and give thanks for all that God has done for us and for all that God is doing in our community and nation.

This year's worship service will be hosted by Wesley United Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave. Service will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 20 at 7:30 p.m.

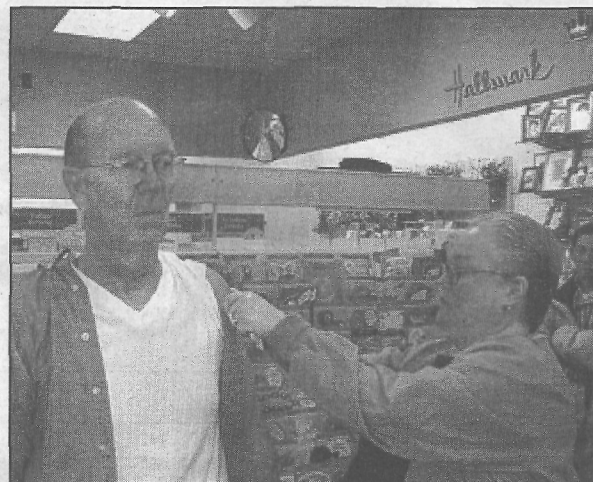
As always, we will be blessed by music from our combined choirs. Our music directors, Tom Baker, Cathy Davidson, Jim Horvath and Tony Orlowski have been preparing the music and choir.

This year, we will give special thanks to our uniformed service personnel; representatives of the Fire Department, Police Department and Rescue Squad will be recognized and prayed for. The annual Thanksgiving Offering will be given to these uniformed service agencies to whom we give thanks.

All are welcome and eagerly expected to this worshipping with the rest of our community of South Plainfield.

Your Invited

The public is invited to join Memorial Post 6763 Veterans of Foreign Wars in observation of Veterans Day with services at the Post Home, 155 Front St. on November 11 at 11 a.m. An open house will follow. For more information, call 908-668-9751.



Lizabeth Zangrilli from Quaker State Medical Services gives a flu shot to Stanley Guididas at Twin City Pharmacy last Saturday. Twin City had a steady line of people most of the day.

New Welcome Signs Studied By Business Association

The South Plainfield Business Association is studying the possibility of placing more 'Welcome to South Plainfield' signs



(now Fleet), dmc2, United National Bank and Harris Steel.

New signs may be placed at the entrance to South

around town. Emil Leporino has been compiling estimates and samples of what the signs should look like. The executive committee will make the final decision in the near future.

The signs are usually sponsored by the Business Association or a business in town. So far signs are located on the intersections of Durham at Hamilton Blvd., Park Ave. at Oak Tree Rd., Clinton Ave. at 7th St., Stelton Rd. at Hamilton Blvd. and New Market Ave. at New Brunswick Ave.

Sponsors for these signs are the Business Association, Summit Bank

Plainfield at Maple Ave. at Woodland Ave., Woodland Ave. at Sprague Ave., Park Ave. (near Sprague), Plainfield Ave. (near Wesley Methodist Church), 7th Street at New Brunswick Ave., Stelton Rd. at New Brunswick Ave., Stelton Rd. at New Durham, Durham Ave. at New Durham, the ramp off 287 onto Durham Ave., Oak Tree Rd. at Woodland Ave. (near A&P Shopping Center) and Stelton Rd. at Hadley Blvd.

Signs at the exits to South Plainfield saying "Comeback to South Plainfield" are also being consideration.

IN MY OPINION

To the Editor,

So often when we pick up a piece of print media we are confronted with themes that portray negative events. However I want to take a few moments to tell of an experience that was joy to be part of, and share how it touched my heart.

On Friday, Nov. 2 Franklin School held its eighth annual Veterans Day recognition ceremony. Honored guests included local residents that have served their country in the armed forces. The children played and sang patriotic songs, performed skits and read essays that they had written paying tribute to these brave men and women.

The room was awash in red, white and blue. Stars and stripes were every-

where. A large likeness of the Statue of Liberty shared the stage with the students. As the children sang the songs of each branch of our armed forces, the veterans stood in proud tribute. Franklin School Principal Nancy Erickson's opening remarks urged us to remember all of our veterans, and dedicated the proceedings to the victims and heroes of the events of September 11. When the children sang "God Bless the USA," I don't believe there was a dry eye in the house.

It was truly a civics lesson brought to life. The entire staff of Franklin School deserves credit for a job incredibly well done. Clearly freedom is not

free. The events of recent days bare witness to that. But as we pass those lessons on to our children, celebrating and remembering them with our fathers and mothers, we can as Ms. Erickson said in her closing remarks "try and make the world a better place".

SINCERELY,
DANIEL SMITH

SEND YOUR LETTERS/ OPINIONS TO:

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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.

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Advertising Sales

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.

Just A Reminder

Meeting Change Notice

The Borough Council Meetings that were scheduled for Monday, Dec. 17, 2001 (agenda meeting) and Thursday, Dec. 20, 2001 (public meeting) have been cancelled.

The meetings scheduled for Monday, Dec. 3, 2001 and Thursday, Dec. 6, 2001 will remain unchanged.

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southplainfieldpeople Milestones

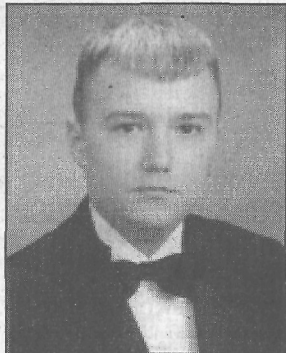
Rowlands Awarded Full-Tuition Scholarship to Cittone Institute

Anthony Rowlands, a graduate of South Plainfield High School has been awarded a full-tuition scholarship to the Cittone Institute in Edison.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rowlands of South Plainfield, Anthony is a student in the electronics and network systems technology programs.

John J. Willie, executive director, announced that members of this year's scholarship selection committee were Randie Blumhagen, staffing manager, Lakeland Personnel, Bridgewater; Tony Sciorzo, staffing manager, IHS Help Desk Services, Woodbridge, and Christine Schwartz, career services director for Cittone's Edison location. The scholarship selection committee interviewed finalists from among high school seniors who took the scholarship examinations administered by the school.

The Edison campus located at 1697 Oak Tree Rd., is one of 23 facilities operated nationally by Lincoln Educational Services. Open for day



Anthony Rowlands

and evening sessions, it also offers programs for network systems professional, computer programming with web technology, software applications specialist, PC support technician, help desk analyst, and web development programmer. Cittone is accredited by the Accrediting Council for independent colleges and schools.

Sarah Miele Receives 'Healthy Neighbors' Award



Sara Miele

Sarah Miele of South Plainfield, has received the Solaris "Healthy Neighbors" Award in recognition for her community service contribution to area residents in the field of environmental education. The award was presented at the Healthy Neighbors Annual Meeting and Awards Reception on Oct. 24, at the JFK Conference Center in Edison. The award is sponsored by the Solaris Health System,

Community Health Improvement Department.

Miss Miele, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Miele, is a senior at South Plainfield High School. She is a member of the teaching team at Highland Avenue Woods Environmental Education Reserve, an Associate Member of the South Plainfield Environmental Commission and President of the High School Environmental Club. She is an active member of the Friends of the Woods, Inc., Watchung Nature Club, and the South Plainfield Historical Society.

