



Christmas Comes But Once a Year...Get in the Spirit!!

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 5, NO. 15 50 CENTS DECEMBER 14, 2001

Borough Gets Two Police Officers



James McConville pictured with his dad, Joseph and mom, Rosemary and his brother John, who is a South Plainfield Police Officer.

Two new police officers will be joining the South Plainfield Police Department in January. Both officers are carrying on a family tradition of serving as police officers in South Plainfield which can boast that it has numerous set of fathers, sons and

brothers serving together. Christopher Cochrane, 29, took the oath of office as his father, William held the Bible. Chris follows in the footsteps of his father, who retired as a South Plainfield Police Officer in January, 2000.

Also sworn in was James McConville, 30, who took the oath of office as his parents Joseph and Rosemary held the Bible. James's brother John is also a police officer in South Plainfield. His swearing in takes affect on January 14.

Chris Cochrane is a graduate of South Plainfield High School and Rutgers University. While he grew up in South Plainfield, as an adult he has lived in various parts of the country. He also played minor league baseball for the Oakland As.

Chris, who is single, most recently has served as a full-time communications operator with the South Plainfield Police Department. He is scheduled to attend the John H. Stamler Police Academy in Scotch Plains starting in January.

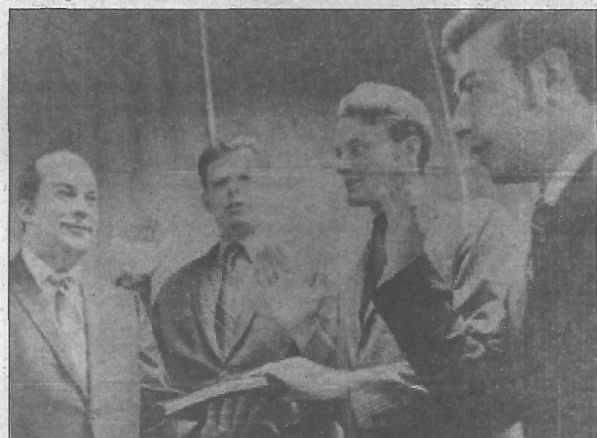
In addition to his dad, William Sr. being present at the swearing in ceremonies, also attending were his mother Lorraine, brothers Brian and William Jr. and his twin sister Michelle.

James McConville is a graduate of South Plainfield High School and has resided primarily in the Borough. He worked most recently as a sheriff's officer with the Middlesex County Sheriff's Department. Prior to that, he worked as a corrections officer with the NJ Department of Corrections. Because James is a certified police officer, he will immediately enter the Field Training Program.

Also present were his brothers, Tim and John and his sister Kelly. His brother, John McConville is a six year veteran of the South Plainfield Police Department.



William and Lorraine Cochrane hold the Bible as their son Christopher takes the oath as a South Plainfield Police Officer.



This picture, taken in 1970 is of Retired Police Officer William Cochrane, Christopher's dad, when he was sworn in as a South Plainfield Police Officer. Also pictured are Dale B. Flakne, Wayne Bowden and William J. Newman.



Scouts from Roosevelt School Cub Pack 205 attended last Thursday's council meeting, a requirement to earn one of their badges. The scouts picked a busy meeting to attend, two new officers were sworn in and several awards were made to several high school band students. Scouts pictures are standing, AJ Miranda and James Sansone, kneeling Nick Eckhardt and Nick Jankowski.

Skateboarders Look to Recreation Commission for Skate Park

Last week's Recreation meeting was attended by youths of all ages, asking for help in getting a place to skateboard in South Plainfield.

Last month Deanna Fredericks, the mother of some very enthusiastic skateboarders, had asked the council to consider building a skateboard rink in one of our parks. Fredericks said that she has to drive her children to nearby communities for them to skateboard and would like to see South Plainfield build a rink for its youth.

Councilman Ray Petronko told her he would look into it. The council expressed some concerns that insurance may not be available or that costs

would be astronomical.

Petronko looked to Recreation Commissioner Mike English to determine the cost to install a rink, as well as insurance issues, they were well prepared to discuss the project and answer questions from those attending the meeting.

Drew Hines of Hot Rails in Orange, a builder of skating rinks, gave a presentation to the group. He discussed sizes, the various types of courses, costs and materials used. As far as insurance is concerned, insurance companies issue specs and they are built according to these standards to qualify for coverage.

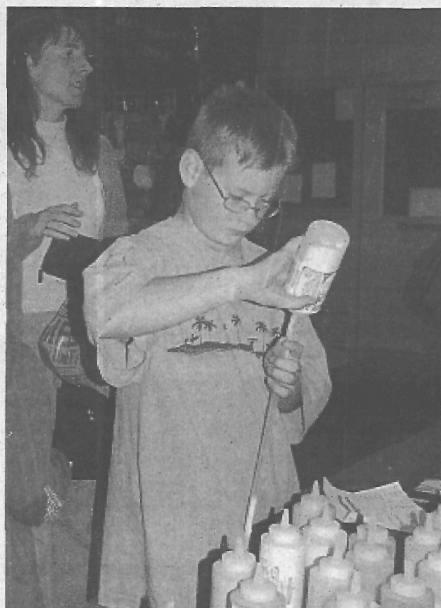
According to the children attending, there are hundreds of kids in South Plainfield that skateboard now and the sport is growing every day.

Mike English said there is property behind the Rescue Squad that could be converted to a skateboard area. He said he will look at nearby communities and explore costs of insurance and installation and report back to the Recreation Commission.

The plans are in the early stages, but most everyone who attended felt encouraged by what they heard.

"This town has always supported our youth and I know they will continue to do so," explained Fredericks.

Riley Holds Annual Craft Bazaar



The Riley Annual Craft Bazaar was once again a hit with old and young alike. Holiday shoppers filled the school through out the evening. With a wide assortment of hand made and commercial items, there was something in everyone's price range.



News From the Recreation Commission Meeting

Last weeks was the final meeting of the year held by the Recreation Commission and it produced only good news.

- This year's soccer program was a huge success, according to Recreation Director Mike English. The year saw very few problems or complaints and everyone involved had only positives to say. The commissioners discussed holding a clinic next year for coaches and officials before the start of the season.

- Basketball is underway with 56 teams participating.

- Wrestling is also underway. The wrestling club has 101 participants that meet two nights and Sundays.

- Adult basketball is taking place Thursday nights with six teams and more than 150 spectators attending.

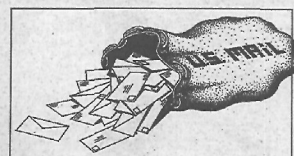
- The senior center is progressing. The roof, heating system and stage are almost finished. The color scheme has been picked out. The furniture has also been purchased with a \$20,000 grant.

- The senior housing project has received over 600 applications. The Lutheran Ministries, who manage the facility, will be making a decision soon on those accepted and will notify them.

- The weight room is growing each and every year. In 1998 they had

16,200 members, 1999 saw an increase to 22,400, in 2000 membership rose to 32,200 and during the year 2001, membership is up to 48,450. The new PAL expansion, adding more equipment and the reasonable cost for a membership were the reasons for the increased membership.

Weight room membership information is available by calling the PAL at 226-7713.



Santa's Waiting For Your Letters

A special mailbox has been set outside of the South Plainfield Post Office for letters to Santa.

Area kids can send their letters to Santa and he has promised that he will respond.

Letters must be mailed by Dec. 19

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in December

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South Plainfield Observer

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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.

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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.

Caroling in the Park Returns To Spring Lake Park

Once again the residents of South Plainfield are invited to join a sing-along led by the South Plainfield High School Chorus under the direction of Tracy Murray.

This is the perfect opportunity for the entire family to take a breather in their hectic schedule and begin enjoying the holiday season by singing some classic holiday carols. The only thing required is your spirit and your voice. Rumor has it Santa will also be there.

The Christmas caroling will take place in the gazebo at Spring Lake Park on Sunday, Dec. 23 starting at 6 p.m. After the caroling everyone is invited to the Rescue Squad directly across the street for hot chocolate and cookies. Be sure to wear warm clothes, since this could be a chilly night.

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Apple Juice Spill Jams Hamilton Blvd.

On Dec. 6 at 4:52 p.m. a tractor trailer traveling westbound on Hamilton Blvd. near South Clinton Ave. overturned and struck a telephone pole.

The truck was a 1995 Volvo and owned by the Nestle Corp. It was being operated by Clint Vanstone of Strausstown, Pa. The trailer contained approximately 44,000 lbs. of apple juice concentrate, most of which

spilled onto the roadway and the surrounding area.

The tractor trailer flipped onto the property owned by Binder Machine and damage was done to the landscape, signs, mailboxes and lighting fixtures.

Mr. Vanstone was able to extricate himself from the tractor prior to the arrival of emergency units and was treated for a minor head injury.

Members of the South Plainfield Police and Fire Departments as well as the Rescue Squad and Office of Emergency Management responded. The roadway was closed from 4:52 p.m. until 7 a.m. the next morning, while the remaining contents of the trailer had to be pumped out and the truck uprighted.

The cause of the accident is still under investigation.



SPHS Students Pitch in at Vision 2001 Telethon

By Patricia Abbott

South Plainfield Vision 2001 recently completed their annual phonathon with the help of 34 high school students. Armed with lists of numbers, letters and envelopes the students spent three evenings last week in the school's guidance office making phone calls on behalf of Vision 2001.

Reading from a script, the students briefly described the work of the organization and requested a pledge of \$5 or more. Those who agreed to a pledge were mailed a letter of thanks along with a donation form where they were able to designate a specific program for their contribution. Among the listed programs were: scholarships, high school Gold Card,

middle school Tiger Gold, business Education, Stokes trip, athletics, and special education.

