

# South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 5, NO. 33

50 CENTS

APRIL 19, 2002



A quick spreading fire gutted this house on Belmont Ave. See pictures and story on page 10.

## Budget Passes, LaFreniere, Morgan and Smith Win in School Board Elections

The voters of South Plainfield said yes to this year's proposed school budget, even though it meant an increase in taxes. The vote was 790 yes and 595 no. Along with the bond referendum which passed last year, school taxes will go up by approximately \$107. Voters have approved the budget the last six years.

Incumbents, Ken LaFreniere and Dan Smith were re-elected, along with newcomer Tim Morgan, who ran unsuccessfully last year. Morgan presently serves as a member of the Board of Adjustment.

The highest vote getter was Dan Smith, with 709 votes; next was Tim Morgan with 647 and then Ken LaFreniere, who received 629 votes.

Board member Jeff Seider received 609 votes, followed by Terry Alexa with 618 and Angel Jazikoff with 551.

Superintendent Dr. John Krewer, along with Dr. Janet Munger and several members of the Board of Education have been around town promoting the new school budget. They visited every school in the district last week, answering questions and explaining some of the items contained in

the proposed budget.

A re-organization meeting will be held next Monday, April 22 at 8 p.m. in the Grant Central School's gym, at which time the newly elected members will be sworn in.

Turn out was very light this year, as it has been in the past for school board elections, even though a huge chunk of taxpayers taxes goes towards the school budget. Out of the 12,184 registered voters in South Plainfield only 1,435 (11.78 percent) voted in this year's school election.

## Skateboard Park to Become a Reality

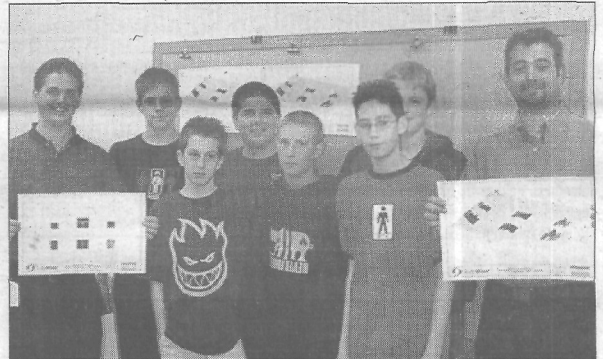
For months Deanna Fredericks, a mom whose sons are into skateboarding, has been attending both the Borough Council and Recreation meetings asking that South Plainfield provide a safe place for the kids to skateboard locally. She has been accompanied by a large group of skateboard lovers and their parents.

After Monday night's agenda session, everyone went home happy, because the Council gave to the go-ahead to start the bidding process on a new skateboard park here. And the good news is, it will not cost the taxpayers a penny!

taken to skateboarding in parking lots and businesses around town, which makes them unpopular, unwelcome and sometimes a hazard.

Well, they found out that their request was not only heard, but answered. The process has been long and sometimes discouraging, but the end result will be a skate park right here in South Plainfield.

Members of the Recreation Commission have been studying the possibility of a skate park all winter. After hearing from the Fredericks and the kids, they decided to send out a survey to see if there was any interest in a



Representatives from General Recreation, Inc. display the skateboard plans to the kids who had asked for a skate park in town.

Skateboard parks have begun to pop up all over the state of New Jersey as the sport gains in popularity. South Plainfield skateboarders have been forced to go out of town in order to skateboard. Some children have

skate park. About 752 kids returned the survey and 95 percent said yes!

The Recreation Commission then asked a builder to come to their meeting and describe what it would take

*Continued on page 13*

## Mayor Gallagher, Councilmen Kubala and Vokral Unanimously Endorsed For Re-election

The South Plainfield Democratic Committee has unanimously endorsed Mayor Daniel Gallagher and Councilmen Ed Kubala and Jim Vokral for re-election.

"No three people better represent the fundamental changes in South Plainfield government than Dan Gallagher, Ed Kubala and Jim Vokral," Municipal Chairman Patrick Diegnan said. "In 1994, when Ed and Jim were first elected, our borough was in financial chaos and without a plan to improve the quality of life for our residents. They took back South Plainfield for our taxpayers and they were given the ability to make changes when Dan Gallagher returned as our mayor a year later."

Fellow council members Dennis Cerami, Ray Petronko, Bob Cusick



(L to R) Councilmen Jim Vokral, Ed Kubala and Mayor Dan Gallagher.

and Charlie Buttrico agreed. Councilman Cerami said, "It's ironic that this is the first time Dan, Ed and Jim are running on the same ticket. They are the backbone of our party. There wouldn't be senior housing, a new senior recreation center or an addition on the PAL but for the work of these three

*Continued on page 13*



Vision 2001 Education Foundation President Emil Leporino, Art Auction Chairperson Marjorie Reedy and Honorary Auction Chairman Philip Aiello display some of the artwork that will be auctioned at Friday night's Auction of Fine Art. For related story, see page 5.



# 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, 7 p.m. (New Time) • Questions? 908-226-7605

## AGENDA MEETING PUBLIC MEETING

Monday, May 6 Thursday, May 9  
Monday, May 20 Thursday, May 23

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

## planning board

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month  
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. (starting in May at 7 p.m.) • Questions? 908-226-7641  
Apr. 23, May 14, May 28, June 1, June 25

## zoning board of adjustment

Meets on Thursdays (see dates)  
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641  
May 2, May 16, June 13, June 27, July 18, July 25, Aug. 15, Aug. 29

## 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:  
April 25, May 23, June 20, July 18, Aug. 22, Sept. 19 and Oct. 24

## recreation commission

Meets once a month on the first Tuesday of the month, except July and August  
PAL Building, Maple Ave. 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7716  
May 7, June 4, Sept. 3, Oct. 1, Nov. 12 and Dec. 3

## environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)  
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 5 p.m. • Questions? 908-561-8280  
May 8

## board of education meetings

Grant School Gymnasium on Cromwell Place unless otherwise noted  
Committee of the Whole meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m.  
Regular Board Mtg., held on Tuesdays, 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  
April 24, May 22, June 26, July 24,  
(Aug. no meeting), Sept. 25, Oct. 23, Nov. 27 and Dec. 18

## 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.

NANCY GRENNIER  
Publisher/Editor  
WAYNE GRENNIER  
Associate Publisher  
SUSAN KANEPS  
Art Director/Associate Editor  
PATRICIA ABBOTT  
Staff Writer/Photographer  
CAROL GRENNIER  
Editorial Assistant  
JENEVIEVE DELOS SANTOS  
Production Assistants  
BOBBY HUNTER  
Sports Writer  
KENNETH MORGAN  
Correspondent  
ROXANNE CORTESE  
JANE DORNIK  
WILLIAM TUTHILL  
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 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 their name be omitted when published.

## IN MY OPINION

### To the Editor,

After reading the article about the truck traffic on Maple Ave., it occurred to me that we were told about the Helen Street project some four or five years ago. It's time for Mr. Kubala and the rest of the responsible government in this town to put some leverage into the project. They need to push it and push it hard. We have too much truck traffic in this town as it is. Anyone who uses Durham Ave. can vouch for this.

Politicians always promise with the same old worn phrases. To them I say, "It's time to get off your collective duffs and get on the ball." This project is really needed.

ROBERT MESSER

### To the Editor,

The fourth grade of Riley Elementary School wishes to thank the following sponsors for their generous donations who helped in support of raising funds for their trip to Stokes State Forest at the Pasta Dinner held April 12.

They are: B to B Promotions, Sherban's Diner, Northern Central Jersey Printing, Shotman Basketball Camp, Haisch's Bakery and Apply Blossom Flower Shop. A very special thank you to Bob Boyle and Roma Foods.

Linda Lanza, Chairperson of the fundraiser would personally like to thank all the parents and children that worked so hard to make this event a success.

JOHN E. RILEY SCHOOL

### To the Editor,

I am (was) an avid viewer of Tech TV and was horrified when Comcast removed it from the line up. As a high school technology teacher, I often referred to the various shows on Tech TV in my classes and encouraged students to view the programs. Please let me know if anyone is putting together a protest letter for Comcast. I would gladly sign it!

CAROLYNN PARISI

### To The Editor:

I am writing in praise of South Plainfield's Girl Scout Troop 819, who responded to a call for some holiday desserts for Star-Fish of Plainfield. Carrie George, Troop Leader, made arrangements for the girls to bake and beautifully decorate cakes for our Easter food orders. Carrie was also kind enough to deliver them to us for distribution.

Star-Fish is a food pantry that has been helping needy Plainfield families for 31 years. Our motto is "Love your neighbor as yourself." Troop 819 did just that. Their homemade goodies must have been a very special treat for the families who received them.

I might add that because of time constraints several leaders who offered their services were not able to get their cakes done in time. However, we very much appreciate their willingness to pitch in.

Sincerely,  
KATHI DELUCCA, DIRECTOR  
STAR-FISH, INC.

### Submit Letters to the Editor:

South Plainfield Observer  
1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

Letters may be submitted by email at our website at spobserver.com or faxed to 908-668-8819. Deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. We reserve the right to limit the number of letters submitted by one individual on the same subject. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of the publisher.

### To the Editor,

As President of the New Jersey Motor Truck Association, I would like to comment on the letter in the April 12 issue of the Observer. First, I would like to make a statement to the people on Maple Ave. and every other road on which trucks travel: "Please Don't Get Aggravated."

No trucking company employer will condone any moving violations by their trucks, or any other type of motor vehicle. Speeding is very bad and must stop. But to propose the banning trucks off of one more road in New Jersey only adds to the hardship that the trucking industry faces every day. We must learn "To Share the Road."

What most people don't know is that trucks already have more restrictions on their operations than they can bear. Trucks pay up to \$1,400 a year for their license plates and thousands of dollars a year in road use tax, per truck.

South Plainfield's Mayor and Council are working diligently to alleviate any and all traffic problems. Please don't ask for more regulations and restrictions.

Remember: "If it wasn't for trucks, you would be jobless, homeless, hungry and naked, because trucks deliver everything but a baby."

Thank you,  
ARTHUR J. MUGLIA  
PRESIDENT OF THE NJ MOTOR  
TRUCK ASSOCIATION

### Parents Of SPJBC Players:

Another season is upon us and another opening day has come and gone.

Being responsible for buildings and grounds at the complex is a position that one person can't do alone or take credit for. Over the last two years I've never singled out anyone for their help, but this year I must make an exception. During the month of March these men did more than anyone could ask, spending every Saturday and Sunday, a total of 40 to 50 hours at the complex. I can honestly say that without the help of Bob Pasternak, Frank Benak, Dave Spayder, Pat Driscoil and Charlie Decker Jr. we would not have been ready for opening day. Most of you parents have no idea who these men are and you probably will walk by them many times during the season. You won't know what they have done to make the complex a safer and more enjoyable place for your family to enjoy an afternoon ballgame.

able place for your family to enjoy an afternoon ballgame.

I realize there were other people involved in our March work details. I wish I could single out each and every one of them, but they know who they are and we do appreciate all of the help that went into getting our complex ready for opening day.

One minor problem that I run into are the parents and coaches who change their scheduled work detail date on their own and say they were there, but just never signed in, or better yet, send their children to do the parents work detail. Just one to two hours during the season is all that is required. We do our best to keep track of the parents who show up, so please help and show up on the date that was assigned to you by your child's coach.

Parents, please remember that the five-field complex is not a babysitting service. We have three active parking lots, traffic on the streets in the area and a nearby brook that always gets the children's attention. With almost 500 children involved in the program things can get very hectic on any given day. Please be responsible for your child.

This past Sunday morning, the day after opening day ceremonies, I was greeted by a sight I never want to see again in the men's bathroom (or any bathroom) at the main snack stand. I came across one toilet that had been plugged with four rolls of toilet paper crammed into the toilet and if that was not enough, the toilet was then used! I was more saddened then upset to think that this was done by one of our children. I wonder if some of our parents actually talk to their children and explain what is and is not acceptable behavior, even animals do not act like this. Something tells me though that the parents of that child will not read this because they don't have the time and are too ignorant to what their child does when they let him loose down here.

If at any time you have questions or suggestions about what can be done at the complex, please bring them forward to the Executive Boards attention. During the season, we meet at the clubhouse the first and third Monday of each month at 8:30 p.m.

Thank you for allowing me to recognize some very valuable people, and I look forward to meeting you during your next scheduled work detail.

Sincerely,  
DENNIS MOSKAL  
ASSIST. COMM., SPJBC

## Business Association Plans Golf Outing

South Plainfield Business Association (SPBA) President Jack Pederson has announced Tuesday, May 7, as the date of their Annual Golf Outing. It will be held at Cranbury Golf Club in West Windsor.

Pederson said this is a great opportunity for both old and new SPBA members to get together and have a fun day of golf. He added that you do not have to be a member of the Business Association to attend; the event is open to everyone.

The entry fee of \$125 includes 18 holes of golf, use of locker rooms, green fees and cart, continental breakfast, complimentary beverage cart, hot dog and chips "at the turn," open bar (beer, wine and soda) and BBQ luncheon. Casual attire all day, no metal spikes!

Prizes will be awarded for a hole in one, the longest drive, closest to the pin (two holes), low gross, low net and the most honest golfer.

The golf day begins with registration and a continental breakfast at 8 a.m. Shotgun start begins at 9 a.m. The day will finish with an open bar at 2 p.m., followed by a BBQ luncheon and presentation of awards.

Corporate sponsors are still needed. To sign up for a day of golf or to sponsor a tee or flag, contact Bob Longo, (908) 753-7004 or Joe Celentano at (908) 412-9999.

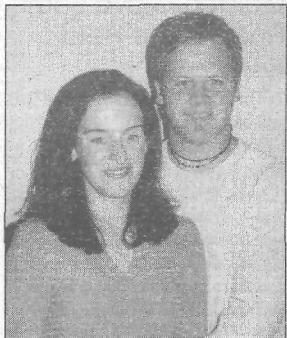
Upcoming events planned by the Business Association include a week-night networking function tentatively scheduled for May at the Knights of Columbus Hall from 5 to 7 p.m. Members and non-members are welcome. Also in the planning stages is a candidates' debate later this year.

A SPBA phone number has been set up for anyone having questions or ideas. The group welcomes any suggestions and/or help. For information call (908) 757-8811.



## southplainfieldpeople Milestones

### Joy Walter and Kristofer Nagy Engagement Announced



Joy Walter and Kristofer Nagy

Thomas and Maria Walter are proud to announce the engagement

of their daughter, Joy Theresa Walter, to Kristofer Matthew Nagy.

Joy, a graduate from of South Plainfield High School, will graduate with B.S. degree in mathematics and biological chemistry from St. Peter's College in May. She will be attending the Sue Golding Graduate Division of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in September.

Kristofer, the son of James and Andrea Nagy, is also a graduate of South Plainfield High School. He is currently working at Louis Berger Group in Fordham Park, as an environmental scientist.

The wedding is planned for Fall 2003.

### Michael Loenser Makes Honor Roll at East Stroudsburg

Michael Loenser has been named to the East Stroudsburg University (ESU) Athletic Director's Honor Roll for the second year.

Mike is a sophomore at ESU and graduated with the South Plainfield High School class of 2000. Mike is majoring in Health & Physical Education - Teacher Certification.

Mike is also a valuable member of the ESU Cross Country team, as well as the Indoor and Outdoor Track & Field teams. This honor is given to student-athletes who receive an Athletic Letter, while maintaining a high level of academics.

Mike is the son of Terry and Norm Loenser of South Plainfield.

### Imbrosciano to Receive VSA/NJ 2002 Arts Achievement Award

VSA Arts of New Jersey (VSA/NJ), a nonprofit statewide agency that provides expanded arts opportunities to people with disabilities, recently announced that Christopher Imbrosciano is a recipient of their 2002 Arts Achievement Awards. These awards recognize students with disabilities ages 14 to 21, who demonstrate outstanding involvement in the arts and educators and administrators and who have established high quality arts programs for young people with disabilities. The award will be presented at a ceremony on May 5 at 2 p.m. at North

Brunswick High School.

Christopher Imbrosciano of South Plainfield will be presented The Meritorious Achievement Award at the ceremonies.

All the recipients were nominated by VSA/NJ to receive the distinguished New Jersey Governor's Awards in Arts Education.

For information on the 2003 Arts Achievement Awards, contact VSA arts of New Jersey, 703 Jersey Ave., New Brunswick, NJ 08901; (732) 745-3885, 745-3913 (TTY), info@vsan.org.