Healthy Neighbors is a partnership for healthier communities in Central New Jersey. The non-profit, volunteer organization works with interested residents, business, other non-profit organizations and government bodies in Middlesex, Somerset and Union counties to address high priority health and community issues. The awards process seeks to identify and recognize people who are making a significant contribution to their communities.

Leonidas Stellakis is Named 2002 Rensselaer Medal Winner

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute has announced the winners of the 2002 Rensselaer Medal.

Leonidas Stellakis of South Plainfield is this year's honoree at Delberton High School.

The Rensselaer Medal, the oldest prize of its kind in the United States, is awarded at 2,700 secondary schools throughout North America, Latin America, Europe, and Asia. This Award is given to students who have distinguished themselves in mathematics and science. To be honored with the Rensselaer Medal, a student

must be a member of the junior class and the high school's single most promising science and math student.

Each medalist who is accepted and subsequently enrolls at Rensselaer receives a scholarship of \$40,000, payable in four yearly \$10,000 awards.

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, founded in 1824, is the nation's oldest technological university. The Institute is a leader in research and educational innovation and is especially well known for its hands-on, studio-based approach to undergraduate education.

Mohn's Florist Is Now Online

Now you can shop for flowers right from your computer — 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Mohn's Florist is now on the internet at www.mohnsflorist.com. You can order after hours and Mohn's will fill the order the next morning. They will even send you an e-mail reminder so you don't forget important dates. Plus there's an address book that allows you to save information, making quick work of repeat purchases. It's safe, easy and fast. Go to mohnsflorist.com and see their complete selection online of both flowers and fancy foods.

Chemical Spill Causes 100+ To Evacuate Nutro Labs

Last Tuesday the South Plainfield rescue squad received a call from Nutro Labs, located on Hadley Rd. saying an employee was having difficulty breathing. When they arrived, police discovered at least ten people suffering shortness of breath, light-headedness and nausea.

At least 100 employees were evacuated from the building and a total of 12 people were sent to area hospitals. Five were taken to JFK Hospital in Edison, four to Muhlenberg Medical Center in Plainfield and three to Robert Wood Johnson in New Brunswick.

Responding to the scene were South Plainfield Emergency Management, members from the South Plainfield fire, police and rescue squad. A number of area rescue squads also helped transport victims. Assisting were squads from Edison Rescue Squad 2, Rutgers Rescue Squad, North Stelton, New Market, Robert Wood Transport, and Mercy 6 from Muhlenberg. Middlesex County Haz Mat arrived to check air samples in the building. An employee cleaning a machine had inadvertently put solvent cleaner in a spray bottle, allowing the chemical to become airborne.

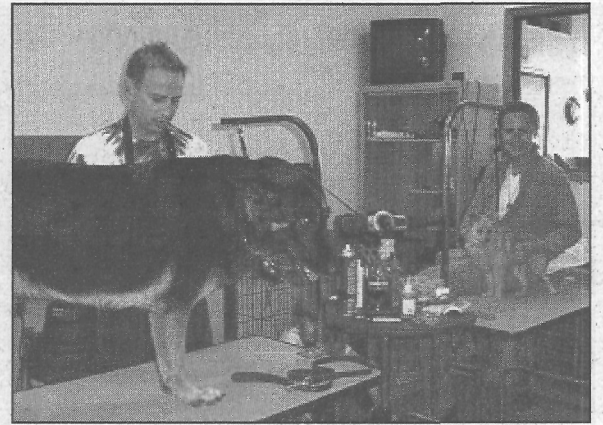
The incident occurred at about 8:30 a.m. and was cleared up within 90 minutes. There were no serious injuries and all victims were treated and released.

Middlesex Cty. Health Dept. Reschedules Free Flu Shots

The Middlesex County Public Health Department was forced to cancel their scheduled flu shot program last week because of delay in shipping the flu vaccine by the manufacturer.

Many residents who did not want to wait for the Middlesex County Health Department, instead went to Twin City Pharmacy last Saturday and got a flu shot.

Meanwhile the Middlesex County Health Department has rescheduled the flu shots for Thursday, Nov. 15 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. in the council chambers. Shots are free and will be given to all residents 18 and older, however, Medicare will be billed where applicable.



Animal House Dog Groomers Now Open In South Plainfield

Finally South Plainfield residents can enjoy the convenience of having their own local animal grooming shop. Located at 18 South Plainfield Ave. Animal House will groom just about any pet you may own.

Co-owners Laura Searles and Clem Approvato are bringing their love of pets to the downtown area, with store hours to accommodate just about everyone. Actual appointment hours are from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m., however they will let you drop off your pet as early as 7 a.m. and will even keep them until you arrive home from work at night at no extra charge. Store hours after 3 p.m. can be made by special appointment only.

Groomer, Jim Henry is a graduate of the New York School of Dog Grooming and has 27 years of experience. He is also a bird specialist. Jim teamed up with Laura, who has been a professional hair

stylist for 21 years and together they have combined their love of animals into a business. They both co-own Miss Chatelaine, an eight year old award winning Siberian Husky show dog. Laura's sister, Janice Treesh, who also works there, has been grooming for 12 years and has bred and raised dogs.

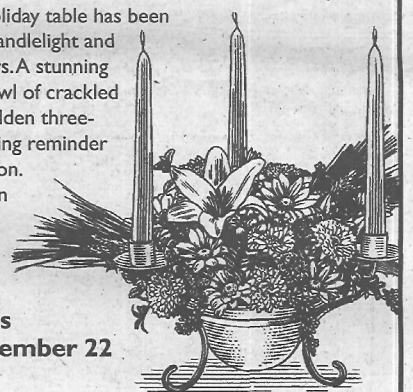
Animal House is veterinarian recommended. Look for their upcoming Grand Opening celebration. For an appointment call 908-755-3342.

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Thanksgiving is Thursday, November 22

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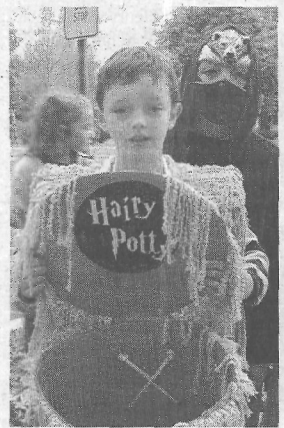
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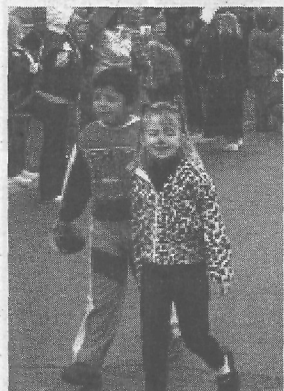
FRANKLIN SCHOOL HALLOWEEN

Photos by Patricia Abbott



RILEY SCHOOL HALLOWEEN

Photos by Carol Grennier



Around Town

SPHS Class of 1976 25th Reunion

November 10

Attention all classmates! South Plainfield Class of 1976 will hold its 25th reunion on Saturday, Nov. 10 at the Clarion-Windsor Ballroom. For more information, please e-mail Debra (Hays) Bishop at sphs1976@hotmail.com.

AARP Nov. Meeting

November 16

AARP Chapter 4144 will meet at the PAL Bldg. on Maple Ave., on Nov. 16, at 12:30 p.m. Claire Edelman, a volunteer with New Jersey AARP, will show the video, "In Your Hands" which is an educational production by American Bar Association.