The South Plainfield Vision 2001 Education Foundation is a non-profit, tax exempt organization. It was created to seek financial support from the business community to underwrite scholarships for South Plainfield High School students. The foundation also provides financial support for incentive programs encouraging good citizenship and academic achievement, Project Graduation, internship and co-operative work opportunities, endowment funds for scholarships and opportunities for inventive industry/school partnerships. The independent educational foundation is governed by a board of trustees comprised of business leaders and educators.

Residents, local businesses and organizations wishing to sponsor a memorial scholarship in their name can call Education Vice President Cindy Povall at 754-4620, ext. 464. The minimum amount for establishing a scholarship is \$250.

Tax deductible contributions can be made to any of the Vision 2001 programs. Checks should be made payable to: Vision 2001 Ed Foundation and mailed to PO Box 733, South Plainfield, NJ 07080. Donations are requested no later than March, 2002.

southplainfieldpeople

Milestones



Cybowskis Celebrate 60th Anniversary

Adolph and Stella Cybowski celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Oct. 13 at Our Lady of Czestochowa Church with Father John Skwara officiating. The mass was celebrated by their family with the intention of their anniversary. After renewing their vows grandson David Fusco serenaded them with



Stella & Adolph Cybowski in 1941

Following the mass they enjoyed an anniversary dinner with their entire family. The Cybowski's have three daughters Barbara Farely, Jane Fusco and Linda Kissell, six grandchildren, Sandy, Kenny, Debbie, David, Mark and Chris, and two great grandchildren, Dierdre and Chelsie. Stella is a life long resident of South Plainfield.



Connie Pisaniello, General Robert Pashon and former Miss New Jersey, Hela Young, who attends all veterans affairs in New Jersey.

Alphonse J. Pisaniello Receives Distinguished Service Medal

On Nov. 27 the State of New Jersey presented 252 Distinguished Service Medals.

This prominent award serves as a reminder that freedom sometimes rests in the hands of those who have placed themselves in harm's way for the sake of our country.

Receiving the medal was Alphonse

J. Pisaniello from South Plainfield for his distinguished meritorious service in ground combat during WWII in Europe. Mr. Pisaniello was a combat medic, earning many service awards.

Receiving the award for Mr. Pisaniello was Connie Pisaniello, who received it posthumously for her husband.

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Events

Wesley Methodist to Present Christmas Show

December 20

"Catalyst: Music That Ignites the Spirit," will be presented at Wesley United Methodist Church on Thursday, Dec. 20 at 7 p.m. Wesley Methodist is located on Plainfield Ave.

This seasonal program features songs which tell the Christmas story, but with a modern twist. Audiences will be challenged by the example of Mary, Joseph, the wise men and the shepherds. Through their sacrificial commitment to care about a child, we can learn how to be more compassionate to the children in our world.

Take a break from your holiday planning and spend an hour remembering what Christmas is all about.

For additional information, contact Michelle Biggs at (908) 754-5791.

AARP Chapter #4144 Holiday Lunch/Meeting

December 21

AARP Chapter #4144 will meet on Dec. 21, at the Willow, 1013 Washington Ave. in Greenbrook, for their December meeting and Christmas Luncheon.

Entertained will be by Charles Reed at the Keyboard, who is also a vocalist. Judy Hannah will treat everyone with songs for Hanukkah. It should be fun.

Santa to Visit the PAL

December 22

Santa will be coming to the

PAL on Saturday, Dec. 22 and he would like to meet with as many South Plainfield children as possible.

Pre-registration (at the PAL) is required. The fee is \$5 per child.

Roosevelt School Blood Drive

January 5, 2002

Roosevelt School is having a community blood drive being held on Jan. 5, 2002. Anyone interested in donating blood, please contact Theresa Montuori, (908) 769-5270 to schedule a time.

Rec Going to See "Naked Boys Singing"

February 3

For those who would like an alternative to watching football on Super Bowl Sunday, the South Plainfield Recreation Department is planning an a trip to Broadway to see "Naked Boys Singing."

The trip takes place on Sunday, Feb. 3 and costs \$45 per person. Bus leaves the PAL at 11 a.m.

Register at the PAL, Monday through Friday.

South Plainfield Recreation Winter Dinner Show

February 7, 2002

The South Plainfield Recreation Department will be sponsoring a trip to a Winter Dinner Show at the Hunterdon Playhouse in Feb. 7, 2002. The bus will leave from the PAL Building at 10 a.m. The fee is \$45 per person and includes dinner and the show.

Tickets can be purchased at the PAL, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

— Out of Town —

"First Night" at the Bickford Theatre

Through December 30

Morris Museum's Bickford Theatre is proud to present "First Night" by Jack Neary, which will run during the holiday season from Dec. 6-30, Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m.

Daniel LaPenta, chairman of the Theatre Dept. at Drew University, will direct this warm romantic comedy about dreams, life and love that takes place on New Year's Eve. The main character, Danny Fleming is waiting to close up the video store where he works when Meredith, his eighth grade sweetheart, walks into the store. Once this seemingly chance encounter begins, it soon becomes apparent that this attraction isn't Danny's fantasy alone and Meredith must decide whether to remain a nun. A funny banter of honesty escalates into frenzy as the two rediscover each other.

The Bickford Theatre is located at 6 Normandy Heights Rd. in Morristown. Tickets are \$26 for the general public, \$23 for seniors, \$22 for Morris Museum members and \$12 for students. A special ticket price of \$40 per person includes a ticket to the Sunday performance and brunch at Rod's Steak and Seafood Grill in Convent Station.

For more information and tickets please call (973) 971-3706.

Alliance Theatre Presents "Friends"

December 7-9, 14, 15, 21, 22

Alliance Repertory Theatre Co. in cooperation with The Villagers Black Box Series will be presenting, "Friends" - Not The TV Show.

Alliance examines the ups and downs of relationships in a light-hearted evening of comic scenes and short plays dealing with family, friends, relationships and everything in between. Alliance Rep's last Café was heralded as "An evening that just may be the best comedy bargain in the area. Take someone you love - or would like to."

The play is directed by Alliance veterans, Jeff Streger, Jay Leibowitz, Joel Stone and Michael Driscoll, with

newcomers Cynthia Wiese, Christine Furlong, and Rich Baker.

Performances are on Dec. 14, 15, 21, and 22. Fri. and Sat. starts at 8 p.m.

The Villagers Barn Theatre is located on DeMott Lane in the Franklin Township. Cost is \$10.

For reservations call, 732-873-2710 or E-mail: AllianceRep@aol.com.

Old-Fashioned Christmas Planned

December 13

The NAACP Metuchen-Edison Area Branch will host its Seventh Annual Kwanzaa Extravaganza on Thursday, Dec. 13, at the Edison Job Corps Academy, 500 Plainfield Ave. in Edison, beginning at 7 p.m.

Included in the festivities will be entertainment, free food and vendors. Among those providing entertainment will be Noah's Ark Forces of Triumph Step Team. There will also be a candle-lighting ceremony conducted by Bill Davis, during which the origin and principles of Kwanzaa will be explained.

Although not required to attend the event, attendees are asked to bring a new, unwrapped toy for their holiday toy drive.

Alliance Church to Perform Bethlehem's Treasure-A Live Nativity

Dec. 14 - 16

Bethlehem's Treasure-A Live Nativity will be performed at Alliance Bible Church in Warren on Dec. 14 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 15 and 16 at both 5 and 7 p.m. Admission is free.

This is the third year that Alliance Bible Church has produced the live nativity.

From parking lot attendants dressed in full shepherd costume to home baked cookies at the cafe, months of preparation have gone into the production.

Six new musical arrangements will be used to enhance this year's production of Bethlehem's Treasure-A Live Nativity. A thirty voice Angel Choir, directed by Viva Wallace will be featured singing "Gloria-Angels We Have Heard On High" by Michael W. Smith.

The church is located at 52 Mount Horeb Rd. in Warren, just 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 one mile on the right.

For directions, contact the church office at (732) 469-1425.

Community Carol at Trinity Reformed Church

December 16

Community Carol Sing will be held at Trinity Reformed Church located at the corner of Greenbrook Rd. and West End Ave. in North Plainfield on Dec. 16 at 4 p.m.

Refreshments will be served afterwards. For more information, either call the church at 908-756-2125 and ask for Reverend Miller or call 908-647-0016.

Precious Jewels at Cedarbrook Elementary School

December 21

The National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) Inc., Plainfield/Scotch Plains Section, a non-profit organization, presents "Jewels of Winter; Believing, Achieving and Becoming the Best" on Dec. 21, at 7:00 p.m. at Cedarbrook Elementary School, 1049 Central Avenue, Plainfield.

For the first time ever, the NCNW Plainfield/Scotch Plains Section is hosting a Youth Pageant for young girls, ages 4-16. "The pageant's purpose is to introduce and improve public speaking, build team leadership as well as develop skills for being an effective team player and positive role model," stated Deadra Miller, chairperson for this event. "All interested candidates were encouraged to enroll. Additionally, the parents and sponsors of the girls were assured that any candidate seriously interested in participating would be able to compete," continued Ms. Miller. "Coordinating a pageant takes hard work and dedication from all involved, but it's worth the effort to see how the young ladies have progressed through the whole process," she added.

For further about the pageant or any other program sponsored by the National Council of Negro Women Plainfield/Scotch Plains Section, please write to P.O. Box 716, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076-1149.

