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# South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 5, NO. 48

50 CENTS

JULY 26, 2002

## Sludge Resurfaces, Forces Park Closing

The black tar-like substance in Veterans Park could be something from a "B" sci-fi movie, like bad sequels it keeps returning. The reoccurrence of the ooze and a claim of asbestos allegedly found nearby have caused the park to be closed to the public. Council President Jim Vokral, acting mayor while Gallagher is on vacation, announced the closure of the park on Tuesday. Over 25 Summer Park Recreation youths and their counselors will be relocated to either Cotton Street or Pitt Street Park.

Vokral said that even though he has been told that there is nothing to worry about, in the name of safety, it was decided to close the park until further tests are done. He also added that they are trying to determine who dumped materials in the park and will attempt to hold them responsible. Meanwhile, both the DEP and South Plainfield will be following the proper protocol to find out what the substance is and what action is needed. The park closing is temporary; residents and children will be restricted from using it until testing is completed and action is taken. Vokral said he hopes results will be in soon and action taken before the Labor Day Parade celebration, which takes place in Veterans Park.

During the warm weather the sub-



An unidentified substance oozes up from the ground at Veterans Park. Inset is a dead bird stuck in the goo.

stance oozes up from the ground and is clearly visible in the area that was once a tennis court. Decaying birds lay where they became trapped in the sticky goo. Last year the ooze was reported in several areas of the park near the parking lot. Complaints from residents resulted in EPA testing. The goo

may be disgusting to view, unsafe for birds and small wildlife, but thus far the EPA's testing has shown the substance does not contain any PCB's, nor is it hazardous or a health threat. Fifty plus years ago Veterans Park was the site of a landfill where road materials were reportedly dumped. This was

long before the stringent regulations of the DEP or the EPA were in effect. Borough maintenance workers regularly cover the substance with sand and dirt.

Over the past few weeks several daily papers have run stories on the black substance. Robert Speigel, ex-

ecutive director of the Edison Wetlands Association, investigated and brought in EMSL Analytical, a nationwide laboratory testing company. They allegedly found chunks of asbestos in a marshy area along the Bound Brook. Misleading headlines implied the asbestos was in the playground area. A call to the company produced no results. The individual who took the call claimed he had no knowledge of South Plainfield nor Spiegel, but acknowledged it was possible they had done the testing. He also said if they had, they could not release any results.

In March, PMK Group of Cranford, South Plainfield's environmental consultant, tested the area. They know the substance is not oil-based, but need to conduct further testing to determine what it is and how best to remove it. PMK Vice President James Johnson estimates it will take at least two months before the work is finished. The area and the entire park are currently being fenced off. Late Tuesday afternoon, while a handful of Recreation youths and their counselors played nearby, Channel 12 News brought a film crew to the site.

An environmental consultant from Whitman Companies reportedly noted that while exposed asbestos should be kept away from humans, the situation was not immediately harmful.

## AP Students Test Scores Improve Significantly

The test results for the 2001-2002 Advance Placement (AP) students from South Plainfield High School have Superintendent of Schools Dr. John Krewer and members of the Board of Education ecstatic.

Seventy-one students were tested this year in English, math and history. They were graded on a one to five scale, with five being the highest. AP course content is that of the college level. Students receive college credit for a score of four or five and in some cases a score of three.

Test scores for 2002-2003 were:

- Fifty-three or 75 percent achieved scores of three, four or five. In 2000-01, SPHS students scored 52.9 percent, the national average was 67.5 percent.

- Thirty-six or 51 percent achieved scores of four or five. In

2000-01, SPHS scored 19 percent, the national average was 38.8 percent.

- Nineteen or 27 percent achieved scores of five. In 2000-01, SPHS scored 2.9 percent, the national average was 15.2 percent.

- Eighteen or 25 percent achieved scores of one or two. In 2000-01, SPHS scored 47 percent, the national average was 39 percent.

Not only have this year's scores increased considerably, they also surpasses last year's national average. Dr. Krewer said he thinks our scores will be among the best in the state. He added that is truly remarkable since these scores occurred prior to many of the staff becoming involved in the training at LaSalle and Rutgers University. Krewer added that he has sent "hats off" notes to each AP teacher on a job well done.

## Rally Raises More than 21K

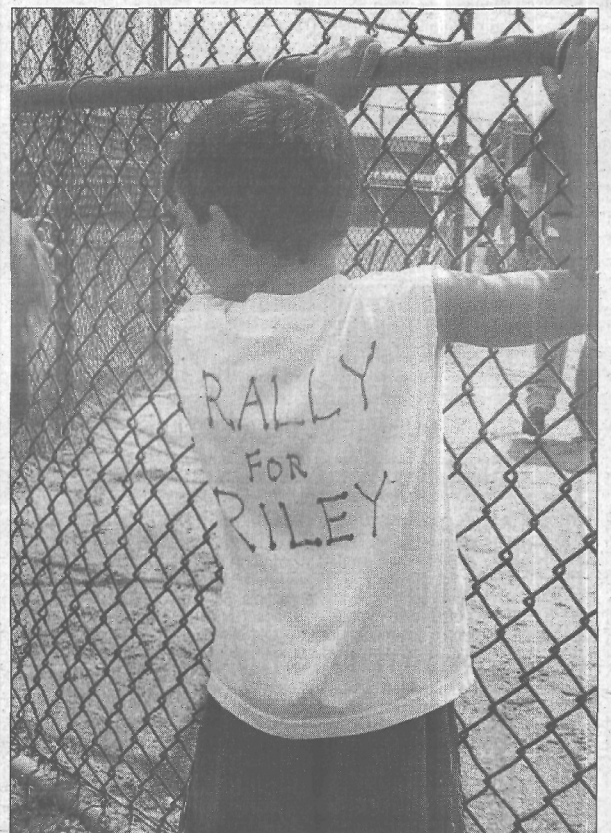
### Benefit Event Surpasses Goal

Last Saturday's turnout and participation was yet another demonstration of what makes South Plainfield a community that cares about its neighbors. No matter what the final scores turned out to be, everyone was a winner at the Rally for Riley Softball Tournament and Blood Drive. Experienced athletes played good-naturedly alongside couch potatoes, while junior baseball players cheered on their parents and coaches.

More than 600 people came out last Saturday to either play softball or root for their favorite team. Twenty-eight teams played on seven fields at the high school and at Riley School. The heavy rains the night before caused a small crisis when ball fields at the PAL and Veterans Park became water soaked.

The organizers of the rally spent late Friday night and very early on Saturday morning repairing the high school fields after a thunderstorm almost washed out the ball fields and the surrounding area. But the organizers wouldn't allow anything to deter them from their planned fundraiser for nine-year-old Riley Hubner.

Continued on page 6



## Pathmark Relocating to Hadley Ctr.

A deal that would allow Pathmark, currently located in the Middlesex Mall, to move to the Hadley Center, site of the former A & P which closed in May has finally been settled.

According to Pathmark Director of Public Relations Rich Savner, the

Pathmark currently located in the Middlesex Mall will close its doors on Sunday, Aug. 4, and simultaneously open at the new location in Hadley Center, where a grand opening ceremony, along with a ribbon cutting, will be held at 10 a.m.

# 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, August 5 ..... Thursday, August 8

Monday, September 3 ..... Thursday, September 5

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, 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641

Aug. 13, Aug. 27, Sept. 10, Sept. 24, Oct. 8, Oct. 22, Nov. 12, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, Dec. 24 (no meeting)

## zoning board of adjustment

Meets on Thursdays

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

July 25, Aug. 15, Aug. 29, Sept. 12, Sept. 26,

Oct. 3, Oct. 17, Nov. 14, Nov. 21, Dec. 5, Dec. 19

## taxpayers advisory group

The Taxpayers Advisory Group (TAG) meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave. at 7 p.m. Questions? 908-668-0538

## siteplace sub-committee

Meets once a month on the third Tuesday of the month, 8 p.m.

Aug. 20, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19

## 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

Sept. 3, Oct. 1, Nov. 12 and Dec. 3

## environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday except August)

Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7621

Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov. 13, Dec. 11

## board of education meetings

Grant School Gymnasium on Cromwell Place unless otherwise noted

Committee of the Whole meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m. - Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Oct. 8,

Nov. 12, Dec. 10, Jan. 14, 2003, Feb. 11, March 11, April 1.

Regular Board Mtg., held Tuesdays, at 8 p.m. - Aug. 20, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, Dec. 17, Jan. 21, 2003, Feb. 18, March 18, April 8.

## business advisory group

Meets once a month (first Wednesday)

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

## trafficsafety advisory commission

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

(Aug. no meeting), Sept. 25, Oct. 23, Nov. 27, Dec. 18

# INMYOPINION

Dear Editor,

We're writing this letter to express our sympathy for the residents who live along Maple Ave. and their complaints about the truck traffic. We fully understand what impact this abuse to our town is doing. We live off of Hamilton Blvd., near Belmont Ave. and have endured the constant barrage of never ending truck traffic, congestion and noise at all hours of the day and night, as well as pollution for the last 17 years. When we moved from the north side of town we were told we were moving to the "desirable" south side. Someone should give us a better description of what "desirable" means. Now don't get me wrong, we love our home. But the surrounding traffic certainly puts a damper on things when we can't relax on our back porch after a hard day's work and hear the conversations going on while an 18-wheeler is down shifting.

As far back as I can remember we've been promised relief from this, especially during the last 10 years from our elected officials. The promise has been to create the Helen St. extension linking Metuchen Rd. This is to eliminate the truck traffic off of our residential streets. And to date, all we have gotten is lip service and even more trucks.

I can't understand how this could just be left to drag on and on all these years. Every time we get close to an election the promises begin on how the plan will help us. Then the election comes and goes and the issue is still on the table with nothing done. The south side of town has some of the highest valued homes and yet the residences have to endure this constant aggravation day in and day out. *When did South Plainfield become the trucking Mecca of Central Jersey?* I can't even come home from work using exit 4 off Route 287. The trucks line up, daily, all the way down the exit ramp. It takes 10 minutes or more just to get down to Durham Ave. All the while behind these trucks, breathing in dirty diesel exhaust. I've stopped using that exit and now must exit in Piscataway and back track. It shouldn't be this way. I can't even pull out of my street to enter Hamilton Blvd. because regardless of the time of day there's too much traffic. When are we going to get relief? When are our elected officials going to stand behind their words and do something? What is it going to take? A fatality? Lawsuits? There have been studies done showing the relationship between approximately 200 forms of cancer and the pollution produced by diesel exhaust. Take a look at your home's windowsills and siding. The soot didn't get there by itself. We are constantly breathing that filth, too!

Our elected officials are up for reelection again this year, and they want our votes. They have promised to get the Helen Street extension built for the last 10 years. Our mayor recently stated that he feels four more years, under his direction, should do it. Well, what about the last 10 years? What direction have you, Mr. Mayor, driven the cause? The shovel hasn't hit the dirt yet. Will it in four more years? I'm afraid it may never happen at this rate.

My husband and I can't be the only residents upset about the truck traffic on the south side of town. Or for that matter, all over town! Please, fellow residents, make your voice be heard and start complaining. Write letters, make phone calls. Don't let up! Sitting on the sidelines will get us nowhere and the problem will continue to get worse. The traffic is like a cancer—it's spreading all over town!!

RESPECTFULLY,  
BRIAN AND VICKI SPISSE

Dear Editor,

Mayoral candidate Jake Cataldo's recent letter to the editor about the problems on Maple Avenue impressed me. Cataldo offered common sense solutions to swiftly aid the situation. The letter left me with several questions though.

First, where are the town's elected officials and why are they so sluggish to respond to this problem—one that involves the safety and quality of life for the families along that road? Maple Ave. residents first approached the mayor and council during the first week of April to ask for a solution. It's now the end of July. Over three months later the hazards still exist.