The video is narrated by the late stage and screen actress, Helen Hayes and her son, James McArthur. Hayes discusses the legal tools needed for preserving your personal independence and why a will, alone, is not enough. Arlene Ellenberg, who is an elder law attorney will answer questions. All are welcome.

Elks Sponsor Comedy Show

November 17

The South Plainfield Elks will hold a Comedy Show on Saturday, Nov. 17, from 7 to 11 p.m. at the Elks Club on New Market Ave. Admission is \$40 per person which includes food and drinks. For tickets, call Lisa at (908) 668-9750.

Athletic Boosters Hosts Auction

November 17

The SPHS Athletic Booster Club is holding a Sports Auction on Saturday, Nov. 17. Doors open at 6 p.m. Auction starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$7 in advance and \$10 at the door, which includes 25 auction tickets.

Some of the prizes being auctioned are Devils tickets, autographed balls, sports theme baskets, Rutgers tickets, a bicycle and a television.

For info call the Keller's at (908) 753-1341, the Celentano's at (908) 757-5691 or the PAL.

Menlo Park Mall "Evening of Giving"

November 18

The South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop has tickets available for the "Evening of Giving," which includes entertainment and shopping, with part of the proceeds going to worthy causes.

The event will be held Sunday night, Nov. 18, at Menlo Park Mall. Many of the stores will be offering special sales and many groups, including the SDW will perform on one of the stages in the mall that evening. There will also be prize drawings and other activities.

Tickets are available by calling South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop at (908) 561-5255.

SPHS Class of 1981 20th Reunion

November 23

Attention classmates! South Plainfield High School Class of 1981 will hold its 20th reunion on

Friday, Nov. 23 at Madeline's in Bound Brook.

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

South Plainfield/Edison Rotary Clubs Wine Tasting

December 3

On Monday Dec. 3, 2001 the South Plainfield/Edison Rotary Clubs will hold their Annual Wine Tasting night. It also includes micro brewed beers. The event runs from 6 to 9 p.m. and is hosted by The Clarion Hotel and Towers, located on Highway 27 & Talmadge Road in Edison.

Contribution is \$20 and a 24 hour advance ticket purchase is required, no tickets will be available at the door. You may purchase a ticket at Oak Tree Discount Wines and Spirits at 902 Oak Tree Rd.

— Out of Town —

Middlesex East WOWs Dance

November 9

Middlesex East WOWs Carteret Chapter will hold a dance for widow and widowers on Friday, Nov. 9 at the St. Demetrius Community Center, 681-691 Roosevelt Ave., Carteret. Admission is \$7. There will be live music and refreshments from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m.

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

Tourette Syndrome Assoc. of NJ Mtg.

November 8

The Tourette Syndrome Association of New Jersey-Middlesex/Union County Family Support Group and the Somerset/Hunterdon County Chapter will meet on Nov. 8 from 7-9 p.m. They will meet in the Neuroscience Institute of JFK Medical Center, 65 James St., Edison. For info, call Marilyn, (908) 757-5074 or after 6 p.m., Debbie at (732) 283-1439.

Alliance Bible To Honor Veterans

November 11

Alliance Bible Church of Warren,

will once again honor U.S. Veterans in their Third Annual Veteran's Day Celebration on Sunday, Nov. 11. This year's celebration will be held at Watchung Hills Regional High School on Sterling Road in Warren. Beginning at 11 a.m., there will be a continental breakfast reception, along with the Marine Corps League Fife and Drum Corps and Color Guard, civil war reenactments, a twenty-one gun salute, Boy Scouts presenting eight flags flown over the USA, the Watchung Hills Regional High School Band, as well as many other surprises. Everyone is invited to join in a worship service designed to honor our veterans and servicemen at 12:30 p.m. Childcare will be provided for children ages three and under during the worship service.

For more information on this special service, please call Alliance Bible Church at 732-469-1425

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

ATA Black Belt Academy Sponsoring Walk-a-thon

November 18

ATA Black Belt Academy will be sponsoring "A Walk for a Miracle" walk-a-thon on Sunday, Nov. 18 at 1 p.m. in Spring Lake Park. Anyone Interested in making donations may do so. You can make donations payable to ATA Black Belt Academy or to the National Kidney Foundation, P.O. Box 72, Dayton, NJ 08810.

We will be selling purple and white sweatshirts for \$20 each. All proceeds will go to the Kidney Foundation. Help make one of our future black belt students miracle come true.

If you need further information please contact ATA Black Belt Academy at (908) 755-5440.

"A Bushel and A Peck"

Victorian Christmas Lecture
and Tea Tasting

Featuring: *Judith Krall-Russo*
Tea & Food Historian

Sunday
November 11, 2001

WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH
2 p.m.

You will learn about the various customs and foods that are typical of a Victorian Christmas along with a tea tasting!

FREE ADMISSION
REFRESHMENTS



Sponsored by: The South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission

Info: 908-756-8679

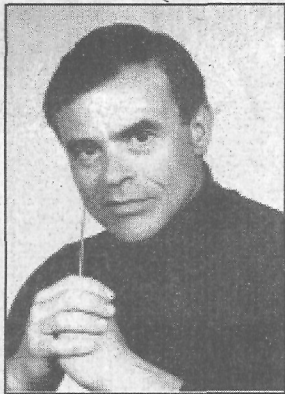
Rev. Stephenson and *St. Peter by the Sea* Returns to Sacred Heart in December

The Sacred Heart Rosary Altar Society has announced that Father Alphonse Stephenson and his 45-member symphony orchestra, *St. Peter by the Sea*, will be returning to Sacred Heart Church and performing a Christmas concert on Sunday, Dec. 2, 2001.

Rev. Stephenson and his orchestra performed in Sept. of last year to a sell-out crowd.

Father Alphonse Stephenson is well-known for his versatility—part maestro, part comedian and part priest.

Born in Paterson in 1950, Father Alphonse has a long and impressive background in music, studying under George Schick of the Metropolitan Opera and Dr. Robert Abramson of Juillard School. He has served as guest conductor at Fresno Philharmonic,



Father Alphonse Stephenson

Delaware Valley Philharmonic and many other orchestras.

Stephenson's first orchestra was

formed in New York's Theatre District while he served at St. Malachy's, the Actors' Chapel. In 1980, Michael Bennett, the late Broadway director and choreographer, hired him as conductor and music director for his smash hit, *A Chorus Line*. He conducted nearly 3,000 performances of the famous musical.

He is also the founder and conductor of the *Festival of Atlantic* in Point Pleasant Beach, New Jersey's largest outdoor music festival. Father Alphonse also entertains his audience with his good cheer and charisma.

St. Peter by the Sea consists of 45 members who have 750 years of study and performed over 57,000 concerts and recitals.

The Dec. 2 performance takes place at 3 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church. The concert promises to be another big hit; get your tickets now.

General admission is \$25; students and seniors are \$20. Ticket information can be obtained by calling (908) 756-0632, ext. 10, (908) 755-6416, or (732) 549-9633.

From the South Plainfield Library Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Here's the latest news from the South Plainfield Library.

The Library will be closed on both Sunday and Monday in honor of Veteran's Day.

On the subject of children's programs, we've got our normal schedule of children's Storytime programs. They're held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. The programs are for children ages three and older; no pre-registration is required. Each program lasts about an hour and features stories and a craft program. There's also the November Kidcraft program coming soon. It's scheduled for Friday afternoon, Nov. 16, at 4 p.m. That program is for children ages six and older. Space is limited, so you must sign up in advance. If you'd like more information, please call us at (908) 754-7885 and ask for Miss Linda.