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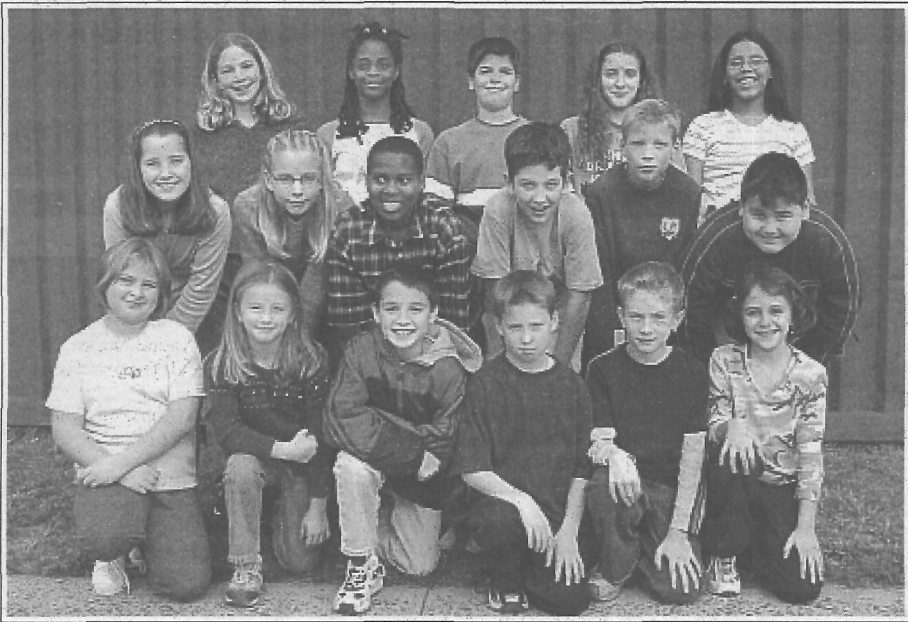
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Roosevelt Student Council Donated to Dennis Buckley Children's Fund

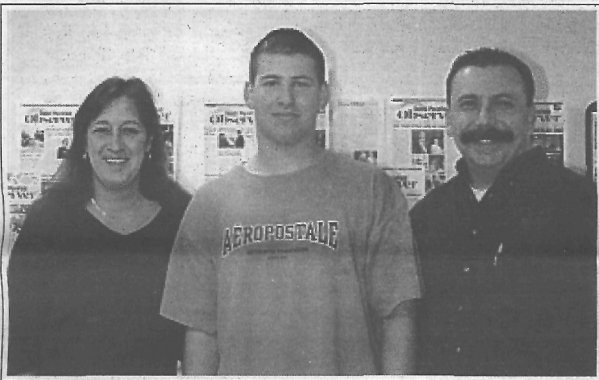
Story/photo by Patricia Abbott

The Sept. 11 tragedy touched lives across the country, some more directly than others. Roosevelt School teacher Mrs. Simpson lost her cousin, Dennis Buckley, in the World Trade Center attack. The Roosevelt Student

Council has designated the money raised in their September 11th Fund to be donated to the Dennis Buckley Children's Fund. Mr. Buckley has three children under the age of six.

Roosevelt student council members are Amanda Plum, Kristy Ray, Alex Green, Brittany Alvarado-secretary,

Courtney Schaefer, Tyler Driscoll, Frank Licato, Melissa White, AJ Kunie, Daniel Maistickle-president, Rachel Pinto, Ashleigh Gray, Darnell Beverly, Alex Cihanowyz, Maricela Gonzalez, Audrey Cupo and Jordan Petriello-vice president. Allison Ferraro is Student Council Advisor.



Kennedy School Student Council Holiday Fundraiser

The J. F. Kennedy Elementary School student council would like to spread some holiday cheer. They will be making donations to a women's shelter that they assisted last year by holding a car wash fundraiser.

They have placed a holiday tree on the bulletin board in front of

the office. There are ornaments with suggested items that were given to them as a "wish list" from the organization. Please have your child pick one of the ornaments to make someone's holiday bright.

Donations will be accepted until Dec. 18.

From the South Plainfield Library Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Time for some more Holiday season news from the South Plainfield Library:

Turning to our children's programs, there's this month's Kidcraft program this afternoon at four o'clock. It's for children ages six and over; all craft materials are provided by the Library. Please call us at (908) 754-7885 to reserve a spot. We'll only hold two Storytime programs next week: the Tuesday program at 10:30 a.m. and the Thursday program at 1:15 p.m. They're for children ages three and over; no pre-registration is required. Instead of a Wednesday Storytime, we'll host a Holiday Sing-Along with Mr. Kurt at 6:30. We ask that you sign up for the program, so we'll know how many kids to expect. If you'd like more information about our children's programs, please call and ask for Miss Linda.

We'll be hosting a class on "Interviewing 101" on Thursday morning at 10:30. Reference Librarian Allan Kleiman will lead the class. It's a special service in conjunction with our Job Information Center. Space is limited, so you must call ahead to reserve a spot. Also, in January, we'll be con-

tinuing our series of introductory computer classes. Space is also limited for these classes; please call us for more details.

There's still time (about one day, in fact) for you to make a donation to Books to Keep, which provides books for needy children. You can make a monetary donation, or bring in some new children's books for the collection. Details are found on the table next to the door to the Children's Room.

We're still offering Library tote bags and sweatshirts, as well as Terra Nova Garden Club cookbooks. The tote bags and cookbooks both cost \$10 each and are available immediately; the sweatshirts go for \$15 each and must be ordered in advance. Just the thing for those who need to pick up a Holiday gift at the last minute. Stop by the Circulation Desk for more information.

We have a couple of special displays in place for December. Our display wall features a special holiday display from the students of Future Stars Pre-School. The display cabinet has an assortment of nutcrackers collected by local resident Dominic Valentino. Both displays will be here throughout the month.

At times, some people have made a mistake regarding the Compact Disc display at the Circulation Desk. No, those are not the only CDs in our collection. The rest are kept in storage behind the Circ Desk. To borrow one, just check one of the lists at the Desk (either the Circuit list or our own list), then tell us the number of the disc you're looking for. We'll dig it out for you. CDs may be borrowed, four at a time, for two weeks.

That'll be all for this week. We hope you're enjoying this aforementioned Holiday season. See you next Friday.

"Hometown Hero" Announced

A few weeks ago the *Observer* ran article about a hat found by the owners of the soon-to-be-opening Hometown Hero store.

The hat belonged to Danny De Falco, a senior at SPHS.

Charlie and Debbie, the owners of Hometown Heroes found the hat in front of the parking lot and thought this would be a great way to choose their first "Hometown Hero" win-

ner. We gladly ran the story. When the store opens, Danny's photo will be displayed on the wall of Hometown Heroes. He also won a complimentary catered luncheon for six.

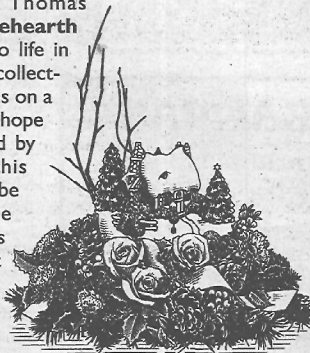
De Falco is active in football, weight training and spring track. He plans to attend Middlesex County College after high school and pursue a career in computer science and robotics.

LIGHT UP THE HOLIDAYS WITH THOMAS KINKADE

Give The Christmas Cottage Bouquet

Officially licensed by Thomas Kinkade, his famous **Stonehearth Hutch** painting comes to life in this richly hand-painted collectible. A flip of a switch turns on a golden light to suggest the hope of Christmas. Surrounded by fresh winter flowers, this must-have sculpture will be a welcome gift for anyone who appreciates the artist's unique perception of light and color.

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South Plainfield Rotary Club—Joe DeAndrea, George Jaghab, Mario Medici, Dick DeAndrea, Gene Bataille, Vito Ratti, Les Bartell, John Cecchettini and Fred Skrocki.
Photo by Patricia Abbott

Rotary Club Wine Tasting Aids Many

By Patricia Abbott

The South Plainfield Rotary Club, in conjunction with the Edison Rotary Club, recently hosted their annual wine tasting event at the Clarion Hotel in Edison. The Edison club has sponsored the wine tasting event for the past two years. However this year's annual fund-raising event was co-sponsored by the South Plainfield Rotary Club. Fourteen stations were set up around the room offering a wide variety of items including gourmet nuts. Over 200 people enjoyed a wonderful sampling of wines, beers and food.

An ice sculpture of the Rotary logo graced the center of a table filled with

fruit. A second table offered assorted baked goods, coffee and tea. Gift baskets and a bike were offered as raffle prizes.

The South Plainfield club is known for their sociability and dubbed the "Good Times Club" within Rotary District 7510. Despite the happy-go-lucky nickname the group has not lost sight of responsibilities to the four avenues of the Rotary Service. The SP club members have contributed to the Rotary International's Polio Plus Program immunizing third world children against the disease. Additional accomplishments include: support of the borough's Recreation Commission, annual SPHS scholarship based on ability and achievement, and funding of new choral robes. The Rotary Club of South Plainfield made substantial contributions of funds and support for a variety of community service projects on a continuing basis.

The Rotary Club of South Plainfield was chartered by Rotary International in March of 1938 and was the first service organization established in the Borough. The 25 original members were community, business and professional leaders. Today's members are civic-minded, service oriented individuals who live or work in South Plainfield. They are dedicated to the ideals established by Rotary International. South Plainfield Rotary Club officers are President-Gene Bataille, Secretary/Treasurer-John Cecchettini, Sergeant at Arms-Mario Medici.

The Rotary Club is a community service organization whose members are a diverse group of leaders from the

community. Membership in a Rotary club offers a number of benefits, including: effecting change within the community, advancing business and professional contacts, developing leadership skills, and gaining an understanding of and having an impact on international humanitarian issues.