Second, while I understand that the State Police inspected trucks along the road one day recently, that raises even more questions. Why isn't the town giving this problem the same level of commitment as the State? The statistics (21 summonses, 12 trucks being pulled off the road, etc...) show that Maple Ave. residents weren't overstating their concerns.

Interestingly, I hear that some of the Borough's own trucks were stopped and found to be part of the problem. Didn't the Mayor and Council even speak with their own departments to make sure the town didn't exacerbate things?

Third, what is the town going to do to resolve the problem? While I'm sure everyone appreciates the State's efforts, its one-day inspection was only a band-aid. Residents along Maple Ave. need a long-term solution.

Rather than criticizing his opponent's plan, I hope the Mayor and his associates implement the remainder of the four-point plan candidate Cataldo proposed. He, thank goodness, recognized the problem and proposed some solutions. I wish the same could be said for the people in charge now.

KRISTYNA FARAG

# Geary House May Be Burial Site

During Tuesday's meeting, the Planning Board voted to allow a subdivision of six houses on the site of the old Geary House located on Plainfield Ave., despite the fact that there may be a family burial plot on the property.

According to Board Attorney Chris Nelson, there is no law in South Plainfield which would prevent the developer from building if there is a burial site, however there are State statutes which must be followed if a site is discovered. The builder, Strong Tower Development, will have to abide by a strict set of laws before they can begin building.

The suggestion that there may be a burial site was contained in a letter from Alice Tempel of Environmental Commission. She wrote that Larry Randolph, also a member of the Environmental Commission, had obtained evidence of a family burial plot.

Enclosed with the letter was a copy of a *Courier-News* story from 1980 showing the base of a tombstone behind the residence. Randolph noted that neighbors also confirmed having seen two small gravestones in the backyard. The story in the *Courier News* told about the possibility of Geary House being haunted by two five-year-old girls who rise from their graves to haunt the then 160-year old house. The girls, dead from more than 100 years, were doomed to wander the 15-room mansion forever.

Randolph also added that when former owner Charles Strassle gave South Plainfield Historical Society a tour of the property, they remember him pointing out the tombstone base. Richard Veit of Monmouth University, a leading New Jersey expert on historic tombstones, also confirmed that the stone in the *Courier-News* photograph looks like a tombstone base, possibly from the 19th century.

## 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.*

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NANCY GRENNIER  
Publisher/Editor  
WAYNE GRENNIER  
Associate Publisher  
SUSAN KANEPS  
Art Director/Associate Editor  
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## SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in South Plainfield Observer:

1. Type (double spaced) the article you wish published.
2. Mail, fax or drop it at: Editorial Department  
South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or drop it in the box at Mohn's Flowers on 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.



Chris Pennisi, Brandon Ulom, Anthony Moretti, Dan Pompillio and Zack Ulom watch as Coach Kavka organizes the group for a morning of golf at the West Nine Golf Course. Forty teenagers are enjoying a summer of Recreation-sponsored golf before they go back to school in September. Coach Kavak is very happy with the turnout this year, as well as the talent he has seen. Summer golf is one of the programs run by the South Plainfield Recreation Department.

## Clean Business Assoc. Seeks Glitter Nominations

One morning it appears mysteriously in front of a retail store in your neighborhood. It is there every day, and you get used to it. Then, about a month later, it's gone. Oh, there it is again, in front of an industrial building on South Clinton Avenue. What is it, and why does it keep moving?

It's the South Plainfield Clean Business Association's Glitter Award sign. A modest, white and green metal sign, it announces that the business behind it has won the CBA's Glitter Award. The winner of the award receives a certificate of appreciation, and gets to post the sign in front of his business for a month, or until a new winner is chosen.

The CBA was formed in 1990 to bring the Borough's Clean Communities Program to the commercial sector. With a membership of about 100, the CBA promotes responsible property maintenance and litter control in business and industrial areas. Programs include the Adopt-A-Spot program and the Storefront Pledge program. Member businesses also participate in Volunteer Litter Cleanup Week, and many support other volunteers by donating refreshments, goods and services. The Glitter Award recognizes properties that are unusually well maintained over time, and properties that have recently been significantly improved through renovation or new landscaping. To win the award, a business must not only present a good face to the street, but must practice all-around good litter management and property maintenance. More than one nominee has been disqualified because of accumulated debris around the rear loading dock, or litter and weeds in a side alley.

Over the years, forty-eight South Plainfield businesses have won the CBA Glitter Award. They have ranged from automobile service centers to pharmaceutical companies, shopping centers to nail salons. All are CBA members and signed a pledge to uphold the CBA Standards. These standards are mostly common-sense measures that anyone with pride in his place of business would take as a matter of course:

1. Provide and maintain litter containers and waste disposal bins.
2. Keep place of business free of obstructions and free of litter.
3. Keep sidewalks, street frontage, alleys, parking lots, backyards, loading/unloading areas free of litter and debris.
4. Ensure that delivery vehicles are loaded and covered properly so that the contents do not leak or fall out onto the roadway or other public areas; provide a litterbag in the cab for the driver's use.
5. Provide and maintain a receptacle near store exits for depositing shopping flyers.
6. Weed, mow grass; clean up dead leaves and tree branches, and dispose of these properly.
7. Enhance landscaping by trimming and maintaining trees and shrubs, and when appropriate, planting new trees and shrubs.
8. Keep and maintain property consistently on a year-round basis.

Anyone who would like to nominate a business for a Glitter Award should contact the CBA steering committee care of the Clean Communities Coordinator at (908) 226-7621, by mail to the Municipal Building, 2480 Plainfield Ave., or by e-mail to [atempep@southplainfieldnj.com](mailto:atempep@southplainfieldnj.com).

## It's Time to Celebrate!

### Labor Day Parade Committee Planning 2002 Celebration

The 2002 Labor Day Parade theme is "Celebrate Our Freedom!" The patriotic theme will be carried out in all of the planned events during the day and the evening fireworks.

Monday, Sept. 2, begins with the annual 5K Race and 1.5 Family Fitness Walk. The Labor Day parade kicks off at 10 a.m.

The *Observer* will be in the middle of the fun all day long. The celebration shifts to Spring Lake Park in the evening with music in the gazebo until dark, followed by a spectacular fireworks display.

If your group would like to march in the parade, they must fill out an entry form. Forms are available at Borough Hall or the *Observer* office at 1110 Hamilton Blvd. It's a great opportunity for your group or business to join in the celebration.

For information about marching, entering a float, a concession stand in the park, etc., contact Darlene Pinto at (908) 561-1517.

### Parade Committee Seeks Grand Marshal Nominees

The Labor Day Committee is asking residents to submit their nominations for Grand Marshal.

If any individual has contributed outstanding service to the community, send a letter stating the reasons why this person should be considered for grand marshal. If you submitted a name last year, you must submit it again this year. Send your nominee's name, address and telephone number to John Sorrentino, 225 Hopkinson St., South Plainfield, NJ 07080. Email: [jmsorrentino@comcast.net](mailto:jmsorrentino@comcast.net) or fax (908) 753-4003.

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From the South Plainfield Library

## Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Time for some late July news from the South Plainfield Library.

Starting off with our Children's programs, our Game Gang program is set for this morning at 11:00. Children may play one of our board games (penny slots and holographic chess not included), or bring in one of their own to share. On Monday evening at 6:30, we'll have a special Summer Reading craft program for children ages six and over. We'll also have our usual slate of Storytime programs. They're held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. Those programs are for children age 3 and over; no pre-registration is required. If you'd like more information, please call us at (908) 754-7885 and ask for Miss Linda.

Today is the last day of availability for this month's group of Circuit videos. Titles this month include *Enemy at the Gates*, *Safety Patrol*, *Rules of Engagement*, *Election* and, on DVD, *Bounce*. If you're interested in these or other titles from this group, now's the time. Videos and DVDs may be borrowed, four at a time, for two days.

On the other hand, the latest group from the Audiobook Circuit is now available. This month's titles include *Tears of the Moon* by Nora Roberts, *Thrill!* by Jackie Collins, *Last Man Standing* by David Baldacci and, on CD, *Valhalla Rising* by Clive Cussler. Audiobooks may be borrowed, four at a time, for two weeks. This group

will be around until the beginning of October. (You will also note that Circuit Audiobooks are now stored in plastic cases on the shelf, rather than in individual bundles of cassettes. We hope this is more convenient for you.) Meanwhile, we're still between groups on the CD Circuit. The latest group from that circuit will be available as soon as possible.

We've also added a number of new books to our collection. Some of these new titles include the latest "Left Behind" installment, *The Remnant* by LaHaye and Jenkins, *Mortal Prey* by John Sandford, the *Princess Dairies* sequel *Princess in Love* by Meg Cabot, *The Nanny Diaries* by Emma McLaughlin & Nicola Kraus, and John McEnroe's autobiography *You Cannot Be Serious*. Some of these titles may have been reserved by other patrons, so please be prepared to wait. (On a side note, in response to some patron requests, we don't have any details about the next Harry Potter book, yet. As soon as we know anything, we'll try and pass it along.)

Finally, we're in the midst of redesigning our Library Cards. As a result, there may be a brief period when new or replacement cards may be unavailable. If this occurs, please bear with us; we'll make sure new cards are available at the earliest time possible. As for what the new cards will look like...well, I wouldn't dream of spoiling the surprise.

We'll leave you that little bit of suspense as we close things out for this week and this month. See you in August.

## Borough Notes

### Council News

- The Council approved placing of a trailer at 710 East Hendricks Blvd. for the duration of repairs being made to the home as a result of a fire.

- Angelo Paradiso was hired as a full-time recreation attendant effective July 22.

- The Municipal Clerk will be advertising for bids for the construction of sidewalks along Belmont Ave. This project will be paid for by a Grant received from the NJ Department of Transportation.

- The council authorized the hiring of a part-time motor vehicle operator for the elderly and handicapped effective July 22, 2002.

- A professional services contract to CME Associates was approved at a cost not to exceed \$17,280 to prepare plans for the closure of the former Borough Landfill located at the southern end of Kenneth Ave.

- A professional services contract was approved to PMK Group at a cost not to exceed \$21,750 to perform groundwater monitoring tests on a quarterly basis for the period July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003.

- Susanne M. Dias was hired as a part-time public safety telecommunicator-trainee for the police department effective July 22.

### Planning Board

- Lemon Drops Child Learning Center, Inc. of 217 Hamilton Boulevard was granted preliminary and final site plan approval to use the premises for a child care center, with waivers. Parking at the site was a concern of the board, because of the limited number of spaces available on the property. The applicant and landlord agreed to make the entrance on the right one way in and on the left one way out to help with the traffic flow.

### TO THE PARENTS OF SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM:

Due to the temporary closing of Veterans Park, children who attend the Summer Recreation Program will move to either Pitt Street or Cotton Street Park. Please call the Recreation office at 226-7713 to get your child's assignment.

### 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 9:00 a.m. (church)

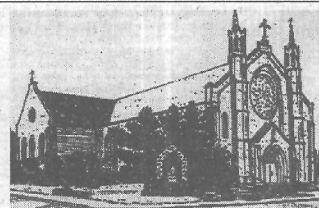
Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m.

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.

and after 5 p.m. Vigil Mass



# Events Around Town

## Polish Home Bus Trip to Monmouth Park

July 28

The Polish National Home is sponsoring a trip to Monmouth Park Racetrack on Sunday, July 28. The cost of \$35 per person includes two \$50 raffles, (one going and one returning), wine, beer, soda and a bar-B-Q.

The bus leaves the Polish Home at 10:30 a.m. For more information, call (908) 668-9442.

## Small World Pre-School Open House

July 29

A Small World Pre-School, located at 810 Hamilton Blvd. will be holding an open house on Monday, July 29 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

This year, A Small World will have an all-day kindergarten class, taught by a certified teacher, with computer and internet access. Class is limited to nine children. Regular hours are 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information call (908) 754-5400.

