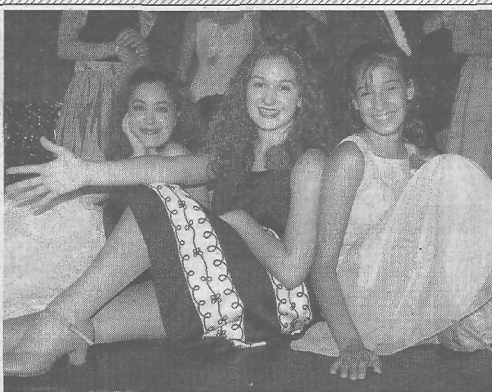


South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 5, NO. 48

50 CENTS

AUGUST 2, 2002



See pages 6 and 7



SUMMER DRAMA WORKSHOP *presents*



Footloose?

August 1-3 • 7 PM

August 4 • 2 PM

SPHS Auditorium

Tickets: (908) 561-5255

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

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

Site plan 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

Traffic safety 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

To the Editor,

On behalf of myself and my family, I would like to thank the community of South Plainfield for its support, especially over the past few months.

Support has come from all areas and in many forms. The bone marrow drive held in Woodbridge in early June attracted 424 donors, of which more than 120 were from South Plainfield. The recent bone marrow drive and softball tournament held Saturday, July 20 was another huge success, testing and registering an additional 150-plus donors. Organizers label these bone marrow drives a success if they attract about 100 donors.

When I arrived at the fields on Saturday, I was humbled by the magnitude of the events taking place. The time needed to plan and coordinate, the willingness of people to help, and the general support by all are real life examples of what makes this community special. The financial contributions from the many businesses, clubs, organizations, and especially the people of South Plainfield enabled us to offset much of the cost for these drives. We sincerely thank you for your generosity.

Finally, to the many people and organizations who have given gifts to brighten Riley's day, offered a lending hand with daily activities and have taken the time to ask or lend an open ear, we would again like to extend our most heartfelt THANK YOU. We are proud to be a part of this wonderful community.

CHRIS & COLLEEN HUBNER

Dear Editor,

At the June Board of Education meeting, the Public Relations Committee announced that it would be seeking suggestions of names for the new school building from the South Plainfield Community. I would like to put forth a suggestion for the residents of South Plainfield to consider.

In the past, our town had named our schools after presidents (Grant, Roosevelt and Kennedy) a Founding Father (Franklin) and a respected and loved teacher/administrator (John E. Riley).

I believe the time has come to name a school in memory of South Plainfield Police officer William J. Cady, who was killed in the line of duty on April 19, 1975. In fact, the field that the new school is being built on was dedicated in his memory many years ago and named Cady Memorial Park. When you are driving down Belmont Ave., you can still see two faded green signs along the fence that proclaim this. Somehow over the years, the name and memory has faded. Perhaps it is because our town has experienced so much growth. Whatever the reason, I think it is time to correct it. Many of you may remember seeing a brick memorial that stood alongside the playground at Roosevelt School. I personally have always thought it was very sad that trash and broken bottles were thrown where flowers should have been placed. The memorial was not given the care and respect

it deserved for many years. How many people knew the story behind the memorial? I didn't, so I had to ask about it.

The South Plainfield Community could not choose a better time than now to restore respect for Officer William Cady's memory. There could be no finer tribute selected than a school built on the field dedicated in his memory. Our children for generations will remember William J. Cady's ultimate sacrifice made in the line of duty. As parents, could we hope to extol a more powerful value in our young children than service to our community and country?

Since Sept. 11, our country has replaced the million dollar athletes and entertainers as its heroes with the true everyday heroes who serve and protect us, our police officers, firefighters, EMS Technicians, and our military. It is only fitting that our town honors one of our own local heroes with a lasting legacy. This legacy would inspire our youngsters to give service to our communities and our great country and to honor the men and women who serve and protect us everyday.

William J. Cady was a 29-year-old patrolman doing a job he loved in his community. While conducting a routine traffic stop on an entrance ramp to 287, he was struck and killed by a passing vehicle. The operator of that vehicle was under the influence of narcotics at the time of the accident.

During his six year career, Cady received numerous commendations and had earned the respect of his fellow officers, his superiors and the citizenry of the community he served. In 1971, he received a commendation for single handedly subduing two burglary suspects who violently resisted arrest.

Prior to joining the South Plainfield Police Department, Cady served in Vietnam as a member of the United States Marine Corps. while in the military, he received the Good Conduct Medal and Vietnam Service Medal. His wife, Jane, daughter Stephanie, and son Rhetta survive him.

This description does not begin to describe the whole man. I never knew him or his family but those who did speak highly of him to this day.

This honor would not only be for William J. Cady but for all his fellow officers here and across the country. Bestowing this honor would show our gratitude for the sacrifices made by all the police officers and their families by naming a school after one of their own. So as a community, we would be better honoring all those who serve and protect us. There could be no better time than now to confer this great honor to those who faithfully serve and protect us everyday.

As we all witnessed after Sept. 11, the pain and sorrow was felt across the nation and the world. Representatives of police and fire departments across the country and around the world came to show their respect for their fallen brothers and sisters.

Please consider this suggestion to name the new school—William J. Cady Elementary School.

I urge you to write a letter to the Board of Education at 305 Cromwell Place, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 and let your opinion be known.

**SINCERELY,
ANN DELANEY**

Dear Editor:

The greatest gift one human being can give another is the gift of life. Today, everyone has the power to give that gift by registering to be an organ donor.

If anyone doubts the importance of being an organ donor, consider this:

- 4,000 Americans die yearly while waiting for an organ transplant.
- New Jersey alone has 2,000 people currently on the national organ transplant waiting list, and 82,000 people are on the national list.

• As an organ donor, you can save up to eight lives and up to 75 lives if you donate tissue.

The process to become a donor is easy and painless:

1) Since it is often a sensitive issue, discuss it with your family. Explain that it's your decision, and ask them to honor your decision should something happen to you.

2) Join the New Jersey Organ and Tissue Donor Registry by contacting the Sharing Network through the internet at WWW.sharenj.org/registry.htm or by calling 1-800-SHARE-NJ. Donor forms can be printed off the internet or obtained through the 800 number.

3) Complete the donor card and have a family member sign it as a witness and indicate your desire to be a donor on your driver's license.

This is a tremendous opportunity each of us has to give the greatest gift of all—the gift of life.

PATRICK DIEGNAN, ASSEMBLYMAN IN THE 18TH DISTRICT

Dear Editor,

On July 15, the Senate approved legislation I helped Sen. Paul Sarbanes (D-Maryland), Sen. Christopher Dodd (D-Connecticut) and others to tighten regulation of corporate auditors and make executives more accountable for their conduct.