If you're a patron who wants to learn more about the Library's present and future plans, and speak your peace about them, your opportunity to do so is at the Library Board of Trustees meeting. It's scheduled for Tuesday evening at 7:30. Everyone is welcome to attend. Note that the public comment section of the evening is scheduled for early in the meeting.

The Friends of the Library will be holding a special "Dollar-a-Bag" book sale on Saturday, Nov. 17, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please note that the special price is for books only. Audio/visual items will be priced as marked.

The latest group of Circuit videos is now ready for borrowing. Titles in this group include "The Land Be-

fore Time VI", "Bounce", "Grosse Pointe Blank", "The Legend of Bagger Vance" and, on DVD, "Bowfinger." Videos and DVDs may be borrowed, four at a time, for two days. This group will be available until Monday, November 26th.

This month's display is an assortment of items provided by the South Plainfield Area Homeschooling Association. The display includes photos, artwork and other items related to home schooling. The display will be here throughout the month. The Association will also be holding monthly parents' meetings on the first Monday of each month. We'll keep you informed as to details.

The Library's annual ingathering for Books to Keep has begun. Books to Keep provides books for disadvantaged children. You can donate new children's books in the collection box near the Children's Room, or make a monetary donation. Donation envelopes are available at the Circulation Desk. We'll be collecting for Books to Keep until mid-December.

Finally, an advisory about telephone renewals. When you call the Library to renew items, please be sure to have the titles of what you want to renew handy. If you have more than one item out, giving us the individual titles helps us make sure that the proper records have been accessed and that the proper items are seen to, thus cutting down on clerical errors. In the case of the Elvis system, you'll need to indicate the proper titles when the computer reads them to you. Also, be sure to find out the new due date for your items and keep it in mind. If you have any questions about how this works, feel free to ask.

That's about it for this week. See you next Friday.

Recycling Center Closed For Veterans, Thanksgiving

The Recycling Center on Kenneth Ave. will be closed on Tuesday, Nov. 13, because of the Veterans Day holiday weekend. Instead, it will be open on Wednesday, Nov. 14, from noon until 7 p.m. Recycling will also be closed on Friday, Nov. 23, for Thanksgiving.

Regular hours at Recycling are Tuesdays 12 noon to 7 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Yard Waste Site, which is open Monday through Saturday during Nov., will be closed Monday and Tuesday, November 12 and 13. Yard Waste will be open Wednesday through Saturday that week, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Yard Waste will also be closed for Thanksgiving on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 22 and 23.

Both facilities will be open as usual on Saturday, November 24, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Paint Drop-Off Third Saturday

November 17, the third Saturday of the month, is paint drop-off day at Recycling.

Residents can bring their old paint and thinners from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Regular hours at the Yard Waste Site during the November leaf season are: Mondays through Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Starting December 1, Yard Waste will be open only on Saturdays until the spring.

For updates, call the Recycling Hotline: (908) 226-7620.

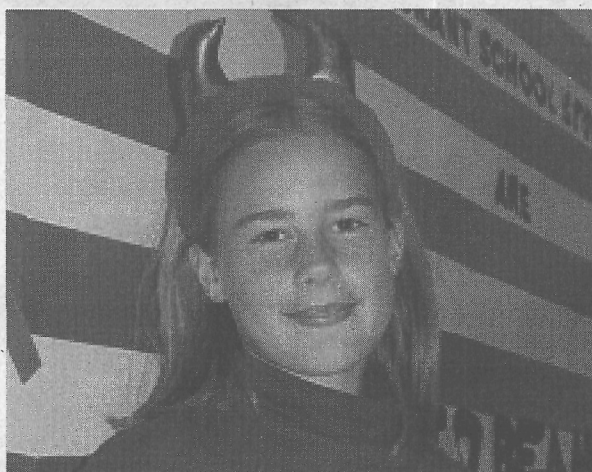
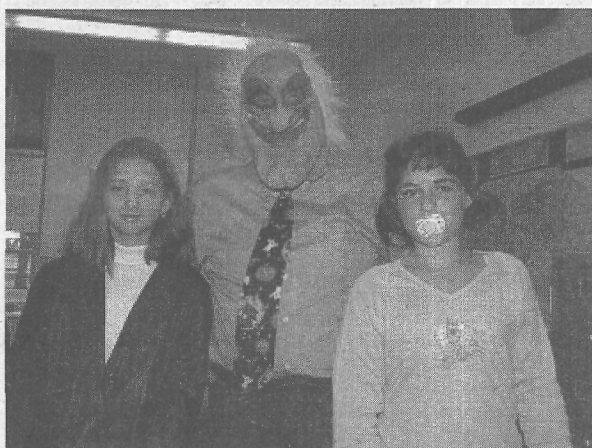
Scouting For Food Drive

Each year South Plainfield's Cub Scouts participate in Scouting for Food. The Scouts participate by going in groups with parents distributing bags for collection of nonperishable foods, and collect the bags the following week.

Last weekend you may have had a bag placed on your door, by your local troop. This is a reminder to return the bag to your porch this Saturday, Nov. 17 with your nonperishable contribution enclosed. The food collected is distributed in town, so this program has a local impact. On behalf of the Cub Scouts, we thank you for your participation.



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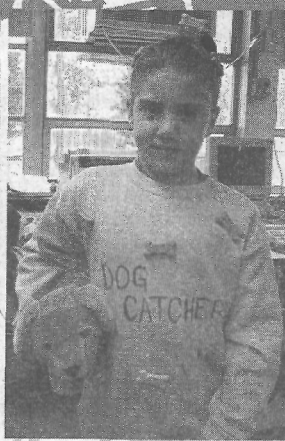
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HALLOWEEN SCENES

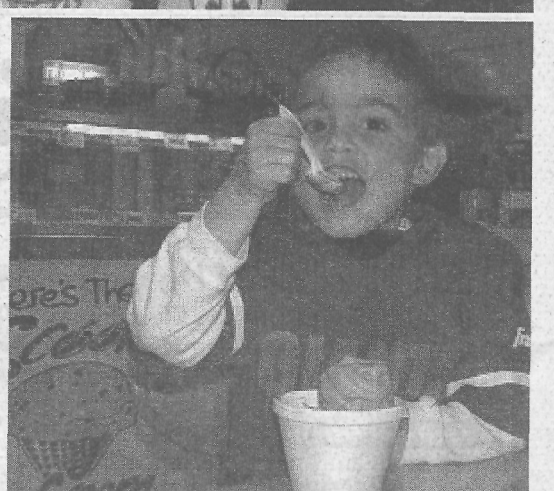
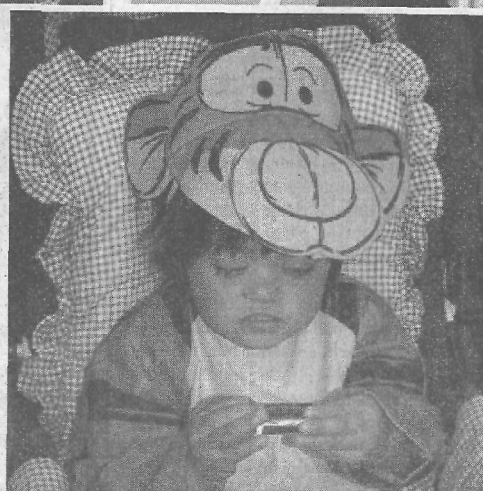