## Summer Drama Presents "Footloose"

Aug. 1, 2, 3 and 4

The 2002 South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop (SDW) will present this year's production "Footloose" on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 7 p.m. and on Sunday at 2 p.m.

For ticket information call, (908) 561-5255, or logon to their website: [www.spsdw.com](http://www.spsdw.com).

## 5th Annual Bike Rodeo

August 3

South Plainfield Police Department will host the Fifth Annual Bicycle Rodeo on Saturday, Aug. 3. The event will be held in Spring Lake Park from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Featured will be an obstacle course presented and conducted by volunteer employees of State Farm Insurance. Proper riding techniques and rules of the road will be emphasized during this phase of the program and an On Bike Skills Development course will be conducted. Helmet wearing cyclist will negotiate a moderately challenging course of cones to improve their riding abilities.

For cyclists 14 years of age and

*What's happening in*  
**JULY/AUG**

**Daily Events**  
9-11 AM Coffee & Cake  
9 AM-4 PM Cards & Pool  
(908) 754-1047  
The Senior Citizens Center is open Monday through Friday 8:30am-5pm.

**Senior Center EVENTS**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p><b>Aerobic-Dance Program started July 23.</b> <i>We need more people, please come and sign up. It will include warm up exercises and some line dancing.</i></p>			<p>Walking Club 9 AM <b>25</b> 9AM-3:30 Pool &amp; Cards 9:15AM Shopping Aerobics 10:30AM</p>	<p>Walking Club 9 AM <b>26</b> Bingo 10 AM - 3:30 PM Pizza 11:30 AM (\$2)</p>
<p><b>29</b> Walking Club 9 AM Sign up Friday Pizza Sign up-aerobics&amp;yoga</p>	<p><b>30</b> 9AM-3:30 PM Pool Cards 9AM-3:30 Bingo Sign up for Aerobics Sign up for Friday Pizza</p>	<p><b>31</b> Walking Club 9 AM Movie 11:30 AM AARP Crafts 1 PM</p>	<p><b>To Sign Up for Membership in the Senior Citizen's Center, visit the PAL Building on Maple Ave.</b></p>	

## Open House

August 3

Rainbow Academy Child Care Center, located at 2177 Oak Tree Rd., will hold an Open House on Saturday, Aug. 3, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Rainbow Academy offers a variety of programs to fit your child's needs, from ages six weeks to 10 years. There is limited space available for the September school year in the infants, nursery and pre-kindergarten programs. We offer homework assistance as well as organized activities for school aged children from five to 10 years. Hours are 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. and/or 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Come visit during normal hours 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday or at the Open House.

For directions and additional information, visit their website at [www.rainbowacademy.com](http://www.rainbowacademy.com).

## SPHS Tigers To Host Eighth Golf Open

August 7

The South Plainfield Golf Association has announced plans to hold this year's South Plainfield Open on Wednesday, Aug. 7, at Bunker Hill Golf Course. This is the eighth annual golf tournament held for the benefit of the SPHS Golf Team.

Entry fee of \$85 includes green fees, golf cart, prizes, food and beverages. Check-in at 7 a.m., as a continental breakfast is served. A dinner and awards ceremony will follow, with food and beverages available through-

out the tournament.

Play will begin with a shot-gun start at 8 a.m. Prizes will be awarded for both men and women, including low gross, low net, low tea.

Corporate sponsorships are encouraged. Proceeds go to support the activities of the high school golf team and the SPGA's college scholarship program. A Platinum sponsorship includes entry fees for one foursome. Gold, Silver, Bronze, Hospitality and Beverage sponsorships are available.

Registration deadline is July 21. For information, call Ken Martin (908) 769-4305 or Dick DeAndrea (908) 755-1700, or register on-line and find out about the corporate sponsor programs at [www.spga.org](http://www.spga.org).

## First Baptist Vacation Bible School

August 5-9

The First Baptist Church, located on Hamilton Blvd., is sponsoring Vacation Bible School on Aug. 5-9 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Get ready for a rousing good time filled with excitement as we learn about Brave Believers, through songs, skits, and crafts. All children, kindergarten through entering fifth grade are invited. Cost is \$5 per child or \$10 a family with a request for \$2 for cost of a CD. Register by Aug. 1.

For info, call The First Baptist Church office at (908) 753-2382.

## Wesley Methodist Bible School

August 12-16

Wesley United Methodist Church, located on Plainfield Ave. announced that they will hold a Vacation Bible School entitled, "God's Great Gallery."

Register now for the program which takes place Aug. 12 through 16 each evening from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. There will be plenty of music, crafts, games and fun. Call the church office at (908) 757-2838 and register early!

## Tickets for Mets and Yankees Available

August 15 & September 3

Let's Go Out to A Baseball Game! Mets or Yankees... A trip to Shea is scheduled to see the Mets! When? On Thursday, Aug. 15. The bus leaves at 10 a.m. Cost is only \$30 per person!

Also, a trip to Yankee Stadium is planned to see the Yankees vs. the Red Sox on Tuesday, Sept. 3. Bus leaves at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per person! Tickets may be purchased at the PAL.

## SPHS Class of 1969 Reunion Planned

August 31

SPHS Class of 1969 will be reunited on Aug. 31 at Willows Restaurant, 1013 N. Washington Ave. in Green Brook.

For information, call Jody Buccellato at (404) 847-0960 or Elizabeth Don at (732) 942-5170.

## — Out of Town —

## Professor to Discuss Difficulties with Psychiatric Meds

July 31

The First New Jersey Depressive and Manic Depressive Support Group's monthly lecture meeting on July 31 will feature Lois Jessen, Ph.D., who is a clinical associate professor and vice chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Administration at the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy of Rutgers University.

The organization's monthly educational meetings take place on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Morristown Unitarian Fellowship, 21 Normandy Heights Rd (about one block east of the Morris Museum) in Morristown. Open to the public; nominal donation is requested from non-members.

In addition to the lecture series, peer group support sessions led by experienced facilitators are held on the first and third Tuesday evenings of each month in Morristown (at the Fellowship) and on the second and fourth Tuesday evenings of each month at the Madison Medical Center.

Visit the website of the First NJ Depressive and Manic-Depressive Support Group at <http://community.nj.com/cc/1stnjdmtdsg> to learn more about the chapter and to view links to other sources of information. For further local information, call (973) 994-1143 or the New Jersey Self-Help Clearing House at (800) 367-6274.

## Autumn Woods Presents Summer Carnival

August 10

Autumn Woods presents a Summer Carnival on Saturday, August 10 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Autumn Woods Assisted Living, located at 680 Rt. 202/206 in North Bridgewater.

Join the Autumn Woods Summer Carnival for an afternoon of carnival games and great snacks. For R.S.V.P. call (908) 252-3400.

## "Praise in the Park"

August 31

The goal of First Presbyterian Church of Dunellen is to "share God's love in practical ways." It is known for its "Old-Fashioned Christmas" and "Praise in the Park," free events. This year's "Praise in the Park" will be held in Dunellen's Washington Memorial Park on Aug. 31, noon-5 p.m. (Rain date is Sept. 2).

## 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.com](mailto:ggnan@aol.com).

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

**Send Your Events to: South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, Fax (908) 668-8819; or email [ggnan@aol.com](mailto:ggnan@aol.com).**

# Middle School Honor Roll

## MARKING PERIOD 4

### High Honor Roll

• *Eighth grade:* Ashley Bodner, Samantha Deffler, Zachary Gray, Kristi Lombardi and Amanda Veinott.

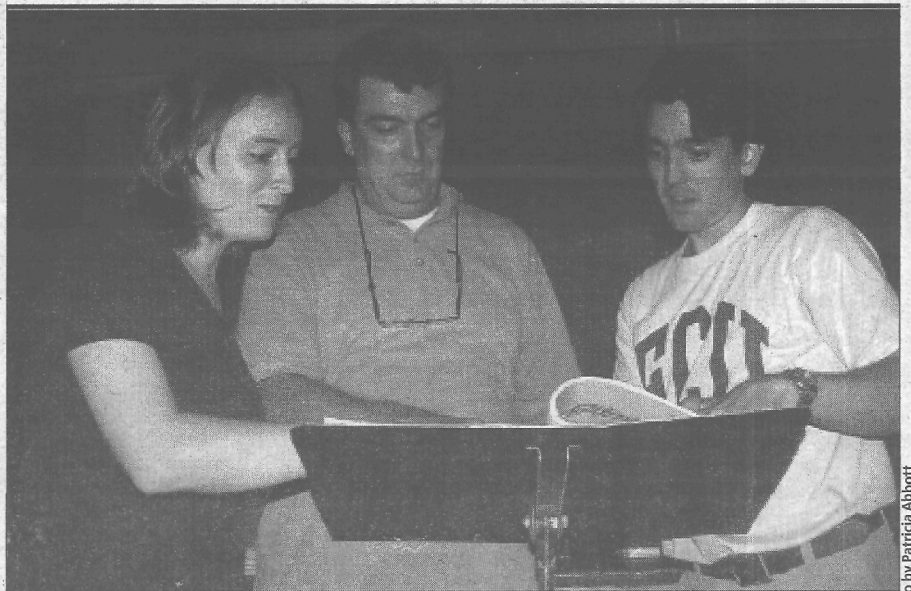
• *7th grade:* Daniel Becker, Gina Butrico, Ying Chen, Zakiya Clarke, Kelly Downes, Samantha Granski, Cassandra Hoffman, Asia Hollis, Britanny Hollis, Daniel Hubner, Christine Lanza, Jacquelyn Miller, A Phi Nguyen, Katheryn Noonan, Jennifer Okuski, Leslie Quichua, Karla Reyes, Abdussami Sheikh and Christopher Stallone.

### Honor Roll

• *8th grade:* Hamed Ahmed, Nicole Aiello, Courtney Alston, Gaelle Amazan, Alyssa Babinetz, Kevin Boyles, Kodi Butler, Eileen Cameron, Vanessa Cassano, Dana Chepulis, Shaunique Cisson, Mallory Cooper, Nicole Cursi, Kazuki Daimo, William Daly, Joseph Denitzio, Keith Dezmin, Sandya Dowlat, Sandia Dundi, Michael Everett, Dunia Galarza, Kristine Gawroriski, Vincent Genova, Aisha Gray, David Hackett, Julianne Hudak, Ramit Kalia, Carlie Kazimir, Victoria Kedmenec, Kathryn Koury, Bryan Milicia, Rebekah Moore, Alexander Nau, Kaitlyn Negron, Heather Palitto, Bhavesh Patel, Dipal Patel, Harshel Patel, Alishah Rahemtulla, Angelique Rualo, Nicole Sacci, Courtney Sacco, Brian Schutte, Gina Severeni, Anthony Sheedy, Kevin Siedenburger, Amanda Smith, Ryan Smith, Brian Spisso, Jr., Melissa Szeliga, Natalia Tamzoke, Lee Tetreault, Heather Thompson, Daryl Valerio, Jesse Ventura, Bryan Wagner, Krystal Williams, Megan Wilson, Keith Winsmann, Nadine Yon, Carla Zappi and Matthew Zebrowski.