We believe this legislation is a major step toward restoring public

Continued on page 10

South Plainfield Observer

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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.

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1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B
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Last week a fence was been put up around Veterans Park, temporarily closing it until further testing of the ooze found there has been completed. According to Robert Speigel from Edison Wetlands Association, tests of two samples he took showed lead and PCBs. However, as of presstime, testing results done by the Environmental Protection Agency and PMK Group are not still complete.

Police Warn Bike Thefts on The Rise in South Plainfield

By Jane Dornick

Since the beginning of July the number of stolen bicycles in South Plainfield has risen at an alarming rate. Surrounding towns are also experiencing a similar problem.

Residents, especially on the north side of town, have had bikes stolen from their lawns, backyards, garages and sheds. Unlocked bikes have also been stolen from various store fronts. The stolen bikes are not limited to children's, but adult bikes as well. Upscale bikes, such as mountain and BMX, are the most susceptible.

The thieves, who seem to be primarily youths ranging in age from 10 years and up, like to strike during the

afternoon hours until dark. They tend to travel in groups, on foot or on bikes, with one rider carrying a passenger who ultimately seizes an unattended bike. Lone thieves have been spotted walking and then later riding off with a bike. Some have been seen riding along pulling another bike.

Most frustrating to police is that either no one sees the actual theft or they don't receive an accurate description of the thieves. Residents are being asked to keep an eye out in their neighborhoods and call police immediately if they see someone acting suspicious. Get a good description if they do see a bike thief.

According to South Plainfield Police Captain John Ferraro, police have

been working in conjunction with juvenile task forces from Plainfield and Piscataway, conducting surveillances in the hardest hit areas of town. Unclaimed bikes from the police bike pen are being used as bait to set up would-be thieves, while officers closely monitor the decoy bikes. "Hot sheets" are also being used to identify stolen bikes.

The police department has issued the following bike theft prevention tips: never leave bikes unattended, always use a strong lock, when not in use keep bikes indoors and locked, keep bikes locked in garages, immediately record the serial number and keep the receipt after purchasing your bike, register bikes with the police department, call police immediately if stolen and try to give an accurate description of the thief.

Parents should talk to their children about the problem of stolen bikes and tell them to always be on the alert when they park their bikes anywhere, even in front of their own house.

Bikes can be registered this Saturday, Aug. 3 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the annual Police Bike Rodeo held at Spring Lake Park.

5th Annual Police Bicycle Rodeo to be Held Saturday

This Saturday, Aug. 3, the South Plainfield Police Department will be sponsoring their annual bicycle rodeo. The event takes place in Spring Lake Park from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

One of the events planned is an obstacle course presented and conducted by volunteer employees of State Farm Insurance. Proper riding techniques and rules of the road will be emphasized and an On Bike Skills Development course will be conducted. Helmet wearing cyclists will negotiate a moderately challenging course of cones to help improve their riding abilities.

For cyclists 14 years of age and younger who do not have bicycle helmets, the South Plainfield Traffic Safety Advisory Commission has donated a limited supply of helmets to be given out. Those participants wearing their own helmet to the rodeo and register their bicycle with the South Plainfield Police Department, will be entered into a drawing to win a new bicycle. Ron Sward, the director of the Physical Therapy Center of South Plainfield and captain of the South Plainfield Rescue Squad, has donated a bicycle for this event.

Safety oriented literature supplied by various sources will be provided to all participants. Halls Fast Motor Freight and Warehouse, Haagen Dazs Ice Cream, Pepsi, McCriscin's Home for Funerals, Rita's Italian Ice and Freihofer's Baking Company all have donated refreshments.

In conjunction with the bicycle safety program, a unique bicycle registration/theft prevention program will be available to the public. The "Baron Von Pedaloff" program, designed by South Plainfield Police Officer William Frink (ret.), is specifically designed to reduce bicycle thefts.

By encouraging bicycle owners to register their bicycle and taking anti-theft precautions, we can reduce the amount of bicycle thefts that occur in South Plainfield. "Baron Von Pedaloff" literature will be provided in an effort to remind all those in attendance, not to give anyone the opportunity to "Pedal Off" with their bicycle.

Kids are reminded to bring their bicycle, their helmet and be ready for a fun filled day. Any questions, call at (908) 226-7678.

Motor Vehicle Accident Sends Four to Hospital

At about 2 p.m. Sunday afternoon a motor vehicle accident occurred at the intersection of Avon and Norwood avenues.

Amama Taiyebi, a 36 year old Edison resident traveling on Avon Ave., proceeded through a stop sign crossing at Norwood Ave. Her car struck a vehicle driven by Denise Schreier, 43, also of Edison.

Injured in the accident were a 10-year-old girl who was in the Schreier

vehicle. Her injuries are unknown. Also a 22-year-old female, an eight year-old female and a six year-old male in the Taiyebi car were injured.

Taiyebi was issued two summonses, failure to stop at a stop sign and a violation of the child restraint law.

All four injured passengers were transported to area hospitals. No further information was released on their injuries.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Welcome to August! And, as summer rolls on, here's news from the South Plainfield Library:

Turning to our children's programs, our Game Gang program will be held this morning at 11 a.m. Children may play one of our board games (no, we don't have one of those Civil War chess sets) or bring in one of their own to share. We'll also hold a Summer Reading Kidcraft program for children ages six and over on Monday evening at 6:30. Next, we'll have an abbreviated schedule of children's Storytime programs next week. We'll hold them on Tuesday morning at 10:30 and Wednesday evening at 6:30. Both are for children ages three and over; no pre-registration is required. Our Thursday Storytime has been replaced with a special sing-along program, featuring Robert the Guitar Guy, at 11 a.m. This program is for children up to ages eight; please sign up in advance so we can have an idea of attendance.

We have a couple of advance notices for you: First, be aware that the last day to check in books for Summer Reading is Saturday, Aug. 10. Second, be aware that our Storytime programs will be cancelled, enabling Miss Linda to relax, on the weeks of Aug. 18 and 25. For more information, call us at (908) 754-7885 and ask for the aforementioned Miss Linda.

The Library will not be offering notary services until Aug. 12, as our notary public is taking a much-needed vacation.

The Friends of the Library will not be meeting in August. Their next meeting is scheduled for September; we'll have details when they're available.

The latest group from the CD Circuit is now available. Artists in this group include Christina Aguilera, Bob Dylan, Destiny's Child, Yanni, and Etta James. CDs may be borrowed, four at a time, for two weeks. Meanwhile, we've also added a new

group of Circuit videos and DVDs. (Title listings are unavailable at press time.) Videos and DVDs may be borrowed, also four at a time, for two days.