**No Tricks—
All Treats this
Halloween
in South
Plainfield**

Parties were
held at
**KENNEDY
SCHOOL**
(left) and
**ROOSEVELT
SCHOOL**
(above & right)

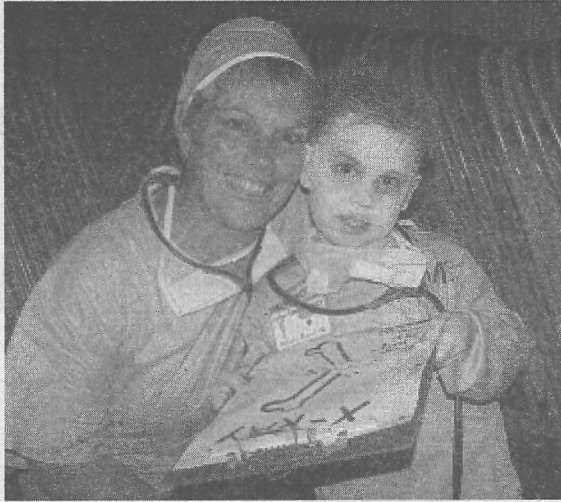


Pictured
bottom are
scenes from
around town

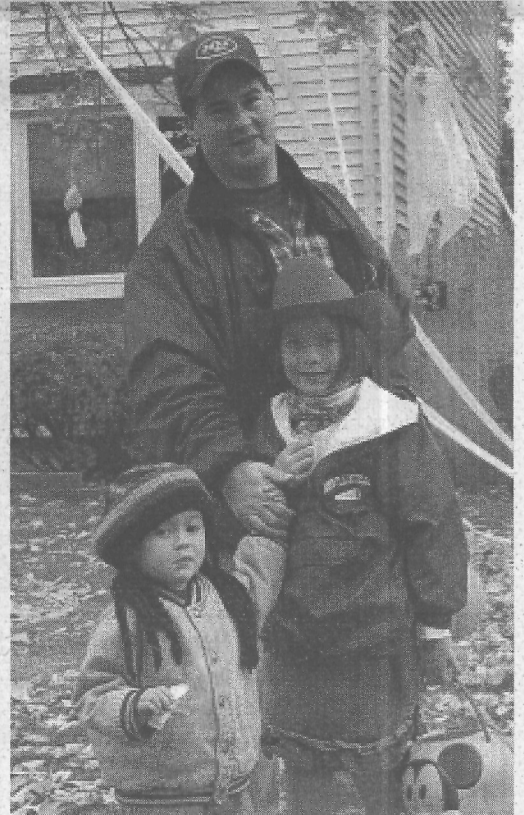


PARADES AND PARTIES

FUTURE STARS



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HALLOWEEN AT SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Photos by Bill Tuthill



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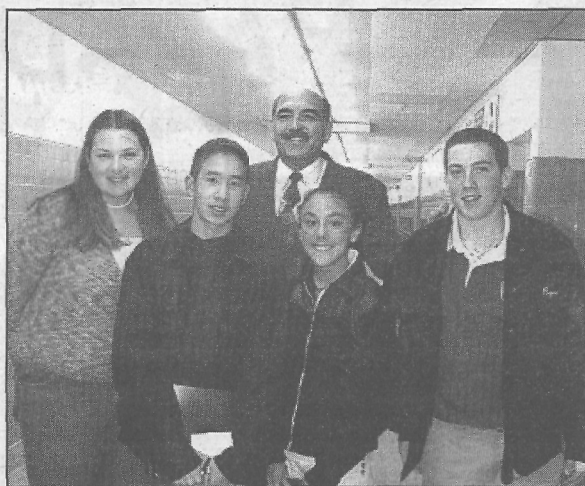
High School Students List Class Activities

Representatives from each class from South Plainfield High School gave a slide presentation of what their class is involved in during this school year. This is one way for high school students to open a line of communications with school board members. A presentation will be made every month at the school board meeting by high school students.

Representing the senior class was Kristen Mazellan, who is the secretary of the Senior Class, manager of the Field Hockey team, a member of the Jersey Club, the FCCLA, the College Club and a member of the Student Council.

Alex Huynh, representing the junior class. He is secretary of the Junior Class, president of the Jersey Club, secretary of the Spanish Club, a member of the Dance Club, the Academic Team and the Mentors Club. Alex holds a 4.34 average.

Brittney DeNitzio, representing the sophomores, has a 4.43 average. She is president of the Sophomore Class, a member of the Marching Band, Cheerleading, Track, Jersey Club, SP Voices Club and secretary of the Cho-



Pictured with Dr. May are Kristen Mazellan, Alex Huynh, Brittney DeNitzio and Ryan Kenny.

rus. Ryan Kenny represented the freshman class. He is president of the Freshman Class, captain of the Freshman Football Team and a member of the French Club.

All of the students did a great job on their presentations and impressed not only those in the audience, but the members of the school board with their expertise in representing their classes.

Victorian Christmas Lecture and Tea Tasting

The South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission is sponsoring a lecture featuring Judith Krall-Russo. The event takes place at Wesley Methodist Church on Plainfield Ave. on Sunday, Nov. 11 at 1 p.m.

It's almost time for sending cards, buying gifts and decorating the tree. Many of our holiday customs are Victorian in origin. Come out and learn all about the various customs and foods of Victorian Christmas and join in a tea tasting.

Krall-Russo has had a life long love affair with the history of food and

cooking. The rich culinary history of New Jersey, The Mid Atlantic States and New England have always intrigued her. She is a member of the Culinary Historians of New York, The New Jersey Museum of Agriculture and The American Institute of Wine and Food.

Judith is a self taught cook, supplementing her passion with classes in nutrition, ethnic and colonial cooking. She has planned menus for various private parties and art receptions.

She is also an ethnic dancer, costume designer and mixed media artist. Her work has been exhibited at the Monmouth Museum, The Barron Arts Center, The Delaware Art Museum and the Watchung Arts Center.

Judith teaches both adults and children textile techniques and demonstrates weaving and spinning



Judith Krall-Russo

throughout New Jersey.

She holds a BA in Fine Arts from Montclair University and an MBA in Marketing from Pace University.

Admission is free and refreshments will be served. Come out and enjoy the show!

Crescent Parkway Photo Recognized by Many

Last week, we printed a picture of children leaving the Crescent Pkwy School and asked our readers to identify the school. We were very surprised and delighted by the immediate response. There are a lot of residents of South Plainfield who grew up and still live here.

Our first call came on Friday morning from Carol Galinsky identifying the School as Kennedy. We also heard from school board member Tom Delaney, who said he attended the school and remembered it well.

Many more residents called and we even got an email from someone who went there in second grade but asked her name be omitted because she felt old enough.

Thanks for your input and we will be publishing more pictures as per your requests.

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Century 21 Moretti Realty is asking for support to help families less fortunate. Please join in giving a gift to those "families in need" to have a thankful Thanksgiving. Your contribution of nonperishable food items can be dropped off at our office located at 225 Maple Avenue, no later than Nov. 17.

Any questions can be directed to Mary Ann at (908) 755-5300 Ext. 309. Thank you for your generosity!

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BUNCHI'S BULLETIN

"Craft Projects" and "Art Lessons" will begin first week of December. Registration is now open, but seating is extremely limited. Call and ask for Mrs. Ralwins.