• *7th grade:* David Alston, Kimberly Arki, Nicholas Baldassarre, Sean Battison, Jake Bayak, Nicole Benak, Paige Berkowitz, Tina Bijlani, Dorian

Bishop, Julianne Bosse, Megan Boyle, Steven Breslau, Caitlin Brindley, Renee Brown, Kiran Budhan, Melissa Budhan, Christopher Burke, John Carigma, Stacie Carrasca, Amit Chandler, Jeffery Cianfrocca, Samatha Cihanowicz, Adam Cruz, Ryan Cruz, Rebecca Dacchille, Tina DeStefano, Dianne Dimayuga, Matthew Doell, Nicholas Dorey, Kathleen Eder, Ryan Egan, Matthew Emery, Matthew Fabino, Alexandra Fodor, Melissa Franzson, Nicole Freitas, Lauren Fry, Angela Furka, Kimberly Galinsky, Ashleigh Gaspari, Jerold Geczy, Michael J. George, Michael Giallanza, Garrett Gianneschi, Matthew Gigantino, Crystal Gorman, Katie Hardy, Meghan Hartmann, Amanda Harzula, Angelica Hebreo, Sara Holbrook, Brianne Howarth, Byron Hunt, Trucly Huynh, Lalchan Jainarine, Michael Jakubik, Tony Joy, Barney Johnson, Gauri Joshi, Wael Kanj, Rebecca Keller, Matthew Krupit, Sebastian Lasota, Phuong Le, Hannah Levine, Ashley Little, Maria Lopez, Amanda Makowski, Brittany Marino, Joy Maszczak, Nicole Mathew, Daniel McCreesh, Nicole Miglis, Jennifer Mocerino, Chintan Mody, Carrie Moore, Anthony Moretti, Susan Mott, Tara O'Keefe, Lelesa Ogbevoen, Stephen Parello, Nicholas Pasquale, Aarti Patel, Justin Pauls, Jenna Pein, Elizabeth Pisack, Kelly Piwowar, Heather Prokopiak, Thomas Pryor, Tabitha Ramnath, Jessica Ranger, Trevor Rastelli, Selene Rayho, Kate Reichert, James Rivas, Tiffany Roth, Kyla Rouse, Daniel Sambat, Joseph Scarpitto, Esmeralda Vasquez, Michael Stallone, Lauren Stoeckel, Ceaphas Stubbs, Geovana Toca, Steven Tran, Michael Troia, Joseph Turrisi, Bobbi VanFleet, Jessica Vasquez, Alexandra Voscosi, Tianna Ward, Timothy Williams, Brittanice Wong and Luigi Zeccardo.



L-R Summer Drama Workshop "Footloose" Choreographer-Patti O'Brien, Director-Eric Hafen and Music Director Christopher Fiore. Vocal Director Sean Berg is missing from photo.

## "Footloose" Comes to Summer Drama Workshop

By Patricia Abbott

A successful stage show is only as good as the combined efforts of the staff and cast. The Summer Drama Workshop (SDW) "Footloose" cast and orchestra consists of over 70 youths between the ages of 11 and 19. Their experience levels range from novice to SDW veterans of many years. With a youthful cast the directors are also in effect, teachers. The Summer Drama staff have the monumental task of drawing out untapped skills, refining and expanding those of the more experienced students and finally blending these talents to create an exciting musical. The current staff of directors for "Footloose" are professionals who will undoubtedly bring out the best in the young thespians.

Director Eric Hafen has returned to SDW for a third season. He directed SDW's 42nd St. and last year's 30th anniversary show, *Bye Bye Birdie*. Eric has a master's degree in theatre from the University of South Dakota and a bachelor's degree from Boston College. He has acted and directed throughout the northeast including Off-Broadway. He has served as the artistic director of entertainment at Six Flags Great Adventure, as well as for the Park Performing Arts Center in Union City. He is associated with the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers, and is an active member of Actors Equity Association and Screen Actors Guild.

Choreographer Patti O'Brien is also returning for her third year with SDW. A kindergarten teacher in South Amboy, she is also an experienced choreographer whose work has been seen on high school and community theater stages throughout New Jersey. Credits include *George M*, *Guys & Dolls* and *Music Man* as well as SDW's 42nd

St. and *Bye Bye Birdie*. Patti has performed with numerous community theater groups including Stagecrafters, South Amboy Community Players and Westfield Players. Patti enjoys working with the returning SDW regulars as well as new students. Patti said, "It is amazing to watch students who were once uneasy and shy on the stage blossom and grow as performers over the years."

Vocal director Sean Berg is new to SDW. He holds a bachelor of arts degree in music education from Clarke College in Dubuque, Iowa. He recently completed his master's degree in choral conducting from East Carolina University. He is the conductor of the Celebration Singers in Cranford, and serves as program development associate and director of concert operations for Manhattan Concert Productions in NYC. He also served as associate conductor of the Metropolitan Chorale and sang professionally with a male sextet in Manhattan. He has conducted at St. Patrick's Cathedral and Carnegie Hall.

Musical Director Chris Fiore is also new to SDW. Fiore was featured in last week's *Observer* article on the "Footloose" pit band.

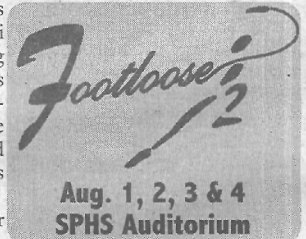
Due to the heavy demands of the script, the SDW board decided to bring two assistant directors and three interns on board. Debbie Sasso, assistant director, joins SDW for the first time. She is a graduate of New Jersey City University with a BA in English/Theater. She has an extensive background behind the scenes as a stage

manager and director. Grant Mech, assistant vocal director, is also new to SDW. He is a sophomore music education major at Westminster Choir College in Princeton. His multifaceted background includes performing, vocals, assistant director, pianist, organist and more.

The staff also includes a husband and wife team, Summer Drama Alumni Lory Alcaro, stage manager

and Bob Alcaro, set coordinator. Lory and Bob have experience both behind the scenes and on stage. Costume coordinator is Roberta Leszcynski in her fourth SDW production. South Plainfield High School junior Adam Toth is in his fourth year as SDW rehearsal pianist. Interns are C.J. Palma, who recently graduated from Montclair State University as a broadcasting major and Kristin Pfeiffer, a senior at Rutgers University, majoring in theater. Cast member Kristin Turner, a sophomore at Elmira College, is also an intern.

"Footloose" marks SDW's 31st season. The cast and staff are working hard to give South Plainfield yet another thrilling performance. Director Eric Hafen reflected on his third season with SDW, "I have seen so many talented students go on to college and other community theatres. Some stay local, others head off to Florida to continue their theatre studies. What's fun is watching the growth of the students' talents and confidence throughout the past two productions and coming into *Footloose*. They are budding professionals."



## U.S. Postal Service Ranked Eight In Fortune Magazine's Top 50 "Best Companies for Minorities"

For the third year in a row, the U.S. Postal Service ranks among the top of the nation's major companies in embracing diversity.

*Fortune* magazine's July 8 issue ranked the Postal Service eighth on its "Best Companies for Minorities" list. The Postal Service remains the highest ranked transportation/delivery service provider for the third year.

*Fortune's* selection was based on the Postal Service's commitment to hiring, promoting and retains an inclusive workforce.

Even as the Postal Service nearly topped *Fortune's* "Best Companies for Minorities" list, it was not imper-

ous to the economic obstacles facing most major corporations. In fact, the Postal Service trimmed its total workforce by more than 20,000 employees, yet its overall representation of women and minorities continued to increase.

Minorities in the Postal Service not only have a strong presence in entry-level jobs, but they are also well represented throughout all levels of management. As of the end of 2001, nearly one-fifth (18 percent) of the Board of Governors, one-fifth (19 percent) of the Top-Paid Executives and one-third (31 percent), of all officials and managers were minorities.

### Share Your Good News With the Community!

Send your milestones to the Observer at 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or email: ggnan@aol.com



The Observer will close at 1 p.m. on Fridays during the month of July.

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South Plainfield Wrestling Club President Joe DiBiase hands a check for Riley Hubner to event organizer Bill Ashnault. Volunteer food workers are pictured in the background.

## Rally Raises More than 22K

*Continued from page 1*

While the tournaments were taking place outside, the high school cafeteria was also bustling with activity the entire day. Employees from HLA Registry Foundation Inc. were kept busy with the 180 people who signed up for the bone marrow blood drive. After a small skin prick a few drops of blood were taken from each volunteer. The results will be entered into the National Marrow Donor Program database. The hope is that a donor will be found for nine-year-old Riley Hubner, who suffers from leukemia. A bone marrow transplant is one of the possible treatments for him. Proceeds from the softball tournament helped to offset the cost of the bone marrow drive. The cost of a test is about \$69.

A concession stand, manned by volunteers, in between the high school ballfields saw a steady flow of hungry and thirsty spectators. Nearby was the registration booth where scores and the schedule were on display. A large jar was also on display for those who wanted to offer a donation.

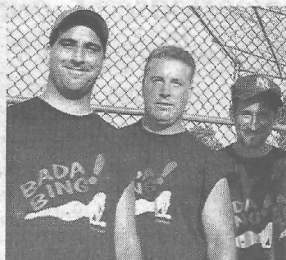
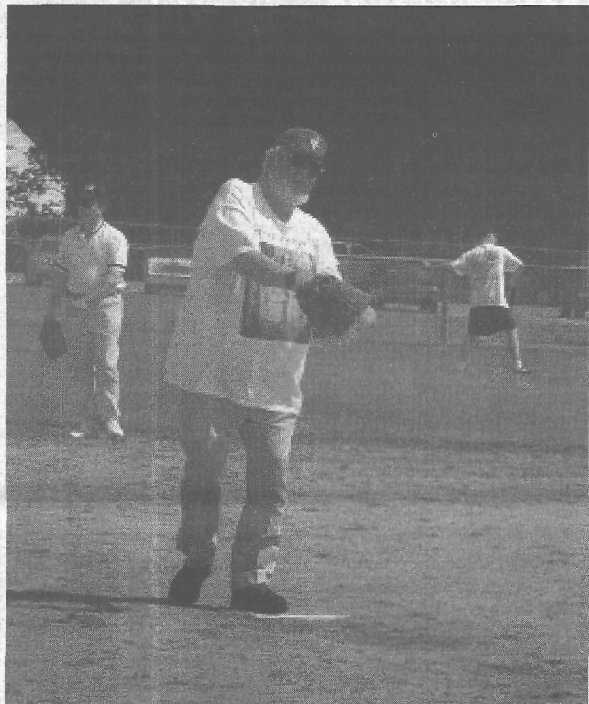
As the afternoon wore on teams were slowly eliminated, leaving just two competing for the championship – The Dunellen Crushers and Sal's Spirit Shoppe's Bada-Bing. Sal's team was victorious, winning the final round 7-5. They generously donated their \$500 dollar first prize to the Rally for Riley Fund.

Some of the larger donations came from Unity Bank's Tino Fontes, who was on hand to deliver a check in the amount of \$1,000 and Joe DiBiase of the South Plainfield Wrestling Club, who also donated \$1,000. The Elks Club entered three teams into the tournament and also gave an additional donation. After the Elks played they all went to the Elks Lodge to have a picnic and raise more money for the rally. Everyone who participated was there to help Riley in his fight with cancer, but they also discovered how much fun it was to get together for a day of competition.

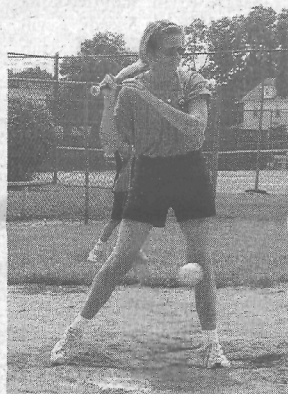
The South Plainfield Democrats team was one many of the highlights during the morning competition. They played at Riley School, led by school principal Bill Beegle. Pitching for the Democrats was Councilman Ed Kubala. Riley School prevailed and defeated the Democrats in a close game.

Nine-year-old Riley was diagnosed with leukemia five years ago. Saturday's event, which was the brainchild of Bill Ashnault of Twin City Pharmacy and Detective Gary Cassio, raised more than \$21,000, surpassing the goal of \$15,000. Due to the success of the day, they hope to make the games and bone marrow drive an annual event.

Any additional contributions are still welcome and may be sent to The PAL, Rally for Riley Fund, 1205 Maple Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.