Here's an update re: the Harry Potter situation. Reportedly, the next installment will be titled "The Order of the Phoenix". Unfortunately, it's not expected to be published until June of next year. We'll be on the lookout for it, and we'll let you know when it's available.

Finally, here's a request: Please be sure of what exactly you're returning to us. At times, patrons have made the mistake of returning their own items to us, rather than the ones they actually borrowed. (This has been a frequent occurrence when it comes to returning videos.) Mistakes like this, while understandable, cause us a fair amount of trouble for all involved (we have to track down the rightful owner, the rightful owner has to pick it up, etc.). So, please take a couple of extra seconds to make sure of just what you're putting in the book drop.

That'll do it for this week. See you next Friday for more.

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 chosen as grand marshal. If you submitted a name last year, you must submit it again this year. Send your nominee's name, address and phone number to John Sorrentino, 225 Hopkinson St., South Plainfield, NJ 07080. Email: jmsorren@comcast.net or fax (908) 753-4003.

Arrest Made in NAPA Auto Parts Robbery

Last Friday, July 26, the South Plainfield Police Department arrested Curt Robley, age 21, of Piscataway at his home.

Detective Gary Cassio charged Robley with the burglary and theft which occurred on July 12 at NAPA Auto Parts on New Durham Ave.

Also a search warrant was executed at Robley's residence by members of the South Plainfield and Piscataway Police Departments.

Robley was charged by the Piscataway Police with possession of under 25 grams of marijuana.

He was processed by the Piscataway Police, turned over to the South Plainfield Police, where he was processed again and later released after posting a bond of \$5,000.

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Events

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.

Benefit Car Wash

August 3

A car wash to benefit the South Plainfield High School Summer Variety, JV and Freshman Soccer Training Program will be held on Saturday, Aug. 3 at South Plainfield Middle School, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Cost is \$5 per car, \$7 per truck, SUV, minivan or van.

Rainbow Academy 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.

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 throughout 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 tee.

Corporate sponsorships are encouraged. Proceeds go to support the activities of the high school golf team and the SPGA's college scholarship

What's happening in AUGUST

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 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Senior Center EVENTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Make Your own Sundae Aug. 20 Atlantic City Trip • Aug. 7				
EVENTS Walking Club 9 AM 5 Sign up Friday Pizza \$2 Yoga 10:30AM	Walking Club 9AM 6 Bingo 10AM-2PM Sign up for Pizza \$2 Aerobics/Dance 10:30AM	Atlantic City Trip 8AM 7 \$15 Walking Club 9AM AARP Crafts 1 PM Movie 11:30AM	Walking Club 9 AM 8 Shopping 9AM	Walking Club 9 AM 2 Bingo 10 AM - 2 PM Pizza 11:30 AM (\$2)
TO SIGN UP FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER, VISIT THE PAL BUILDING ON MAPLE AVE.				

Spring Lake Park 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.

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)

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.

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.

Community Pool to Host Hawaii Night For Members Only

Aug. 20

The South Plainfield Community Pool will have special hours on Tuesday, Aug. 20. The pool will be open at 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. for members only. The pool will be closed between the hours of 2 and 6 p.m.

From 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. the pool will host a "Hawaii Night" for members only, 18 years and older. Events will include a DJ, tournaments, games, etc.

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.

Bus Trip Planned by Wesley Methodist

September 7

Wesley United Methodist Church is running a bus trip to Sight and Sound Theatre in Lancaster, Pa. to see the new stage production of *Daniel, A Den, A Dream and A Deliverer* on Saturday, Sept. 7.

Bus leaves Wesley Church at 9 a.m. Tickets for the 1 p.m. performance include dinner at Good and Plenty Restaurant in Lancaster.

Tickets are limited; reserve now. Cost is \$85 per person. For more in-

formation, call Paula Kowalski at (908) 668-7845.

OLC Rosary Society Plans Trip

October 17

Our Lady of Czestochowa Rosary Society is sponsoring a trip to see *Daniel at the Sight and Sound Theatre* on Oct. 17. \$80 per person includes bus trip, Amish style lunch, theater spectacular, taxes and tips. Checks made payable to OLC Rosary Society by Aug. 10. Mail your check to Maria Seliga, 1710 Pershing Pl., South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or contact Maria at (908) 769-7735.

— Out of Town —

HIV Health Services Meeting

August 7

Join us for the next monthly meeting of the HIV Health Services Planning Council of the Middlesex-Somerset-Hunterdon Eligible Metropolitan Area.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, Aug. 7, 2-4 p.m. at the Middlesex County Board of Social Services Building in New Brunswick. The Planning Council consists of volunteers from Middlesex, Somerset and Hunterdon counties who make decisions regarding the medical and support service needs of persons living with HIV in our area.

Orientation is provided for interested individuals. All are welcome!

For information, contact Johanna Daley, Planning Council Staff, (732) 445-0512.

Autumn Woods Presents Summer Carnival

August 10

Autumn Woods presents a Summer Carnival on Saturday, Aug. 10, 2 to 5 p.m. at Autumn Woods Assisted Living, 680 Rt. 202/206, 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.

Author Lecture to Speak

August 10

On Saturday, August 10 at 1 p.m., the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans

Memorial Foundation will host a lecture by Vietnam Veteran author Harry Dilkes about his book, *Five Years to DEROS*, at the Vietnam Era Educational Center in Holmdel.

Harry Dilkes' *Five Years to DEROS* (Date Eligible to Return from Overseas Service) is a true story of the US Army 4th Infantry Division's 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry, known as the "Red Warriors," and the five years the battalion was deployed to South Vietnam. Endorsed by Lt. Gen. Harold G. Moore, this book accurately depicts the dangers experienced and the hardships suffered by American combat infantrymen fighting the war in Vietnam.

Dilkes, a resident of Edison, was drafted into the Army in 1966 and arrived in Vietnam in March 1967. He served with the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry, 4th Infantry Division, along the border of Cambodia in the Central Highlands of South Vietnam. Since leaving the Army, Dilkes earned his college degree and started his own industrial lawn maintenance company. At age 42, he re-enlisted into the Army Reserves and served a seven-year hitch. He developed a desire to write of his Vietnam experience and the story of his unit in Vietnam.

RSVP one week prior to the event to (732) 335-0033. Donation of \$5 per person is suggested. The Vietnam Era Educational Center is located adjacent to the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial off the GSP at exit 116. The center is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free for veterans and active-duty military personnel. General admission is \$4; student and senior citizen admission is \$2. Children under 10 are admitted free.