Sports

Typhoons U-12 Rip The Rovers

The South Plainfield Boys U-12 Typhoons convincingly beat the Metuchen Rovers on Sunday by a score of 4-1. The Typhoons used a balanced attack as four different players scored and the entire team contributed in an excellently played match as well.

After spotting Metuchen an early first half goal, the Typhoons began to take control as Brendan O'Shea and Brian Fabino had four shots on goal before Fabino tied the score at the 20-minute mark off a rebound of an O'Shea shot. With momentum building on the South Plainfield side, the next two goals were scored within minutes of each other. First, Jonathan

Marcoux would take a pass off a header by O'Shea and send it into the left corner of the net. And then Steven Guevara led O'Shea with a perfectly placed pass beyond the defense and this time he would not be denied as he drilled the ball into the net and a 3-1 halftime lead.

As has been the backbone of this team over the last three seasons, the defense came through with another great performance. Goalie Grey Copp along with fullbacks Greg Watts, Keith Heckel, J.R. Licato and Chris Pennisi kept the undermanned Rovers at bay and only allowing a handful of shots on goal throughout the game. In addition, the play of half

backs John Polizzano, Zack Olim, Dan Pompilio, Brandon Ullom and Guevara consistently advanced the ball up field leading to numerous scoring opportunities for the strikers.

Although only one score was recorded in the second half, the Typhoons were in complete command of the flow of this game. Matt Helgesen put the icing on the contest when he found a loose ball off of a Polizzano corner kick and chipped it in for the final score of 4-1 and the teams fourth win in five games.

The Typhoons look to improve on their 4-3-1 record next Sunday when they host the Hillsborough Crusade at Riley School.

By Kevin Lykes

juniorbaseballclubnotes

It seems like baseball season just ended, but already we're starting to prepare for next season. Our first registration period has come and gone, our next one will be coming up in January.

Coach's Clinics also start up this month beginning on Tuesday, Nov. 13. This month's clinic will feature Tim Gallagher, Head J.V. coach at SPHS. Tim will be going over infield practice organization. The November clinic and following clinics will be held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm at the SPJBC complex. Our organization recognizes the need for our coaches to be informed and kept up on all the latest coaching techniques, it is for this reason that we strongly recommend all those aspiring to be managers and coaches to attend as many of these clinics as possible. These clinics are both informative and educational, particularly to new coaches. They can lend insight to many training and practice routines that will help keep your team interested and ready. They encompass much more than basic rules of the game. I can't stress how much things have changed since most of us adults played last.

I want to thank SportWorld and Heidi's Hair and Nails for their help supporting our fundraising campaign to benefit the NY Police & Fire Widows & Children's Fund. Patriotic lapel pins are still available at both these locations, with all proceeds going towards our goal of \$2,000. This sum will be matched by the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY, for a total of \$4,000 going directly to the families of lost policemen and firemen during the recent crisis. Thanks to all in South Plainfield who have participated.

Sonics Blow Over Two Hurricanes

On Sunday, Oct. 28 the U9 Sonics hosted the Readington Hurricanes. Anthony Cardoso led off the scoring for the Sonics with a tremendous left footed blast from the 18 yard line. Danny Hunt scored next for our boys followed by Steve Lanza. Anthony tallied the final goal for the boys to make the score 4-0.

Goal keeping duties for the game were shared by William Mott, Steve Lanza, Danny Hunt and Shaun Alers. The dynamic defense was anchored by Dan Sticco, Mike Dispenziere, Daniel Peel, Nick Okosko, Marc Paez and Jeff Gillen. This was the Sonics third straight shut out.

On Sunday, Nov. 4 the Sonics trav-

eled to play a tough squad, the Middlesex Hurricanes. The first half saw a tightly played match with neither side able to score. Shortly into the second half, Steve Lanza took a corner kick for the Sonics. The ball went to Danny Hunt who dribbled around several defenders, then shot and scored. Later in the half, Anthony Cardoso scored on a penalty kick after one of his teammates was illegally tackled inside the opposing teams penalty area. Final score, Sonics 2 - Hurricanes 0.

Goal keeping duties were shared by Steve Lanza, Jeff Gillen and William Mott. Fabulous team play was performed by Marc Paez, Nick Okosko, Mike Dispenziere, Shaun Alers and Daniel Peel.

This was the Sonics 4th consecutive shut out. This match raised their record to 6 wins, 1 loss, 1 tie.

Way to go boys!

Elks Announce 30th Annual Elks Hoop Shoot Competition

The South Plainfield Lodge 2298 competition for the 30th Annual Elks Hoop Shoot, "The national free throw shooting contest for youngsters age 8 through 13," will be held at Sacred Heart School on Nov. 25 starting at 2 p.m.

Over three million youngsters from throughout the country entered last years competition for boys and girls in the age categories 8-9; 10-11; and 12-13. Each contestant has 25 shots at the hoop. The boy and girl in each age group with the best scores advance through four tiers of competition to qualify for the national finals. The location will be announced.

South Plainfield Lodge 2298 winners will compete against other contestants in the district event at Perth Amboy in January 2002. Names of the national winners will be inscribed on the Elks National "Hoop Shoot" plaque, on permanent display in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mass.

Last years winners from South Plainfield for girls 12-13 was Julia Dougherty; boys 10-11 was Ryan Hohner; girls 10-11 was Stephanie Penny; boys 8-9 was Zach Sikanowicz and girls 8-9 was Jackie Dougherty. The Dougherty girls went on to take third place in the district competition for their age groups.

Jr. Baseball Ladies Auxiliary Holiday Celebration

Attention all ladies - Please join us for our Annual Holiday Celebration on Thursday, Dec. 13 at 6:30 p.m. at Flanagans. The cost is \$25 per person and includes appetizers, dinner, dessert, beer, wine and soda. We will also have a \$10 gift exchange.

This is open to all ladies of the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club. Come on out and join us.

Call Cindy Eichler 769-4047 or Stacy Lake 757-9531 with any questions. We look forward to seeing you there.

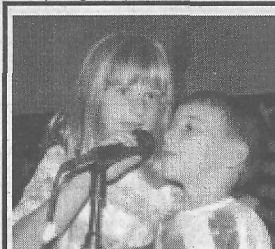
Shotman Gets Another Chance To Score More At Wardlaw

Shotman Score More Training Clinic Series picked up some more momentum on Sunday, Oct. 28, when Mike Lanza, Director and Shooting Instructor for Shotman Basketball Camps was informed by the folks at Wardlaw Hartridge High School that they were setting up another training clinic series during the month of December, 2001.

This latest training clinic series will be held for four weeks on Sunday, Dec. 2, 9, 16, and 30. There will be

no session on Dec. 23 due to the Christmas Holiday. The hours are from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., and will be for boys and girls in grades 6 through 12. The price for the four sessions will be \$100. Spots will be limited so register as soon as possible.

For further information, you can check out these details, or contact Mike Lanza at either (908)-754-2692, or via e-mail at mlanza@shotman.net. We plan to have online registration set up through active.com shortly.



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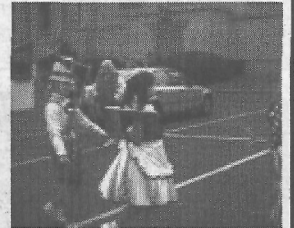
There's
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Franklin School Honors Veterans

Continued from page 1

and sang "Let There Be Peace On Earth," while more than one parent wiped away a tear. Featured singers were Tyler Calderone, Madison Miller, Shannon Hogan, Samantha Christille, Shianna Rodas, Samuel Knight, Jeffrey Pellegrino, Shannon McMahon and Jordan Stanley-Davis.