### Pam Powell Receives Nurse Supervisor of the Year Award

In an award ceremony to be held in Atlantic City Bally's on April 22, Pam Powell will receive the Long-term Care Supervisor of the Year Award for NJ.

Powell has been employed as a full time unit manager of the Woodlands Center Genesis Eldercare Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Plainfield since 1989.

Pam's dedication to her profession enables her to consistently remain a role model for her peers. Her strong

work ethic is the foundation that enables her to maintain the highest standards for the nursing profession, patients, customers and staff. Each of Pam's sixty residents, many of whom are from South Plainfield, is cared for like a member of her personal family. During her employment she has had the opportunity to manage and educate many other staff members.

The resident's staff and managers are extremely lucky and proud to have Pam as a team member of the Woodlands staff.

## Dominic Demico Jr. Wins State Honor

South Plainfield resident Dominic Demico, Jr., who is East Brunswick's subcode/chief plumbing inspector, created a negative-backflow prevention program in 1998. The program consists of a diagnostic test of a device which directs the flow of used or chemically tainted water. The device prevents water from backing into a pipeline which supplies fresh water.

Demico's idea won him recognition from his peers. Last month, the New Jersey Plumbing Inspectors Association named him 'Plumbing Inspector of the Year.' Demico will receive the award in May at the Building Safety Conference in Atlantic City.

While the state Uniform Construction Code and National Standard Plumbing Code books say that the testing of these devices is required, Demico explained that there never has been a standardized testing procedure



Dominic Demico

in New Jersey.

"Other states have had this program and New Jersey has been running a little behind," said Demico, who has

worked for the township since 1997.

Demico explained that the danger in a sudden backflow occurs in multi-purpose buildings, such as schools, or plants that have cross-pipe-connections. A sudden backflow from a vat or other water source may possibly mix in with the water from another pipeline and come out of faucets that supply drinking water.

Though a backflow-prevention device can be installed in any private home, Demico said, most homes don't need it, but he recommends residents who have a lawn sprinkling system to install one.

Demico oversees the entire plumbing discipline for the township and has two plumbing inspectors who work with him.

Demico starts each day at 8 a.m. in his office in the Municipal Building. His work day begins with taking dozens of phone calls and questions from residents. Their questions range from asking about inspection procedures and plumbing or electrical issues to complaints.

Sometimes Demico answers questions at the office's front counter before going out to field inspections. His busiest time of the year is spring.

Much of what he knows about plumbing comes from his father, Dominic Sr., who is the plumbing inspector in Woodbridge. Demico worked with his dad on projects since he was 12. He so enjoyed working alongside his father and found he liked the mechanical aspect of plumbing and the feel of creating something from scratch.

Demico, is a life-long resident of South Plainfield. He and his wife Terry have two sons, Dominic III and Joseph. He has a master plumber's license and is also a certified heat-ventilation and air-conditioning mechanic. Over the years, he has worked in South Plainfield, Woodbridge and South Amboy as a plumbing official.

### Nina Deutsch Guest Speaker at Special Program at the Library



Nina Deutsch

Nina Deutsch, a graduate of Juillard and Yale University, will be the guest speaker, she will present a program about the music and personalities of the great Broadway Composers. They will be brought to life when Nina takes center stage at the library, she will also have the audience sing-along.

The music and personalities of the great Broadway composers including Gershwin, Rodgers, Kern and Berlin are brought to life when pianist and singer Nina takes center stage. For this program, count on relishing the classic favorites like *Someone to Watch Over Me*, *Always*, *Edel Weiss*, *Rhapsody in Blue* and many others.

This program is made possible by a grant from the NJ Council for the Humanities, a state Partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The Friends of the South Plainfield Library invite you to attend a special program called "Classical Broadway with a Twist" on Sunday, April 21, at 2 p.m. at the South Plainfield Library.

### Safety Town Signups

Safety Town is an educational program which captivates and teaches children to think safety. It's a fun and entertaining way for young children to learn how to cross the street, ride bikes, react to strangers and what to do in case of a fire. This year's Safety Town program runs for the month of July, with each session running for 10 days.

They are open to children entering kindergarten or first grade. Each session will be one and a half hours per day. They begin at 8:30 a.m. and at 10 a.m.

Applicant's should register at the PAL Building located at 1250 Maple Ave.

Please bring the child's birth certificate and proof of residency. For more information call (908) 226-7714.

## Your Hometown Gifts & Craft Store

Personalized Books \* Handcrafted Candy  
& Gifts \* Handpainted Home Accessories  
\* Handmade Candles & Soaps \*  
Seasonal Decor \* Wedding/ Special  
Occasion Accessories \* Russ Collectable  
Teddy Bears & MUCH MORE!



179 Front St., South Plainfield  
(908) 755-4049

**Bunchi's**  
All About Arts & Crafts  
Classes and Parties  
For Children (6+) & Adults.



Open 7 Days A Week! Mon-Sat: 9am - 7pm  
Sun: 11am - 4pm

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

### Community Build Project at Kennedy School Playground

Calling all dads! Kennedy Elementary School is looking for people to help install their new playground equipment on Saturday, April 27 from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Coffee and donuts will be available. Please come out and give whatever help and time you can.

**Please Patronize  
Our Advertisers**

## Need a Caterer? CALL US!

COMMUNION • GRADUATION  
MOTHER'S DAY

"Quality Food For The Everyday Hero"

COUPON  
BUY 1 HERO  
GET 1 HERO  
FREE  
Good April 19-Apr 26, 2002

HOMETOWN HEROS  
340 Hamilton Boulevard  
908-755-HERO (4376)  
OPEN 7 DAYS

Subscribe online: [www.spobserver.com](http://www.spobserver.com)



# Events Around Town

## Meat Loaf Dinner at VFW Friday

April 19

A meat loaf dinner is planned on Friday, April 19, at Memorial Post #6763 VFW on Front St. from 5 to 8 p.m. Donation is \$6 and children's menu is available for \$3.

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

## Vision 2001 Presents Annual Art Auction

April 19

This year's annual Vision 2001 Education Foundation Art Auction will be held on Friday, Apr. 19 at South Plainfield High School.

Admission is \$10 per person. \$5 will be returned as a gift certificate to be redeemed at the Apr. 19 art auction only. Preview time is 6:30 p.m. and the auction begins at 7:30 p.m. There will be hors d'oeuvres, coffee, cake and door prizes.

For tickets, call (908) 561-3951.

## AARP Chapter #4144 Meeting

April 19

AARP Chapter #4144 of South Plainfield will meet on April 19 at 12:30 in the PAL Bldg. on Maple Ave.

Millie Groves will entertain us by presenting the Late Bloomers in a Comedy called the Reunion. It will be lots of fun and all are welcome.

## Open House At Pilgrim Covenant Learning Center

April 20

Pilgrim Covenant Learning Center will be holding an Open House on Saturday, April 20, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. There is still availability for the Summer Program for children in grades Pre-K through five. September openings are also available for preschool children in the full and part time programs.

The learning center is a DYFS licensed and New Jersey certified school.

## 2002 Walks N' Talks Program

April 20, 21

The Walks N' Talks Program, sponsored by the South Plainfield Environmental Commission and Friends of the Woods invites the public to participate in the **Veteran's Park Litter Cleanup** on Saturday, April 20, at 9 a.m. Meet at Veterans Park parking lot.

You are also invited to the **Earth Day Tree Walk with Mary Ferraro** on Sunday, April 21 at 1 p.m. at Highland Ave. Woods.

For information, call 908-226-7621 or log onto: <http://www.community.nj.com/cc/friendsofthewoods>

## Send Us Your Events:

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

## Save For College Workshop

April 23

Need to invest for college?

Get growing with NJBEST!

- State and federal tax-free earnings as of Jan. 1, 2002

- Savings applicable toward higher education nationwide

- Up to \$1,500 scholarship opportunity for saving and going to college in NJ.

Join us for a workshop that will outline how to begin saving for college. It's never too late to begin investing in your child's future! On Tuesday, Apr. 23 at 7 p.m. in the high school cafeteria (gym side), hosted by the South Plainfield Guidance Department.

## Job Info Center Programs at Library

April 24

The South Plainfield Free Public Library, located at 2484 Plainfield Ave. (adjacent to the Municipal Building) will hold a work program on Wednesday, Apr. 24, 7:30 p.m., Interviewing 101.

The program is FREE, space is limited and reservations are required. For more information please call the library's Reference Desk at (908) 754-7885 or visit the library website at [www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us](http://www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us).

## SPHS Drama Club Presents Hello Dolly!

April 25-27

Just 13 days until *Hello Dolly!* arrives on the SPHS stage. The SPHS Players Drama Club brings the popular musical to the South Plainfield High School stage Apr. 25-27.

Directing the show is Mrs. Gloria Naso, who brought South Plainfield the hysterical *Damn Yankees* last spring. Vocal Director is Tracy Murray, Band Director is Mark Tweed and choreographer is MaryAlice Topoleski.

Watch next week's *Observer* for more details on *Hello Dolly!*

## Kennedy School Plans Scoop Dinner

April 26

The Kennedy School Playground Fund will be hosting a Scoop Dinner on Friday, April 26 in the all-purpose room at Kennedy School. Doors open at 5 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. for senior citizens. Homemade foods will be sold for just 35 cents a "scoop." Soda, coffee, tea and homemade desserts are available for just 35 cents a serving.

Profits will be used for our playground fund. All are welcome! Please come and enjoy a delicious and reasonably priced home-cooked meal!

Any questions? Please call Susan Barry at (908) 769-8507.

## Children's Health And Safety Fair

April 27

A variety of health and safety information will be available at a Children's Health and Safety Fair, sponsored by South Plainfield Girl Scout Troop 117. The fair will be held on Saturday, April 27 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at John E. Riley School, 100 Morris Ave., South Plainfield. A local pediatrician will talk about the importance of good nutrition. South Plainfield Police will pro-

vide free fingerprinting, information on bicycle safety, and McGruff the Crime Fighting Dog. A staff person from Ricochet Health Club will demonstrate yoga for children. A representative from the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation will also be available. And kids, don't forget to bring your Teddy Bear to the Teddy Bear Clinic. The health and safety fair is open to the public.

For more information, call (908) 769-9491 or (908) 756-7487.

Girl Scout Troop 117 is organizing this Children's Wealth and Safety Fair as their Silver Award Project. We hope everyone will help make it a big success.

## Knights of Columbus Plan Bus Trip to AC

April 27

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus is offering a bus trip to Atlantic City on Apr. 27. Price is \$25 which includes lunch and drinks at the K of C Hall before leaving. Refreshments will be available on the bus trip. The bus will leave from the K of C Hall at noon and each person will get \$10 back from the casino.

Call Ed Koznowicz at (908) 754-3094 or (908) 755-6203 for details.

## A 90's Birthday Bash

May 1

The Middlesex County Office on Aging, invites all seniors citizens from South Plainfield who are celebrating their 90<sup>th</sup> birthday before May 1, 2002 and a guest to a celebration of life in their honor! The event takes place on May 1, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Piscataway Senior Center, 700 Buena Vista Dr. in Piscataway.

RSVP by calling (732) 562-1133. South Plainfield residents should call Sue Mischka for transportation at 908-754-1047.

## The Broadway Kids to Preform

May 4

The South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission in Association with The South Plainfield Friends of The Arts will proudly present *The Broadway Kids* on Saturday, May 4.

*The Broadway Kids* will perform at the South Plainfield High School Auditorium at 1 p.m. They will be performing songs sung by or about our kids. The show runs about an hour. Tickets will be available for \$10 at The Bagel Shop, Ralph's Italian Ice and Law Office of Suzanne Lyte.

The Broadway Kids, Broadway's most talented young stars, became an instant hit in 1994 when they recorded their first album, *The Broadway Kids Sing Broadway*. The group was started by New York ophthalmologist Dr. Julius Shulman when his 10 year old son, Michael, was cast as Gavroche in *Les Miserables* on Broadway. When Dr. Shulman couldn't find an album of songs sung by kids on Broadway he produced the group's first album with Michael and seven of his young colleagues.

Come out to support your schools. The profits will be donated to the four South Plainfield Elementary Schools' Playground Funds!

For more information please contact Bonnie Gallanter at (212) 604-0005 or e-mail [Bonzai@aol.com](mailto:Bonzai@aol.com).

## Plfd. Animal Hospital 50th Anniversary

May 5

The Plainfield Animal Hospital is celebrating its 50th Anniversary. To honor this milestone, the animal hospital will host an "Open House" on Sunday, May 5, from 1-4 p.m.

The event will feature tours of the hospital, pet-related information, giveaways, and a barbecue lunch.

Established in 1952 by Dr. Richard Lunna, the Plainfield Animal Hospital has grown to become one of the largest and most respected animal hospitals in Central New Jersey.

For information, call the hospital at (908) 755-2428 or visit their website at [www.plainfieldanimalhosp.com](http://www.plainfieldanimalhosp.com).

## Casino Royale and Chinese Auction

May 11

On Saturday, May 11, Casino Royale and Chinese Auction will take place at the VFW Hall located on Front St. from 7 p.m. til midnight.

The event is open to SPJBC members only at \$45 per person. The Casino Royale has an open bar and music will be provided by DJ Kevin.

Each guest will receive \$500 in play money. The money must be redeemed for Chinese Auction tickets.

For tickets, call Stacey Lake (908) 757-9531 or (732) 646-1676. Tickets are limited—"first come, first served!" (Tickets will also be available Opening Day!)

## Rainbow Academy Childcare Center Plans Open House

May 18

Rainbow Academy, located at 2177 Oak Tree Rd. in Edison will be holding an open house on Saturday, May 18 from 10 a.m. til 2 p.m.

There will be a professional face painter who will paint characters and animals for free on all the children who show up while their parents are getting a tour of the school.

For more information call (908) 769-3224.

## Rescue Squad Open House on May 19

May 19

The South Plainfield Rescue Squad will be holding its annual open house on Sunday, May 19, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The open house will feature multiple demonstrations, such as vehicle extractions with the Jaws of Life, CPR and first aid demos, ambulance and rescue truck tours, blood pressure screenings and child seat safety checks by the Traffic Safety Department of the police department. The South Plainfield Police will also donate 50 booster car seats for children to be given out at the open house.

The first 50 children attending between four and eight years old will receive a free booster seat. The booster seats are part of the Boost America program sponsored by the Ford Motor Company Fund.

Refreshments, including hotdogs and hamburgers will also be served.

## Golden Glove Semi-Finals to be Held

May 18

The 2002 Golden Glove semi-finals will be held at South Plainfield High School on Saturday, May 18 at 8 p.m. Doors open at 7 p.m.

General admission is \$8 in advance and \$12 at the door. Golden Ring-side tickets are available at \$75. Tickets include dinner at Cafe Piancone, and an entry into a \$500 drawing.

For tickets or reservations call (908) 226-7663 or (908) 561-0649. Tickets are also available at the PAL or Sal's Spirit Shoppe on Park Ave.

## Phantom of the Opera Tickets Available

June 6

The South Plainfield Recreation Dept. is selling tickets to the *Phantom of the Opera* on Thursday, June 6. Bus leaves the PAL at 4 p.m.

Tickets are \$60 and can be purchased at the PAL 8:30 to 5 p.m.

## Seniors Tour of New York Harbor

July 11

Seniors are invited on a tour of New York Harbor, Ellis Island and Lady Liberty on "The Lady." There will be a buffet lunch. Departure will take place at the PAL, 9 a.m. on Thursday, July 11. Tickets are first come, first served!

The cost is \$40 per person. Tickets are available now at the PAL.

## Rec Offering Trip To Virginia Beach

September 8-12

South Plainfield Recreation, along with White Star Tours, is offering a trip to Virginia Beach, VA, featuring a ghost tour of Williamsburg, Sept. 8-12.

Features include four nights accommodations at one of Virginia Beach's finest motels; a tour of the Norfolk Naval Base, Arthur Memorial in Norfolk, Waterside Complex, four breakfasts, four dinners, including Spirit of Norfolk Dinner Cruise and evening entertainment.

Cost is \$350 per person. Only one bus is available for this trip; so make your reservations early.

For info/reservations, contact Mike English at (908) 226-7714.

## Seniors' Trip to the Woodlock Pines

Oct. 28-Nov. 1

The South Plainfield Senior Citizens are planning a trip to Woodlock Pines from Oct. 28 thru Nov. 1.

If you are interested or have questions please call Leader Mikie Panzarella at (908) 755-2487.

## SPHS Class of 1982 Reunion

November 9

South Plainfield High School Class of 1982 announced that plans are underway for their 20 year reunion. The date has been set for Saturday Nov. 9. If you have a new address or know of other classmates' whereabouts, please contact Rosanne Demico-Ilardo at (732) 878-9877. Please log onto [www.classmates.com](http://www.classmates.com) for more reunion information.