Good News International Concert

August 29

On Thursday, Aug. 29, Good News International will present a night of inspiration and music by the internationally acclaimed musician and author, Tony Melendez. He appears with singer and songwriter Steve Angrisano. Melendez has played before Pope John Paul II, performed at Super Bowls and before U.S. presidents. A thalidomide baby, born without arms, he is truly an inspiring and gifted guitarist, using only his toes to produce captivating and unforgettable songs.

As a singer, songwriter, storyteller, and inspirational speaker, Steve Angrisano has shared his message of hope with hundreds of thousands of people over the last 10 years. His music is dynamic and exciting.

Concert begins at 7:30 at St. Veronica Church, 4215 Route 9 No., Howell. Meet the artists and purchase their music. Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. Credit cards are accepted. Group rates and family discounts are available. To purchase tickets or for info, call Good News International at 1-800-430-0586.

"Praise in the Park"

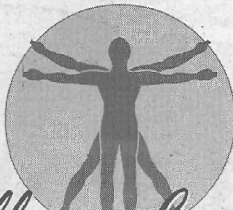
August 31

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).

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.



Wellness Corner

Steroids & the Decision to Take Them...

By Dr. Patrick M. Aiello D.C.

If you've followed the sports world, in particular baseball, recently, then you're familiar with the allegations of steroid use made by and against former and current major league players. Given this hot potato of a topic, I'd thought I'd share some of my concerns regarding steroid use in athletes, or anyone else looking to increase or enhance their body's performance.



Dr. Patrick Aiello, D.C.

First, what are steroids? They are pharmaceutical medications entirely legal (and having legitimate medical uses) if prescribed by a physician for a particular ailment or condition. The ones we're discussing here, anabolic steroids, work by increasing the body's testosterone level and increasing muscle mass—particularly when combined with strength training and proper nutrition. And though steroids are illegal to use without a prescription, there's an extensive black market network in place, making them fairly accessible.

Now that you know what they are, it's easy to see why athletes are so eager to take them. It aids their performance. It makes them a better athlete. For professionals, this can mean bigger signing bonuses and contracts. At this level, thus, it's about livelihood, fame, and money. On the amateur level (college or high school), it can turn a mediocre player into an all-star... and lead to the next level discussed above. For the high school player, this may result in obtaining scholarships....

See a pattern forming here?

Again, the lure of improvement, the scent of money, might be a reason the high school athlete initially tries steroids, despite the actual demographics showing how few high school players, no matter their sport, actually make it to the professional level.

Whatever the reasons are, they need to be re-thought.

To put it simply: Taking steroids is a short-term solution with long-term consequences.

This article is far more directly aimed at teens and their parents... those who might be in a situation wherein steroid use is being considered as an option.

Adults are just that. They should be held accountable, and responsible, for their own actions. While I don't condone steroid use in adults, they've been around long enough to make their own informed decisions. However, kids playing high school sports are sometimes distracted from what's truly important. Who am I kidding? Sometimes parents are as well. But if a mother or father is truly vested in giving their children what's best for them, they'll seriously consider the points I'm about to make.

Steroids, like many pharmaceuticals, have side effects. These range from the more common, almost stereotypical "pimply skin," to the aggressive behavior demonstrated in "Roid Rage." In females, steroids regularly induce hair growth in places not normally known for it. Additionally, the effect on a woman's voice can

be profound; often, it deepens and becomes far more masculine in tone. In both genders, steroids may damage heart and liver tissue, cause problems for the body's endocrine and hormonal system, and even serve as a catalyst for shrinkage of genitalia. That side effect alone is enough to keep me from trying steroids.

I thought about whether or not to include that last line, but spoke with my editor. He reminded me that honesty isn't necessarily pretty; and that since it's a frightening truth, it might be a more effective one. No young man wants to contemplate something like that happening to him... and with steroid use, it's a real possibility.

And that's just the beginning.

I haven't even mentioned the possibilities of developing cancer or other chronic health problems attributed to steroid use. On the cancer front brings up the tragic circumstances of one Lyle Alzado, a professional football player in the late 1970's-mid 1980's. As a defensive lineman with the then Los Angeles Raiders, Alzado was a key part of a Super Bowl championship team. Alzado was a self-admitted user of steroids, employing them extensively during the course of his collegiate and professional career. Once retired, he readily admitted steroids played a significant part in his longevity and success. Unfortunately, Alzado also speculated they were the main reason he developed multiple cancers throughout his brain and body. He was convinced that steroid usage had been a prime contributor to his illness—so much so that up to the time of his death in the early 1990's, Alzado did numerous public service announcements, and gave lectures, speaking of its dangers.

But the problem remains. Why have warnings, even those punctuated by such tragic examples as Alzado's, gone unheeded? Maybe it's because we as a society have an "It's not going to happen to me" mentality. Whatever the reason, there are better and safer avenues to improving performance and size—like hard work. When it comes down to it, I think we all need to ask ourselves what's truly important: High school glory, or living beyond the age of 45? Choose wisely... and remember, young man or woman, you won't feel the same way you do now when you're 40.

Stay away from steroids.

southplainfieldpeople Milestones

Kari Nicol Appointed To Head Up New Unity Bank Dept.

Anthony J. Feraro, President, Unity Bank, announced the appointment of Kari Nicol as Manager of the Bank's new Corporate Relations department.

Feraro said: "Corporate Relations will be charged with reaching out to the Bank's corporate clients to ensure their satisfaction with our services as well as identifying further needs that we might address. We are delighted to welcome Kari Nicol to the Unity team in this important new position."

Nicol says that she offers business customers an opportunity to explore the full range of Unity Bank's financial services in a relaxed and unpressured atmosphere.

Explained Nicol, "I plan to visit our current business account holders. During a meeting, I might learn that the client could use a cash infusion in order to update equipment. I would then talk with the individual about loan options. When we determine the most appropriate product, I will provide a preliminary application form then and there. When I return to the bank, I will speak to one of our loan officers, and he or she can get ready to conclude the formalities with the client."

"On the other hand, if I learned that a client was not completely satisfied with Unity for some reason, my function would be crucial—to meet with the right people at the bank to see what we could do to improve the relationship."

Nicol, who has ten years' background in marketing, sales, management and customer service, has a great deal of enthusiasm for her new position. "It's going to allow me to help the bank as well as our corporate clients," she explained. "I'll be serving as a kind of picture window into Unity Bank as a whole."



Lory Alcaro (left) is Hometown Heros' "Hero of the Month." With Lory is Hometown's owner, Debbie Kurland.

Thespian Named "Hometown Hero"

There's no business like show business for South Plainfield resident Lory Alcaro. She has had a life-long love affair with theater and all the ups and downs that go with it. This includes sharing her extensive knowledge. Over the past several years Lory has volunteered hundreds of hours working and teaching youths on the high school stage crew during productions of *Damn Yankees* and *Hello, Dolly!* This dedication prompted her husband Bob Alcaro to write to Debbie Kurland of Hometown Heros nominating her as a Hometown Hero.