Andre Williams, grade four, recited "America the Beautiful" as music teacher Mr. Parisi accompanied him on the trumpet. As the lights went down, "Taps" rose from the lone trumpet.

Planning for the program was a joint effort of staff and students. Mrs. Hill coordinated the painting of t-shirts made by first grade students. Mr. Parisi and kindergarten teacher Mrs. Musto taught songs to the children. Kindergarten students created paper bag vests covered with stars and a simple sentiment about their love for America. Older students displayed

their patriotism on everything from t-shirts and hats to ties and hair ribbons. Many students dressed in military uniforms borrowed from a family vet, the most popular being the blue sailor's tunic. The wall behind the guests of honor was decorated with a wonderful mural, painted by art teacher Ms. Kopf, depicting Iwo Jima. The stage held a large replica of the Statue of Liberty. The main hallway was filled with construction paper 'medals' in red, white and blue—a testimonials to family veterans.

Peace has reigned on U.S. soil for more than 60 years. This year our students witnessed an attack on our freedom. Heroes are no longer historical figures in a textbook, but real people who risked their lives for others. Freedom developed heightened new meaning as we witnessed firsthand our armed forces defend the freedoms we may have all taken for granted.



Franklin School Third Grade Essay Winner Patrick Landy

"America, the land of the free and the home of the brave, wasn't given its name for nothing.

This is a country that should be respected! It contains people who love their country more than themselves! Many veterans gave their lives for our freedom.

Say the word "freedom," then think about it! We should be thankful for the freedom to live with a family, have nice things and even to go to school.

America is one of the few countries that can say that they bravely fight for freedom.

Stand up! Be proud that you are an American!

Respect the veterans that risked their lives for the land of the free and the home of the brave."

Obituaries

Palma Guerrieri Mazza, 86

Palma Guerrieri Mazza of South Plainfield died on Saturday, Nov. 3, at her home.

She was born in Cleveland, Miss., and has resided in South Plainfield for the last 65 years.

Mrs. Mazza was a seamstress for the former Bruno Dress Factory in South Plainfield for many years before retiring in 1977. She was a member of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union in NY.

She was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband Michael J. Mazza, who died in 1982.

She is survived by a sister, Elizabeth Pitchford of Bath, Pa.; five nieces, Laraine Kopeke, Renee Zimmerman, Linda Omelio, Susan Vrabel and Jeannette Callahan; five nephews, Gary and Michael Lavenia, Chris Ashford and William and Kenneth Pitchford.

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

William E. Zmuda, 58

William E. Zmuda of South Plainfield passed away on Monday Nov. 5, at his home.

He was born in Elizabeth and resided in South Plainfield most of his life. He was a warehouseman for Halls Warehouse Corp. for the last eight years.

Mr. Zmuda was a member of the South Plainfield Polish National Home, the Moose Club of Edison and a former member of the B.P.O. Elks Lodge 2298 in South Plainfield.

He is survived by a daughter, Beth Ann Zmuda of Cherry Hill; two brothers, Joseph F. Zmuda Jr. of Palm Harbor, Fla. and Robert A. Zmuda of Piscataway; two sisters, Carol A. DiDario of Dunedin, Fla. and Nancy Zmuda of South Plainfield and nine nieces and nephews.

Funeral services at the James W. Conroy Funeral Home.



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Legal Notices

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the Planning Board of the Borough of South Plainfield at its meeting held on October 23, 2001.

A. The properties identified on the current tax map of the Borough of South Plainfield as Block 256, Lots 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12, and 13; Block 328, Lots 1,2,3 & 4; Block 329, Lots 8,9,10 & 11; and Block 329.1, Lot 1, should comprise a redevelopment area according to the criteria set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-5.

Respectfully Submitted,
Janice Mucilli
Recording Secretary/Planning Board

\$18.00 November 9, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by James Howard requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the erection of a second story addition with a 2' front cantilever, proposed addition lacks the required 30' front setback, 28.2' being proposed and any other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 123, Lot 20 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on November 20, 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 p.m.

\$35.00 1T November 9, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Leonard and Donna Rowlands requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to erect an 8' x 5' front porch, proposed porch lacks the required 30' front setback, 15.03' being proposed and any other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 202, Lot 25 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or

protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on November 20, 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 p.m.

\$35.00 1T November 9, 2001

NOTICE

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE

TAKE NOTICE that Srinivas Maryada trading as Sri Liquors Inc. has applied to the Director, Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control, for a State-issued Plenary Retail Consumption License with broad package privileges for the premises situated at Suite 4, Middlesex Mall, Hadley Blvd. and Stetson Rd., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

The person who will hold an interest in this license is:

Srinivas Maryada
11619 Green Street
Iselin, NJ 08830

Objections, if any, should be made immediately in writing to the Borough Clerk, Borough of South Plainfield, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

\$81.50 2T November 9, 2001 & November 16, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Harold & Aleta Benson requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the erection of a 15'x10' irregular front porch, proposed porch lacks the required 30' front setback, 19.96' being proposed and any other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 324, Lot 3 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on November 20, 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 p.m.

\$35.00 1T November 9, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Susan Kaplan requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the erection of a 380 sq. second floor addition, with a 2' rear cantilever, proposed addition lacks the required 30' front setback, 24.7' proposed from Fleet Ave., and 14.6' proposed from Park St., and required 8' side setback, 4.7' being proposed and other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 498, Lot 8 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on November 20, 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 p.m.

\$35.00 1T November 9, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the Zoning Board of Adjustment of the Borough of South Plainfield at its meeting held on October 16, 2001.

A. Case #54-01—Danielle Bongard—Block 165; Lot 2; 1940 Pershing Place—Applicant's request for exceeding lot coverage for the existing 9.75' x 16.6' wood deck to remain, was hereby GRANTED.

B. Case #55-01—Dan Barrie Realty & Construction—Block 420; Lot 8; 04; 123 Lexington Ave.—Applicant's request for a front yard setback of 28.98' was hereby GRANTED.

C. Case #56-01—Dan Barrie Realty & Construction—Block 420; Lot 8; 02; 111 Lexington Ave.—Applicant's request for a front yard setback of 28.89' was hereby GRANTED.

Respectfully Submitted,
Janice Mucilli
Recording Secretary/Planning Board

\$23.00 November 9, 2001

Copy deadline for the Observer is
Monday, 5 p.m. for the following
Friday's publication.

policereport

Police Officer Campagna Assaulted by Truck Driver

On Nov. 1, while making a routine traffic stop at the corner of Lakeview Ave. and Mill St., Police Officer Vincent Campagna was assaulted by Angel Nazario, a tow truck driver, who was uncensed.

The suspect was removed from the tow truck and placed in the patrol car while police checked out his truck. When Officer Campagna opened the patrol car door to advise Nazario that he was under arrest, he pushed open the door and kicked Campagna in the shin and attempted to flee the scene.

While trying to get the suspect in an arm lock, Campagna was pushed into the patrol car and punched in the face several times. Campagna knelt the suspect and then attempted to handcuff him.

Nazario charged at Campagna and pinned him to the hood of the patrol car, continuing to punch him and try to avoid being handcuffed. He eventually fled into the wooded area behind the Rescue Squad. Back up police were called and Nazario was pursued on foot and pepper sprayed.