## — Out of Town —

**Missionaries of the Poor Benefit Concert**

April 19-20

The Missionaries of the Poor from the Island of Jamaica are coming back to New Jersey. "Father Richard Ho Lung and Friends" are returning to present *Spirit*, a benefit concert featuring the spiritual music of vibrant island rhythms combined with original Jamaican flair.

Your support allows the missionaries to continue and expand their services to many of the numberless poor and sick who seek out their help daily.

The concert will be held at St. Veronica's Church in Howell on Apr. 19 and 20 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and can be ordered by calling Maureen Scarpata (732) 577-9697.

**Children's Theater Presents Are You My Mother**

April 20

Baby Bird emerges from her shell to find an empty nest! Where is her mother? The Dunellen Theater continues its schedule of Children's Theatre programming with the production of *Are You My Mother?* on Saturday, April 20 at 1 p.m.

In its third hit season, ArtsPower's musical theatre sensation portrays Baby Bird's search for her mother and the unexpected discovery of what family is all about. Based on P. D. Eastman's popular book for young readers, *Are You My Mother?* is an enchanting musical about Baby Bird's journey—a journey that overflows with courage and determination. During her adventure, Baby Bird meets an array of colorful characters, all of whom have some advice for the lost bird. Told with humor, sensitivity and a bit of calculated silliness, this touching story shows how loss can be turned into empowerment and how Baby Bird happily finds more than she is looking for. The show features a rich, upbeat musical score, imaginative sets, colorful costumes and will be performed by professional actors, who are members of Actors' Equity Association. Adapted and directed by Greg Gunning, with music and lyrics by Richard DeRosa and Mr. Gunning.

**Specialty Gift Baskets**

Gourmet coffee, tea, popcorn, crackers and cheeses.

**Mohr's**  
Flowers & Fancy Foods



2325 Plainfield Ave.  
So. Plainfield, NJ (908) 561-2808  
Corporate Accountants Welcome.  
Major Credit Cards

*Are You My Mother?* is approximately one hour in length and is recommended for children in grades K through fourth.

Founded in 1985, ArtsPower has been one of this nation's finest international touring companies, performing at hundreds of theaters, schools, libraries, fairs and leading cultural centers, bringing high-quality, professional children's theatre to thousands of people each year. Tickets are \$8 per person and are available at the door, or by calling (732) 968-9010 and reserving tickets in advance. The Dunellen Theater offers a full-service concession stand and is located at 458 North Ave. (Rt. 28), just west of Washington Ave. in the heart of downtown Dunellen.

For further information, please call the box office at 732-968-9010, or go online to: [www.jerseycentraltheatre.com](http://www.jerseycentraltheatre.com).

**Concert Pianist To Give Benefit**

April 20

A surprise ending is what pianist Paul DiDario promises his audience on Saturday, Apr. 20, when he performs a benefit concert for Willow Grove Presbyterian Church in Scotch Plains. But first, the audience will have the pleasure of hearing selections from his most recent CD, *Two Part Creation*, which includes sonatas by Scarlatti, Beethoven and other music on both piano and harpsichord (hence the title "Two Part Creation").

Joining him for part of the program will be Ars Musica Antiqua, an early music ensemble which was started 27 years ago by Walter and Jane Canter.

The concert will begin at 4 p.m. at Willow Grove Presbyterian Church, 1961 Raritan Rd., Scotch Plains. For directions call (908) 232-5678 Mon.-Fri. from 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 adults, \$8 students and can be purchased at the door. 12 & under free.

Refreshments will be served after the concert. Proceeds benefit the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Building Fund of the Willow Grove Presbyterian Church.

**'City of Light' Fundraiser**

April 20

The 'City of Light' will be holding a pro-wrestling fundraiser at the Washington Elementary School between Darow St. and Spooner Ave., Plainfield, on April 20 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are between \$7-\$12 dollars and can be purchased in advance at the 'City Of Light' which is located on 147 North Ave.

**Trenton Kennel Club Dog Show**

May 5

The 73rd annual Trenton Kennel Club all-breed dog show and obedience trials will be held Sunday, May 5

from 8 a.m. to approx. 6:30 p.m., rain or shine.

Mercer County Park at Old Trenton and South Post Rds., West Windsor, will host between 3,000 and 4,000 dogs representing over 156 breeds and varieties.

Spectators can spend the day watching their favorite breeds of dogs compete for many trophies and awards, including the coveted "Best in Show."

Obedience trials begin at 8 a.m. and continue until early afternoon. Breed judging begins at 8 a.m. and continues throughout the day. "Best in Show" will be awarded approx. 6:30 p.m.

Admission is \$3 for adults and free for children under 12 years of age.

Only dogs entered in the show will be allowed on the grounds.

For additional information or judging schedule prior to the show: [www.infodog.com](http://www.infodog.com).

**Free Charting and Documentation Seminar for Nurses**

May 8

On May 8, Bayada Nurses will offer a free seminar for nurses entitled "Charting Smarter: A Clinical, Legal and Practical Approach to Documentation in 2002." The seminar will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Sheraton at Woodbridge Place in Iselin.

The seminar will help nurses appreciate charting from a jury's perspective and gain an understanding of liability insurance requirements for today's nurse.

The seminar is free to all nurses and includes breakfast, lunch and refreshments. Due to the limited space, pre-registration is required and must be received no later than May 3. On-site registrations will be accepted on a stand-by only. Registration brochures can be obtained by calling Ali Simonton at (973) 538-3000.

**First Annual Car Enthusiasts Weekend**

July 6, 7

On Saturday, July 6 and Sunday, July 7 the Riverview Inn, located at 400 Shay Ln. in Matamoras, Pa., will be hosting a First Annual Car Enthusiasts Weekend.

The weekend's events will consist of a swap meet, featuring various auto related vendors, outdoor river front barbecue, paddle boat rides, volleyball games, horse shoe games, fishing, watermelon pit spitting, classic car show with prizes featuring all years, makes and models, a 1950's sock hop dance party and a Top 40 dance party. Vendors for the swap meet, car show and contestants are wanted.

The event is being coordinated by Killeen M. Quick of the Riverview Inn, Jessie Cavalone of Cavalone's Auto Additions in Matamoras, Pa. and Brett Mauntauck of Clear Channel Communications of NJ. For details on being a vendor or entering the car show call either Killeen Quick at (800) 988-7941 or Jessie Cavalone at (570) 491-5112 or Brett Mauntauck at (973) 382-3400. For sponsorship and advertising information contact Brett at Clear Channel. Additional show details can be found online at [www.riverviewinnic.com](http://www.riverviewinnic.com) or by emailing Killeen at [riverview@pikonline.net](mailto:riverview@pikonline.net).

**Vision 2001 Art Auction Honorary Chairman, Phil Aiello Dedicated to SP Youth**

By Patricia Abbott

Long time South Plainfield resident Phil Aiello has been named Honorary Chairman of the 7th annual Vision 2001 Education Foundation Art Auction. Vision 2001 supports South Plainfield's students, encouraging and offering them challenges and new opportunities as well as scholarships. The auction offers art by noted artists in a variety of media.

Phil was more than a little surprised. He said, "When I was first contacted by Emil Leporino about being named Honorary Chairman, I was in total shock!" Already acquainted with the organization, he fully supports their goals. The honor was still a bit mind boggling to him, he said, "Me, an art chairman? The only thing I know about art is what I read in the funny papers on Sunday morning, but once he (Leporino) told me the purpose of the art auction and how the proceeds of the auction were to be used, I figured I would take a crash course and do what ever I could to help this worth while project."

Phil was born in Staten Island, NY and has lived in South Plainfield for all but ten years of his life. He and wife Maryann have two sons, Philip Jr. and Patrick.

Phil is perhaps best known for his dedication to the Jr. Baseball club. He became involved over twenty years ago when his sons began to play. His memories are fond ones, he said, "Baseball and kids, I found no better way than to spend my spare time."

When his sons were beyond little league he stayed on becoming a fixture with the organization. Phil remembers, "The people were kind enough to let me stay. Before you knew it the years flew by. So many caring people, so many great kids, what a marvelous experience I have had being involved with such a great organization." Apparently the feeling was mutual and in 1991 the baseball clubhouse was named in his honor. During that same year he received the Postal Service Northeast Region's Volunteer of the Year award. In the spring of 2001 he was named to the South Plainfield High School's Hall of Fame. He is proud of these honors. "To be recognized by my peers has become very special to me because I truly believe the best way to live your life is by doing something that will out last it and I hope I have accomplished that."

Phil keeps up with today's youth, "I find it amazing how aware and



Vision 2001 Art Auction Honorary Chairman Philip Aiello.

tuned into everything they are from world happenings to who is the hottest rock group, you just can't get anything by them. I love it!" He is looking forward to his role of Honorary Chairman. His staunch belief and pride in the youth of South Plainfield is obvious in his words, "Any organization that dedicates itself to raise funds for college bound South Plainfield students should have the support of the whole community and judging by the success of its fundraisers, it does."

The April 19 auction will be held at South Plainfield High School. Admission is \$10, with \$5 returned as a gift certificate redeemable at the event. Previews of available artwork begin at 6:30 p.m. The auction begins at 7:30 p.m. Guests will enjoy hors d'oeuvres, coffee, desserts and door prizes. For tickets call (908) 561-3951.

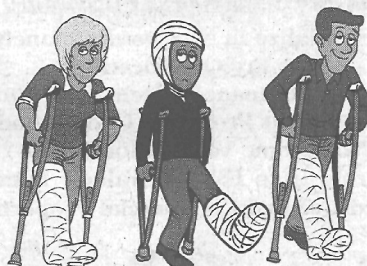
**Free Rabies Clinic Set for Saturday**

The South Plainfield Health Department will be holding their annual Rabies Clinic on Saturday, April 20 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the Borough Garage, located on the corner of Spicer and Belmont Avenues.

The rabies clinic is open to both cats and dogs. Residents are urged to bring their pets for inoculation.

Dog and cat licenses can also be purchased at the clinic. Cost of dog or cat license is \$8 if spayed/neutered and \$11 if not. A \$1 per month late fee is incurred after Jan. 31. Cats must be brought in a carrier.

For further information, call 226-7631.



**On the Road to Recovery?**  
We Can Help Get You There.

Lynne Glasser-Sward P.T.

908-668-1951

**Physical Therapy Center**  
of South Plainfield & Woodbridge  
1110 Hamilton Blvd. • South Plainfield

**Aiello**  
Chiropractic Center, P.C.  
Your Hometown Source for Health & Wellness

2201 South Clinton Avenue, Suite H  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080-1471  
On the corner of New Market and South Clinton

755-2289



## South Plainfield Scouting

### Cub Scout Pack 224 Webelos Receive Arrow of Light Award



Several second year Webelos from Cub Scout Pack 224 received their Arrow of Light Award on March 21.

The Arrow of Light Award is the highest award in Cub Scouting. The Cubs received their award during a

ceremony that symbolized their crossing the bridge from Cub Scouting to Boy Scouts.

Cubs receiving awards were: Steven Wagner, Max Butler, Christopher Izzi, Timmy Ratti and Patrick Nolty.

Receiving them into Boy Scouts were representatives from Troop 124, Scout Master George Smith, Asst. Scout Master Tony Sarao, Asst. Sr. Patrol Leader Nick Green and Scouts Colin Slattery and Bobby Parillo.

### Scout Troop 124 Hikes Jockey Hollow



On March 23 the Scouts of Troop 124 participated in a hike in the Jockey Hollow Historic areas in Morristown. They were also working toward getting the Jockey Hollow Historic Trails Award. By achieving this award, the Scouts get an idea of what it was like for George Washington's Revolutionary army during their winter encampment of 1779-1780.

To get this award the Scouts have to do several things. They were given questions to answer while they hiked 10 miles on specific trails. The answers to the questions were on plaques along the trails.

They also had to read a pamphlet about Washington's army and write a 250 word essay on a subject on the questionnaire.

Participating scouts were: Max Butler, Colin Slattery, Bobby Parillo, Nick Hogan, Kyle Williams, Steve Wagner and Timmy Ratti. The Leaders were: Bob Parillo, Dodd Hogan, Eric Wagner and Harry Chiovarou.

## From the South Plainfield Library Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

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

The Friends of the Library will be presenting a special program this weekend. It's called "Classical Broadway with a Twist." The program will look at the music and personalities of the great Broadway composers. It will be led by Nina Deutsch, a graduate of both Julliard and Yale University. The program will be held this Sunday afternoon at 2; there is no charge and preregistration isn't required. Everyone is invited to attend. The program is made possible by a grant from the NJ Council for the Humanities. (On a side note, the Friends of the Library are looking for new members. If you're interested in joining, you can pick up further information at the Circulation Desk.)

Time for a look at our children's programs. This month's Kidcraft is scheduled for this afternoon at 4. Kidcraft is for children ages six and older. The Library will provide all of the craft materials; we ask that you sign up for the program. Meanwhile, we've got another shortened Storytime schedule next week. Storytimes will be held on Tuesday morning at 10:30 and Wednesday evening at 6:30, but next week's Thursday program has been cancelled. Storytimes are for children ages three and older; no preregistration is required. Each program lasts about an hour and features stories and a craft activity. For further information about any of our children's programs, please call us at (908) 754-7885 and ask for Miss Linda.

At this writing, there's still a bit of space available for our next Job Information Center program. It's called

"Interviewing 101," and will be held Wednesday evening at 7:30. Space is limited for this program, so please call ahead to reserve your spot.

As if we weren't holding enough programs this week, there's another one scheduled for Friday, April 26, at 3:30 p.m. In honor of Arbor Day, the Friends of the Woods will hold a tree planting ceremony on the grounds between the Library building and the Rescue Squad, where another tree will be added to the developing Historic Tree Grove. Everyone is invited to attend the ceremony.

Here's an advisory regarding our microfilm/microfiche collection. First of all, we permit patrons to go into the film and fiche cabinets in order to pick out the items you want to see. However, we ask that you refrain from trying to put them back. It's very easy to misfile them, which can cause a number of problems, particularly when it's an item that several different people are interested in. So, when you're finished, just give the film/fiche back to a staff member. Also, please don't attempt to convert the viewing machine from film to fiche or vice versa. It's a slightly complicated procedure that's best left to the aforementioned staff member.

Finally, a reminder about our Lost & Found. It's surprising just how many things, and what types of things, people misplace here. If you're missing something and think it might be here, please stop by the Circulation Desk and we'll check on it. Some of this stuff looks pretty important and we'd rather not throw it away when someone might be looking for it.

That's all for now. See you next week.

### Peggy Seeger Takes Center Stage at Annual Folk Festival

Shape-note singing, acoustic blues and bluegrass are among the many traditional folk styles that will be featured at the 28 Annual New Jersey Folk Festival, Saturday, April 27, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is free for this family event, held rain or shine on the grounds of the Eagleton Institute on the Douglass campus of Rutgers, the State University, in New Brunswick.

Headlining this year's festival is world-renowned Peggy Seeger, noted for her traditional folksongs and ballads of the British Isles and an authority on their role in modern society. Her song "Gonna Be an Engineer" has played a major part in the women's movement. She accompanies herself on guitar, banjo, autoharp, English concertina and piano.

A two-hour New Folk Showcase focused on contemporary material will present the winners of the 2002

singer-songwriter competition: Greg Alexander, Marian Mastroianni, Joe McKay, CJ McKenna, Capt. Rick Nestler, and Tony Noel Performer and special guest emcee for the New Folk Showcase is Bob Norman, noted songwriter and former editor-in-chief of *Sing Out!* The Folk Song Magazine. Other festival emcees include 89.1 WFUD-FM, Teanecks Carol Beaugard and Ron Olesko, Randy Bailey from WJB 90.5 FM.

The New Jersey Folk Festival is wheelchair accessible and has large print programs and audio assists available. Preferred parking is a nominal \$5 charge. Complete details including stage schedules and directions are on the web at <http://njfolkfest.rutgers.edu>. For further information, call the festival office at (732) 932-5775 or Rutgers Campus Info Services at (732) 932-INFO.

The 2002 New Jersey Folk Festival is presented by Douglass College, with additional funding from Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission.

## SUBSCRIBE

to the Observer at  
[spobserver.com](http://spobserver.com)  
or call  
908-668-0010.