If you are interested in joining either Rotary Club and want to help make a difference in your community, come our meeting. The South Plainfield Club meets each Tuesday evening at the Cafe Piancone Restaurant. The Edison Club meets each Wednesday morning at 7:30 a.m. at the Victorian Manor on Woodbridge Ave.



Newly Elected Student Council Members Doing Good Things at Kennedy School

Since electing new officers and representatives for the 2001-2002 school year, the Student Council at John F. Kennedy School has been very busy conducting fundraisers and events for a variety of charities.

The first event was "Hearts for New York." This is a program in which Kennedy students wrote messages of encouragement to the rescue workers and people who lost loved ones in the World Trade Center tragedy. All cards and letters were sent to NYC to be displayed for viewing. The Student Council was also asked by UNICEF to have the children make drawings specifically for the children of NY.

The Student Council sponsored their first fundraiser for "Make a Difference Day" by hosting Harvest Fest. Along with the JFK third graders, the Student Council raised money for UNICEF. This year half of the money was donated to the American Red Cross. A total of \$2,400 was collected. Harvest Fest activities included face painting, making a haunted house, enjoying a hay ride, playing games and eating! Many volunteers contributed to the success of this event. The Student Council also sold lollipops for Halloween. A profit of \$300 was made, and was also donated to

UNICEF.

Another fundraiser was a Veteran's Day Bake Sale, which lasted for two days. The money from this event was donated to the building fund for the WWII Memorial in Washington DC. A total of \$125 was collected. Again many volunteer bakers and sellers made this sale possible.

In December the Student Council will conduct a donation drive for a mother's shelter. Students will be asked to select an ornament off a tree. Each ornament will have a suggested gift to be donated to the shelter. Another December charity drive will be collecting loose change to help terminally ill children at the "Give Kids the World" organization.

In addition to all their charity work

the Student Council is responsible for weekly recycling at the school and placing announcements on the outside board and on the public address system.

The elected officers for this year are: President Erik White, Vice President Jorge Alvaraz, Secretary Holly McDede and Treasurer Dominic Papa. The representatives are: Jim Bijlani, Stephen Coppi, Dristie Criley, Logan Green, Arham Jain, Harrison Lee, Parin Mody, Amber Rogers, Fanual Ulacia, Jared Czech, Kirsten Nuber, Danielle Ranger, Amber Scott and Ricky Walton.

Teresa Luck, third grade teacher and Barbara Friedman, special needs teacher are the co-advisors for this organization.

"The Real Cause of Your Headaches May Not Be In your Head"

Edison, NJ.—Free report reveals what your doctor may not know about what's proven to be the cause of most headaches. To order a copy of this controversial free report, call toll-free 1-888-568-8424. 24 hr. recorded message

Season's Greetings

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Adults \$5.00
12 & Under \$3.00
Under 6 Free

**SUNDAY DEC. 16
8AM TILL NOON**

Borough Seeks Board, Agency, Committee & Commission Members

The Mayor and Council are accepting Letters of Interest and resumes from anyone interested in serving on a borough board, agency, committee or commission for the year 2002.

The following boards, agencies, committees and commissions are

looking for members.

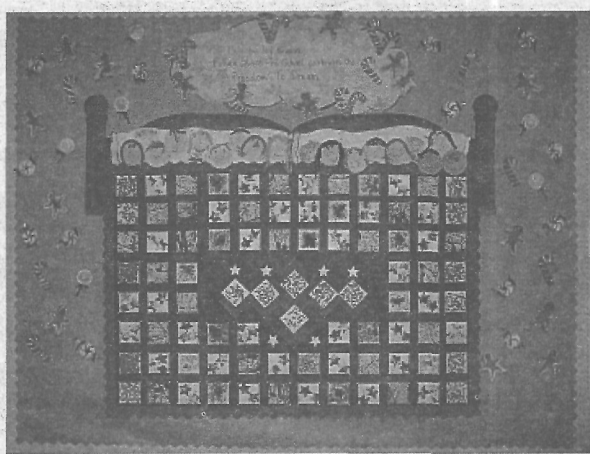
- **Business Advisory Group** (business owners only) meets first Wednesday of month, 5 p.m.
- **Cultural Arts Commission** meets second Wednesday of month, 8 p.m.
- **Environmental Commission** meets second Wednesday of month, 8 p.m.
- **Health Advisory Board** meets second Tuesday of month, 7:30 p.m.
- **Planning Board** meets second and fourth Tuesday of month, 8 p.m.
- **Public Celebration Committee** meets first Wednesday of month, 8 p.m.
- **Recreation Commission** meets at the PAL Bldg. on first Tuesday of month, 7 p.m.
- **Taxpayers Advisory Group** meets fourth Tuesday of month, 7 p.m.

Forward your resume along with the board(s) you wish to serve to Mayor Gallagher or Council President Vokral at 2480 Plainfield Ave., So. Plainfield 07080.



Future Stars Celebrate Freedom to Dream

This Holiday Season Future Stars Pre-school celebrates the freedom to dream. A piece of every child's artwork has been incorporated into one beautiful creation and can be seen all month long at the South Plainfield Public Library. Make sure you drop by the Library and see their display.



Giving Tree Returns to the Middle School

The Middle School Student Council is once again working to help make the holiday season a bright one for those less fortunate. They are sponsoring a Giving Tree to collect toys for needy children in New Jersey.

The tree will support a program sponsored by the New Jersey Chapter, 1st Marine Division, previously

called 'Toys for Tots.' The Student Council is collecting new unwrapped toys. Donations are being accepted until Dec. 14.

The Council is also collecting canned or packaged non-perishable food to be distributed to South Plainfield needy families. The food drive ends on Dec. 14.

Borough Notes

Council News

■ A lien of \$932.69 has been placed on the property at 157 Sprague Ave. for costs the borough incurred to clean up a public health nuisance.

■ Carmen Monticchio, a public works inspector, will be retiring effective May 31, 2001.

■ The Council approved the purchase of a 2002 Dodge Durango at a cost of \$25,944 for the Police Chief. The purchase will be paid for with police forfeiture funds.

■ Danielle Gorini and Glen Thomas will be hired as full-time public safety telecommunication operators, effective Jan 2, 2002.

■ Telecast Auditing Services has been awarded a contract to audit the Borough's telephone bills and to secure any and all refunds due.

■ Quality Communications has been awarded a contract for the replacement of a radio infrastructure for the Mobile Data Terminals (CDPD) for the Police Department at a cost of \$14,355.

■ The Borough received a \$2,000 NJ Green Communities Grant to develop a Community Forestry Management Plan for South Plainfield.

■ William Miller will be resigning from the Planning Board effective Dec. 31, 2001.

■ The Council has authorized the superintendent of public works to hire contractors, businesses and individuals to remove snow from Borough sidewalks, in case of excessive snowfall.

■ The Council has authorized the purchase of salt to aid in the removal of snow and ice from roadways. The purchase of salt will be made through an agreement with the Middlesex County Improvement Authority at a cost of \$32.40/ton. The cost will not exceed \$43,000.

■ The firm of Hill Wallack of Princeton, has been authorized to serve as the Borough's counsel for the purpose of creating the "Hamilton Boulevard Redevelopment Agency" at a fee not to exceed \$5,000. The council also established professional fees associated with the redevelopment in the amount of \$20,000, which shall be funded by

Cornell-Dubilier Electronics Inc., and Dana Corporation.

■ The police department will lease three 2002 Crown Victoria sedans at a cost of \$27,969 each per year.

■ Dictaphone Corporation will receive \$4,136 for the yearly maintenance of the dictaphone recorder used at the communication desk.

■ Kelly Kaiser will resign from the Environmental Com. effective Dec. 31.

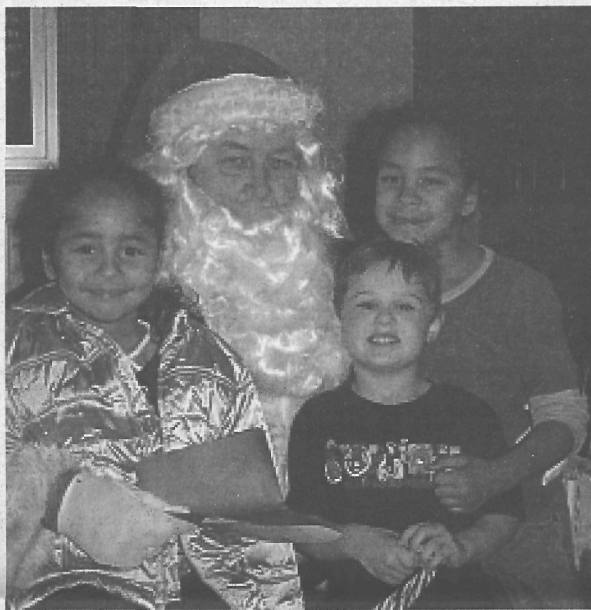
■ CME Engineers has been authorized to prepare new 'drug-free zone' maps at a cost not exceed \$3,610.

■ Yolanda Toca will be promoted to Senior Docket Clerk effective Dec. 10.

■ Commerce Bank will become the Borough's bank effective Jan. 1, 2002.

■ Public works will purchase three pieces of equipment from Middlesex County at a cost not to exceed \$2,550.