Both Officer Campagna and Nazario were treated at JFK Medical Center for minor cuts and bruises and released.

Angel Nazario, a resident of Plainfield, was arrested for careless driving, driving on a suspended license, aggravated assault of a police officer, resisting arrest and hindering apprehension. He is being held on \$3,000 bail with no 10 percent option.

Other Police News

- On Oct. 30, a Rush St. resident reported that his motorcycle, which had the key in the ignition, was taken from the street.

- A Warren resident reported that while parked at Bennigan's, someone had broken out the passenger side window and removed a detachable face Alpine radio and a black Cobra radar detector.

- An Islip, NY resident reported that while parked at the Holiday Inn checking his reservation, someone smashed the rear passenger window. A laptop computer, Palm 3C organizer and Audiovox cell phone, totalling \$3,800 were missing.

- On Oct. 31, a Delmore Ave. resident reported that his front windshield had been smashed and there was a brick on the hood. The vehicle also had numerous dents and scratches.

- A&P reported an incident involving two employees, with one threatening the other with a box cutter.

- An employee of Sherwin Wil-

liams on Stelton Rd. reported a suspicious male attempting to purchase "the best masks" they had.

- On Friday, a Carmine Ave. resident reported the theft of a bicycle worth \$1,200 from his rear fenced in yard.

- Several trailers located at 2614 So. Clinton Ave. had been broken into and items including a chainsaw, blower, two weedwackers and assorted handtools were missing.

- Sanitation Truck Repairs on Roosevelt Ave. reported that someone had broken into their Pepsi machine and the money was missing.

- On Sunday, an Edison woman was arrested at Macys for attempting to leave the store with \$94 worth of jewelry.

- The manager of Domino's Pizza on Maple Ave. reported the theft of one of their "Domino's Pizza" signs from atop the delivery drivers' car.

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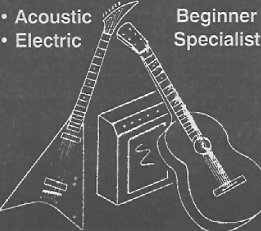
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Lions Hold 54th Anniversary Dinner



Lions Club President Bob Desch, presents 40 year 100% attendance pins to Larry Massaro, Harry Popik and to himself.

The Lions club of South Plainfield held their 54th Charter Night at Ellery's Restaurant in Middlesex on Oct. 24. Thirty members and wives attended the ceremonies.

Certificates of appreciation were presented to Lion Members Brian Capparelli and Ron DeSclafani by Lions Club President Bob Desch, for their outstanding work during the past year.

One hundred percent attendance

pins were also presented to deserved members.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of 40-year hundred percent attendance pins to Lion members Larry Massaro, a past State Council Chairman; Harry Popik, a past President; and to Bob Desch, past Deputy District Governor. This is the first time in the history of the club that any member has reached 40 years of service.



Pushcart Players in a scene from "A More Perfect Union" — a musical celebration of the events that led to writing of the constitution. (L-R) Dunja Vitolic, Tim Wright, Terrence P. Burnett and Nicole Miceli.

Middle School Sees What A More Perfect Union is Like

Last Friday, students at the Middle School were entertained by a theatrical production presented by the 'Pushcart Players' called *A More Perfect Union*. The play is based during a period of time, some 200 hundred years ago, when our American ancestors were faced with a series of crises in

our newly declared independent country.

The play dealt with some of the issues beginning with the Boston Tea Party, that led to the creation of a unique and enduring frame of government, the U.S. Constitution. The events were played out by character's

Benjamin, Rebecca, Luke and Abby who's energy, determination, intelligence and resilience shaped the concept and reality of "a more perfect union."

Combining songs with a history lesson made *A More Perfect Union* very informative as well as entertaining.

"Dr. Bodybuddy" and Friends Visits Riley School

Photos/story by Jane Dornick

Students at Riley School were treated to a visit by "Dr. Bodybuddy" last Friday. Mobile Ed Productions of

Redford, Mich. brought a sequel to their popular "Parts is Parts-All About Us" human anatomy program.

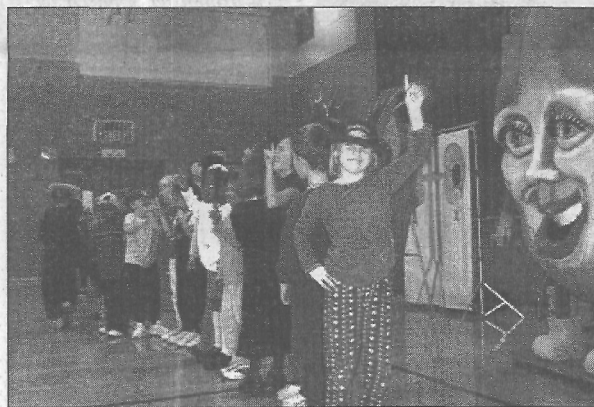
"Dr. Bodybuddy" brought along his two unique friends "Hillary the

Heart" and "Larry the Liver." They were two extremely large animated parts of the body who carried on conversations with students about their bodies.

After discussing the immune system, the cardiovascular system, as well as the serious effects of drugs, alcohol and smoking on the body, student volunteers were able to participate in the demonstrations by becoming white blood cells attacking the dreaded germs.

This program brought home the importance of keeping our bodies in good shape, with good health, an important daily activity that we all must be aware of.

Most students and teachers alike learned that even though many functions of our body can be complicated, we are all alike on the inside and taking care of ourselves is important.



Exchanged in the U.S.A.

A refreshing and easy way to learn about other cultures is through exchange students. They offer a unique experience that will be treasured for a lifetime. Take my family for example. We began as a family of five until two months ago when Val and Vuk came. Valerie Pelligrino is eighteen and from Rio Preto, Brazil, and Ok Popovich, who is also eighteen, is from Belgrade, Yugoslavia. Valerie's friendly and outgoing personality has made her a friend magnet while Vuk's quiet, mature and shy demeanor hides a bold and outspoken young man.

With Val and Vuk in the house it is never quiet, you can always hear them laughing and chatting with my three other children, Nile who is twenty-one; Mehran, who is fifteen and Saira who is fourteen. They have added so much joy into our home that it is hard to remember what it was like without them. It feels as if they have always been a part of our family. Although they are from different countries, they are adapting to the cultural differences in America. At times, there are some minor difficulties such as language, food and school regulations, but with patience and understanding on behalf of the host family, these issues can be

resolved. The students come to realize that their host families are there to support them in all their endeavors.

Everyday with our new family members is a learning experience. The more they tell us about their country and culture the more enlightened we are about the world. Val and Vuk have brought a little bit of the world to our home. Their kind, thoughtful and helpful gestures have made us realize that past whatever language or cultural barriers we might have we are all basically human. Val and Vuk have been a blessing and never a burden for there is never a dull moment when they are around. They way Val and Vuk are persistent in their studies in English as well as school-courses are an inspi-

ration to our family. I was so proud when I went to the back to school night and heard only praises from all of their teachers.

I only wish that more students would have the opportunity to experience what Val and Vuk have. If only there were more open-minded families willing to try a truly rewarding experience, more students would be able to. All one needs is an adventurous spirit, a big heart and some patience in order to do this. If you are interested or have any questions or comments you can call me, Ruqaiya Memon, the South Plainfield coordinator of the Council of International Education Exchange, at (908) 561-5471.

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