#### FAST APPROVALS...GREAT RATES...PERSONALIZED SERVICE

We Specialize in No Cost Refinancing  
Free Pre-Qualifications  
Purchases • Refinance • Debt Consolidation  
Past Credit Problems Understood  
No Income Verification Loans  
Borrow up to 125% of Value • Loans  
Mixed Use and Commercial Properties

Mike Dixon  
President

Colony Mortgage  
Licensed Mortgage Broker - NJ Dept. of Banking

Se Habla Español

908-822-0090

2325 Plainfield Ave. Suite 2E South Plainfield, NJ

The South Plainfield Community Pool will hold an open house for all SP residents. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the community pool on Labor Day, Monday, May 27.

## Double T's

LUNCHEONETTE & DELI

Open  
Mon-Sat  
6-3

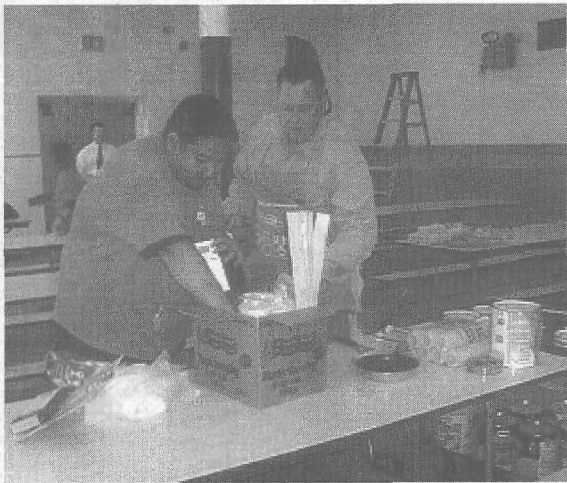
Fresh Homemade Salads  
& Cold Cuts  
Sold By the Pound

Breakfast • Lunch Hot & Cold Sandwiches

-Eat In or  
Take Out-  
Free Delivery

409 Hamilton Blvd.  
908-757-5855 • Fax 908-757-7735





## Home Depot Lends a Helping Hand at the Middle School

After the final Friday bell rang last month at the Middle School, Home Depot employees got right to work painting school cafeteria. The Home Depot volunteers had spent a previous day at the cafeteria prepping and priming the walls and were ready to complete the job.

The project was part of Home Depot's "giving back to the community program." Several store and corporate office employees were asked to volunteer to help with the painting. The newly painted cafeteria was, of course, painted in the green and white Tiger colors.



## Franklin School Planting 30 Trees for Arbor Day

The Franklin Elementary School PTA plans to beautify Franklin Elementary School by planting 30 trees for Arbor Day.

Franklin Elementary School PTA, in partnership with the New Jersey Tree Foundation, will plant 30 trees at Franklin Elementary School on Friday, April 26, from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. The tree planting will be conducted to celebrate *Arbor Day/Make a Difference Day* in New Jersey.

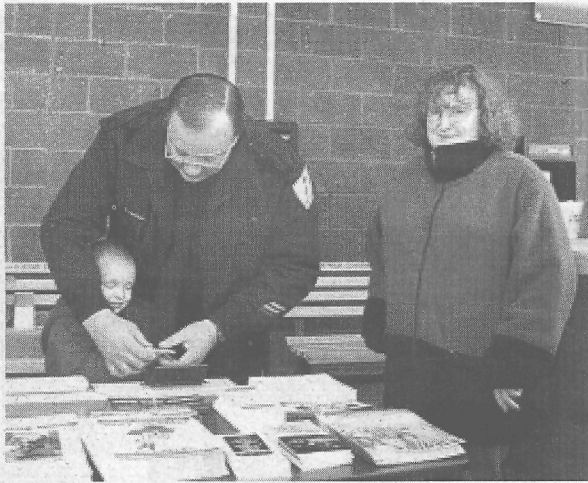
The Franklin Elementary School PTA, along with parent and community volunteers, will plant the trees as a windbreak around the school property. In addition to the tree planting, the PTA and parent volunteers will maintain the trees for a minimum of two years. This in-

cludes watering and pruning the trees, as they grow larger.

Franklin Elementary School PTA obtained the free tree seedlings from the New Jersey Tree Foundation as part of their *Celebrate Arbor Day!/Make A Difference With Trees!* Project. The New Jersey Tree Foundation offered the free trees to volunteer groups, local governments, non-profit organizations, and scout groups.

The New Jersey Tree Foundation's *Celebrate Arbor Day!/Make A Difference With Trees!* Project has fifty volunteer groups planting over 5,000 trees across the state.

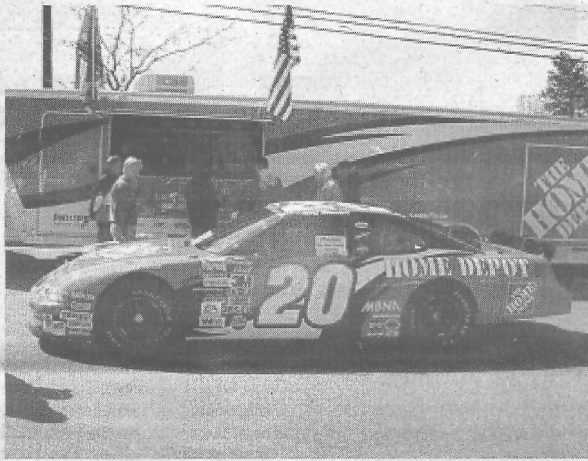
For more information about the planting, call Linda Wilson at 908-791-3372



## Home Depot Sponsors Family Day, Featuring their NASCAR Show Car

Home Depot recently sponsored their annual Family Day. Events included a kids' workshop, face painting, vendor demonstrations and The Home Depot NASCAR show car.

The South Plainfield Police Department was on hand to fingerprint children and distribute free safety literature. The Fire Department was also on hand with some of their firetrucks. On display was a prototype of the future Fireman's Memorial slated to be installed next to the new senior center on Lakeview and Maple avenues.



## SPHS Yearbook Staff Earns Award of Excellence

The Taylor Publishing Company has announced that the South Plainfield High School yearbook staff has been recognized with an Award of Excellence honoring its accomplishments in yearbook design and coverage. Judges selected "Regit," the South Plainfield High School yearbook, as among the best. The advisor of the book is Mrs. Nina Kely.

Yearbooks published by Taylor between 2000 and 2001 were evaluated for excellence in one or more of the following areas: cover design, theme development and page design. Only the top five percent of yearbook staffs is recognized by Taylor for outstanding yearbook achievement.

"The Award of Excellence is given each year to a small percentage of yearbook staffs nationwide that demonstrate excellence in yearbook creation," said Mike Payer, Marketing Manager at Taylor Publishing. "We applaud

these staffs for their outstanding work and support their efforts in scholastic journalism."

In addition, "Regit" will appear in the 2002 edition of Taylor's "Yearbook Yearbook" publication, which showcases the nation's best yearbooks in the judged categories.

Taylor Publishing, headquartered in Dallas, Texas, is a major publisher of yearbooks nationwide.

## Historic Grove Grows With New Addition

The Friends of the Woods and the South Plainfield Environmental Commission are donating a second "Famous and Historic Tree" to be planted at the South Plainfield Public Library on Arbor Day, Friday, April 26. As the trees mature, the Historic Tree Grove will shade the library building and help reduce its air conditioning costs, save energy, and make the interior environment more comfortable. Arbor Day is the national day of tree planting. Begun in 1872, it brings attention to the importance of planting and caring for trees.

The Famous and Historic Tree Program was begun in 1917 by American Forests, the nation's oldest non-profit citizens' organization. The group propagates offspring of trees of historical significance ranging from the American Revolution to the U.S. Space Program. These trees, grown from seeds or cuttings, are living witnesses of historical events or famous people. There are, in fact, four "Elvis Presley" tree species from his estate at Graceland. The King is still on the charts, for his trees are on the top ten of the most popular purchases.

The second tree to be planted in the historic grove between the Library and Rescue Squad buildings is in honor of President George Washington. The River Farm Chaste tree is a proud specimen from the renowned horticultural site on the Potomac River. Washington called River Farm home until age 11, when he inherited Mount Vernon from his brother, Lawrence. Today, River Farm serves as the headquarters of the American Horticultural Society, situated on 25 acres of landscaped lawns and gardens in Alexandria, Virginia.

The Chaste is a deciduous tree that produces showy, fragrant blue flowers in the summer against gray-green foliage. It will grow to a height of 15 feet, and spread to 15 feet. The sunny location at the library is ideal for this quick-grower. This tree joins the Edgar Allen Poe hackberry planted last year.

A special tree planting ceremony is planned for 3:30 on Friday, April 26. Mayor Daniel J. Gallagher will proclaim Arbor Day in honor of this national event. Children from Miss Linda's "Storytime" program will help with the tree planting.

For more information on trees, visit your local nursery, or log on to the National Arbor Day website at: [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org) or American Forests at: [www.americanforests.org](http://www.americanforests.org).

where you are always treated like one of the family

**Carousel**

Hair Salon

**Want a New Look?**

Stop in at Carousel Hair Salon for an appointment. We're always happy to see you!

**307 Oak Tree Ave. 908-668-8397**

Wed.-Fri 8am-4pm, Sat 6:45am-3pm, Closed Sun/Mon/Tues

**AIDA SANTOS**  
ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT  
BRANCH MANAGER

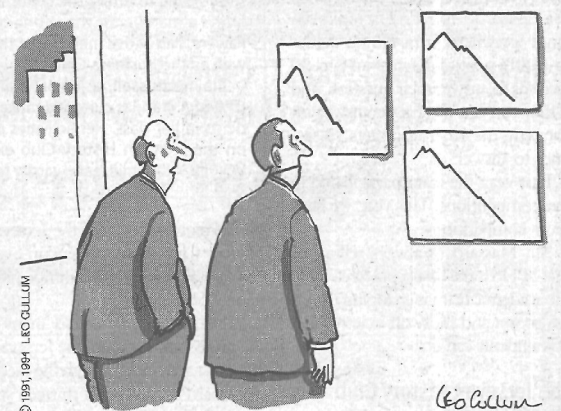
**Valley National Bank**

Durham Ave. & Hamilton Blvd  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

(908) 757-5868  
Fax (908) 757-0494

Tell Our Advertisers  
You Saw Their Ad Here

## Does Your Business Need a Boost?



**Advertise in the Observer.**  
Call 908-668-0010 for rates.



# SPHS Students Report to the Board of Ed

## Mentor's Club

Good evening members of the board, my name is Jenna DeLosSantos and I am here tonight as a representative of the SPHS Mentor's Club. Earlier this year I was approached by the high school's guidance department to see if the members of the National Honor Society would be interested in starting the Peer Mentor's Club. This would be an organization that would provide free peer tutoring for anyone in the school. Students were to stop by to attain extra help on anything from essays or research papers, to studying for tests or exams, or even just for help with their daily homework assignments.

The Society agreed to take the commitment and now the club is thriving with even more members that just the honor society and a devout following of students who actively seek the aid of their peers.

The club meets the three days a week for an hour. Members are given a calendar a month ahead of time with their assigned day. There are usually about three or four mentors on duty at a time. On average, about five or six kids show up for the program.

I truly feel that this organization is beneficial to the school. We are not mentors out of obligation, but out of genuine concern for our fellow classmate's grades and success.

The whole idea of peer mentoring is to provide more of a casual and friendly air to tutoring, and thus allow certain students to feel more confident, comfortable, and ultimately, more knowledgeable.

The mentors themselves are members of the National Honor Society and equally talented academic students who desire to join the club. Not one of the mentors is condescending and all of the students who attend are responsible and diligent with their work.

I would love to see the organization continue and gain more of a following. Some suggestions I would have would be to let the parents know of this organization. There is no reason why their children cannot get extra help with all the mentors available, there is someone to help everybody.

I cannot express how important an organization like this is for students. If we can help just one student get one higher grade, then this organization is truly a success.

## The Academic Team

The Academic Team is an extra-curricular activity that allows students to exhibit their knowledge in competition against the best and the brightest students of other schools.

This year our team consists of 25 members. We practice once a week under the supervision, and with the guidance of, Mrs. Kopacs and Mrs. Cammarere.

The competitions are usually set up in a "Jeopardy" format. The topics can range anywhere from Hindu deities to 1960's politics. Each team gets 30 seconds to answer their question, and if they run out of time or answer incorrectly, the other team gets 15 seconds to answer.

Last year, the team participated in five competitions. This year, we have seven competitions.

Mr. Massaro, is always telling us that SPHS is the best kept secret. Well, the academic team is changing that as we go out and show off exactly what our students can do.

## The Jerseyan History Club (Three speakers)

Thank you Dr. May. Thank you, Board of Education, for inviting the Jerseyan History Club to this meeting tonight.

My name is Alex Huynh and I am

Each month during the school year, student representatives attend the South Plainfield Board of Education's monthly meeting to report on activities and academics at SPHS. This month, the Mentor's Club, Jerseyan Club, Academic Team and "Hello Dolly" cast members prepared presentations for board members.



(Above left) Representing the SPHS Mentoring Club and Academic Team are Jenna DeLosSantos and Jamie Gowacki. Representing the SPHS Jerseyan History Club are Elaine Russell, Heather Barrett and Alex Huynh.



Cast members from the SPHS production of "Hello Dolly" performed a portion of their upcoming production. Pictured are Dave Garatino, Director Mrs. Nasso, Allison Provaire, Chris Imbrosciano, Pam Cianfrocco and Chris Baron.

David Garatino, a junior, has been active in the SPHS Music Department since his freshman year. As a sophomore, David was vice-president of the Chorus. He is a member of Chorus, Traveling Choir and Jades. He has been a participant in the Middlesex County Teen Arts Festival and David was recently a finalist in the NJMEA Opera Fest.

While maintaining a GPA of 3.2, David also takes an active role at his church, where he sings in the choir, ushers, is a Youth leader, and a volunteer for Vacation Bible School and Sunday School Activities.

Allison Provaire, a senior, is an active participant in Marching, Concert, Jazz and Lab bands, Chorus, Traveling Choir, Emerald and Drama Club. She has been involved with Summer Drama Workshop and SPHS Players Drama Club for several years. She is excited to be starring in this year's production of "Hello Dolly" as Mrs. Dolly Levi.

Chris Imbrosciano, a junior, recently received the Middlesex County Association of School Administrators Student Recognition Award and the VSA Arts of New Jersey Meritorious Achievement Award in Theater. He has performed in community and professional theater since the age of nine. He was most recently seen in Plays in the Park this summer in their production of "Oliver." Chris has performed with the SPHS Drama Club Players each year in high school. He is involved in Marching Band, Jades, Traveling Choir, Chorus, Peer Facilitators and Peer Leadership. He is playing the role of Barnaby Tucker in this year's "Hello Dolly."

Pam Cianfrocca, a senior with a 4.15 GPA, has been in almost every school play since third grade. She was also a participant in the SP Summer Drama Workshop for six years. Besides productions at school you could spot Pam at the Renaissance Festival, Haunted Village and Middlesex County School of the Arts. She also found time to direct the children at Roosevelt School. She is a member of the acting group "Almost Famous Players," an active member of the spring track team as well as the Business Club.

Elayne Russell, a junior, is an honors student with GPA of 4.4 and is currently ranked third out of 284 students in her class. Her activities include public relations on the Jerseyan History Club executive board, SADD, VOICES, Academic team, varsity tennis, Girl Scouting and

the current president of the Jerseyan History Club. I will present an overview of the Jerseyans—a common nickname of the club.

While advisors do oversee many of the projects of the club, the Jerseyans run most activities through the executive board consisting of thirteen students—some of the school's finest.

The purpose of the Jerseyan His-

## Who's Who

a SPHS Concert Band.

Alex Huynh, a junior with a 4.43 GPA, is ranked second in his class. He participates in Summer Drama Workshop, playing the violin and on stage crew.

He is student assistant to the Guidance Office, a member of Spanish Honor Society, Academic Team, president of the Jerseyan History Club, secretaries of the Class of 2003, the Spanish Club and SADD, as well as a member of the Mentors Club.

Heather Barrett, a junior with a 4.15 GPA, is secretary of Jerseyan History Club, among the top ten students in her class, is involved with VOICES, SADD, the Academic Team, Varsity tennis and Winter Track. She plays the viola in the school orchestra, in the New Jersey Youth Symphony, and in the Central Jersey Region 2 Orchestra. Currently in her 12th year as a Girl Scout, she works as a counselor during the summer and on weekends at Camp Lou Henry Hoover.

Jamie Glowacki, a SPHS junior, is an All Honors student with a GPA of 3.9. Her activities include Color Guard, Concert Band, Lab Band and Academic Team.