Santa Visits the Elks Lodge



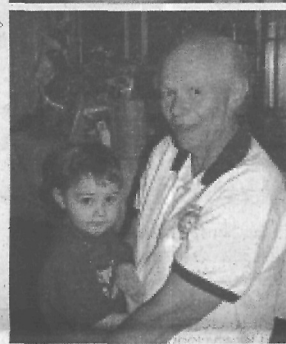
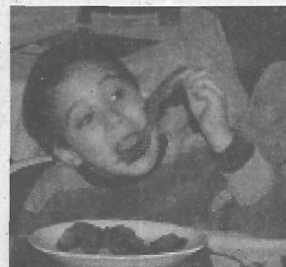
By Patricia Abbott

Santa Claus paid an early visit to the South Plainfield Elks Lodge to spend some time with good boys and girls and their families. For parents, breakfast was the first order of the day. Hungry guests were able to choose from a variety of breakfast foods. The menu offered pancakes, French toast, bacon, sausage, home fries, eggs cooked to order, coffee, tea and orange juice.

Food was not foremost in the minds of the younger set, giving the Elk's special guest their oh-so-important

wish list was their priority. Youngsters lined up for their turn to speak to the 'Jolly One,' while their parents ordered breakfast. After reassuring Santa they had been good, each child received a large candy cane.

By the time breakfast arrived, their smiling faces were smeared with sticky peppermint. Most ate breakfast with



a fork in one hand and their precious candy cane in the other. Parents busied themselves wiping sticky hands, snapping photos with Santa and relaxing over a second cup of coffee.

The annual Breakfast with Santa saw a steady flow of people throughout the rainy Sunday morning.

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- ❖ FREE Gift with any purchase (until Dec. 24th!)

Merry Christmas **BUNCHI'S BULLETIN**

To our customers & Crafters: "A World of Thanks" for your valued business and best wishes for a wonderful holiday and a very Happy New Year! And don't forget, "Craft Projects" & "Art Lessons" begin first week of each month. Seating is limited so register NOW!

We accept all major credit cards and personal checks (w/ID)

Sports

BOWLING

By Ralph Fetch

Girls Bowling Team Clobbers Middlesex and South River, But Is Upended by Carteret

SPHS 722-723-696-2141
Middlesex... 563-571-469-1600

The girls bowling team swept all three games and bombarded Middlesex by over 500 pins.

Sophomore Vicky Boley's steady 468 set a solid team effort and provided the spark for the tigers.

SPHS 840-732-779-2351
So. River 599-595-601-1795

The girls recorded their second shutout as they routed the Rams of South River by 556 pins. Leading the Tigers were Kim Gaub with a 198 high game and Victoria Boley with a solid 509 high set. Meredith Cooper chipped in with a 496 set.

SPHS 737-679-715-2131
Carteret 779-822-841-2442

In a crucial White Division match up, Carteret handed the girls bowling team their first setback with a 4 to 0 trouncing.

Vicky Boley 177, and Meredith Cooper's 178 were the only bright spots for the Tigers.

Boys Bowling Team Drops Opener, But Then Records Two Upset Victories

SPHS 900-851-810-2561
Middlesex 876-912-938-2726

In the tip off for the winter sports program the Boys Bowling Team, with five freshman and a junior in the starting lineup, stunned a veteran Middlesex team by winning the first game.

However the Bluejays rallied in the

final two games to pin a 3-1 loss on the young Tigers.

Matt Boley led the Tigers with a big 246 game and a solid 616 set. Chipping in were Shawn Ferguson 193, 206 and Jon Jelinski with a 193.

SPHS 878-835-857-2570
So. River 851-874-843-2568

The boys bowling team, with a freshman lineup, won two of three games from South River and coked out a two pin victory for it's first upset of the season.

Providing the spark for the Tigers were Matt Boley with a booming 269 game and a brilliant 661 high set and Jon Jeglinski with games of 223 and 211.

SPHS 776-807-715-2298
Carteret 758-665-725-2149

The boy's bowling team recorded their second upset victory as they scrambled to a 3 to 1 triumph over the Ramblers of Carteret.

Matt Boley's 200 high game and 537 high set set the Tiger scoring pace.

10th Annual Twin City Pharmacy/ SPASA Holiday Basketball Tourn.

The South Plainfield Alliance for Substance Awareness (SPASA) and Twin City Pharmacy is holding their 10th annual basketball tournament for seventh and eighth graders. The purpose of the tournament is to heighten awareness of the dangers of substance abuse as well as promote a positive healthy attitude toward participation in athletics and not the use of sub-

stances by athletes.

There will be one preliminary round and a final round for each of the boys and girls teams. The preliminaries will be at held at the South Plainfield Middle School gymnasium on Tuesday, Dec. 11 from 4-5:30 p.m. for the boys and Monday, Dec. 19 from 4-5:30 p.m. for the girls. The finals will be held on Thursday, Dec. 13 at 4 p.m. for the boys and 5:30 p.m. for the girls. A substance awareness video and discussion will be presented to each team preliminary games.

There will be a charge of \$2 for adults and \$1 for students to watch the games.

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WRESTLING

By Bobby Hunter

Middle School Beats Rahway 51-24

The South Plainfield Middle School Wrestling team opened their dual meet season with an impressive 51-24 victory over Rahway Middle School. Patrick Hunter (75) got the Tigers going when he pinned Amir Jones in 15 seconds. Billy Ashnault (80) followed with another fall over Phillip Ruddy at 1:51. Jimmy Conroy (85) kept the momentum going with a 4-2 decision over Ryan Wilson. Nick Dorey (90) increased the lead with a

pin at 2:02 giving the Tigers a 21-0 lead.

The next Tiger victory came at 117 when Mark Warness won a 6-0 decision over Tyrone Goodridge. Travis Knoll (124), wrestling in the first match of his career took early control and went on to pin Kareem Swint at 2:38. Anthony Fierro (140) went on the attack and scored eight straight points before pinning Albert Johnson at 2:54. Justin Huffsmith (150)

wasted little time with Michael Thompson, scoring the fall in 18 seconds. Kevin Cilley (175) closed the scoring with a 6-4 decision over Alvin Murray.

Also wrestling for the Tigers were Mike Jakubik (95), Mark Wagner (100), Anthony Niemczyk (112) and Opie Muse (134). The Tigers are now 4-1 on the young season and will face Hillsborough on Dec. 13 in Hillsborough.

Junior Tigers Win Opener 46-21

The Recreation Wrestling team opened their dual meet season with a big 46-24 victory over league rival North Hunterdon Lions. The Tigers got off to a slow start dropping their first two matches, but got on the score board when Jeffrey Conroy (57) tied the score at 3-3 in the third period and got the takedown in OT for a 5-3 victory over Tyler Vitelli. Randy Jakubik (60) tied the score when he pinned Kyle Woll at the 0:59. Ryan Sacco (63) gave the Tigers the lead when he pinned Mike Hermes at 2:00. Nick Heilmann (67) scored six straight points before Bill Loftus hurt his knee and could not continue. The next Tiger victory came at (77) when Patrick Hunter got a reversal in the third period to win a 2-0 decision over Tony Fusco. Mike Wagner (85) went right to work getting the early takedown before cruising to a 9-2 decision over Brian Ribbecke. Jake Smithline (90) kept things going with an exciting 10-8 decision over Eric Wilson. Brad Martin (95) scored six points in the third period to win an 8-3 decision over Danny Shust. Mark Wagner (100) needed only 36 seconds

to pin Jeff Plaisted. Danny Pompilio (110) won by forfeit.

Also wrestling for the Tigers were Anthony (Firecracker) Ashnault (50),

Tyler Hunt (53), Cory Hay (70) and Tim Gaughan (80). Next up for the Tigers, Union and Voorhees on Dec. 16 at 1 p.m. at the PAL.

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Legal Notice

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
ORDINANCE #1440N

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

Ordinance #1440N entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #1440E ENTITLED: AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD AND THE METHOD OF PAYMENT OF SUCH COMPENSATION FOR THE YEARS 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 be adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, December 14, 2001 and that a public hearing be held at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, December 19, 2001 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ORDINANCE #1440N

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #1440E ENTITLED: AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD AND THE METHOD OF PAYMENT OF SUCH COMPENSATION FOR THE YEARS 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 AND 2005.

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1. The rates of compensation for each employee of the Borough of South Plainfield shall be on an annual basis as follows except where indicated. Such rates of pay shall be effective on January 1st of the years shown.