Sal's Spirit Shoppe's "Bada Bing's" were the winners of the tournament. Pictured are Jared Rogers, Chris Lopez, John Petreillo, Joe Petreillo, Chris Cochrane, Nick Rundella, David Delair, Gary Cassio, Jay Culver, Ken Parada, James Parker and Brian Malko



## Thanks for Your Support ...

Nicholas Heilmann, Sal & Lorraine Esposito, Mohammad M. Abdeljaber, Alan & Carol Galinsky, David & Barbara Harris, Procare Physical Therapy, David J. Brown, Dorothy M. Yuhasz, Eugene & Adele Meny, Marilyn & Howard Goodman, Peter R. Bovik, Martin Levine, Joseph & Rose Baka, Marion Vance, Jean & David Conlon, Kathe & William Beegle, Stanley & Joann Jarema, Lillian S. Convery, Robert & Denise Butvilla, Runyon & Teresa Barkelew, SP Democratic Organization, Ricigliano Law Firm, Gary Hamrah, SP Elks, Daniel Kurdyla, DEC-CRETE Construction, Bolesta Landscaping, So. Plainfield PBA, Norma Cassio, Marion Cherick, Clara Katsanevakis, "Just One" Raymond Resnick, Creative Kids Academy, Di-Lex, Samuel

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Plainfield Wrestling Club, Glenn & Carolyn Parisi, Andrew & Cheryl Kera, Renee & Ron Coupland, Richard & Liz Nolt, Sandy & Sal Severini, Frank & Sharon Gianneschi, Nancy & Jeffrey Kusnick, Charles & Maria Huber, Cash From Blood Drive, Elks Team 2.

Unity Bank, Panthers, Jonathan Shealy, H. Brian & Maryann Bythell, Carousel Hair Salon, Michael & Susan English, Pat & Ken Martin, MAA Information Tech., Procare Physical Therapy, Karen & Sean Boyles, Donald & Constance Palmer, Diane S. Conroy, Ed Kubala, Dennis & Michelle Cerami, Kimberly Ventimiglia, Alfred & Debra Schroeder, Robert & Nancy Pasternak, Ken & Diane Laverne, Danielle & Loe Lacasale Jr., Steven & Gina Zarra, Michele & Paul Miceli, Kathleen & William Thomas, Patricia & Michael Haliscak.

Amy Ingrid Griffith, Eugene & Karin Hallenbeck, Tom & Eugenia Cassio, Joe & Peggy Deandrea, Alexandria Moulding, United Samsco Asso, Anderson Windows Inc., Amer. Wood Moulding, Home Depot employees, Dunellen Crushers, Lubov Sims-Mack, Roman S. Horomanski, Vic & Laurie Kurilew, Stephen & Nina Turrisi, Richard & Deborah Fredricks, Arthur & Olga Gillespie, Frank & Marie Benak, Renold & Joan Hoppel, Andrew Kimball, John E. Riley PTO, Garret & Darlene Cassio, Paul & Linda Didario, Frank & Florence Mikorski, Greentree Assoc., Commerce Bank.

As of presstime, donations for Riley Hubner are still coming in.



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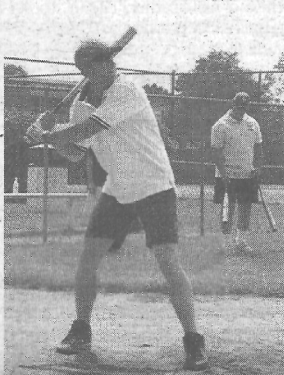
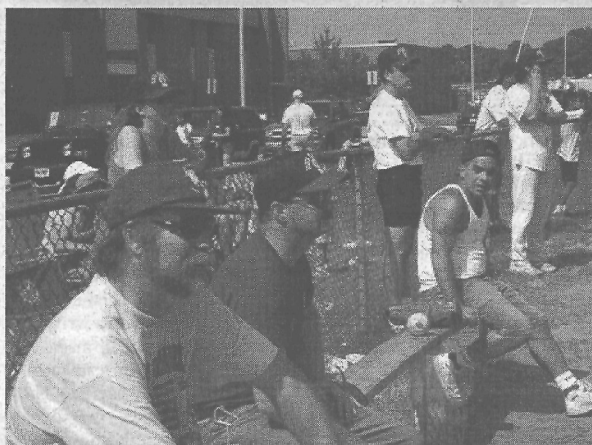
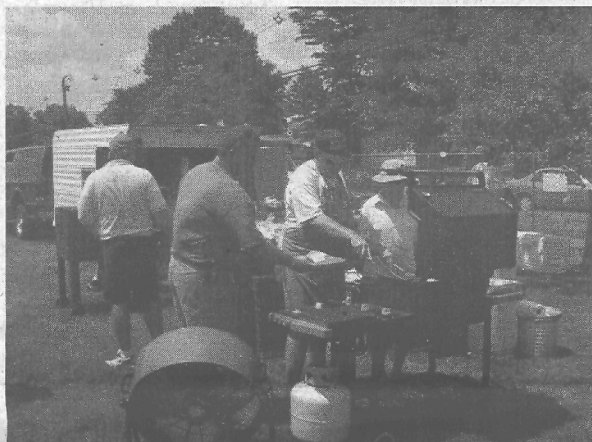
Lynne Glasser-Sward P.T.

908-668-1951

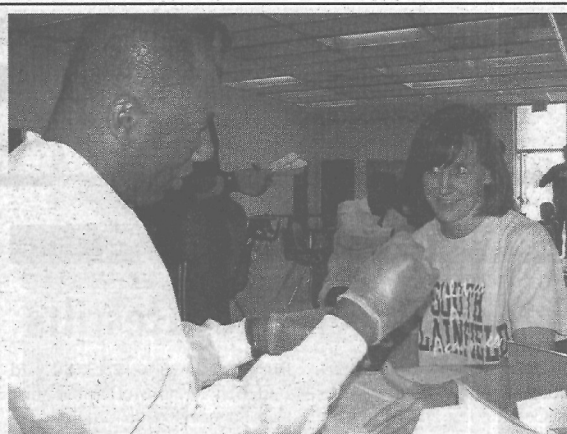
**Physical Therapy Center**  
of South Plainfield & Woodbridge  
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Unity Bank Manager Tino Fontes (third from left) presents a \$1,000 check for Riley Hubner to Christopher Hubner, Riley's father (second from left). Pictured at left is South Plainfield Police Detective Gary Cassio and Bill Ashnault (right), event organizers.



**Happy 13th Birthday**  
**Taylor Lynn**  
 Look out world, here she comes. Her teenage years just begun! May God watch over you today and always.  
 Love you forever,  
 Mommy, Daddy, Troy, Kacey, Annie and Budd



## Learn How to Become Part of the Miracle

### What exactly is a marrow/stem cell transplant?

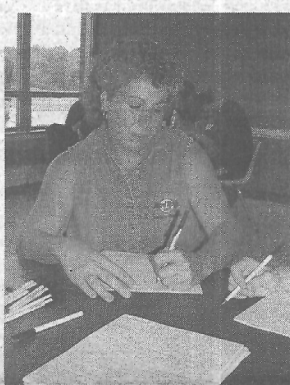
Simply, marrow/stem cell transplants are procedures that involve removing either bone marrow, which contains a high amount of stem cells, or the stem cells directly from the blood and transplanting them into a patient in need. The stem cells will then produce new marrow, which will create healthy cells in the patient.

### What diseases can be treated with a transplant?

A long list of diseases can be treated with marrow or stem cell transplants. Acute lymphoblastic leukemia, acute and chronic myelogenous leukemia, lymphoma, aplastic anemia, severe combined immune deficiency syndrome, sickle cell anemia and radiation poisoning are only a few of these blood diseases afflicting thousands of children and adults every year.

### Who can become a donor?

Anyone between the age of 18 and 60 years old who has no history of hepatitis C, heart disease, cancer or AIDS. Registrants must sign a standard consent form allowing the Registry to include their HLA tissue type, discreetly maintained at all times, in our confidential, computerized file for future matching. And it only takes a simple blood test to get started.



### What happens after I'm registered?

All donors recruited through the HLA Registry automatically become part of the National Marrow Donor Program database, which can be accessed by any patient in need. Donors' records, which include names, demographic information and HLA tissue types, are assigned a confidential number and maintained in computerized files. This privileged information is held in strictest confidence and not released for any reason. In fact, a donor's identity is disclosed to the patient/recipient only after one year has passed since the procedure and written consent is received from both donor and patient.

### What happens if I am a match?

If you are found to be a possible match with a patient needing a transplant, we will contact you immediately, inform you of the possible match and give you the option of proceeding to a second blood test to ensure final HLA compatibility with the patient. If there is a confirmed match, the transplant can be scheduled with your legal consent, given after an in depth explanation about the process of donation and your options as a donor.

### Who covers the medical cost of my donation procedure?

Donors are not responsible for any expenses related to the transplant. The patient's medical insurance covers all costs associated with the marrow or blood stem donation. There is also no need for you to travel in order to donate; the marrow or stem cells are usually harvested at a collection center convenient to you and hand carried by a courier to the patient's transplant center.

For more info, visit the HLA Registry web site at [www.hlaregistry.org](http://www.hlaregistry.org)

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## Spring Lake Park to Host Concert Series

South Plainfield residents are invited to attend the summer Sunday concerts in Spring Lake Park, sponsored by Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders Department of Parks and Recreation. The concerts take place on Sundays from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. and are free. Bring your lawn chair and enjoy the music.

**JULY 28** The Paul Sturm Ensemble (Paul Sturm Leader)

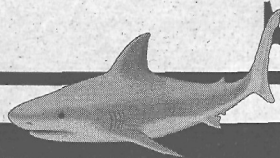
**AUG. 4** The Big Band Express (Pat Mas Leader)

11 The Verstyles Polka Band (Nick Novicky Leader)

18 The Associates (Art Smith Leader)

25 The Chet Varner Band (Chet Varner Leader)

# Sports



## SWIMMING

### Tiger Sharks Meet Results

The Tiger Sharks swim team, representing the South Plainfield Recreation Community Pool, has been busy competing in several recent swim meets, including the Odd Age Jubilee held June 30 and a meet with rival Chatham Colony held July 10 in the Chatham lake.

The Odd Age Jubilee, held annually, is unusual in that swimmers from many teams (rather than just two rival teams) compete against each other and also because the age groups are adjusted so that instead of eight year olds racing their younger competitors, they compete against nine year old swimmers. All age groups are adjusted up in this manner so that both younger and older swimmers have a chance to experience racing against a different group of challengers.

Due to the very large number of

first place for girls 12/13, 50 yard Butterfly; Dylan McDermott, first place for boys 8/9, 25 yard Butterfly; Michael Boyle, fourth, boys 10/11, 50 yard Butterfly; and Patrick Boyle, boys seven and under, 25 yard Butterfly.

Also in Butterfly races: for the girls 8/9, 25 yard, Sarah Konops took third place; Chelsea Cullen took sixth and Maggie Valentino placed ninth. For girls seven and under, 25 yard, Kaitlyn Kenny placed sixth.

Backstroke swimmers finished as follows: Calvin John Smiley, first place for boys 14/15 50 yards; Leah Konops, second; and Elizabeth Valentino, seventh, for girls 12/13, 50 yards; Michael Boyle, fifth, boys 10-11, 50 yards; Sarah Konops, third; Maggie Valentino, fifth; Kate O'Brien, seventh and Chelsea Cullen, ninth, for girls 8/9, 25 yards. Dylan McDermott placed third for boys 8/9, 25 yards and his brother, Liam, took third for the seven and under, 25 yards.