Jenevieve DeLosSantos, a senior at SPHS, ranks 28 in her class out of 250 with a 3.6 GPA. This year she has attained a GPA of 4.1 in the past two marking periods. Jenevieve has served as librarian, secretary, president and currently vice president of Chorus, and as treasurer and president of the Drama Club. For three years she has served as art editor of CREOS. She has been a member of the Jerseyan Club, VOICES, Future Leaders of America, Traveling Choir and Emeralds Female Singing Choir. This year she serves as vice president of the Peer Mentors Club and president of the National Honor Society.

In her spare time she works as an editorial assistant for the *South Plainfield Observer* and sings professionally as a back up singer for an all-girl group.

Christopher Baron, a SPHS junior, avidly pursues an active position in the following clubs and groups: Chorus, Concert Band, Jades, Marching Band, Student Council, Traveling Choir, Lab Band and Jerseyan Club.

Chris is a well-rounded musician, being accepted to such illustrious groups as NJ Region Chorus and NJ All-State Chorus. Chris is one of the drum majors of the marching band and had a leading role in this past summer's Summer Drama Workshop production of "Bye, Bye, Birdie."

tory Club is to introduce and integrate history into the educational experience of SPHS students. In other words, the club hopes to make history more meaningful. Primary sources and textbooks are not always enjoyable to all; the club simply provides alternatives to learn history.

With an annual amount of ten general meetings, five fundraisers (includ-

ing two car washes and three plant sales), multiple trips including an end-of-the-year overnight trip, four newsletters, an ever-changing bulletin board, a Cultural Heritage Day, an always updated web page, an end-of-the-year picnic to the local community pool, and much, much more, it is not surprising that the Jerseyan History Club has become the largest club

in the school with about 315 members—roughly one-third of the high school's enrollment. One of the club's mottos actually is "Big Club-Big Fun."

If a student was part of this history club from the beginning of their freshman year straight through until the end of their senior year, they would have been given at least an approximate amount of 120 opportunities to be involved in the high school.

My name is Heather Barrett. Traveling with the Jerseyan Club has offered a variety of educational opportunities. The Jerseyan Club Executive Board and the Faculty Advisors together plan the programs for the upcoming year.

We have taken two trips already this year. The first trip was to the New Jersey Historical Society in Newark. The second was to the New Brunswick State Theater to see "Harlem," a show about the Harlem Renaissance. We are planning an overnight trip to Williamsburg and Jamestown, Virginia.

Last year, the Jerseyans journeyed to Ellis Island for a day. Our overnight tour brought us to Mystic Seaport, Conn. and Newport, Rhode Island. We also toured the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and Mystic Seaport.

As you can see, the Jerseyan club provides enrichment programs that span many historical periods. This variety affords choices for all different interests in the area of local history.

My name is Elayne Russell, and I currently hold the position of public relations officer on the Jerseyan Executive Board. In order to sponsor all of our activities, as well as to lower the cost of our end of the year overnight trip, the club holds numerous fund-raisers throughout the year.

Our most successful, by far, is the fall car wash, usually held in early October. We generally have a huge turnout of both members to wash the cars, and generous community members. October's car wash raised total of one \$1,033, half of which was donated to the Fireman's Widows and Orphan's Fund. The club also holds a holiday poinsettia, Valentine's Day Carnation sale and a spring lily sale. Overall, an average of \$3,000 to \$4,000 is raised per year.

The Jerseyans also hosts a Multicultural Heritage Day in conjunction with the Social Studies department. This event aims to raise students' awareness about the cultures of the world, promote tolerance in the school, and educate people about their heritage. Last year's event was a huge success, with students throughout the entire school participating, not just club members.

One of our main goals is to integrate ourselves into the entire community, both in and outside of school. On September 14, when the whole school dressed in red, white, and blue to show their support for our nation, the club, on the spur of the moment, bought and made patriotic ribbons for every student and staff member in the building by pulling together and putting in long hours.

Members of the club also attended the South Plainfield Historical Society's January meeting and provided the society with delightful and much-appreciated refreshments. The club is in the process of organizing and preparing a skit on the history of our town to present to the elderly residents of the Cedar Oaks Senior Center. As you can see, the Jerseyan History Club is an active part of the community of South Plainfield, and is always striving to find new ways to give back and educate the public about history. I would like to thank the Board of Education for their continued support of the club's activities and endeavors.

**SUBSCRIBE** to the *Observer* at [spobserver.com](http://spobserver.com) or call 908-668-0010.



## Tour Held for Incoming Sixth Grade Parents

Last Thursday parents met in the Grant Central gym for a short meeting to introduce them to the school their children will be attending next year.

They heard about the many exciting opportunities awaiting their children next year at Grant. They got an insight into Grant's strong academic programs, heard about a plan to improve instruction in reading and language arts by providing back-to-back

blocks of time, listen to plans for expanding the math and science programs and view the results of the computer pilot program, *SuccessMakers*.

Principal Robert Doggett gave a short talk about the school and then parents were allowed to tour the classrooms.

For parents who may have missed last week's orientation, another one is planned in June.

## Kennedy and Riley Kids Jumping for the Heart

By Jane Dornick

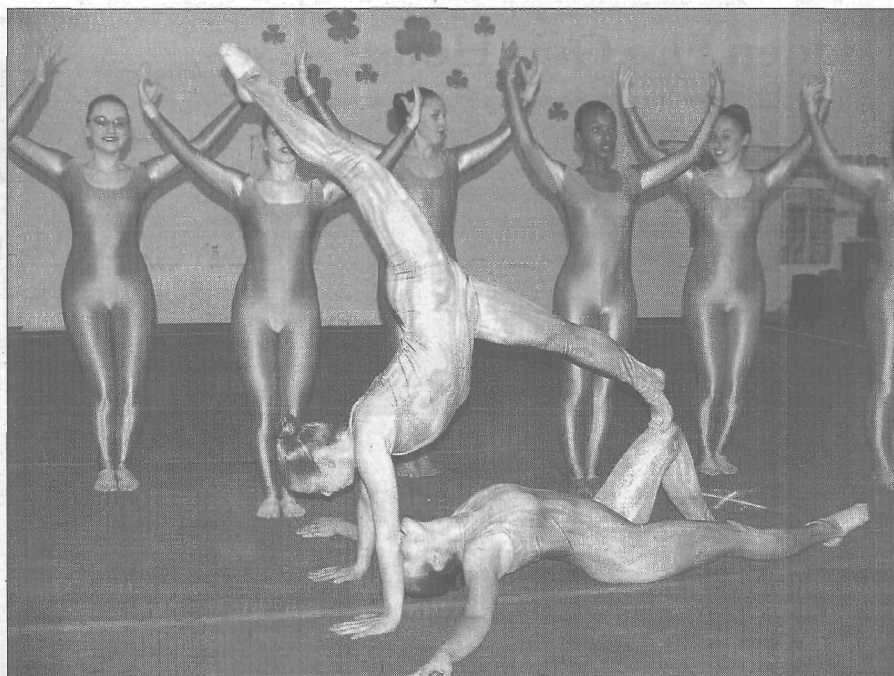
Students at Kennedy and Riley Elementary Schools were "jumping" at the chance to help fight heart disease and stroke, our nation's number one and number three killers.

Over the past two weeks, both schools held a "Jump Rope For Heart" event. They were raising funds for the American Heart Association's cardiovascular research and educational programs. "Jump Rope For Heart" is co-sponsored by

the American Heart Association and the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

"Jump Rope For Heart" teaches participants about the importance of a healthy lifestyle. The event empowers children as they provide vital community service and discover that they can make a difference.

Through sponsor contributions, Riley students helped raise \$1,331 and Kennedy students raised \$1,042.50 for this worthy cause.



## Autism Awareness Benefit Raises \$5,000

By Patricia Abbott

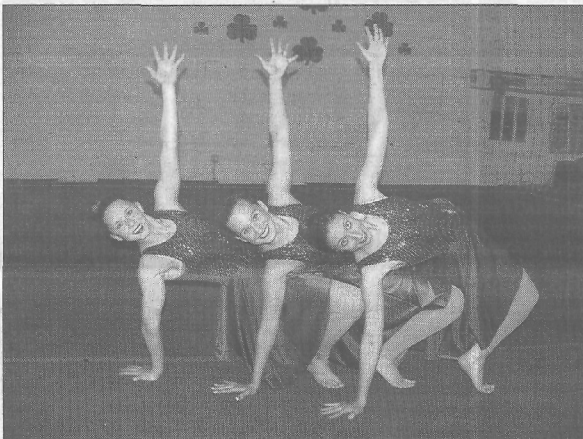
The second annual Autism Awareness benefit presented by Jo-Ann's Dance Studio and Feigley's School of Gymnastics was enjoyed by 300 people. The benefit raised \$5,000 for COSAC (Community Outreach and Services for Autistic Community). The multi-purpose evening offered the audience entertainment, raffles, an auction as well as detailed information about autism. The show featured the Le Centre Dance Ensemble and the Bridgettes Gymnastic team in an incredible and diverse display of youthful talent.

The full house included COSAC employees Courtney Knox (Development and Communications Assistant) and Jennifer Stillitano (Director of Communications) on hand for the event were extremely impressed with every aspect of the show.

Event organizer Tara Catalina, Artistic Director for the dance studio said, "I was extremely pleased with the

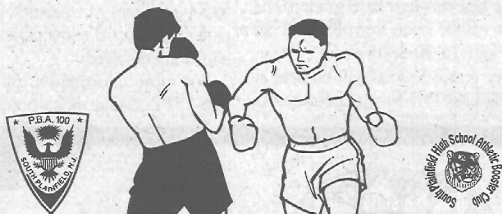
way everything turned out. People seemed to have a really good time and the performers really gave their all. They seemed to all be focused on the cause and there performances really showed that to me. I get such a great feeling seeing the community support

these children and their families. I could not have accomplished all of this without the help of so many people who gave of their time and their services. Many hours went into this for me, the performers, my family and the volunteers."



## 2002 GOLDEN GLOVE SEMI FINALS

All bouts sanctioned by: NJ Association of USA Boxing Inc.



Doors Open at 7 pm • Bouts Start at 8 pm

**Saturday, May 18, 2002**

South Plainfield High School 200 Lake Street, South Plainfield, NJ

General Admission: \$8 in advance, \$12 at the door

**GOLDEN RINGSIDE \$75.**

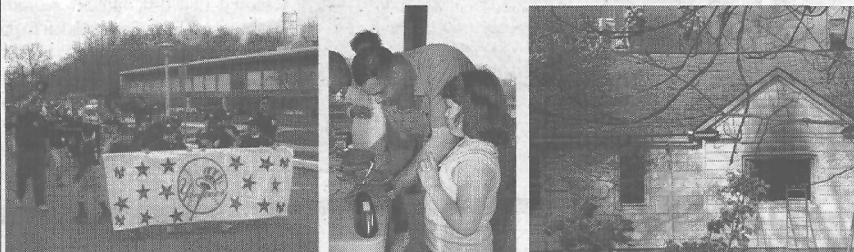
includes **DINNER AT 5 P.M.**  
and an entry into a \$500 drawing

at **Cafe Piancone Restaurant**  
2291 Hamilton Boulevard, South Plainfield, NJ

For Tickets or Reservations Call  
(908) 226-7663 or (908) 561-0649

Tickets are also available at the South Plainfield PAL or Sal's Spirit Shoppe

## Don't Miss Another Issue of the South Plainfield Observer!!



There's so much going on in South Plainfield! Don't miss any of it!  
Enjoy the Observer every week mailed to your home.

## Subscribe Today!

Send a check or money order for \$25/one year (out-of-town-\$30) payable to: South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080. Or order your subscription via email ggnan@aol.com and send your check to the above address.

☒ I would like home delivery of the Observer.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_



## Sudden Fire Guts House

Monday afternoon a sudden fire broke out at a house on Belmont Ave. The fire spread quickly and by the time the fire department got it under control the house was destroyed.

Traffic on Belmont was closed, which clogged Hamilton Blvd. backing up cars all the way to Rt. 287 throughout the rush hour. Fortunately no one was injured. The residents were given temporary shelter until they could find another place to live.

Responding to the fire from South Plainfield were the fire department, rescue squad, Office of Emergency Management. Also responding were fire department units from New Market in Piscataway, Plainfield and Colonia.



# Sports

## American Martial Arts 2002 Best Tae Kwon Do School in New Jersey

The biggest state tournament of the year was held on April 6 and 7. Only the top schools of New Jersey were invited. Over 700 competitors vigorously train for this event aspiring to become the best in New Jersey. This prestigious event is the New Jersey State Tae Kwon Do Championships. Over 100 schools attended, but American Martial Arts came out winning an 8½-foot trophy for being the 2002 Best Tae Kwon Do school in New Jersey.

Thirty students of American Martial Arts, located on Oak Tree Rd., under the instruction of Master Kevin Vigneri, fifth degree black belt and five-time National Champion, put their skills to the test at the NJ State Tae Kwon Do Championship and held their heads up high earning 15 gold, 13 silver and 15 bronze medals in sparring and/or forms events.

Beyond the title of State Champion, these students qualify to compete in either the Junior Olympics in July in Minnesota, or the Senior Na-



Pictured above from left to right are 11 of the 30 competitors; (front row) Sommer Bovell, Daniel Quintin and Danver Quintin; (back row) Eugene Bong, Nicky Singh, Ashley Zeccardo, Hanah Bong, Ricardo Robles, Jessica Robbins, Richard Kazandhizi and Raymond Perez.

tionals in May in Michigan. Master Vigneri commented, "My students are truly dedicated to this sport and

proved it through their intense training for this big event. I am extremely proud of them!"

### SOCCER

## Hunter Wins Southern Regional, Ashnault Third

By Bob Hunter

Billy Ashnault and Patrick Hunter both Middle School wrestlers advanced to the Eastern Nationals by placing in the Middle Atlantic Wrestling Association Southern Regional Championships in Salisbury Md. Each had to qualify by placing first through third at one of eight district tournaments. Hunter placed first at the Pennsville qualifier. Ashnault placed first at the Toms River qualifier. The Southern Region consisted of New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia.

Patrick Hunter wrestled in the 74 pound junior division and won his preliminary match by major decision 9-0 over Todd Reese of Delaware. In quarter final round Hunter defeated Eddie Obendorfer of Virginia 6-2. In the semifinal round, with the score tied 0-0, Hunter scored a takedown with ten seconds left to pull out a 2-0 decision over Frank Lo-brusciano of New Jersey. In the finals Hunter faced another New Jersey wrestler, Richard Bushby from Collingswood. In the second period Hunter got an escape and the take-

down, which was all he needed to win a 3-2 decision and his first region championship.

Billy Ashnault, wrestling in the 80 pound intermediate division, won his preliminary match by tech fall at 4:45 over Mike Holmes of Delaware. In the quarterfinals Ashnault lost 6-5 in OT to Greg Saumenig of Maryland. At the wrestle backs Ashnault came on strong scoring a fall at 2:24 over Mat Turtle of Delaware. The next round Ashnault won a 12-5 decision over Drew Willis of Maryland to reach the consolation finals. In the

consolation finals Ashnault got the chance to face Greg Saumenig, who had defeated him in OT in the quarters and he dominated him this time, winning by major decision 13-0, for third place.

Anthony Ashnault, Bantam 44 pounds, won his first match against Tommy Gattinola of New Jersey by fall. Ashnault then lost his next two bouts in overtime 6-4 for fifth place.

Also wrestling were Mark Wagner Intermediate 102 and Kevin Criley Intermediate 170.

## So. Plfd. Recreation Department's Summer of Fun Programs

The South Plainfield Recreation Department will be sponsoring a "Summer of Fun" in the Cotton Street, Shadyside, Veterans and Pitt Street Parks running June 25 through Aug. 9. The supervised activities are free for all resident children who are in the first through sixth grades. The parks will be open from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-3:30 p.m.

Free tennis lessons will be held at Spring Lake Park for children ages six

through nine from 8:30-10 a.m. Free golf lessons will be given at West Nine for children ages 10 through 14 from 10-11:30 a.m.

Register at the PAL Building, located on Maple Ave. The PAL is open Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Proof of residency, participant's report card and a parent's signature are required.

For more information call (908) 226-7714 during office hours.

Log on to the  
**Borough of South Plainfield's**  
official web site at  
**southplainfieldnj.com**

Visit your community web site for the latest local news on

- Mayor and Council
- Planning Board & Board of Adjustment Agendas
- Police - Fire - Rescue Squad
- Recreation
- Youth Activities
- Senior Corner
- Professional & Business Directory
- Community Bulletin Board
- Civic Organizations
- Election Results
- and more

Advertise your business and support on  
South Plainfield's own web site  
For rates or information email at: [southplainfieldnj.com](mailto:southplainfieldnj.com)  
Or call 908-226-7656



**Spring is here...**  
**Clean up! Spruce up!**

Advertise your garage sale in the Observer.