"My wife is a stay at home mom during the week, but during the school year she spends nights and many weekends donating her time helping out on the South Plainfield high school stage. She has set up programs to help students who are interested in working stage crew. She teaches them how to work backstage safely. She has advised those with serious interest in stage work what their options are and the many areas of crew. She acts as their "stage mom"

making sure they learn, are responsible and have fun. She hopes her stage crew kids will some day return to local programs and pass along what they have learned to others."

Lory is a volunteer on the Summer Drama Workshop Production Board. She is currently serving as Stage Manager for *Footloose* as well. She is an SDW alumni who participated in the first SDW production in 1972. She was a member of the drama club in high school and she performed in SDW productions of *Plain and Fancy* and *Oklahoma*. Lory's love of theater has continued over the years taking her beyond Summer Drama and into the world of community and professional theater.

Lory received a message that Debbie from Hometown Heros had called. When she returned the call she found she had been chosen as their August hero. A shocked Lory cried as Debbie read the letter to her.

"I feel very honored to be recognized by Hometown Heros deli and I would like to thank Debbie for having this program and for making me feel so special. My husband's heartfelt letter meant more than words can say; it is a wonderful feeling to have family support for doing something that you love. The biggest honor is to be able to work with such talented and dedicated teens."

Lory has been recruited by Almost Famous Players and other groups to help with stage and sets. With son Joshua entering his junior year at SPSHS and Jason entering college as a theater major, there is no doubt Lory will be found on SP stages for many years to come.



Michele Lamberti

Michele Lamberti Graduates from Philadelphia Univ.

Michelle R. Lamberti, daughter of James and Blanca Lamberti of South Plainfield, recently graduated from Philadelphia University with a Bachelor of Science in Interior Design.

Ms. Lamberti graduated from of South Plainfield High School in 1998. She has since accepted a position with Jonathan Dixon Associates, an engineering and architecture firm.

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

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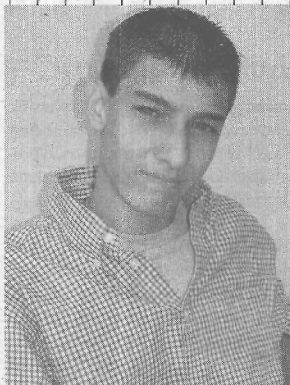
SUBSCRIBE to the Observer 908-668-0010 or spobserver.com.



SUMMER DRAMA WORKSHOP

presents

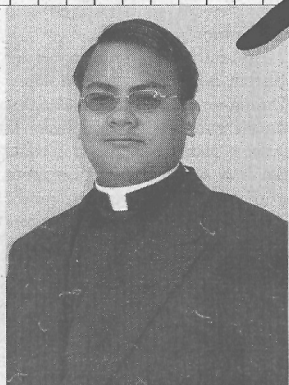
Footloose!



Vinnie Carubia
as Ren McCormack



Cassandra Krajcik
as Ethel McCormack



Joe Rodriguez
as Reverend Moore



Natalia Tamzoke
as Vi Moore



Kristin Nietzer
as Ariel Moore



Gina Severini as Rusty



Katie Mott as Urleen



Christina Martin as Wendy Jo



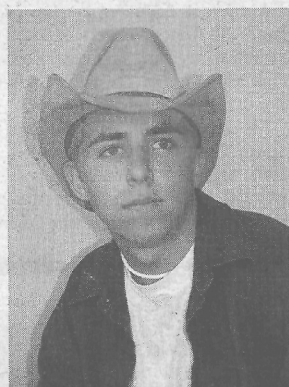
Eric Ambielli as Chuck Cranston



Chris Baron as Willard



John Roesch as Lyle



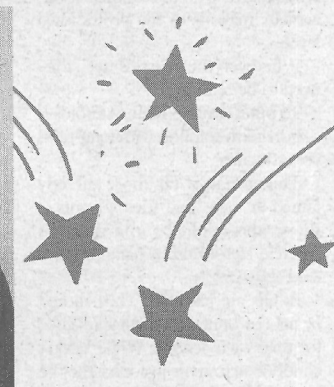
Danny Sierzega as Travis



Katie Fasolo as Betty Blast



Emma Fulton as Irene



PRODUCTION STAFF

Producers Patricia Abbott, Bill Mott
 Director Eric Hafen
 Choreographer Patti O'Brien
 Vocal Director Sean Berg
 Costume Coordinator Roberta Leszczynski
 Musical Director Chris Fiore
 Assistant to the Director Debbie Sasso
 Assistant Vocal Director Grant Mech
 Rehearsal Pianist Adam Toth
 Dance Captain Emma Fulton
 Set Coordinator Bob Alcaro
 Stage Manager Lory Jackson-Alcaro
 Intern Kristen Pfeifer
 Intern C.J. Palma

Intern Kristin Turner
 Set and Lighting Design Bill Seesselberg
 Security Bruce Gold
 Sound Mixing Steve Ambielli
 Auditions & Registration Patti Ambielli, Janis Nietzer
 Finance Bill Mott, Bill Seesselberg, Kathy Winner
 Tickets Bob Ambielli
 Logo Design Larry Roibal
 Props Lynn Fasolo, Dee Carubia, Gina Troia
 Costumes Joan Stasio, Dianne Seesselberg
 Make-up C.J. Palma
 Program Janis Nietzer, Jesse Nietzer

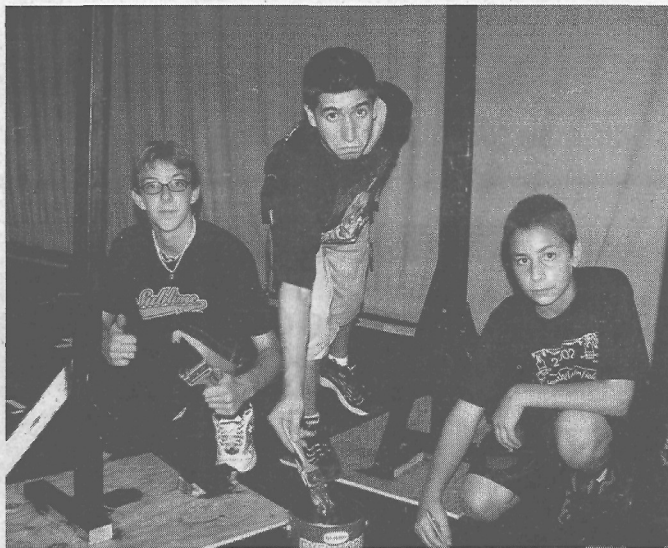
Refreshments & Cast Party Donna Tierney, Karen Stahura
 Fund Raising Bill Mott
 Publicity Patricia Abbott
 Parental Coordination Dee Carubia, Gina Troia, Lynn Fasolo
 Scholarships Gina Troia, Dee Carubia, Kathy Winner, Lynn Fasolo, Janis Nietzer
 Web-Site Charlie Butrico