POSITION	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
AFSCME EMPLOYEES					
ACCOUNT CLERK	14,042	14,533	15,042	15,568	16,113
ASSISTANT ENGINEER	58,289	58,289			
ASSISTANT VIOLATIONS CLERK	27,380	28,338	29,330	30,356	31,419
BUILDING SUB-CODE OFFICIAL	54,780	56,697	58,582	60,736	62,861
CLERK TYPIST	21,543	22,297	23,078	23,886	24,722
CLERK TYPIST/HOUSING ASSISTANT	21,543	22,297	23,078	23,886	24,722
CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER	49,525	51,259	53,053	54,910	56,831
DEPUTY MUNICIPAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR	31,510	32,613	33,755	34,936	36,159
DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR	41,706	43,168	44,679	46,243	47,861
DOCKET CLERK	21,543	22,297	23,078	23,886	24,722
FIRE PREVENTION SPECIALIST	44,107	45,651	47,249	48,903	50,614
FIRE PREVENTION SPECIALIST	44,107	45,651	47,249	48,903	50,614
PLUMBING INSPECTOR	27,627	27,627			
POLICE RECORDS CLERK	23,701	24,531	25,389	26,278	27,198
PRINCIPAL CLERK TYPIST	28,089	29,052	30,068	31,121	32,210
PRINCIPAL PAYROLL CLERK	39,514	40,897	42,329	43,810	45,344
PRINCIPAL TAX CLERK	35,986	37,258	38,562	39,912	41,309
PROGRAM COORDINATOR-SENIOR CITIZENS	19,855	20,550	21,269	22,014	22,784
PUBLIC WORKS INSPECTOR	54,400	56,304			
RECREATION ATTENDANT	24,331	25,183	26,064	26,976	27,920
SECRETARY PLANNING/ADJUST. BOARD	28,069	29,052	30,068	31,121	32,210
SENIOR CITIZEN VAN DRIVER	23,552	24,377	25,230	26,113	27,027
SENIOR CLERK TRANSCRIBER	34,965	36,188	37,455	38,766	40,123
SENIOR CLERK TYPIST	24,729	25,594	26,490	27,417	28,377
SENIOR DOCKET CLERK	24,729	25,594	26,490	27,417	28,377
SENIOR POLICE RECORDS CLERK	31,972	33,091	34,249	35,447	36,688
SENIOR POLICE RECORDS CLERK/TRANSCRIBER	26,564	26,459	27,385	28,343	29,335
SENIOR RECYCLING/GROUNDSKEEPER	36,084	37,347	38,654	40,007	41,407
SUPERVISOR OF ACCOUNTS	43,976	45,515	47,108	48,757	50,463
PUBLIC SAFETY					
TELECOMMUNICATOR—LEVEL 1	29,138	29,138	29,138	29,138	29,138
PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATOR—LEVEL 2	30,302	31,363	32,460	33,596	34,772
PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATOR—LEVEL 3	31,518	32,621	33,763	34,945	36,168
PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATOR—LEVEL 4	32,778	33,925	35,113	36,342	37,614
PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATOR- LEVEL-5	34,086	35,279	36,514	37,792	39,114
NON-UNION EMPLOYEES					
SECRETARIAL ASSISTANT	24,729	25,594	26,490	27,417	28,377
ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK TYPING	33,802	34,985	36,209	37,476	38,788
PRINCIPLE CLERK REGISTRAR/VITAL STATISTICS	37,063	38,360	39,703	41,092	42,530
COMPUTER SERVICE TECHNICIAN	38,340	39,682	41,071	42,508	43,996
	3.25%	3.50%	3.50%	3.50%	3.50%
DEPUTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORD.	1,713	1,769	1,828	1,885	1,947
BOARD SECRETARY - HEALTH	1,709	1,764	1,822	1,881	1,942
FIRE PROTECTION SUB-CODE OFFICIAL	9,946	10,269	10,603	10,948	11,303

SECTION 2. INCONSISTENCY - All ordinance or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE - This ordinance shall become effective and operative ten days after the publication thereof after final passage.

Approved December 6, 2001

Daniel J. Gallagher, Mayor

Attest:
Vincent Buttiglieri, RMC, Municipal Clerk
\$227.50

1 T December 14, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

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

WHEREAS, the need exists to prepare new Drug-Free Zone Maps for the Borough of South Plainfield, and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer, CME Associates, has submitted a proposal to prepare the said maps, and

WHEREAS, the cost of preparing said maps will not exceed \$3,610.00, and

WHEREAS, this contract is being awarded without competitive bidding as "Professional Services" in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a), and

WHEREAS, funds have been certified by the Chief Financial Officer and are available in the Police Department Forfeiture account #T-13-56-860-018-801.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that CME Associates is awarded a contract to furnish the Borough with Electronic Drug-Free Zone Maps and all related work at a cost not to exceed \$3,610.

ATTEST:

Vincent Buttiglieri, Municipal Clerk
\$33.25 December 14, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

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

WHEREAS, the Planning Board and the Mayor and Council have endorsed the creation of a Redevelopment Agency at the Hamilton Boulevard Industrial site and environs, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to retain an attorney to represent the Borough before the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey, and

WHEREAS, the prior owners of the site have created an escrow account from which said professional fees will be paid without the use of Borough funds, and

WHEREAS, this contract is being awarded without competitive bidding as "Professional Services" in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that the firm of Hill Wallace, 202 Carnegie Center, Princeton, New Jersey is hereby designated to serve as Counsel to the Borough of South Plainfield for the purpose of creating the "Hamilton Boulevard Redevelopment Agency " at a fee not to exceed \$5,000.00.

ATTEST:

Vincent Buttiglieri, Municipal Clerk
\$33.25 December 14, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

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

WHEREAS, the need exists to review and audit our telephone billings from the telephone company, and

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator has solicited proposals and received a response from one such company, Telecost Auditing Services, and

WHEREAS, Telecost Auditing Services proposal does not call for any up-front expense to the Borough. Their fee is based on 50% of the permanent monthly savings secured by the Borough for 36 months, and

WHEREAS, this contract is being awarded without competitive bidding as "Professional Services" in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that a professional services contract is hereby awarded to Telecost Auditing Services to review and audit the Borough's telephone billings and secure any and all refunds due to the Borough.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough of South Plainfield agrees to distribute 60% of the permanent monthly savings secured for 36 months to Telecost Auditing Services. Subsequent to the 36 months, the Borough will retain 100% of the savings realized.

ATTEST:

Vincent Buttiglieri, Municipal Clerk
\$40.25 December 14, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by QualTeq, Inc. requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit installation of fence, NEEDS VARIANCE BY ZONING BOARD. DENIED: SECTION 502 ACCESSORY STRUCTURES CANNOT BE LOCATED IN FRONT OF BUILDING LINE OF 5' IN M-3 ZONE, said property being located on Block 447, Lot 1 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 January 15, 2002 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 December 14, 2001

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

December 10

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment at its meeting held on December 4, 2001.

A. Case #75-01/I—National Realty & Development—Block 528, Lot 67, OBC-3 Zone, 4951 Stetlon Road—Applicant's request for a height above grade variance for a freestanding existing sign was hereby GRANTED.

B. Case #63-01—James Howard—Block 123; Lot 20; 1840 South Central Ave.—Applicant's request for a front setback of 28.2' for a second floor addition was hereby GRANTED.

C. Case #64-01—May Ann & Mark Rennie—Block 138; Lot 26; 1131 Clinton Terrace—Applicant's request for a 5' side setback for an existing 14' x 20' wood deck, was hereby GRANTED.

D. Case #65-01—Raymond & Janet Jenkins—Block 3; Lot 41.03, 5 Rauer Court—Applicant's request to allow a 8' fence along property line on Clinton Ave. and the potential to relocate the 10' x 10' wood shed behind the fence, at least 8' from the side and front setback along Clinton Ave., was hereby GRANTED.

E. Case #69-01—YMCA Kid's Place—Block 222, Lot 7; 3145 Park Ave.—Applicant's request to be allowed an existing 3' x 4' x 6' advertising sign to remain is hereby GRANTED.

F. Case #70-01—Leonard & Donna Rowlands—Block 202, Lot 25, R7.5 Zone; 115 Ten Eyck Street—Applicant's request for 15.03' front setback for an open 5' x 8' front porch is hereby GRANTED.

G. Case #71-01—Harold & Aleta Benson—Block 324; Lot 3; 225 Harvard Ave.—Applicant's request for a 15.96' front setback to erect an irregular 15' x 10' front porch and stairs was hereby GRANTED.

H. Case #68-01—Rema Chepulis—Block 273, Lot 14; 2427 Willow Ave.—Applicant's request for a 26' front setback from Lowden Ave. and a 4.18' side setback for a proposed 26' x 27' add-a-level and a 20' front setback from Lowden Ave. and 22.33' from Willow Ave. for an 8' x 17' front porch with roof, was hereby GRANTED.

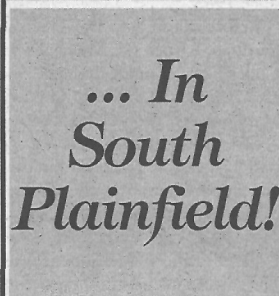
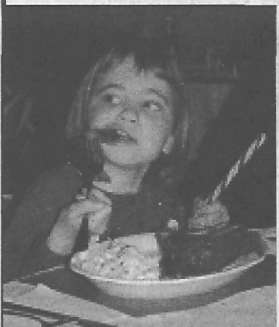
I. Case #72-01—Susan Kaplan—Block 498, Lot 8; 3816 Fleet Ave.—Applicant's request for a 24.7' front setback and 14.6' setback from Park St. and a side setback of 4.7' for the construction of a second story addition was hereby GRANTED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Muccilli

Secretary/Zoning Board of Adjustment

\$63.00 December 14, 2001



There's
a lot
going on...



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Obituaries

Joseph Macedonia, 55

Joseph Macedonia died on Saturday, Dec. 8 in Community Medical Center in Scranton, Pa.

Born in Paterson, Joseph was raised in Middlesex and had resided in North Plainfield for 20 years before moving to Lackawax, Pa. 16 years ago.

He was employed by British Oxygen Company in Murray Hill for the past 12 years. Prior to that he was employed as a supervisor with the United Steel Deck in South Plainfield.

Joseph served with the US Coast Guard during the Vietnam War and was a graduate of St. Peter's College where he earned his Bachelors of Science Degree in Marketing Management.

He is predeceased by his mother and father.

Surviving are his beloved wife, Joan of 36 years; his daughter and son-in-law, Denise and Joseph DiGiampaolo of Hawley, Pa.; his two sons, Michael of Scranton, Pa. and Joseph and his wife Allison of Denver, Colorado; five grandchildren and three siblings.

Funeral Services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Sukgreem Budhan, 89

Sukgreem Budhan died on Thursday, Dec. 6 at the JFK Medical Center Haven Hospice in Edison.

He was born in Letterkenny Village, Guyane and has resided in South Plainfield since 1985.

While in Guyane, he was a self-employed contractor and farmer.

Surviving are his two sons, Vijay and Rajndre Budhan, both of South Plainfield; three brothers, Dhanraj and Balraj Budhan, both of South Plainfield and Alackcharan Budhan of Queens, NY, 18 grandchildren and 25 great grandchildren.