908-668-0010



# Sports

## SOCCER

### So Plfd Blaze Ties Edison United

*Blaze vs. Edison United Shooting Stars*

Playing at home and facing Edison United Shooting Stars for the first time ever, the South Plainfield Blaze U-13 girls traveling soccer team had to settle for a 1-1 tie this past weekend. Defensively in the net and making some spectacular saves our keeper Becky Keller had another great day. With numerous shots on goal. Becky has been fantastic so far this season allowing only one goal in four games.

Our dependable and tough fullbacks, Ashleigh Gaspari, Tiffany

Smith and Kim Marin played as tough as ever in shutting down a relentless outside attack. While crucial battles in the middle were dominated by defenders stopper Dorian Bishop and our very reliable sweeper Jackie Miller. Halfback midfielders Lauren Fry, Ashley Little, Elizabeth Flannery, Jenna DeLillo and Joy Maszczak all were relentless in attacking and keeping the defense off balance.

Keys to our success in the middle came from a commanding performance by center midfielder Jennifer

Copeland.

Strong efforts up front from our attackers Megan Boyle, Ashley Little and Kate Hardy were met by a tough and determined defense. Late second half heroics by halfback Joy Maszczak and our only score of the game came in the 72<sup>nd</sup> minute when on a left side cross from Jenna DeLillo; Joy blasted it in to tie the game. Keep up the hard work girls and well done!

Visit the South Plainfield Soccer Club web site at [www.soplfdsoccerclub.com](http://www.soplfdsoccerclub.com)



### Ponytail Softball Batters Box

By Sharon Miller

**Opening Day—April 13**

The Girl's Ponytail softball season began last Saturday. It was a fun and exciting day and everyone had a great time. Opening day article and pictures will appear in next weeks *Observer*.

**Ponytail Softball Association Meeting—April 23**

The South Plainfield Parents' Association will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, April 23 at 8 p.m. in the South Plainfield Middle School library. If you are interested in becoming a member and being involved in girl's Ponytail softball, please join us on April 23. New members are always welcomed. Please note time change to 8 p.m.

**Softball Jackets-Ordering Deadline—April 28**

Sportworld is offering a light lined nylon jacket in green with the players name on the front and the ponytail logo on the back. There are two styles available, zip-down and pullover. The jackets are available in both adult and youth sizes. Don't forget to use your five-dollar discount coupon supplied by the Ponytail Parents' Association. The coupons were distributed to the players on opening day. If you did not receive one, please see your coach. This coupon must be presented to Sportworld at the time you place your order. The last day to place orders is April 28.

**All-Star Try-outs—May 4**

Try-outs for the summer All-Star teams will be held on Saturday, May 4 at 4 p.m. at Pitt St. Park. Players will be chosen for the 10 and under, 12 and under and 14 and under teams. One team per age group will be formed.

**Age Requirements**

**C League Team**—Girls must be 10 under as of 12/31/01. Tryouts will take place on field C.

**B League Team**—Girls must be 12 under as of 12/31/01. Tryouts will take place on field B.

**A league Team**—Girls must be 14 under as of 12/31/01. Tryouts will take place on field A.

**Recreation Tag Day—May 9, 10, 11**

Our annual tag day will take place on May 9, 10 and 11. We need the participation of all players in order to make this fundraiser a success. Coaches will advise teams of their scheduled date and time.

**Pool Party—June 7**

The Ponytail Parents' Association will be sponsoring an end of season pool party. This event is open to all Recreation Ponytail softball players so please join us on Friday, June 7 at the South Plainfield Community pool. Additional info will be provided in upcoming publications of the Batters Box.

**All-Star Tag Day—June 8**

All-Star tag day will take place on Saturday, June 8. It is a mandatory requirement that every All-Star player participate in two tag days. This tagging requirement can be fulfilled by participating in any two of the four tag days. If an All-Star player is unable to tag on June 8, they will be permitted to tag during any two of the three recreation tag days (please see your coach to arrange this).

**Ponytail Softball Website**

Visit Ponytail Softball online anytime at our website...[SPPONYTAIL.com](http://SPPONYTAIL.com). You will find the latest news/events, team rosters/schedules, game highlights/pictures, information on our Parents' Association, and All-Star teams. Please feel free to contact me by keying on the email link [Webmasterspponytail.com](mailto:Webmasterspponytail.com) found on our home page.

### Typhoons Win Two Last Weekend

The South Plainfield Boys U-12 Typhoons played two games this past weekend and came away with two big wins. In a rare Friday evening game, the Typhoons played superbly against the Watchung Hills Wizards in a 5-2 victory. On Sunday, they were put to the test, but came away with a narrow 1-0 win over the Hunterdon United X-treme.

Brandon Ullom and Brendan O'Shea led South Plainfield over the Wizards, scoring two goals apiece, while Zach Olim put the exclamation point in a key team win with his first goal of the year. John Polizzano, Dan Pompilio, Matt Helgesen, Chris Pennisi and Keith Heckel were excellent throughout the contest appearing to be everywhere they needed to be to thwart many an offensive threat as well

as effectively passing and creating scoring opportunities. Ullom played an inspired game at right wing, as he was able to penetrate deep into the opponent's zone on many occasions and wreaked havoc on the Wizards defense all day. Goalie Grey Coppi preserved the victory with a number of saves late in the match with some acrobatic and aggressive stops that eventually demoralized Watchung and sent them home with their first loss of the year.

O'Shea would score the lone goal and solidly put South Plainfield in first place of the division Sunday, while Coppi collected his second shutout of the season over the X-treme. The Typhoons maintained control for the majority of this game, however a stingy Hunterdon defense would keep

the game close until the end.

Steven Guevara, Brian Fabino, Jonathan Marcoux, Ullom, Pompilio and Polizzano all contributed towards keeping the ball in Hunterdon's zone. On the flip side, Greg Watts, J.R. Licato, Pennisi, Olim, Helgesen and Heckel were able to turn back whatever offensive surges the United put forth.

With these two victories, the Typhoons have opened the season with four straight wins and have marked themselves as the team to beat as the midway point of the season nears. The boys are currently playing on a level higher than they ever have and will travel to Parsippany next Sunday with hopes of keeping their perfect record intact.

### Recreation Department Offers Sports Camps

The South Plainfield Recreation Department will be offering a variety of sports camps this summer.

• **Field Hockey Camp** runs from June 24-28 at the Varsity Hockey Field at SPHS.

• **Basketball Camp** runs July 1-5 at the SPHS gym. No camp on July 4.

• **Softball Camp** runs from July 15-19 at the Varsity Softball Field at SPHS.

• **Wrestling Camp** runs from July 8-12 at the PAL.

• **Soccer Camp** runs from July 22-26 at the Varsity Soccer Field at SPHS.

• **Baseball Camp** runs from July 29-Aug. 2 at the SPHS ball fields.

All programs are from 9 a.m. until 12 noon and are for children ages seven through 15.

Children must be seven years-old before the camp begins. The fee is \$35 for each camp.

Registrar at the PAL Building on Maple Ave. For information call (908) 226-7714.

### Earth Day Walk in The Highland Woods Reserve

The Friends of the Woods are sponsoring a free Walks 'n' Talks program at Highland Woods Environmental Education Reserve on Sunday, Apr. 21, 1 p.m. The Earth Day program will be presented by local resident Mary Ferraro, forester with the Department of Environmental Protection.

Scouting, school groups and gardeners in particular are encouraged to join Ferraro for an informative and fun spring walk through the 36-acre reserve. There is an unusually rich

biodiversity of plants and animals here, a rarity in South Plainfield and Middlesex County.

Ferraro is a former high school biology teacher and Shade Tree Commissioner in Bound Brook. She holds a masters degree in forestry from the University of Maine and is an associate member of the South Plainfield Environmental Commission.

The Highland Woods Reserve is located on Sylvania Place, off South Clinton Ave. in South Plainfield. For

more information, please call Alice Tempel at (908) 227-621 or Dorothy Miele at (908) 754-3073.

You may also e-mail questions to [SPNatureTrails@cs.com](mailto:SPNatureTrails@cs.com) or visit our website at: <http://community.nj.com/cc/friendsofthewoods>. Call (908) 754-3073 the day of the event to be sure there is no last minute cancellation. Heavy rain will cancel the event.

Subscribe online: [www.spobserver.com](http://www.spobserver.com)

TAX RETURNS PREPARED • WILLS, CLOSINGS  
INDIVIDUAL AND BUSINESS • PERSONAL INJURY  
WORKERS COMPENSATION

PAUL W. GRZENDA  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

HOUSE CALLS AVAILABLE

SO. PLAINFIELD OFFICE Tel.: (908) 769-8602

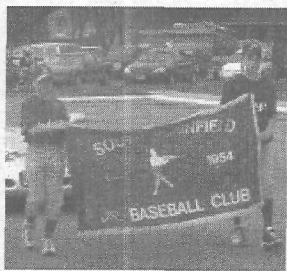
Advertise Your Business in the

Business &  
Professional

section of the Observer  
for only \$15 per week!

Call (908) 668-0010 to find out how.

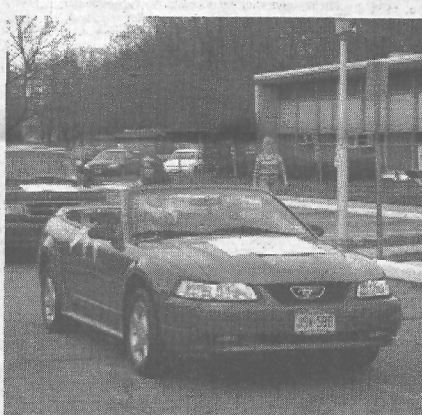
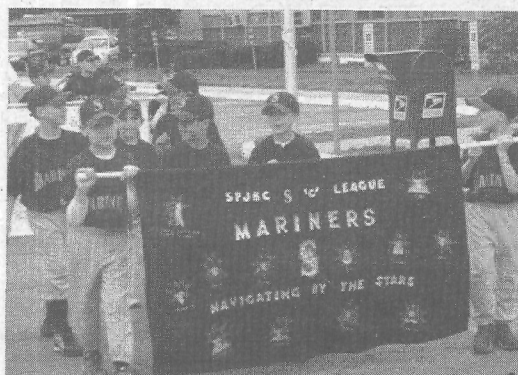
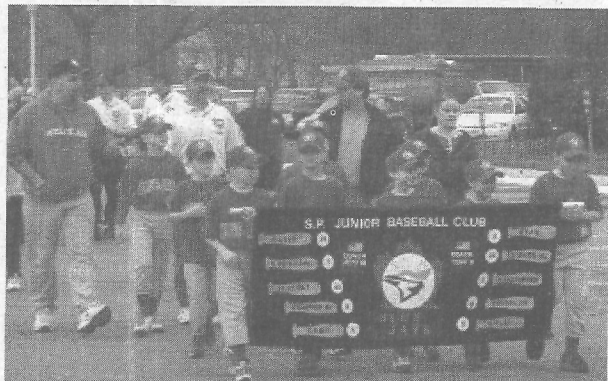
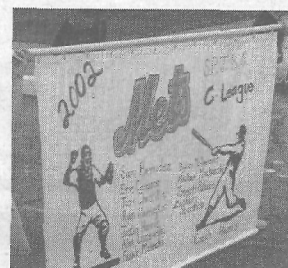




# PLAY BALL!

## OPENING DAY JR. BASEBALL

Photos by Carol Grennier





# Hello Dolly! Opens Next Weekend at SPHS

Story/photo by Patricia Abbott

Say hello to South Plainfield High School's spring musical *Hello Dolly!* The show opens on the high school stage next weekend April 25-27. Directing the show is Gloria Naso, who brought South Plainfield the hysterical *Damn Yankees* last spring. Vocal Director is Tracy Murray, Band Director is Mark Tweed and choreographer is Mary Alice Topoleski. The producer is Maureen Imbrosciano.

Based on *The Matchmaker* by Thornton Wilder, the musical *Hello Dolly!* is the story of Dolly Gallagher Levi, a meddling matchmaker with a heart of gold and a shrewd mind. It is the late 1800's in New York, the horse and buggy era. Dolly has been hired to arrange a marriage for grumpy Horace Vandergelder, a half-millionaire who owns a hay and feed store in Yonkers. His bride of choice is lovely



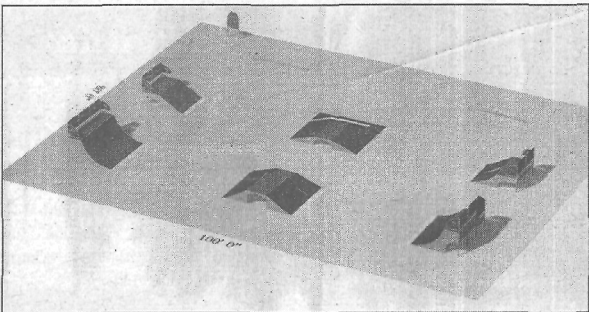
Chris Abbott, Danny Seirzega, Dave Garatino and Josef Rodriguez relax during break from Dolly rehearsal

widowed hatmaker Irene Molloy. Along the way Dolly comes to the conclusion that Horace and his fortune are exactly what she needs in a new husband.

While matchmaking for herself, she is also busy encouraging the romance of Vandergelder's 17 year-old-niece Emragarde and artist Ambrose Kemper, of whom Horace disap-

proves. Enter Horace's shop clerks, Cornelius and Barnaby, sneaking into the big city for a day of adventure. When they accidentally stumble into Irene's shop prior to the arrival of Horace Dolly's plan comes to life. Dolly uses her refined meddling skills, a little deception, some blackmail, and womanly wiles in a funny and fast-paced night on the town at New York's Harmonia Gardens restaurant. Penniless Cornelius and Barnaby woo Irene and Minnie at the exclusive restaurant as Horace shows up searching for a mysterious widow named Ernestina. Add a pack of galloping waiters, toe-tapping tunes, romance, comedy and the outcome is happily ever after for all.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for students and senior citizens. Shows are Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 25, 26 and 27 at 7 p.m. in the SPHS auditorium. For ticket information call (908) 745-4620.



## Skateboard Park to Become Reality

Continued from page 1

to build, maintain and control. The skateboarding kids turned out in large numbers to that meeting.

Recreation Commissioner Mike English visited nearby skateboarding parks to see what other towns were doing. He also located an area that could be used just behind Borough Hall and the hockey rinks. Once used as a tennis court, it is no longer in use. The property is 120x140, has a perfect surface and is already practically fenced in, ideal for a skate park. There is also enough space for future expansion, if needed.

On Monday night, Will Hemier and Joe Del Vecchio, Jr., sales representatives from SkateWave, a company that designs and installs skate parks, gave a presentation of their product.

The equipment they recommended is stainless steel modular and guaranteed for 10 years. Once assembled, is almost tamper-proof. The surface of the modular pieces will be coated with Tektrak, a material which grips the skateboard and is not slippery. The color will be green and purple so the kids can differentiate flat areas from slopes. The units are

mobile enough to be moved, if needed, for storage or if the park is redesigned in the future. The ramps will be three and five foot heights.

English said skateboarders will be required to wear helmets and the younger ones will need full gear. The fee per child is \$30 a year. A decal will be issued and worn on the helmets. He explained that anyone following the rules will not be allowed in the skate park for a full year.

The park will be open to South Plainfield residents only. Rules will be clearly posted in the skate park along with a sign saying "skate at your own risk." Special hours will also be set aside for young skaters to use the park exclusively. The rules at the park will be self-governing and someone from the PAL will be visiting the park twice a day when it is open.

Funding for the park will come from the surplus funds of the PAL weight room. Since the PAL expansion, the weight rooms have increased membership and the extra funds will be used to build the park. The estimated cost of the park equipment with installation is approximately \$40,000.

## Gallagher, Kubala, Vokral Endorsed

Continued from page 1

leaders." Councilman Petronko pointed out that both he and Councilman Buttrico were Republicans before running for council. "In South Plainfield, the Democratic party is the tax-cutting, fiscally conservative party." Councilman Buttrico commented, "Mayor Gallagher and Councilmen Kubala and Vokral work with all of the people to keep the party open to all points of view, including former Republicans like Ray and me."