Stage Crew

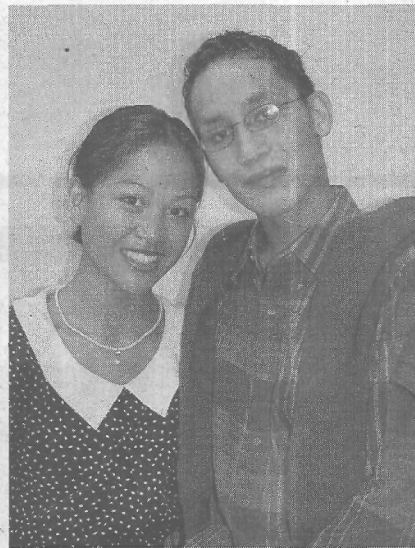
Taryn Billich, Tom Campanella, Chris Egan, Nick Hogan, Alex Huynh, Jason Jackson, Amit Kalia, Michael Kasmer, Richard Muglia, Valeria Pasquarella, Colin Slattery, Michael Troia, Joshua Pendergast, Marie Lombardi, Joey Lammi and Brittany Santoro



Tristan More and Marianne McBride



"Footloose" Stage Crew



Kristina Latonia and Leo Campos

Summer Drama Workshop – A Labor of Love

By Patricia Abbott

Look behind the scenes in any theatrical production and you'll find a myriad of dedicated, hardworking volunteers handling a multitude of jobs large and small. For the Summer Drama Workshop production of *Footloose* these volunteers are the SDW Board members and parents.

Long before a staff member is handed a contract or script, long be-

fore a child steps on stage, the SDW Board is busy planning. They organize committees to handle the necessary but mundane chores such as finance, fundraising, auditions, tickets, refreshments, security and more. Still other committees handle details that add vibrancy to the show.

In *Footloose* the costume coordinator is assisted by volunteers working to recreate the look of the early 1980's in a big city, as well as in a provincial

Texas locale. Hard work goes into the creation and the search for props. It is the small details that create reality. For example: table coverings made from colorful bandanas add an authentic country look. Cups for a small town burger joint match the decor of the set. Finding props is much like a scavenger hunt. Parents often locate those hard-to-locate items.

The lighting design is another area that is easily overlooked. All the tal-

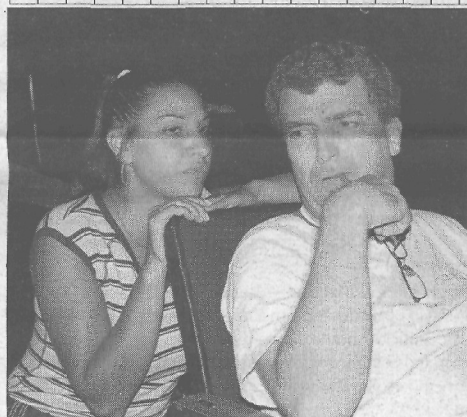
ent and direction, the entire summer's work, is lost if the performers cannot be seen.

Each year the ticket booth and surrounding hallway in the high school are decorated to fit the theme of the show. This is just one of so many minute details that are easily taken for granted. Yet a volunteer took the time to add that extra touch. Most volunteers willingly go without recognition or acknowledgement, finding their

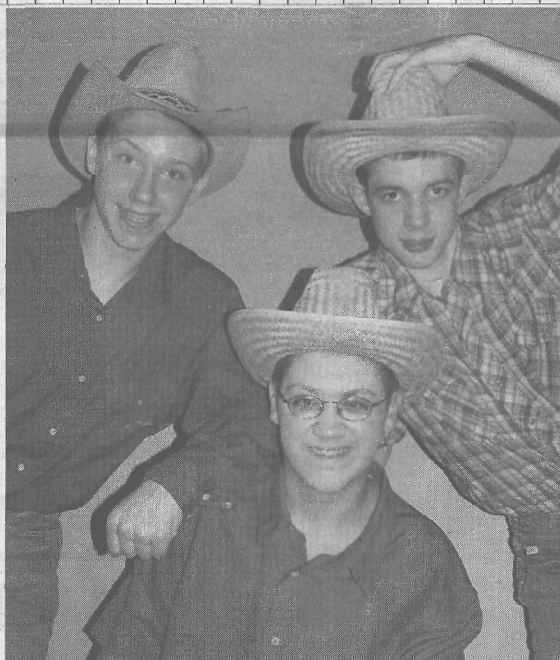
thanks in the response of the audience, and the excited glow on the faces of young actors.

The contributions of these unseen individuals add clarity and color, depth and breadth and life to the show. Their work only heightens the incredible talents of South Plainfield's Summer Drama youths.

Volunteers are truly the backbone of the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop.



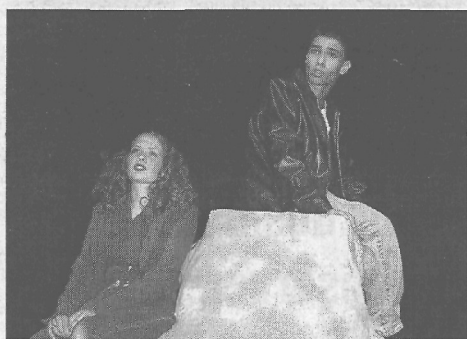
Assistant Director Debbie Sasso and Director Eric Hafen.



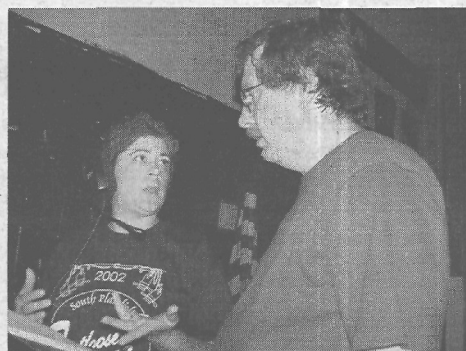
Left to right, Jeff Seesselberg, Mike Duquette and Steven Tietjen



Takara Kaczowski and Nathanael Udell



SUMMER DRAMA WORKSHOP



Interns Join the Staff of SDW

New to the SDW staff this year are interns. Two of the three are alumni of the youth theater group. All three interns are intent on careers in theater/communications. The interns work with the staff and cast in varying capacities.