In Breaststroke there were two first place finishers: Dylan McDermott for the boys 8/9, 25 yards; and Gracie Piekarski for the girls seven and under. Calvin John Smiley took second for the boys 14/15, 50 yards; and Diane Romano took second and Leah Konops, fourth, for the girls 12/13, 50 yards. Also in Breaststroke: for the girls 8/9, 25 yards, Chelsea Cullen placed third; Maggie Valentino, fifth; Sarah Konops, sixth and Kate O'Brien, eighth. For boys seven and under, 25 yards, Liam McDermott took fourth and Patrick Boyle took sixth.

Two Tiger Shark swimmers took first place in the Freestyle category: Calvin John Smiley for the boys 14/15, 50 yards; and Dylan McDermott for the boys 25 yards, 8/9 year olds. For girls 12/13, 50 yards, Leah Konops placed third and Diane Romano, seventh. Younger girls 8/9, 25 yards, winners were Sarah Konops, third; Chelsea Cullen, fourth and Maggie Valentino, seventh. Seven years and under girls, 25 yards, had Gracie Piekarski finishing third and Kaitlyn Kenny, seventh. For the boys 10/11, 50 yard, Michael Boyle finished



(Above left) Nina, Lisa, Karim, Shannon and Kristen relax prior to Chatham Colony race. (Right) Coaches Laurie, Sarah, Jen and Calvin John Smiley celebrate last Chatham meet of 2002.

fourth and for the younger boys, seven and under, his brother Patrick finished fourth; while Liam McDermott took fifth and his brother, Aidan, took ninth.

#### The Chatman Challenge

Tiger Shark swimmers had their work cut out for them on July 10 when they took on the Chatham Colony team at their lake in Chatham. Despite taking first, second and third places in many events, the Tiger Sharks lost to the Colony team.

Taking home points for the Tiger Sharks were the following: James Sansone, second place, boys Individual Medley, 100 yards, 10 and under; Calvin John Smiley, first place, 200 yards, 13/18 boys. For the 100 yard Freestyle swimmers, girls, in the 10 and under category, Tigers placed first, second and third with Emily Piekarski, Sarah Konops and Chelsea Cullen, respectively. Joanna Luzny placed third for the 11/12, 100 yard, and Nina Byard took first for the 13-18 200 yard.

For boys Freestyle eight and under, 25 yards, Dylan McDermott took first and Kate O'Brien (swimming for the boys) took third. In the 9/10, 50 yard race Steven Grzenda placed second and Brian Babinetz, third.

Three first place wins were recorded by Matt Moates, 11/12, 50 yards, Emmett Marsili, 13/14, 100 yards, and Calvin John Smiley, 15/18, 100 yards.

In Backstroke, Sarah Konops took

third in the girls 9/10, 50 yard race; Abigail Petritsch took third in 11/12, 50 yard; Leah Konops placed second and Kelly Orlandini, third, in the 13/14, 100 yard. For the 15-18 year olds, Nina Byard placed first and Shannon

For boys Butterfly, point makers were Dylan McDermott, first, eight and under, 25 yards; Matt Santos, first, and Steven Grzenda, third, in the 9/10, 50 yards; Matt Moates, first, in the 11/12, 50 yards; and Adam



Tiger Shark 9-12 year-old girls celebrate relay victory against Glen Ridge.

Dabrio, second, in the 100 yard race.

Breaststroke swimmers earning points for the Tiger Sharks were Maggie Valentino, second, and Kate O'Brien, third, eight and under 25 yards; Chelsea Cullen, second, 9/10, 50 yards; Joanna Luzny, first, and Liz Valentino, third, for 11/12, 50 yards; Leah Konops, first, and Kristen Dabrio, second, for 13/14, 100 yards; and Shannon Dabrio, first, and Becky Brzozowski, second, in the 15-18, 100 yard race.

Timberlake, first, 15-18, 100 yards.

One relay race was won by the South Plainfield team, the 13-18, 200 yard free relay. Teammates taking first place were Kristen and Shannon Dabrio, Leah Konops and Nina Byard.

The Tiger Sharks have a webpage available on the internet, managed and maintained by swim team member, Michael Boyle, age 11. The webpage address is: [www.web-spawner.com/users/bdmmp209/index.html](http://www.web-spawner.com/users/bdmmp209/index.html).

—Submitted by Donna Egan



Gracie Piekarski has both a winning heat and winning smile at Chatham Colony.

swimmers from various teams competing, medals are awarded for placing first, second and third while ribbons are given for placing four through nine. Winning medals or ribbons for the Tiger Sharks were the following swimmers: Calvin John Smiley, first place for boys 14-15 year old, 50 yard Butterfly; Leah Konops,

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# Sports

## Boys' and Girls' Varsity Soccer

There are two words that can accurately express the attitude of the players and coaches of the South Plainfield High School Varsity Boys' Soccer team: enthusiastic and optimistic. The Tigers will be in the White Division again this season and are prepared to recover from last year's 3-13-1 record.

Thus far, Head Coach Bob Diehl does not have a tentative lineup because he is still evaluating the talent his team has on hand. Coach Diehl is looking to make a few changes from last year's lineup to develop the strongest team possible and to balance the offensive and defensive positions. He is definitely looking to improve this year and is making no presumptions about positioning his athletes; he wants them to work in concert as effectively as possible. However, Chris Hewitt will probably be an offensive player and Milton Bravo a midfielder.

There will be three captains this season, as opposed to only two last season. Miguel Garcia will be the junior captain and John Rayho and Milton Bravo will be the senior captains. Rayho was the junior captain last year. The team is also aided by JV Coach Cameron Green.

The goal against ratio was low for the Tigers and that shows that they are a competitive team; there were no blowouts last season. Six of the team's losses last season were by only one goal and the rest were by only two goals, except for one game by three. Coach Diehl stated, "Our record last year was not indicative of how good we were." Most of the games last year were narrow defensive wins for their opponents. He firmly believes that the team has a terrific amount of potential this year and just needs to offensively improve.

When asked about his feelings for the upcoming season, Coach Diehl fervently replied, "I'm optimistic because many of these boys played for me as freshmen and we were successful then. Now that they're seniors I expect that they'll continue that success against a lot of the teams and players that they've been playing against for the last three years." (Diehl was

the Freshman Soccer team coach three years ago.)

Diehl also divulged that several steps have been taken so far to improve the program. One of these steps is fundraising to pay for a professional technician. Every Tuesday night this summer, the team attends professional training clinics to teach them more about the game. They are also planning a mini-camp for the third week of August.

Another positive factor is that attendance and participation for summer practices is approximately double that of last season. Unofficial practices take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and while not mandatory, are highly encouraged. So far, the boys are averaging 35 athletes per practice, and are focused on developing and augmenting stamina and endurance. Official practices will begin Aug. 26, and a week of double sessions will be held before school starts.

The concept of the summer training is to be better prepared for the mandatory practices when the official season commences and to gain an edge against the competition. The coaches emphasize that success will depend on getting in shape right now and encourage running and practicing with a soccer ball every day. Diehl added that other teams are training and have some type of program, so South Plainfield should be no different.

Some of the team's main rivals this upcoming season will include Colonia, Bishop Ahr and North Brunswick.

So far, pre-season training is in effect and going well, and that is one of the most important and often overlooked steps in preparing for competition. The Varsity Boys' Soccer team is unified and ready to experience some growth. They will be out to win and will likely surprise a few people this year. Good luck, boys!

### Girls' Soccer

Having only lost two seniors from last year, the SPHS Girls' Varsity Soccer team should be in good shape this season. The Lady Tigers will compete

in the White Division this time around, moving up from the Blue Division. Many of the girls participate in Indoor and Traveling Soccer during the off season (as do many of the boys), so they are simply continuing their love of the sport.

The Lady Tigers will be looking to make some headway, having finished with a 4-10 record last season. That should not be a problem since most of last year's Varsity starters will be returning and have all improved since last year, thanks to their off season training.

When asked about some of his thoughts for the upcoming season, Head Coach Bruce Hunt intensely responded, "It'll be action. We have a good core back of juniors and seniors who are fun to coach and work hard. The kids get along and work together." He also stated, "We work hard every day and do our best in every game, one game at a time."

The girls also practice unofficially on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the summer. Once official practice begins, the girls will follow an established regimen. Practices will start off by running a mile warmup and stretching; then consist of individual ball handling skills, partner drills, and positional drills; and end with small side games, offensive and defensive work, and lastly, a scrimmage. The idea is to first work individually with more ball contact, then to work with others, and to finish practice in an atmosphere similar to real games where teamwork is promoted.

The tentative Varsity lineup consists of Kelly Eustice, Johanna Hedler, Judy Ringel, Jessa Jones, Shade Coleman, and Loubna Idrissi as offenders;

### preview

### high school sports

by tim morgan



Caitlin English, Chiara Tomei, Liz Sabosik, and Ashley Elliot as defenders; and Jenna Smith and Audrey Wilhelm as goalies. Since most of the girls competed at a Varsity level last season in the same positions, they will be able to work exceptionally well together, which is an advantage they should be able to parlay against some of their rivals.

Some of the team's main competitors are North Brunswick, Colonia, Woodbridge, Monroe, and Perth Amboy.

The team is also headed by Assistant Coach Sean Mealey.

The Lady Tigers have aspirations of success this season. They will have

a more experienced group than last year and have set several goals for themselves. According to Coach Hunt, the team would like to score at least 50 goals in 17 games, to further improve their offense, to achieve at least a .500 record, and qualify for the states.

The Tigers have all the elements present to at least accomplish these goals, and maybe a little more. From an objective point of view, things appear to be progressing nicely for the team. They are aware of the work and strategy required and are sure to spend many hours on the field in determination. Good luck, ladies!



Plainfield Animal Hospital, led buy Mark Chicevar's round of 37, defeated the VFW 13-7 and moved into a one-game lead in the American Division of the So. Plainfield Golf League.

Marty Van DeVaerst's 38 sparked Pornovets to a 13-7 win over Masters and Witty's Liquors, once again inspired by the fine play of Kevin Bickunas, edged out Sport an Social, 11-9.

With the red-hot Jerry Minlonica's per-round of 33 and Jay Coppola's three-over 36, Twin City Pharmacy blitzed Hank's Hackers, 20-0.

South Plainfield Police put together a solid team effort in trouncing Hummel 19-1.

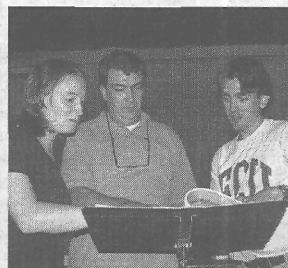
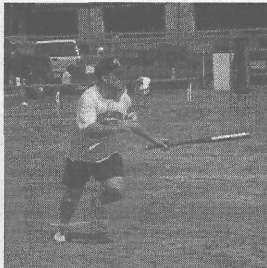
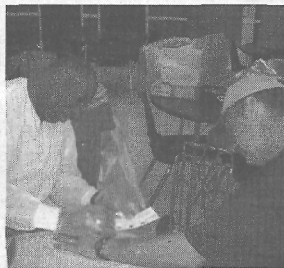
Stan Lipka's 36 and Fred Kirchofer's 37 inspired Aiello Chiropractic to a convincing 16-4 win over Patti's Construction.

Plainfield Animal Hospital holds a slim one-game lead over three teams tied for second place in the American Division with just four weeks remaining in the season.

Sport and Social clings to its one-game lead in the National League over Master.

Submitted by Bob Nilan

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# Sports

By Kevin Lykes

## juniorbaseballclubnotes

### FALL BASEBALL REGISTRATION THIS WEEKEND

Fall baseball registration continues on an open basis. A formal registration has been set for this Friday, July 26 from 6-9 p.m. and Sat., July 27 from 12 noon to 6 p.m. at the clubhouse. We are hoping to have age groups of 9/10, 11/12, and 13/14. The fee is \$50 per player, and you should bring a copy of your child's birth certificate with you. Out of town residents are welcome.