Councilman Bob Cusick summed up the position of the governing body members saying, "Dan Gallagher, Ed Kubala and Jim Vokral don't care about politics. They only care about what's right and good for the residents of South Plainfield. We are all honored to serve with them."

In accepting the endorsement,

Mayor Gallagher said, "I have been honored to serve as your mayor for three terms. Much has been accomplished, but there is more to be done. I want to work for more senior housing, more open space preservation and traffic relief."

Ed Kubala expanded on the Mayor's comments, "When the new Democratic majority first endorsed "pay as you go" government, the naysayers said it couldn't be done. One hundred roads and 20 improvement projects later, we have shown what innovative leadership can do."

Council President Vokral made the final observation, "I honestly believe Dan and Ed and I have worked hard for our borough and that the Democratic team has a record to be proud of. I hope that our residents agree and support the team of Gallagher, Kubala and Vokral in November."

## LEGAL NOTICES

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

#### LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Ed and Lorri Cihanowicz requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the erection of an 18' round above ground pool, proposed pool lacks the required 30' front setback from Green St., 7.5' being proposed; and any other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 367, Lot 2.10 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 Thursday, May 2, 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 April 19, 2002

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

#### LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Rolando Hernandez requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the erection of a 30'x14' wood deck, proposed deck lacks the required 8' side setback, 6.21' being proposed and exceeding lot coverage by 216 s.f. or 3.27%; and any other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 58, Lot 23 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 Thursday, May 2, 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 April 19, 2002

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

#### LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Able Laboratories, Inc. requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the use of a portion of the parking lot for a temporary office trailer, a use not permitted in the zone, and any other variances that may be needed; said property being located on Block 390, Lot 5.03 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 Thursday, May 2, 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 April 19, 2002

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ADVERTISEMENT AND NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be received by the Borough of South Plainfield for the "2002 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS" and publicly opened and read aloud at the Borough of South Plainfield, Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080 on Wednesday, May 8, 2002, at 10:00 a.m. prevailing local time.

The project generally consists of the repaving of Kenyon Avenue, Rahway Avenue and Tyler Place within the Borough of South Plainfield, including the removal and replacement of miscellaneous concrete curbs, concrete sidewalks, bituminous concrete milling or pavement repair, 2" average compacted thickness of FABC-1 bituminous concrete surface overlay, including sweeping, tack coating and other pavement preparation and related work and all other work and services as contained in the contract documents and as ordered by the Engineer.

Contract documents and plans for the proposed work prepared by David J. Samuel, P.E., Borough Engineer, CME Associates, may be examined at the office of said engineer at 3141 Bordentown Avenue, Parlin, New Jersey, and at the office of the Borough Clerk, 48 Washington Street, South River, New Jersey, during business hours and may be obtained at the Borough Engineer's office until 48 hours prior to the time set for the opening of bids upon payment of \$100.00 per set. No refunds will be made. Proposals and the Contract Documents must be enclosed in sealed envelopes bearing the name and address of the Bidder and the name of the work on the outside addressed to Mayor and Borough Council, Borough of South Plainfield and must be accompanied by a Statement of Consent of Surety from a surety company authorized to do business in the State of New Jersey and acceptable to the owner. All bids submitted prior to the bid opening shall be mailed or delivered to the Borough Clerk at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check or cash in the amount of not less than ten (10%) percent of the bid payable without any conditional endorsement as a guarantee that in case the contract is awarded to the bidder, he will within ten (10) days thereafter execute such contract and furnish satisfactory performance bond. Upon failure to do so he shall forfeit the deposit as liquidated damages and the acceptance of the bid will be contingent upon the fulfillment of this requirement by the bidder. No interest shall be allowed upon any such certified check or cash. A bid bond in the amount of ten (10%) percent of the bid may be substituted for certified check or cash.

Each bid must also be accompanied by certificate from a bonding company licensed to do business in the State of New Jersey guaranteeing that if the proposal of the bidder be accepted they will furnish the bond set forth in paragraph one of the General Conditions of the contract and the acceptance of the bid will be contingent upon the fulfillment of this requirement.

The Borough reserves the right to increase or decrease quantities specified in the manner designated in the specifications. The Borough reserves the right to award this contract based on funds available.

The successful bidder shall be required to comply with the provisions of the New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act, Chapter 150 of the laws of 1963, effective January 1, 1964.

During the performance of this contract the Contractor agrees to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27), all requirements of the State of New Jersey Worker Health and Safety Act (N.J.A.C. 12:110 et. seq.) as amended and the United States Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) (29 CFR 1910) as amended with regard to worker and jobsite safety.

No bidder may withdraw his bid for a period of sixty (60) days after the date set for the opening hereof. The successful bidder will be required to furnish a surety company bond in the full amount of contract price indemnifying the Borough of South Plainfield, New Jersey, for all proceedings, suits or actions of any kind of description and conditional for the faithful performance of the work.

All bid security will be returned to all Bidders except the three (3) apparent lowest bidders within 10 working days after the opening of bids, and to the three (3) apparent lowest Bidders within three (3) working days after the successful Bidder has executed the Contract and his Contract security has been approved by the Borough.

The award shall be subject to the approval of the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

Bidders are advised that the capital improvements are partially funded by the State of New Jersey, 1984 Transportation Trust Fund Authority Act, and the successful bidder will be required to fully comply with the applicable current "New Jersey Department of Transportation Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction" if, and as amended or supplemented by the NJDOT Local Aid District Office.

The Borough reserves the right to reject any or all bids if in its opinion it is in the best interest to do so and to award the contract for any and/or all items.

BY ORDER OF THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD.

Vincent Buttiglieri  
Borough Clerk

\$131.25 1T April 19, 2002

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

April 15, 2002

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Planning Board at its meeting held on April 9, 2002.

A. Case #01-07/N-Kilmianham Builders, LLC-2000 Woodland Ave., Lot 3; Block 73-Applicant's request for minor subdivision approval was hereby GRANTED with waivers and variances and conditions.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Janice Muccilli  
Recording Secretary/Planning Board

\$19.25 1T April 19, 2002

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.  
South Plainfield, NJ

Rev. John Paul Alvarado, Pastor

**Mass Schedule:**

Saturday Evening Mass 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.  
Weekdays 7:00 a.m. (except Monday) 9:00 a.m., Church  
12 Noon, Chapel—(Consult weekly schedule of Masses)  
Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m.  
Holy Days 7 p.m. (Vigil); 7 and 9 a.m., 12:10 p.m. and 7 p.m.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturday 10-11 a.m., 4-4:45 p.m.



## Obituaries

### Philip C. Schwabenland, 87

Philip C. Schwabenland died on Wednesday, April 10 in the Overland Park Regional Medical Center.

Philip was born in Newark on April 28, 1914. He had resided in Middletown for more than 50 years. He was a former member of the Middletown Reformed Church before moving to Overland Park seven years ago, where he was a member of the Cross Roads Reformed Church of America.

During WWII he served with the US Army from 1941-1945.

Mr. Schwabenland received both his Bachelor of Science in 1951 and his MBA from Rutgers University in 1955.

His professional career of over 40 years was with Igoe Brothers Steel Co. of Newark where he was an engineering detailer for most of his time with the company.

His wife of 59 years, Eleanor Schwabenland died this past July. He was also predeceased by his sister, Louise Rourke.

Surviving are his daughter and son-in-law, Mary S. and Anthony C. Bianculli of Lenexa, Kansas; two grandchildren, Anne Bianculli and Christopher Bianculli of Lenexa, Kansas and by his brother, Alfred Schwabenland of Mountainside, NJ.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Memorial donations to the American Heart Asso. or the American Cancer Society would be appreciated.

### Juan Diego Feehan, 63

Juan Diego Feehan of Piscataway died on Monday, April 8 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

He was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina and was a former resident of South Plainfield before moving to Piscataway five years ago.

Mr. Feehan was a field investigator for the Middlesex County Board of Social Services in New Brunswick for five years before retiring in 2000. Prior to that he owned and operated JDF Typesetting in South Plainfield for eight years.

He is survived by his wife, Marina Sierra Feehan; two daughters, Claudia Feehan of San Pedro, Cal. and Graciela

Massara of Buenos Aires; two sisters, Patsy Freehan of Buono Aires and Lucy Feehan of San Polo, Brazil and three grandchildren.

A Memorial Mass was held at St. Mary's RC Church in Plainfield and arrangements were made by the James W. Conroy Funeral Home.

### William C. Carlson, 74

William C. Carlson died on March 10 in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Born in Jersey City, Mr. Carlson had resided in South Plainfield for most of his life before moving to Florida 13 years ago.

He was a WWII veteran of the US Navy as a petty officer second class.

Mr. Carlson had been employed as a truck driver for M & G Convoy of Newark retiring 19 years ago. Previously he had been employed by Buffalo Tank Truck Co. for 20 years.

He was a member of the South Plainfield Veteran of Foreign Wars Memorial Post #6763 and the South Plainfield BPOE Elks Lodge #2298. He had been an active member of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department where he is a life member of their Exempts Asso. and a member of the NJ State Exempts Asso. In addition he is a communicant of the Church of the Transfiguration in St. Petersburg, Fla. and a former member of St. Stanislaus Church in Plainfield.

Surviving are his wife of 35 years, Stella (Wisniewski) Carlson, his daughter, Karen Scaleria of Middlesex; two sons, William of Raritan and James Carlson of Somerset; his sister, Agnes Yurenko of Menlo Park and his brother, William Johnson of Florida.

Also surviving are his five grandchildren.

Memorial services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Memorial donations may be made to the Hospice of the Florida Sun Coast, 300 E. Bay Dr., Largo, Florida 33770.

### Edward F. Phillips, 81

Edward F. Phillips entered into eternal life on Tuesday, April 9 at his home.

Born in Plainfield, Mr. Phillips had been a lifelong resident of South Plainfield.

He was a machinist for Man Roland in Middlesex for many years. Previously he was employed as a machinist for Mack Motors in Plainfield.

He served in the US Navy during WWII and was a member of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield.

He was a devoted husband of the late Elizabeth M. Phillips who died in July of 2001.

Mr. Phillips was a loving father to his daughter and son-in-law, Shirley and Fred Weber of Middlesex; his son and daughter-in-law, Edward and Judy

Phillips of Middlesex. He was a cherished grandfather to Lauren and Eric Weber.

He is also survived by a brother, Adolph Phillips of Maryland.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

### Bridget Makowski Stukart, 97

Bridget Makowski Stukart of Plainfield died on Wednesday, April 10 at the Norwood Terrace Health Center in Plainfield.

She was born in Dixon City, Pa. and was a former resident of South Plainfield before moving to Plainfield five years ago.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband, William Stukart who died in 1975.

She is survived by her daughter, Doris Brand and her husband Bill of Toms River; her grandchildren, Deborah and her husband Michael Resetar of Hillsborough, NC and Paul Brand and his wife Diane of Bridgewater and her great grandchildren, Janice and Lorri.

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

### Alfred Clifford Vail, Sr., 74

Alfred Clifford Vail, Sr. died on Monday, April 15 in his home.

Born in Plainfield, he resided in Plainfield and Dunellen, before settling in South Plainfield in 1954.

Mr. Vail had owned and operated Yorktown Hardware in Englishtown from 1970-1981, at which time he retired. He had previously been employed as an assembler for the former Chelsea Fan Co. of Plainfield from 1950 to 1970.

He served in the U.S. Army as a sergeant in the Signal Corps from 1947 to 1950.

Mr. Vail had a great love and enjoyed gardening.

He is predeceased by his grandson, Clifford Vail III, two brothers, Edward and David Vail.

He is survived by his wife, Rose (Santaguida) Vail, three daughters, Natalie Vail of South Plainfield, Karen Vail and her husband, Pat Parkman of Knoxville, Tenn. and Linda and her husband, Jim Hopponen of New Milford; two sons and their wives, Clifford, Jr. and Diane Vail of Dunellen and Frank and Jeannie Vail of Pohatcong, NJ; two sisters, Jane and Marion both of Dunellen and a brother, H. Eugene Vail of Brooklyn Heights. Also surviving are seven grandchildren.

Funeral Services will be held on Friday, April 19 at 10 a.m. in the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to JFK Haven Hospice, C/O JFK Medical Ctr., 65 James St., Edison, NJ 08818.



Brad and Kim Batcha, owners of Holly Park Mower, along with their son Michael, 20 months.

## Holly Park Mower Open House Held Despite Flurries

Story/photos by Patricia Abbott

The front lawn of the Holly Park Mower Shop on Park Ave. was filled with signs of a fun-filled spring day. A colorful array of balloons tugged at their ribbons in the brisk wind, a hot-dog cart complete with all the trimmings stood ready. The Batcha family was all set for their third annual

Holly Park Mower Shop Open House. The minuscule snow flurries that filled the cold spring air did not stop approximately 100 people from attending the open house. While parents browsed the mowers and more set up on the lawn, children enjoyed molding clay, candy and snacks. Despite the uncharacteristic weather the event was a big success.

## Rutgers College Presents: Canada Geese Management

Rutgers Cooperative Extension, in cooperation with the USDA will hold an informational meeting to discuss the issue of resident Canada geese in New Jersey. The event will take place on Wednesday, April 25 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Freehold Gardens Hotel on Rt. 537 and Gibson Place, in Freehold.

Anyone interested in the Canada goose problem is invited to attend including homeowners, golf courses and municipal officials, corporate park grounds officers.

The event is free and topics discussed include, why the population of

resident Canada Geese is so large in New Jersey, who is responsible for the management of Canada Geese in New Jersey and all of the available management options in the state.

Funding for this program is provided by the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station's Millennium Viability Initiative. The New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station created this initiative to enhance the economic viability of agriculture and the quality of life for New Jersey's citizens.

Rutgers Cooperative Extension is an Equal Opportunity provider of programs and employment.

## Free Workshop on Issues Affecting an Aging NJ

In recent studies it has been reported that 13.2 percent of the New Jersey population is age 65 or older. Lorraine Spiotta, CLU, ChFC at Senior Long Term Care Insurance Brokerage, Inc. and attorney, Gary Ben Cornick have teamed up for a free

workshop to discuss long term care insurance and legal issues affecting an aging NJ.

Those who should attend include; individuals who need to re-evaluate their estate planning due to changes in the laws, families who do not want to rely on Medicaid or Welfare benefits or have recently had a life experience caring for a family member, individuals who do not want to burden their children with financial responsibility or if you will spend a small percentage of your assets in order to protect a lifetime of earning.

The workshop will be held at Autumn Woods Assisted Living, 280 Rt. 202/206 in Bridgewater on Wednesday, April 24 from 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. and light refreshments will be served.

For more information call Lorraine Spiotta at (732) 651-6757 or (732) 651-1495 to reserve a seat.

### Consideration

It is far easier for the family if a family plot is arranged prior to need. The considerate staff at Hillside Cemetery will assist your selection. All lots are in fully developed areas and include perpetual care. Located on Woodland Avenue in Scotch Plains, a non-profit organization. 908-756-1729

**Hillside Cemetery**  
www.hillsidecemetery.com



*James W. Conroy*  
*Funeral Home*

*Serving the Area Since 1949*

**"Because We Care"**

- Forethought Funeral Planning
- N.J.D.A. Choices
- Complete Care Financing
- Serving All Faiths
- Cremation Services
- Pre Arrangement Specialists

**"Consult the Families We Serve"**

**ROBERT HUNTER JR.**  
Owner-Manager  
License Number 3337  
**756-2800**  
2456 Plainfield Ave.,  
South Plainfield  
www.conroyfuneralhome.com



(908) 561-8000

*McCriskin*

**HOME FOR FUNERALS**

2425 PLAINFIELD AVENUE  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080  
FAX (908) 561-6744

RICHARD W. McCRISKIN, Pres., Mgr.  
NJ License No.3147





Court Regina Coeli #940 of Dunellen hosted it's annual Spring Luncheon/Fashion Show recently. Eight days later, a check in the amount of \$1,000 was presented to Captain James Gormley and his men of NYFD Engine Company 40, Ladder 35. The firehouse lost 12 men at Ground Zero on Sept 11. March 24 was a unique day for five women of the Court. They were given the opportunity to have lunch, prepared by the firefighters, at the firehouse on 66th St. and Amsterdam Ave. on the Upper West Side of Manhattan. The experience of the welcome and camaraderie within the firehouse will be forever embedded in the hearts of Regent, Patricia Nagel along with committee members Jayne Lendach, Jeanne Fitzgerald, Gloria Vandermark and Ronnie Gray pictured with Captain James Gormley and his men.