Funerals services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Ruth Eileen (McKee) Fellanto, 55

Ruth Eileen (McKee) Fellanto died on Friday, Dec. 7 at her home.

Compare

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Hillside Cemetery

www.hillsidecemetery.com

Ruth was born in Newark and grew up in Irvington, where she graduated in 1965 from Archbishop Walsh High School in Irvington. She then lived in Union for several years before moving to South Plainfield in 1993.

She had been a private nanny, working in the Union County area for many years.

Surviving are her six children, Lorelei Margotta and her husband, Anthony of Colonia, Jennifer Valente, Amanda Valente, Bill Esposito, Michael Valente and Joseph Valente all of South Plainfield; two granddaughters, Sara and Jessica Margotta; her daughter-in-law, Sandy Esposito of South Plainfield and her cousin and her husband, Rosamund Joy and Dan Caliendo of Hampton, NJ.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Elsie (Grazide) Yeatts, 86

Elsie (Grazide) Yeatts died on Tuesday, Dec. 4 at the Oak Ridge Ranch in Murrieta, Cal.

She was born in New York City and had resided for most of her life in the Oak Tree section of Edison and then in the Rossmore Community in Jamesburg before moving to Murrieta in April of 2000.

Mrs. Yeatts had been employed for over 30 years as an assembler for Gulton Industries in Metuchen, before retiring over 20 years ago.

She was a member of the International Electrical Workers Union.

Pre-deceasing her was her husband, Hampton Yeatts who died in 1980 and her daughter, Joyce Dory who died last year, along with the rest of her brothers and sisters.

Surviving are her son and daughter-in-law, Harold and Vicki Yeatts of Murrieta, Cal.; her daughter, Janet Sgromolo of South Plainfield; six grandchildren, five great grandchildren and a great great grandchild.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

James W. Fitzgerald, 82

James W. Fitzgerald of South Plainfield died on Thursday, Dec. 6 at the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

He was born in Newark where he lived until 1968 when he moved to South Plainfield.

Mr. Fitzgerald was a structural iron worker for the Iron Union Workers Union Local 11 in Newark for 37 years before retiring in 1981.

He was a sergeant in the US Marine Corp during WWII serving in the 5th Marine Division where he saw action in the Philippines.

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

His favorite pastime was collecting

antiques and going to flea markets.

He is survived by his wife, Ann Chudova Fitzgerald; his son James P. and his wife, Lauren Fitzgerald of Scotch Plainfield; his sister, Mildred Lynch of Thousand Oaks, Cal; his grandchildren Shauna, Meghan and Kyle Fitzgerald.

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

Catherine (Buck) Odd, 80

Catherine (Buck) Odd died on Sunday, Dec. 10 at her home in Middlesex.

Mrs. Odd was born in Plainfield, where she grew up. She had resided in North Plainfield and the Oak Tree Section of Edison before moving to Middlesex 25 years ago.

In her younger years, she enjoyed playing in various woman's softball leagues in Plainfield.

She was a homemaker and is predeceased by her husband, Albert; a son, Charles; a sister, Martha Bianculi and four brothers, Russell, John, Edward and Walter Buck.

Surviving is a brother, Charles Buck, Sr. of Toms River; two grandchildren, Loretta Hardgrove and Charles Odd, Jr.; two great grandsons, David and Joseph Hardgrove; a great niece and long time care giver, Donna Driscoll.

Also surviving are several nieces and nephews, great great nieces and nephews and a great great great niece, Amanda Driscoll.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Anne Bernadette (Buckley) Foersch, 64

Anne Bernadette (Buckley) Foersch died on Monday, Dec. 3 at the NY Presbyterian Hospital in Manhattan.

Anne was born in Galbally, Ireland and came to the US in 1955 settling in Plainfield, where she married her husband, Eugene Foersch in 1961. They then lived in Middlesex before moving to South Plainfield, where they have lived since 1983.

Before coming to the US, she graduated from St. Michael's Jr. College in Clonmel, Ireland. She also belonged to the Children of Mary Society, also in Clonmel.

Mrs. Foersch had worked for the past 12 years as a clerk in the bakery departments at the former Edwards, now Stop & Shop in Piscataway. Prior to that, Anne had worked in the Acme Supermarket in Edison and in Middlesex from 1955 thru 1974.

She was a member of the United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 1262 of Clifton.

Anne was a communicant of Sacred Heart RC Church in South Plainfield.

Her brother, Michael Buckley died in 1997.

In addition to her husband of 40 years, she is survived by her daughter, Anne Maria Foersch of Chatham; three sisters, Mary Ahearne of County Limerick, Ireland, Josie McConville of County Meath, Ireland and Bridie O'Donnell of Piscataway; four brothers, Cornelius Buckley of Brooklyn, NY, David Buckley of Freehold, Patrick Buckley of County Tipperary, Ireland and Brother Albert Buckley, CSSP of Dublin, Ireland and by several nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital

Bertha (May) Randolph, 86

Bertha (May) Randolph of South Plainfield died on Wednesday, Dec. 5 at the JFK Medical Center in Edison.

She was born in Ft. Edwards, NY and was a former resident of Perth Amboy before moving to South Plainfield 55 years ago.

Mrs. Randolph was a quality control inspector for the former Standard Plastic's, a division of Mattel Toys in South Plainfield before retiring in 1975.

She was a communicant of Our Lady Czestochowa Church in South Plainfield and a member of the parish Alter Rosary Society.

She was predeceased by her husband, Robert H. Randolph Jr. who died in 1987.

She is survived by her son, Lawrence Randolph of South Plainfield and four sisters; Josephine Whitley of Perth Amboy, Julia Szul of Sayerville, Helen Bissett of Highland Park and Eleanor O'Brien of Morganville Hill, Calif.

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

Dang V. Nguyen, 88

Dang V. Nguyen of South Plainfield died on Wednesday, Dec. 5 at his home.

Born in Vietnam, he came to the US in 1993, settling in Eatontown before moving to South Plainfield one month ago.

Mr. Nguyen was a truck driver in Vietnam for the Department of Agriculture for 20 years before retiring in 1970.

He is survived by his wife, Huong Nguyen; four sons, Hieu of Eatontown, Thu of Houston, Texas, Ngon of South Plainfield and Nghia of Bethel, Conn.; four daughters, Lieu Hansen of Middletown, Dieu Lister, Nga and Phuoc Nguyen all of Eatontown, 18 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

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

Baking Up New Traditions This Season

With the holidays approaching, times can get stressful. It's important to remember, ourselves and our family during this season and not get caught in the race. Listed are some ideas for you to promote family time together through cooking. Who knows one of these ideas may be the start of a new family cooking tradition in your home. Just remember to include every member of your family and make it fun. You may be surprised to discover the hidden talents in your own home, and also the expressions one shows through creative cooking.

Have a gingerbread house party. Make a gingerbread house for each member of the family to decorate, and then vote on them for most creative, festive and original. Think of as many categories as you have houses. This way every one is a winner.

Have a family cookie baking day. Designate jobs, and get everyone involved. Then enjoy the cookies, while watching a holiday movie or while reading a book

Bake plain sugar cookies and cut in festive shapes using cookie cutters. Then spend an evening decorating them with colorful icing and sprinkles.

Plan your Christmas Breakfast early. Make what you can ahead of time.

Make pancake batter ahead of time and freeze it.

As your cutting vegetables for Christmas Eve dinner, reserve some for an omelet for Christmas morning.

Using a Stoneware Cookie Mold, you can melt and mold chocolate into ornaments for gifts or make sugar cookie ornaments for hanging on the tree.

Ideas like these are shared at cooking classes held this season by Marie Markey, independent Kitchen Consultant for the Pampered Chef. For specific recipe and or ideas, or to schedule your own cooking class call 908-755-3213 or email MMPmpr-Chf@aol.com.

Newly Appointed YMCA Director of Operations

Ray E. Day, President and CEO of the Plainfield Area YMCA announced the appointment of Kenneth I. Widgeon as Director of Operations.

Previously, Widgeon was the Executive Director of the Linwood-MacDonald Conference Center, a branch of the Newark YM-YWCA.

He returns to Plainfield with 15 years of YMCA experience, having spent five years as the Youth Director of the Plainfield Y. During his tenure in Plainfield, Widgeon was instrumental in implementing the Computer Learning Center, Urban Ranger Program and he developed coalitions between the YMCA, Rutgers University, Union County College and 4-H.

His responsibilities at the Plainfield Area YMCA include overseeing the general operation of the Youth Department, Health and Sports Fitness, Building Services, Membership and the courtesy Desk.

The Plainfield Area YMCA is chartered to serve youngsters and adults in Dunellen, Green Brook, North Plainfield, Piscataway, Plainfield, South Plainfield, Warren and Watchung.



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William C. McCriskin, V. Pres., Dir.
James A. Gustafson, Dir.
James F. Connaughton, Assoc. Dir.

policereport

• On Dec. 4, K Line America on Cragwood Rd. reported that someone had entered the computer room, possibly with a pry bar or screwdriver. It did not appear that anything was taken.

• On Dec. 5, Futura Stone on Metuchen Rd. reported that the front door and windows of their business trailer were broken.

• A Woodland Ave. resident reported that his vehicle door had been left open and a cell phone was taken. The latch for his rear screen door to the residence had also been broken.

• A Maple Ave. resident reported that his cell phone was taken from his unlocked vehicle in his driveway.

• Exxon on West 7th St. reported that two males drove up and asked for \$1 worth of gas. The driver then got out, grabbed the attendant and told him to give him the money or he'll shoot. The attendant handed over \$1,000 in cash and the suspects fled down Clinton Ave. No gun was ever seen.