The SPJBC tournament is winding down, and we expect it to be all wrapped up by this weekend. Thus far Colonia won the 12 year old division and South Plainfield the 9 year old division. Semi-finals and Finals are being held this week and final results will be available in the next issue. The South Plainfield 13 year old team is headed to the semi-finals in their division. Also, next week I should hope to have a complete run down on how each of our traveling teams fared.

Congratulations are due to all participants in our tournament for contributing to exciting and competitive baseball games.

Note: The S.P.J.B.C. Annual Picnic will be held Sat. Sept. 7, 12 noon - 6 p.m.. Trophy presentations from our regular season will be made at that time. There will be plenty of good food, and good times for all, so come out and join the rest of the club.



## Ponytail Softball Batters Box

By Sharon Miller

**Readington Tournament**—Congratulations to our 12U "A" team for capturing first place with five wins and one loss. Congratulations also to our 10U "A" team for capturing second place with five wins and one loss.

### All-Star Parkway Invitational Softball League Season—Week of July 28

Championship games will take place July 29 and 30. Coaches will advise teams if they will be participating in these games and will provide location and times. Good luck to all players and coaches.

### 14U, 12U and 10U Monroe Tournament—July 26, 27 and 28

Our 14U, 12U and 10U teams will be competing in the Monroe Tournament on July 26, 27 and 28. Please come out and support our teams. The best of luck to both players and coaches.

#### GAME SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Field	Opposing Team
14U July 27 (Sat)	10:45 am	High School JV	Unknown
	2:15 pm	High School JV	Unknown
	5:45 pm	High School JV	Unknown
12U July 27 (Sat)	9:00 am	Main Complex #2	Wall Wizards
	10:45 am	Main Complex #2	Readington
	4:00 pm	Main Complex #1	Jersey Breeze
10U July 27 (Sat)	10:45 am	Thompson Park Hidden Field	Readington
	2:15 pm	Thompson Park #1	Berkley Brats
	5:45 pm	Hidden Field	Howell All Stars

The main complex is located on Gravel Hill Spotswood Rd. The Thompson Park complex is located on Perrineville Rd. Directions to the field will be provided by the coaches.

The main complex has a snack bar, which offers light snacks and drinks. The Thompson Park complex does not have a snack bar facility. It is not known what type of facilities the High School will have available.

### Ponytail Softball Association Meeting—August 27

The South Plainfield Parents' Association will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 27 at 7:30 p.m. in the South Plainfield Middle School library. If you are interested in becoming a member and being involved in girl's Ponytail Softball, please join us on the 27. New members are always welcome. Please note time change back to 7:30 p.m.

**Ponytail Softball Website**—Visit Ponytail Softball online anytime at our website...SPONYTAIL.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 Webmastersponytail.com found on our home page.

## William D. Tolischus, 66

William D. Tolischus of South Plainfield died on Friday, July 19, at the JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Mr. Tolischus was born in Syracuse and was a former resident of Flemington, before moving to South Plainfield 41 years ago.

He was an aircraft mechanic for Trans World Airlines at JFK International Airport in New York for 33 years, before retiring in 1998. He was a member of the TWA Seniors Club.

Bill was a veteran of the Korean War serving in the US Air Force.

Bill loved the game of golf and in 1992 he won the 19th Annual TWA Phoenix Open Golf Tournament in the Men's Handicap 18 and Above Division. He also worked part time at the Plainfield Country Club as a range porter for two years.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 41 years, Theresa Butrico Tolischus; a brother, Robert Tolischus of San Diego Calif.; two sisters, Ann Hand of Flemington and his twin, Elizabeth Rupell of New Hope, Pa.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory can be made to Haven Hospice, c/o JFK Medical Center, 80 James St., Edison, NJ 08810.

## William Hackett, 63

William Hackett of South Plainfield died on Thursday, July 18, at the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

He was born in Jersey City and was a former resident of Scotch Plains, before moving to South Plainfield 20 years ago.

Bill was an avid sports fan and especially loved baseball and all types of thoroughbred horse racing.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Joan Guardino Hackett; two sons, Michael and his wife Kim Hackett of Scotch Plains and Steven and his wife Mary Beth Fiore of North Grafton, Mass.

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

## Adolf Tumminello, 80

Adolf Tumminello of South Plainfield died on Saturday, July 20, at the Morristown Memorial Hospital in Morristown.

He was born in Staten Island, NY and was a former resident of Mountaintop before moving to South Plainfield 31 years ago.

Al was a warehouse supervisor at the US Naval Depot in Bayonne for twenty five years before retiring in 1967. He was a veteran of the US Army during WWII serving as a Sergeant. He was wounded in the Rhineland Campaign and received a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star. He was a member of the National Disabled American Veterans. He was a

former member of the AARP Chapter 4144 in South Plainfield.

He was a member of the Mountaintop Volunteer Fire Department and served as chief in 1961. He was also a member of the New Jersey State Exempt Firemen's Association. His favorite pastime was wood carving. Al was well known for his carvings of wildlife figures, including all types of birds and animals.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Rebecca Nemerofsky Tumminello; a son, Thomas M. and his wife Tina Tumminello of Lake Harmony, Pa.; a daughter, Jean and her husband John Monahan of Fanwood; four brothers, James of Sayreville; Charles of Saddlebrook, Thomas and Michael Tumminello, both of Staten Island; three sisters, Rose Johnson of St. Petersburg, Fla., Mary Engelke of Savannah, Ga. and Florence Di Nicola of Orange City, Fla.; three beloved grandchildren, Guy, Michael and Vicki and a great grandson, Thomas.

Funeral services were held at James W. Conroy Funeral.

In lieu of flowers donations in his memory can be made to the American Parkinson Disease Association, 1250 Hylan Blvd., Ste. 4B, Staten Island NY 10356-1944.

## Jose "Joe" N. Pascual, 61

Jose "Joe" N. Pascual died on Sunday, July 21, at the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Mr. Pascual was born in Manila in the Philippines and came to the US in 1972 settling in Millburn, where he lived until moving to South Plainfield in 1978. He had attended Far Eastern University in Manila.

Before retiring last August, he had worked for 17 years as a computer technician in the data processing lab at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

Joe enjoyed reading and going to Atlantic City. He also like playing billiards and chess.

Surviving are his wife, Francisca Pascual; two daughters, Josephine Ritter and her husband, Stephen of Scotch Plains and Jennifer Pascual of South Plainfield and his new grandson, Stephen Ritter, IV.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home for Funeral.

## Santo "Joe" Santoro, 71

Santo "Joe" Santoro died on Thursday, July 18, at the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

He was born in and grew up in New Brunswick and he resided in Plainfield for many years before moving to South Plainfield in 1968.

He served with the Marine Corps during the Korean War. Joe had worked as an automotive salesman for almost 25 years for Sears in Josephine.

before retiring in 1990.

He was a former member of the Dunellen Knights of Columbus and a former member of the Italian American Club in North Plainfield.

Joe had enjoyed Monmouth Race Park, Atlantic City and his garden, but being an automotive salesman, he especially enjoyed changing the oil in his car!

His wife, Jennie Santoro, died in May and his sister, Mary Santoro, died this past April. He was also predeceased by his brother, Carmen Santoro.

Surviving are his children, Joseph Santoro of Warren, Michael Santoro of New York City and Lenny Santoro of South Plainfield, a brother Cateno Santoro of North Brunswick and two grandchildren Brittany and Kyle Santoro.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the Villa Walsh, 455 Western Ave., Morristown, NJ 07960, would be appreciated.

## Roberta Hamilton Whitton, 76

Roberta Hamilton Whitton died on Thursday, July 18, in Genesis Elder Care Center in Plainfield.

Born in Plainfield, she resided in South Plainfield most of her life, before moving to Plainfield 30 years ago.

Roberta's parents and grandparents (Hamilton family) were the founders of the First Savings & Loan Bank of South Plainfield. The bank was later merged into the Queen City Savings & Loan Association, which is presently Wachovia First Union Bank. She was the Manager of the South Plainfield Branch for Queen City Savings & Loan and the Vice President of the entire bank when she retired. After her retirement, she was a staff member with Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield.

She was a graduate of North Plainfield High School and graduated with honors in 1947 for St. Lawrence University in Canton, NY, where she received her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology.

William Hamilton, her grandfather, was the first mayor and the first fire chief of South Plainfield.

Her sister, Patricia Flood, died in 1985.

Surviving are her husband, William G. Whitton; a daughter, JoAnne McGonigle of South Plainfield; a son, Brother Robert Whitton of the Holy Apostle Seminary in Cromwell, Conn. Also surviving are four grandchildren, Elizabeth Larson, Ian, Katie and Brian McGonigle, and two great grandchildren, Mary Elizabeth Larson and Andrew Whitton Larson.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

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## policereport

• On July 15 North American Van Lines on Hamilton Blvd. reported that one of their box trucks had damage to its windshield.

• The Bagel Pantry on Plainfield Ave. reported two bikes were stolen from the sidewalk outside the store.

• A Woolworth Ave. resident reported that a red Mongoose BMX bike was stolen from their yard.

• An employee of Able Laboratories Inc. on Hollywood Ct. reported that the trim from the rear window of his Honda Accord had been damaged while parked in the lot.

• On July 16 an employee at the Verizon Training Center on Hadley Rd. reported that her credit card and \$40 where taken from her wallet which was left in the restroom.

• A Hamilton Blvd. resident reported damage to his motorcycle which was parked on the street.

• On July 17 a Wooden Ave. resident reported that youths had been knocking over mailboxes on the street.

• A Clarke Ave. resident reported that her neighbor's folding bike had been stolen out of the driveway.

• On July 18 Building #9 at 333 Hamilton Blvd. reported that copper had been taken from the main electrical box. Entry was gained through a side door.

• A guest at the Ramada Inn on Hamilton Blvd. reported the theft of a 2000 Ford Econoline van.

• An employee of Itran Corp. on Metuchen Rd. reported that their Toyota Camry's window had been smashed and \$3,000 was taken.

• On July 19 J & L Auto on Durham Ave. reported that a customer had filled up with \$37 worth of gas and left their credit card. The

credit card was a fake.

• Vincent Harold Faust, 24 of Fords was arrested in South Plainfield for a loitering and an outstanding warrant out of Carteret.

• A Foster Ave. resident reported that a Yamaha Y100 and PW80 motorcycle were stolen from their unlocked garage overnight.

• The Gulf station on Oak Tree Ave. reported that two yellow inspection stickers had been taken from a locked compartment in the store. It is unknown how entry was gained.

• On July 20 a Peek St. resident reported that a men's 26" mountain bike had been stolen from their driveway.

• Quality Auto Glass Inc. on So. Clinton Ave. reported that a 2000 Acura, which had been parked overnight had been broken into. Seats, door panels, carpets and the radio were taken.

• Stephen William Orinick Jr., 25 of Edison, was arrested at Sal's Spirit Shoppe for possession of imitation CD's with intent to distribute, and possession of under 50 grams of marijuana.

• Million Dollar Video on 7th St. reported were men arguing outside and that one of them slammed a scooter into the door smashing it.

• On July 21 Staples on Hadley Rd. reported a man taking something off the shelf and trying to return it. When asked for identification he fled.

• Two black males age 12 were picked up at Park and Sprague avenues for the theft of three stolen bikes. One bike was recovered.

• On July 22 Kevin Williams, 37 of Plainfield was arrested at a motor vehicle stop on an outstanding warrant.

# Classifieds

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

## HELP WANTED

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### Currency Processing Tellers PT (6:00 pm-10:00 p.m.)

AT Systems, one of the largest cash processing and transportation companies, serving major banking, retail and commercial organizations nationwide seeks Currency Tellers to join our service team at our South Plainfield, NJ location. Candidate will be responsible for processing incoming deposits for assigned banks and verifying actual money received matches deposit slip.