## policereport

- On April 10 an Englishtown man reported that after parking his van on the corner of Coolidge St. and South Ave., he went for a walk in the woods with his two dogs. Upon returning, his van had been broken into and a Skil circular saw, Bosch angle grinder, Sears router and Milwaukee tool box were missing.
- On April 11 a Clinton Pl. resident reported that an unknown female had used her name, address, social security number and date of birth to obtain a loan for plastic surgery.

- An employee of Reed Presentations Inc. on Wade Ave. reported that someone had removed the E-Z Pass from his car windshield.
- On Saturday Marco Garcia-Mora, 35, of South Plainfield was arrested for theft and receiving stolen property in connection with a lost wallet at the 7-11.
- On Monday a Scotch Plains resident reported that while parked at China Buffet on Park Ave., his drivers door lock had been broken and his AM/FM CD player had been stolen.

## Middlesex County Gun Surrender Program

Middlesex County will be hold a Gun Surrender Program in May—no questions asked. Wrap up your *unloaded* gun, tie or tape it, then put it in a box, bag or case and help yourself to a reward!

This program is intended to reduce the number of dangerous guns in Middlesex County. No one will be arrested for turning in their guns. You can help reduce the number of guns that maybe used by criminals or cause injury, death or suffering.

Most guns are owned by law-abiding people, but guns may also be stolen in a burglary, or found by a child, even if locked up. They could be used unexpectedly during a heated argument or at a time of great stress. Tragedies do happen with guns owned by good citizens. Any gun will be gladly accepted.

The Gun Surrender Program takes place on the following dates: May 3, 2 to 8 p.m.; May 4, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and May 5, noon to 5 p.m. The five police departments holding the Gun Surrender Program are: the Carteret, Edison, Sayreville and South Brunswick (all in the lobby) and the rear entrance of the New Brunswick Police Department.

Reward for a handgun is \$60, for rifles and shotguns \$40 and assault weapons \$100.

For more information or directions call (732) 754-3300.

# Classifieds

**Rates -- \$11 for 3 lines (min.)  
\$1 ea. additional line**

### HELP WANTED

**PT/FT: CAREGIVERS COMPANION** wanted. Flexible hours, benefits inc. 401k. (732) 500-7525.

### FOR SALE

**HAMMOND ORGAN, MODEL A100** with bench. Two full keyboards, 25 pedals. Exc. condition. (908) 756-4929.

**ANTIQUES, BIRD CAGE & DOG** stop nutcracker, steins, planters, a lot more. Call 908-754-2554.

### MATH TUTORING

**NEED HELP WITH MATH? UP TO** Calculus I, Call (732) 968-4718.

### FLOOR SERVICES

**WOOD FLOORS REFINISHED** Refinished, 1 yr. Fin. available, no interest. Free Est. & Application (908) 753-9638.

### HANDY TECHNICIAN

**ODD JOBS-SPACKLE/PAINT-CALL** Drew, 732-406-9438.

### CLEANING SERVICE

**PROFESSIONAL HOME CLEANING** service. Fully insured. Efficient and reasonable (908) 753-8943.

### GUITAR LESSONS

**GUITAR LESSONS: ACOUSTIC, ELEC-** TRIC, Beginner Specialists. 755-6882.

### ROOFING

**COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, Resi-** dential, (908) 753-4222.

### COMPUTER INSTRUCTION

**ONE-ON-ONE PERSONALIZED** instruction, your home or mine. (732) 494-5826.

### MORTGAGES

**FAST APPROVALS, GREAT** rates, personalized service, (908) 822-0090.

### CONTRACTORS

**BUILDER, CONTRACTOR, ADDI-** tions, Kitchens, Bathrooms, Office Renovations, (908) 753-3850.

### COMPUTER SERVICES

**UPGRADES, HARDWARE/SOFT-** ware installation, in-home services. Call 908-769-0709.

To place a classified ad,  
call 908-668-0010.

Deadline:

Tuesday noon

for Friday publication.

# Business & Professional

### COMPUTERS

#### ST Computers

Stan Wilkinson

- New Computers/Upgrades
- Hardware/Software Installations
- In Home Service
- Some Used Computers Available

Phone: 908-769-0709

Cell: 732-423-3504

Email: st-computers@home.com

### COMPUTER INSTRUCTION

**RECEIVED A COMPUTER AS  
A GIFT? NEED HELP?**  
Personalized Computer Instruction

**YOUR HOME OR OFFICE**  
MICROSOFT CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL  
**Call Martha**  
THE PATIENT ONE  
**732-494-5826**

### CONTRACTORS

**BUILDER &  
GENERAL CONTRACTOR**  
NJ DCA LIC #019771  
Since 1981

**Lordina Builders**  
**908-753-3850**

**ADDITIONS-KITCHENS -  
BATHROOMS -  
Office Renovations**  
**FREE ESTIMATES**

### HEATING & COOLING

#### CALI-AIR

HEATING • COOLING • REFRIGERATION  
**(908) 222-0443**

**"Preventive Maintenance is Our Priority"**

Central AC / Air Cleaners / Furnaces / Boilers / Humidifiers / Pumps  
Attic Fans / Rooftops / Thermostats

- EPA Certified #109400748
- Free Estimates
- Amana Ductless & High Velocity Systems
- Gas Logs & Fireplaces

**(908) 222-0443**

Present this coupon for our  
**SPRING/SUMMER SPECIAL:**  
**10 POINT \$25.99**  
**AC TUNEUP**  
Call for appointment—Limited Time Offer.  
(Parts & Freon not included)

### GUITAR LESSONS

**GUITAR LESSONS**  
**755-6882**

- Acoustic
- Electric
- Finger Picking
- Beginner Specialist
- Alternate Tuning

### MASSAGE

**CENTRAL JERSEY**  
Holistic Health Center and Spa  
• MASSAGE • REFLEXOLOGY  
• HYPNOSIS • REIKI  
DOULA LABOR ASSISTANT  
Roxanne Cortese, CD, CFP, CMT  
2701 Park Ave. So. Plainfield, NJ 07080  
(908) 561-1511  
By Appointment Only  
GIFT CERTIFICATES AND GIFT BASKETS

### MORTGAGES

**FAST APPROVALS...  
GREAT RATES...  
PERSONALIZED SERVICE...**  
**Colony Mortgage**  
Mike Dixon, President  
Licensed Mortgage Broker - NJ Dept. of Banking  
**908-822-0090**  
2325 Plainfield Ave. Suite 2E  
South Plainfield, NJ  
Se Habla Espanol

### MULCH/TOP SOIL/STONE

Call **KLK Trucking** for:  
Top Soil, Mulch, Sand, Infield Mix, Decorative & Crushed Stone  
Sanding • Salting • Snowplowing  
Pick up or Deliv., Mon. thru Sat.  
**908-757-4434**  
265 Ryan Street  
South Plainfield

### LANDSCAPING

**Silver Creek Landscaping**  
SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NJ  
**SPRING LAWN SPECIAL**  
**ANY LAWN CUT FOR**  
**\$29.00 PER CUT**  
up to 10,000 square feet  
some restrictions apply  
call for details  
**908-756-7272**

### PLUMBING

**MIKE OZERANSKY**  
**PLUMBING & HEATING**

Hot Water Heaters  
Gas Conversions  
New Homes  
Additions & Repairs  
Free Estimates

**908-222-3444**

Fully Insured  
Bonded  
N.J. State Lic.#6461

### ROOFING

**J.T. PENYAK**  
**ROOFING CO.**  
COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL  
RESIDENTIAL  
**908-753-4222**  
**FAX 908-753-4763**  
124 CAMDEN AVE.  
SO. PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080

### SPIRITS

1645 Park Avenue,  
South Plainfield  
**791-9463**  
**Sal's Spirit Shoppe**  
Cavit (1.5 liter)  
Pinot Grigio ..... **\$9.99** Mon.-Sat.  
Estate Cellars 9am-1am  
White Zinfandel ..... **\$3.49** Sundays  
(750ml) ..... **\$5.49** 1am-7pm  
(1.5 liter)  
Bring in this ad for 10% off on wines

### PRINTING/TYPESSETTING

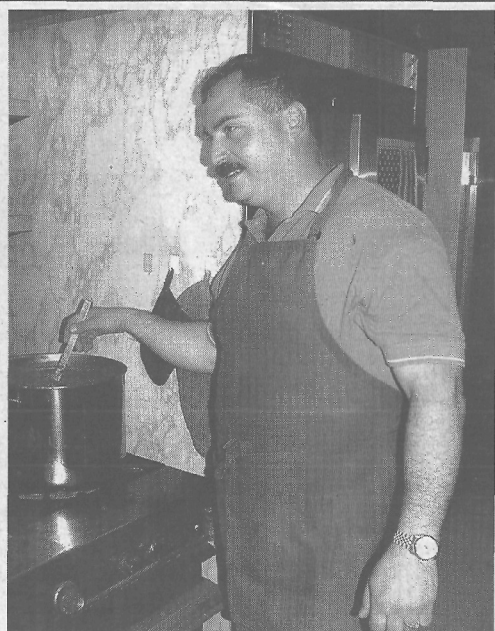
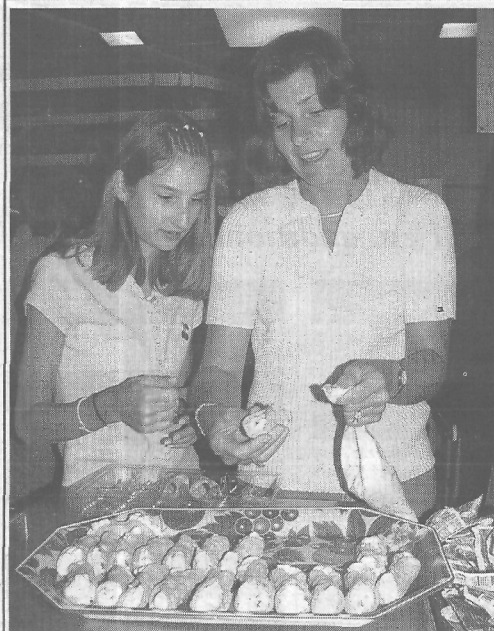
• Invitations  
• Brochures  
• Resumes  
• Flyers  
**G&G GRAPHICS**  
1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080  
**908-668-0010 • Fax: 908-668-8819**  
email: ggnan@aol.com

**Advertise your  
business for  
\$15 a week...**

**For info, call  
908-668-0010**

**Advertise your business for \$15 a week. Call 908-668-0010 for details.**





Photos by Patricia Abbott

## It's All Italian at Riley School Pasta Dinner

Riley School's fourth grade class is thinking ahead to next year, anticipating their fifth grade trip to Stokes State Forest. An annual pasta dinner is one of many fundraisers for the students. Linda Lanza, chairperson for the event, noted many fourth grade parents volunteered as well as students. Cheery tables set with green, red and white filled the room. Matching balloons floated from each table as well. Over 150 attended the event that offered pasta and meatballs with sauce, salad, bread, beverages and an impressive dessert table. The evening included an auction run by parent Thom Lanza and a 50/50 raffle. Bill Retuer won the 50/50 and donated the \$60 back to the school. Many area businesses donated supplies for the dinner.

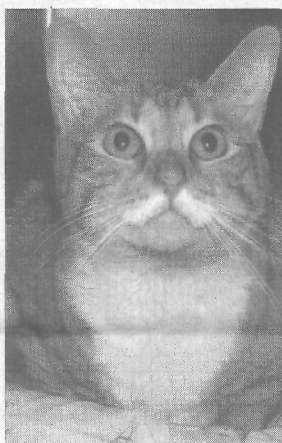
## Cat Adoption Events this Weekend

People for Animals, a nonprofit animal welfare organization serving New Jersey, will sponsor a pet adoption event on Saturday, Apr. 20, noon until 4 p.m. at the PETSMART stores in Bridgewater at the Promenade Mall at the intersection of Route 28 and Route 287 and the Watchung Square Mall at 1515 Route 22 West in Watchung. Cats will also be available on Sunday, Apr. 21, noon until 4 p.m. at Bridgewater PETSMART.

Among the many cats for adoption will be Daddy who is a 4-year-old handsome brown tabby with white. He is a big lovable cat that is very people-friendly and would be a great family companion. Daddy is

neutered, current with his vaccinations and tested FIV and feline leukemia negative. He is used to living with other cats. To adopt or for other information, call (908) 688-1073 and press eight for cat adoption or one for dog adoption. Other pets for adoption can be seen on the Internet at [www.pfa.peffinder.org](http://www.pfa.peffinder.org).

Stop the cycle of homeless pets now! Alter your pets and any outside cats that you may be feeding. For low cost spay/neuter information, call the People for Animals Clinic at (908) 964-6887. Spay/neuter surgery costs range from \$35 to \$55 and include rabies and distemper vaccinations.



## Festival Provides Leadership Skills For Women Undergrads

Ten tents, three hundred chairs, sixty tables and a "Showmobile" comprise the basic site furnishings required to host the annual New Jersey Folk Festival. Twenty-two food vendors are contracted. A dozen undergraduates at Rutgers University implement all this and more to produce the event, which attracts 12,000-15,000 each year.

The student coordinators, each with a designated role or "job," form a closely-knit team whereby each member can expect to gain experience in time management, assertiveness, organization, written and verbal communication and other administrative skills. Board-meeting style, the class assembles once a week during which time the first half of the session is devoted to teaching such things as how to properly market a large scale event, the distinction between traditional versus revival music and crafts, as well as other production details of a festival including how to write a press release, how to stage manage and becoming familiar with performer promotional materials. Ninety minutes are then devoted to a business meeting where deadlines, tasks accomplished and problems are discussed and resolved.

Saturday, April 27 is the date for the 28th Annual New Jersey Folk Festival whose Heritage Spotlight this year is "Blues and Gospel Traditions." While the festival will be dedicated to Piedmont blues artist John Jackson, who died in January and was scheduled to appear, headlining will be Peggy Seeger, world renowned for her

traditional folksongs and ballads of the British Isles. The festival is held rain or shine, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., on the grounds of the Eagleton Institute on the Douglass campus, George Street and Ryders Lane in New Brunswick.

In addition to four stages of music, dance and workshops and a diverse array of food vendors, the festival offers a craft market of 80-90 booths, craft demonstrators and a folk marketplace where festival goers can purchase performer recordings and pick up information about area folk concerts. For children there is a desig-

nated activities area with games, crafts, pony rides and a petting zoo.

The oldest and largest continuously run festival of its kind in the state, New Jersey Folk Festival is wheelchair accessible and has large print programs and audio assists available. Preferred parking is a nominal \$5 charge. Complete details including stage schedules and directions are on the web at <http://njfolkfest.rutgers.edu>.

For further information, call the festival office at (732) 932-5775 or Rutgers Campus Info Services at (732) 932-INFO.

## Rainbow Academy Child Care Centers Has Open House

Rainbow Academy Child Care Centers, located at 2177 Oak Tree Rd., held another successful open house on April 6. The newly constructed facility is immaculate and extremely imaginative for young minds.

Rainbow offers daycare for a wide range of age groups with flexible schedules. They even offer bus transportation during the school year. Currently they have openings for

their summer camp program which runs from June 24 through August 29. There is a half-day program for three to five and a half year olds and full day for ages five and a half through 10 year. Every day is a new day of computers, games, field trips (for the full day children), special events, arts and crafts and sports.

Space is filling up quickly so call (908) 769-3224 for more information.

## Terra Nova Monthly Meeting

The Terra Nova Garden Club April monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, Apr. 24, 7 p.m. at North Edison Library, 777 Grove Ave. Edison. New members are always welcome.

Guest speaker for the evening will be Jeff Van Pelt, Head Rosarian of the Van der Goot Rose Garden at Colonial Park in Somerset City. The slide show and lecture on the subject of roses, the many species and their care will inspire the rose lover in all of us.

## What Are You Waiting For?



**Subscribe! 908-668-0010**

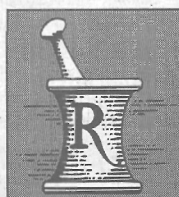
or mail to: South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080

**Send me home delivery of the Observer.**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_



**Twin City  
Pharmacy**  
**755-7696**

1708 Park Ave., South Plainfield (Next to ACME)

**COMPLETE  
LINE OF**

**VITAMINS &  
MINERAL SUPPLEMENTS**  
*Featuring Solgar and Hudson*

Today's modern pharmacy with old fashioned values

- Free Delivery
- We Accept Most Major Medical Plans
- Hospice Care & Home Healthcare Needs
- Diabetic Counseling & Supplies
- Direct Medicare billing for medical goods and equipment.
- Hallmark Cards and Gifts

**Best Source For  
Flu Supplies**