New to Summer Drama, C. J. Palma is a recent graduate of Montclair State University where she was a broadcasting major. This is her first experience working in theater production. Last summer she worked as an intern for Fox News Channel in New York City. C.J. aspires to be a television producer. She plans to gain a master's degree in either broadcasting, media studies or journalism.

Intern Kristin Turner attends Elmira College where she is a theater major. She is also a cast member of *Footloose*. She has appeared in Summer Drama productions of *42nd St.* and last year's *Bye Bye Birdie*. A requirement for her degree includes the 60 hours of community service and a paper detailing her work. Kristin chose to couple it with her theater major. Her duties entail overseeing the cast to ensure their attention during the rehearsal, and assisting the dance captain and choreographer. Her paper is due in October of this year. Upon completion she will receive three credits. She hopes to intern at Papermill Play-

house next summer. Kristin is shooting for the stars and hopes to make her way to Broadway one day.

Footloose marks a return to SDW for Intern Kristin Pfeifer. She was with the program for nine years previously. Kristin is currently a senior at Rutgers where she is majoring in theater. While a student with Summer Drama she got a taste of behind the scenes work and enjoyed it. At Rutgers she specializes in directing and stage management. When she learned she needed an internship to graduate she immediately thought of SDW. She keeps a daily log of her activities as an intern. When the show closes she will

receive a letter from a staff or board member regarding her work. Kristin will receive three credits toward her degree.

Summer Drama Alumni can be found working in theatre and performing arts from New York to Hollywood, and everywhere in-between. There are alumni on the SDW board and staff, some are parents of a new generation of students. Still others return with their families to see the annual musicals. Perhaps in a few years SDW students will be able to turn on the TV and see C.J.'s name roll by in credits, find Kristin Pfeifer directing a SDW show, or travel to Broadway to see Kristin Turner.

ENSEMBLE

Townpeople and high school students Christopher Abbott, Nicole Aiello, Davonna Approvato, Tina Bijlani, Kristie Butrico, Justina Carubia, Joel Cortese, Nicole Cortese, Jessica Cristello, John Cristello, Kazuki Daimo, Brittany DeNitzio, Christopher Duquette, Breanne Fore, Cassie Hoffman, Eva Humber, Marris Judd, Takara Kaczowski, Clare Kelly, Erica Linick, Susan Mott, Chelsea Moubarak, Jacqueline Muglia, Jessica Musolino, Jesse Nietzer, Katie Nuber, Lauren O'Day, Tara O'Keefe, Shannen Rivers, Marianna Sansone, Lauren Santillo, Erin Sikanowicz, Stanley Stellakis, Steven Tietjen, Stephanie Troia, Kristin Turner, Ashlen Udell, Nathanael Udell, Jeremy Vesper, Julia Zappi and Jenna Zielinski.

Understudies are Susan Mott and Leo Campos.

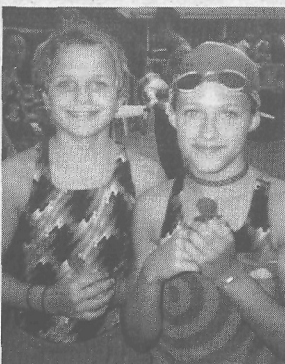
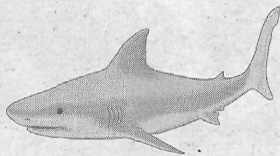
Sports

SWIMMING

Scenes from Tiger Sharks Competitions



South Plainfield Tiger Sharks's Becky and Shannon take the lead in conference championships.



Amanda and Jessica Ray reward themselves with a tasty lollipop at the Frog Hollow Competition.



Tiger Sharks strike a winning pose during event #15.



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SOUTH PLAINFIELD 11-YEAR-OLD NATIONAL TEAM PARTIES IN LINDEN—Although their record has not been the best, you wouldn't know it by these players' attitudes. They are having a great time, as well as their coaches. Players are Doug Avery, Kyle Buck, Jared Christopher, Taylor Curtis, Vincent Fazio, Chris Fulton, Nick Jeglinski, Joey Lacerda, Al Miranda, Michael Maiorino, Kyle Quail, Ricky Walton and Erik White. Coaches are Rick Walton, Dan White, John Quail and Ken Avery. A special thanks to all the parents for their support from Coach Walton.

Ponytail Softball Batters Box

By Sharon Miller



Monroe Tournament—Congratulations to our 14U "A" team for capturing first place with six wins and no losses. Congratulations to our 10U "A" team for also capturing first place.

All-Star Parkway Invitational Softball League Season

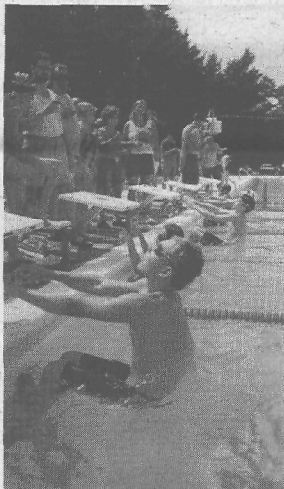
Congratulations to our 12U "N" team for placing third in the National Division of the Parkway League.

See next week's article for results of championship games—Our 14U "A" and 10U "A" team were ranked in first place and our 12U "A" team was ranked in second place going into the championship games.

Parade Committee—We are looking for parent volunteers to help out with this year's float for the Labor Day Parade. We need parents to meet and come up with the design for the float and other who will actually construct the float. If we do not get volunteers to assist with the float, the All-Star players will not be participating in this year's Labor Day Parade. Please contact me if you are able to assist in anyway.

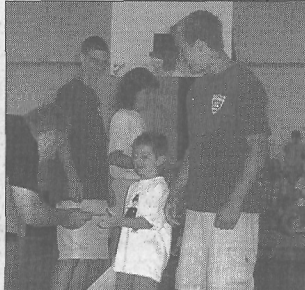
Ponytail Softball Association Meeting—August 27—The South Plainfield Parent's Association will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, August at 7:30 p.m. in the South Plainfield Middle School library. If you are interested in becoming a member and being involved in girl's Ponytail softball, please join us July 23. 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 Webmasterspponytail.com found on our home page.



J.P. Barry fires backward in the boys backstroke.

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Sports

Boys and Girls Cross Country

Boys Cross Country—For the past three years, the South Plainfield High School Boys Cross Country team has had banner seasons; this upcoming one should be no different. Four years ago, the team went 7-5, a significant improvement from the slump they had been in for several years beforehand. In 1999, the team exploded into the competition by recording a 9-1 record and beating out longtime rival Metuchen for the Blue Division Championship. From that point, the Tigers were consistent and revived. In 2000, they were 9-2 and last year they were 8-2. However, they failed to recapture the Blue Division again, losing a non-division meet to Edison by only one point and the division battle to Metuchen by a diminutive three points last year.