Must have a high school diploma or equivalent; excellent numeric data entry skills; the ability to lift up to 50 lbs. as well as excellent organizational skills. An excellent credit history and no criminal background is also necessary.

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AT Systems, a growing armored transportation co., seeks F/T & P/T Driver/Messengers at their South Plainfield Terminal.

Sign on Bonus to candidates w/:

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## MORTGAGES

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## GUITAR LESSONS

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## PHOTOS AVAILABLE

Observer staff photographer Patricia Abbott has digital photos from recent events available, including Middle, High School & Grant School plays, Jr. and Sr. Proms, JoAnne's Dance Studio Autism Benefit, Fire Dept. Oldies concert, Plainfield Animal Hospital 50th Anniv., Sacred Heart Fair, Dennis Madalone's visit to So. Plainfield, OLC Fair, Middle & High School graduations, Senior Prank, Project Graduation, SPSHS spring & winter concerts & Franklin Girl Scout workshop, Fire Dept. Wet Down, Labor Day '01 and much more. To see proofs, call 756-8011 or email angelony@aol.com. Reasonable prices. Photos are printed on a high quality photo paper.

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## Middlesex County Fair Schedule of Events

The Middlesex County Fair will be held Aug. 5-11 at the Middlesex County Fairgrounds in Cranberry. Some of the events this year include:

**The New Jersey Crafters** will demonstrate their talents at the fair. Demonstrations will include, bobbin lace making, calligraphy, chair caning, dollmaking, Faberge egg art, fly tying, etc.

**Agriculture Tent**—Since this is an agricultural fair, a special feature of each year's fair is the Agriculture Tent which spotlights agri-business in Middlesex County. The tent will house displays from the Middlesex County Board of Agriculture, state agriculture societies such as New Jersey Vegetable Growers and Soil Conservation as well as the East Brunswick Grange. One of the highlights of this tent will be a display presented by the Master Gardeners—Rutgers Cooperative Extension who will present fact sheets on horticultural, environmental and agricultural topics as well as field questions on helpful topic for the home gardener.

Exhibits and demonstrations will be presented throughout the afternoons and evenings of the Fair.

**Home Arts Building**—The Home Arts Division of the Fair affords an opportunity for the non-professional to enter his creative projects and products of his/her hobbies for exhibit and competition. Exhibits are judged against each other and the winners are awarded ribbons and premiums. Areas making up this division are: art, baked goods, canning, crafts, decorative foods, handwork and sewing.

**Vegetable and Fruit Divisions**—Local amateur gardeners enter their homegrown fruit and vegetables for display and competition. This tent also provides luscious samples of locally grown fruit and vegetables from areas farms and farm markets.

**Flower Show**—The Adult Flower Show, under the direction of the East Brunswick Woman's Club and the Flower Show for Juniors display flowers and plants grown by local gardeners. Artistic arrangements and theme arrangements also make up the exhibit. All entries are judged and ribbons and premiums are awarded to the winners.

**Public Service**—The Fair is a place where important public information

can be obtained by the fairgoer. The following booths distribute pertinent knowledge, Animal Rescue Force (ARF), Comprehensive Traffic Safety Program of Middlesex County, Irving Raphael Inc., Middlesex County Board of Freeholders, Middlesex County Improvement Authority, Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office, Rutgers Cooperative Extension (Master Gardeners), Social Security Administration, The Blood Center of NJ, Saint Peter's University Hospital Mobil Unit and Women Aware.

**4H**—One of the main "causes" of the Middlesex County Fair Association is the 4-H Club of Middlesex County. Besides giving financial support to 4-H throughout the year, the annual fair provides a showplace for the accomplishments of the clubs and their individual members where they may demonstrate their achievements to the public and compete for prizes.

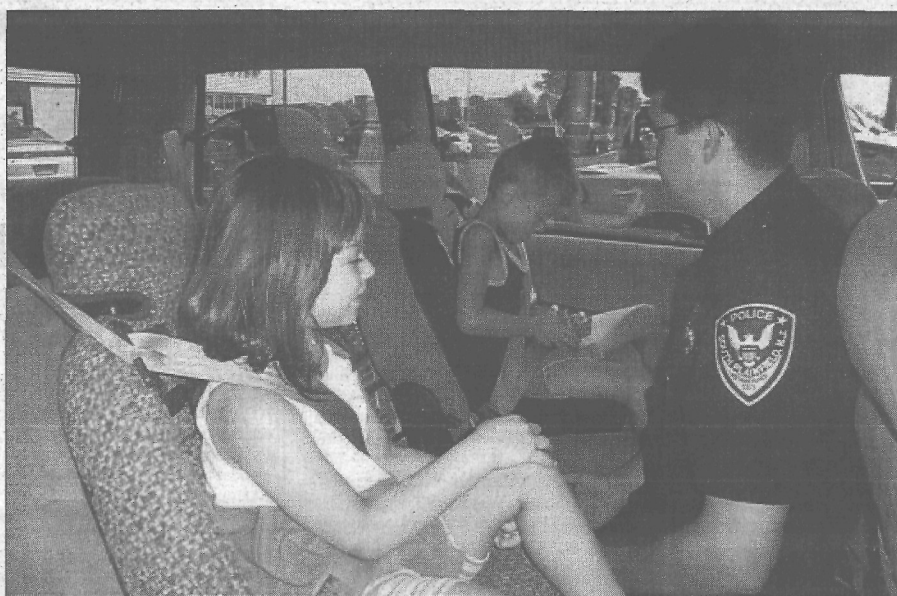
Some of the exciting 4-H exhibits include the small animal tent, the livestock tent and the horse tents along with each club's display set up in another tent.

Many and varied competitions and events make up the activities of the 4-H program for the week. Among them are: dog obedience show, dog show obstacle/agility course show, seeing eye event and swing dance.

Horse events also provide an interesting bit of entertainment for all fairgoers including the drill team, English horse show and Gymkhana.

To open the Fair on Monday evening, 4-H'ers will present Rhythm-in-Motion Cloggers/4-H Indian Langoor. The Cloggers will also appear on Tuesday and Saturday. 4-H Kids Night will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 7 with cupcake decorating, games, animal balloons, face painting and more and an Animal Costume Show is planned on Saturday, Aug. 10.

Aug. 10 and 11 are Children's Day at the Fair. On Saturday, at 11:30 a.m. a children's Costume Parade gets underway where entrant are dressed as zoo animals, fair foods, or holidays of the year. There is also a cat and kitten show, A dog and puppy show and an animal costume Show. At 4 p.m. there will be a Little Middlesex County Fair King & Queen and Prince and Princess Contest.



The South Plainfield Police Department Traffic Safety Unit hosted a successful Child Passenger Safety Seat Check Point in the parking lot of Staples on Hadley Rd. last Saturday. Technicians were on hand to inspect child safety seats for recalls and to demonstrate the proper techniques for installing them.

## Kids Buckle Up for Safety at Car Seat Inspection

Many conscientious parents attended the South Plainfield Traffic Safety Unit's Child Passenger Safety Seat Check Point at Staples last Saturday.

Traffic Safety police officers from South Plainfield and surrounding towns had a drive-up area where motorists could have their child's booster seats inspected for proper usage. Officers made recommendations and

even replaced car seats that were recalled with brand new seats obtained through a Toys R Us sponsored program.

Parents were also encouraged to participate in the "We Have a Little Emergency" (WHALE) program. Children's pictures were taken and placed on a sticker with pertinent medical information in case an adult in the vehicle was unable to relay this

in an accident. The stickers were placed on the car seats and decals were given out to place on the vehicle to alert emergency personnel that the drivers participate in the program.

If you are interested in having your car seat inspected or want more information on the WHALE program, contact Traffic Safety Officer Vincent Campagna at (908) 226-7693.



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**WHALE PROGRAM**—The South Plainfield Police Traffic Safety Unit began implementing the "We Have a Little Emergency" (WHALE) program at Saturday's child passenger safety seat checkpoint. Two stickers are placed on each side of the carseat alerting police that important information about the child is located on the back of the carseat. The program is meant to assist police in the event of an auto accident and the parents are injured and unable to give police necessary information regarding the child, which may help rescue personnel be more effective.

## LEGAL NOTICES

### NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANT

(L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO:  
Michael Rocco

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED to serve upon GOLDBECK MCCAFFERTY & MCKEEVER, A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION, plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is Suite 420; Sentry Office Plaza; 216 Haddon Avenue; Westmont, NJ 08106, phone: # (856) 658-2242, an answer to the Amended Complaint (and Amendment to Complaint, if any), filed in a civil action, in which Columbia National, Inc. is plaintiff and David Wierzbinski and Susan Wierzbinski, h/w is/are the defendant(s), pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, Middlesex County and bearing Docket No. F-8542-02 within thirty-five (35) days after July 26, 2002 exclusive of such date. If you fail to do so, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Amended Complaint (and Amendment to Complaint, if any). You shall file your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Hughes Justice Complex - CN 971, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, in accordance with the rules of civil practice and procedure.

This action has been instituted for the purpose of (1) foreclosing a mortgage dated July 29, 1994, made by David Wierzbinski and Susan Wierzbinski, h/w as mortgagor(s), to Columbia National, Inc. recorded on August 2, 1994, for Middlesex County in Book 4771, page 597 of Mortgages for said County; and (2) to recover possession of, and concerns premises commonly known as 67 Haven Terrace, Sayreville Boro, NJ 08859.

If you are unable to obtain an attorney, you may communicate with the New Jersey State Bar Association by calling 1-732-249-5000. You may also contact the Lawyer Referral Service of the County of venue by calling 1-(732) 828-0053. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services offices of the County of venue by calling 1-(732) 249-7800.

YOU, Michael Rocco, are hereby made a party defendant to this foreclosure action because of a Judgment entered against defendant, Dave Wierzbinski in Superior Court of New Jersey known as Judgment #JC-00001459-2001DC and Case #DC-001459-2001 and entered on April 2, 2001 to secure the sum of \$1,689.33 and for any lien, claim or interest you may have in, to or against the mortgaged premises.

DONALD F. PHELAN, Clerk  
Superior Court of New Jersey

\$61.25

July 26, 2002

### PUBLIC NOTICE

RETURN OF PERFORMANCE BOND  
TO NORTHEAST DEVELOPERS INC.  
FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AT  
401 Harvard Avenue  
South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080  
Lot #1, Block #347.

A public meeting has been scheduled by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield to hear objections, if any, to the release of a Performance Bond posted by Northeast Developers Inc. for public improvements at 401 Harvard Avenue, known as Lot 1, Block 347 listed on the official tax maps of the Borough of South Plainfield. Said public hearing will be held August 5, 2002 at 7 PM in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

Northeast Developers Inc.  
401 Harvard Avenue  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

\$35.00

July 26, 2002

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

July 23, 2002

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment at its meeting held on July 18, 2002.

A. Case #55-02-Frank & Stephanie Chiricillo-Block 144; Lot 6; 1502 Chestnut Street-Applicant's request for rear yard setback variances to construct a two-story addition and rear cellar entry door, were hereby GRANTED.

B. Case #56-02-Jeffrey Courtney-2356 Audubon Avenue; Block 78; Lot 12-Applicant's request for rear yard setback variance and for over coverage on the lot, to construct a 40' x 10' irregular deck, was hereby GRANTED.

C. Case #57-02-Michael DeCarlo-127 Daniel Street; Block 195; Lot 41; R7.5 Zone-Applicant's request for a front setback variance from Faye St. to construct a wood deck and front yard setback from Daniel Street to construct a roof over front porch was hereby GRANTED.

D. Case #53-02-Jeffrey Bogden-121 Palmer Ave.; Block 14; Lot 2; R-10 Zone-Applicant's request to use his dwelling as a mother/daughter residence was hereby GRANTED.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Janice Muccilli,  
Secretary Zoning Board of Adjustment

\$36.75

July 26, 2002

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