• A Redding Ave. resident reported the theft of a vintage Fender Stratocaster guitar from his collection in his home. He

teaches 30 different students each week who come to his home, but he has no primary suspects.

• On Dec. 6, a Linden Ave. resident reported the theft of his Sony Discman CD player and wires from his locked vehicle.

• Penyak Roofing reported that their storage trailer on New Market Ave. had been broken into and a snowblower was missing. Also, the work van had the battery cable disconnected and three nail guns and assorted tools were missing from inside.

• On Friday, a Sampton Ave. resident reported that his vehicle, that was parked on John St. next to his home, had been scratched on the drivers side door and front fender.

• An employee of Conroy's Funeral Home reported the theft of her purse from the office.

• On Sunday, a Schindler Dr. resident reported that someone had broken off the heads of two metal wire reindeer Christmas decorations and the lights were removed. He followed a trail of the lights and other parts of the reindeer which led around the corner onto Vakerich.

Police Dept. Accepting Applications for Police Exam

The South Plainfield Police Department is accepting applications for the examination for the position of police officer. The application is published by and must be returned to the N.J. Department of Personnel. Specific instructions regarding application fees, eligibility requirements and veterans preference are delineated in the application.

The announcement and application is also available on the Internet at www.state.nj.us/personnel. Applications may be obtained any time of the day at the South Plainfield Police Department communications center. The filing deadline is Feb. 15,

2002.

Candidates must be a resident of South Plainfield as of the closing date for filing the application and must maintain residency up to and including the date of appointment. Other requirements are listed on the application. The starting salary is \$37,265.

A summary of benefits are posted at the police station. A brief summary of duties & responsibilities is also available at the police station.

Any questions, please contact Sgt. Chuck Siedenbarg at (908) 226-7674.

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Color photos taken by *Observer* photographer Patricia Abbott are available for sale, including many photos not published. Photos from the following events will be permanently deleted as of Dec. 31. If interested in a photo call Pattie at 756-8011 or email angelonly@aol.com.

To be deleted—all graduations/promotions 2000 & 2001; Father/Daughter dances/ Riley & Kennedy 2000 & 2001; Mother/Son Dance Kennedy 2001; Project Graduation Auction 2000 & 2001; Story Teller at Riley; Roosevelt School plays; Dragon Heart (1999); Rerun Run Around (2000); Pirates & the Princess (2001); VFW picnic 2000 & 2001; Fire Dept Open House 2000; Riley Chili Fest; Spbs Homecoming 2000; Franklin Block Party 2000 & 2001; Franklin Beach Party 2000 & 2001; ALL grade school DARE promotions; DARE Picnic; 8th Grade Dinner Dance 2001; Library Mr. Kurt, Mr. Tim; SPHS Band Fest 2000; Kennedy Carnival; 2001 Jr. Prom; 2000 Senior Prom; Sacred Heart Fair 2000 & 2001; OLC Feast of St Anthony 2000 & 2001; Bike Rodeo 2001; Grant 6th play *School House Rock* and all school concerts/chorus/band 2001 school year and (some from 2000).

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Kennedy School Gingerbread Contest Winners

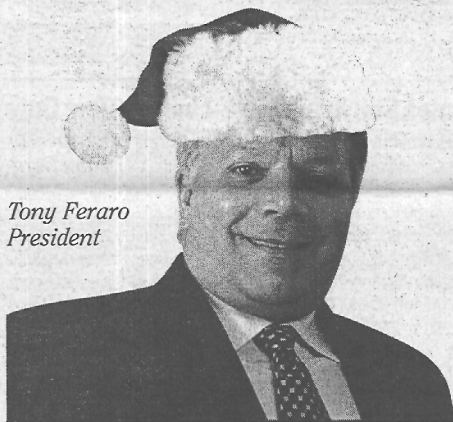
The mom's at J. F. Kennedy Elementary school were called into action to create their own gingerbread houses without the help of their children. It looked like the theme just about all the mothers used this year were patriotic houses decorated in red, white and blue. The top prize of a \$50 gift certificate to Toys R Us and won by Sara Abdeljaber. The houses are currently on display in the foyer of the school.

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President



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\$2000 to \$3999.99	1.38% APY	\$10

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Middle School Honor Roll

Seventh Grade High Honor Roll

Julianne Bosse, Kimberly Galinsky, Cassandra Hoffman, Daniel Hubner, Wael Kanj, Christine Lanza, Sampson Quang Nguyen, Kathryn K. Noonan, Trevor Rastelli, Tiffany Roth, Christopher Stallone, Lauren Stoeckel, Morgan Leigh Walters and Brittanie Wong.

Seventh Grade Honor Roll

Michelle Anne Alcantara, Kimberly Michelle Arki, Nicholas Baldassarre, Nicole Benak, Amber Berkowitz, Tina Bijlani, Dorian Bishop, Ryan Albert Bovee, Megan Boyle, Brandee Brown, Kiran Budhan, Melissa Budhan, Christopher Burke, Gina Butrico, Dana Cacciatore, Stacie Carrasca, Amit Chandler, Ying Chen, Jeffrey Cianfrocca, Samantha Cihanowyz, Zakiya Clarke, Jonathan Clary, Samantha Corveleyn, Kristina Cursi, Ryan Curtis, Kathryn D'Aleo, Rebecca Dacchille, Desirae Davis, Louis DeLosSantos, Charles Decker III, Tina Destefano, Harrison Donahue and Nicholas Dorey.

Kathleen Eder, Ryan Egan, Matthew Emery, Matthew Fabino, Alexandra Fodor, Ryan Fredericks, Raul M. Garcia Jr., Donna Garcia, Jennifer Garzon, Ashleigh Gaspari, Michael George, Garret Gianneschi, Matthew Gigantino, Crystal Gorman, Samantha Lynn Granski, Matthew Gross, Katie Hardy, Meghan Hartman, Amanda Harzula, Christopher Herbster, Jessica Hill, Sara Holbrook, Britney Hollaway, Asia Hollis, Britany Hollis, Amy Hsieh, Lalchan Jainarine, Michael Jakubik, Barney Johnson, Gauri Joshi, Sebastian Lasota, Phuong Le, Ashley Little, Jennifer Little, Charles Loiacono and Maria Carolina Lopez.

Amanda Makowski, Taylor Mandel, Shalini Mangra, Brittany Marino, Jaliz Marrero, Samuel Martin, Nicole Mathew, Stephanie Mazurak, Daniel McCreesh, Nicole Christian Miglis, Jacquelyn Miller, Ryan Miller, Jennifer Mocerino, Chintan Mody, Carrie

Moore, Anthony Moretti, Susan Mott, Denise Nazario, A Phi Nguyen, Travis Noll, Brittney O'Brien, Tara O'Keefe, Lelosa Ogbevoen, Jennifer Okuszki, Jullian Pantaleon, Nicholas Pasquale, Aarti Patel, Sonali Patel, Justin Pauls, Jenna Pein, Kelly Piwowar, Victoria Plasse, Christopher Pollin, Heather Prokopiak and Thomas Pryor.

Leslie Elpidia Quichua, Jessica Ranger, Selene Rayho, Kate Reichert, Karla Reyes, James Rivas, Kimberly Russell, Daniel Sambat, Joseph Scarpitto, Christina Schuetz, Abdusami Sheikh, Michael Stallone, Gary Stark Jr., Ceaphas Stubbs III, Sirish Tadepalli, Geovana Toca, Steven Minhduy Tran, Joseph Turrisi, Jessica Vasquez, Alexandra Viscosi, Sean Walsh, Brian Wiekowski, Timothy Jared Williams, Christian Sandou Wormley, Peter Yeung and Luigi Zeccardo.

Eighth Grade High Honor Roll

Ashley Bodner, Jeffery Robert Cupo, William Daly, Samantha Deffler, Andrew Roibal, Angelique Rualo, Gina Severini, Kevin Siedenburgh, Natalia Tamzoke and Matthew Zebrowski

Eighth Grade Honor Roll

Hameda Ahmed, Nicole Aiello, Courtney Alston, Gaelle Amazan, Alyssa Marie Babinetz, Kevin Boyles, Terrence Brown, Jawwaad Amir Caldwell, Eileen Cameron, Dana Chepulis, James Conroy, Mallory Cooper, Joel Cortese, Kazuki Daimo, Joseph Denitzio, Keith Dezmin, Sandya Dowlal, Sandia Dundi, Courtney Eustice, Breanne Fore, Britany Frazer, Dunia Galarza, Charles George, Jane Gomez, Zachary Gray, Kristen Gualano and Jonathan Guirguis.

Davis Hackett, Julianne Hudak, Ramit Kalia, Carlie Kazimir, Cassandra Krajcik, Kristi Lombardi, Bryan Milicia, Alicia Montanaro, Rebekah Moore and Samuel Mootoo.

Anthony Niemczyk Jr., Ryan O'Shea, Kelly Orlandini, Heather Palitto, Bhavesh Patel, Dipal Patel, Harshel Patel, Jeffery Pham, Kaitlyn Pollock, Alishah Rahemtulla, Michael Ray, Nazreen Rushianally, Nicole Sacci, Courtney Sacco, Brian Schulte, Jessica Schwartz, Jeffrey Seesselberg, Devanee Sewdat, Anthony Sheedy, Ravin Shivrj, Amanda Smalley, Ryan Smith, Melissa Szeliga, Lee Tereault, Stephanie Troia, Daryl John Valerio, Amanda Veinott, Bryan Wagner, Rebecca Watts, Christopher Weakley, Megan Wilson, Jennifer Yeung.

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From all of us

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