The Tigers will be moving into the White Division this year, with their main contenders for the title being Bishop Ahr and North Brunswick. "Our chances of winning the Division are extremely good, contingent upon the kids running over the summer (which many are)," said Head Coach Mike Capizola.

Capizola, who will be entering his 21st season, firmly believes that the 1999 victory was a turning point for the squad. He stated that "It was pivotal in getting the numbers out, and bigger numbers always mean a better chance of (finding) talent."

He certainly has those numbers this upcoming season. He has his largest tentative roster ever, with an unprecedented 48 names on his list, 16 of which are freshmen. Last year, the team had 32 members, which was then their biggest group ever, up from

the same achievement the year before. With the numbers steadily increasing, the Tigers will have no shortage of talent this season and in the future. Even if the Tigers lose ten runners there will still be 38 athletes, which is more than substantial, especially since most other teams struggle to gather 20 runners.

The captains for this season's group are Joe Reach and John Wiekowski, both seniors and four year runners. The two currently hold unofficial summer practices a few times a week.

Once official practices begin August 26, the team will run anywhere from 3-4 miles on easy days or recovery days to 8-10 miles on hard days. The practices will consist of a balanced mixture of endurance runs, speed work, and hill repeats. On average, the team will run around 30-35 miles per week.

Despite losing two Varsity starters, the team will still have a formidable lineup. The predicted top seven runners are Galen Johnson, Kyle Kazimir, Rob Hoffman, John Wiekowski, Joe Reach, Derek Smith, and Mike Maher. Five of them have run track in the off season. Alan Dummett and Tom Holowka are dependable backup runners who both show potential to crack the top seven and should not be dismissed.

What makes this returning lineup so dynamic is that four of them ran "Green Lightning" times last year. A "Green Lightning" is considered any 5K (3.1 mile) time under 18:00. Galen leads the pack with the top time of 17:08, followed by Rob at 17:22, Kyle with 17:46, and Derek at 17:54. Mike (18:14), Joe (18:12), and John

(18:20) are all in the 18 minute range and definitely have the potential to go under. With a prospective group of seven Green Lightning times, this makes the boys' team a force to contend with. Beyond that, there are plenty of backup runners to lend their support.

When asked about how he feels about the upcoming season, Coach Capizola excitedly responded, "I'm very confident. With the numbers and the talent returning, it really looks like a potential White Division championship. We have a very strong team."

The boys hope to land a top five showing at the GMCs and to qualify for the State Groups again, as well as to go undefeated. The ingredients for success are all in place. Having been robbed of the Division title for the past two years, the Tigers will be striving to claim another one and their chances are auspicious.

Girls Cross Country—The South Plainfield High School Girls Cross Country team has been struggling for several seasons now, but this year they should be fairly competitive. Losing some key runners a few years ago and losing athletes in general thanks to the myriad number of girls sports in the fall has put the team in a tailspin that they may be able to recover from this year.

While the girls have always struggled to develop a sizable team, they have one of their biggest this upcoming season, with a tentative roster of 10 athletes, three of them being incoming freshmen. Kathleen Morgan leads the pack after a standout freshman season while Crystal Soto will be the sole senior runner. Jessica Musolino (sophomore) and Almisa Amini (junior) are the other two return-

ing members. Jackie Arango (junior), Mallory Cooper (freshman), Brittany A. Hartman (junior) Victoria Kedmenec (freshman), Kelly Orlandini (freshman) and Suzie Smela (junior), all first time runners (except for Brittany, who ran track last year), will constitute the rest of the team.

Summer training, being held by Kathleen Morgan this summer, is one of the most necessary constituents for a building a successful season in running. It will better prepare everyone for the competition and should aid the girls in accomplishing some of their personal and collective goals. They are currently running 2-4 miles a day, three days per week. Also, the size of the team this year positions the Lady Tigers to have a meliorated season this year. It is a good foundation for the future, provided that the girls stay together, especially since they are a younger group.

This year will be a building year for the Lady Tigers, but they have tremendous potential. The girls had a 2-6 record last year, with several of their losses being close. That record was an improvement from their 2000 season of 1-7, so this indicates a positive direction. More than anything else, the lack of experience and players is what is hurting the team and precluding them from establishing a winning position. This season may mark a change since the team has enough girls to give them a chance to develop and grow, something they have

been unable to do for quite some time.

Head Coach Bill Milone said, "We're going to be much improved from last year and I think that Kathleen will be in the top 15 this year for the GMCs." Coach Milone believes that this year's assemblage of athletes will turn a few heads this year if they can stay together. His goal is "just to be very competitive" and it is an attainable one.

Kathleen placed 24th in the GMCs last year and posted a freshman record time of 21:24 for a 5K. She and Crystal Soto are the team captains.

The girls will also be competing in the White Division this season. Their main rivals will be Perth Amboy and Bishop Ahr.

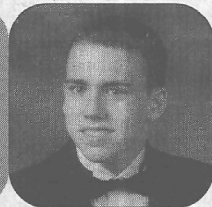
Coach Milone further added that Kathleen has the best shot at the school record of 19:00, but that is more of a long term goal. Once she gains some experience and ingrains more mental focus, the physical training will be easier and the record will be more within her reach. (As her brother, I can permissibly and believably say this.) Coach Milone calls her "dedicated."

Coach Milone also holds the conviction that everyone can run, but the quality of the run goes toward the ultimate outcome. He also says that it is a mental game and success is in the head. He is absolutely correct about this because the physical aspect of running is just as important as mental stability, confidence and aspiration.

preview

high school sports

by tim morgan



Ray Costa was the driving force in leading his VFW team to a resounding 19-1 win over Hank's Hackers in recent action in the So. Plainfield Golf League at the West-9.

Danny Griffin's 35 and Al Szumski's 36 sparked Masters as they crushed Sport and Social, 18-2. Both teams are now tied for first place in the National Division.

In other National Division play, So. Plainfield Police squeaked by Patti's Construction, 11-9.

Plainfield Animal Hospital maintained its one-game lead in the American Division in defeating Twin City Pharmacy, 13½-6½.

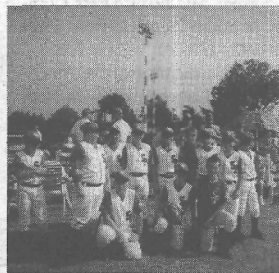


Witty's Liquors continues to be inspired by the fine play of Kevin Bickunas who fired an even-par round of 33 to lead his team to a convincing win over Hummel's 16½ - 3½.

Witty's Liquors remains in second place, tied with Pomovets, who had a surprisingly easy win over Aiello Chiropractic, 15-5, despite the excellent play of Stan Lipka who shot a one-over 34.

In the race for individual honors, Jerry Minlonica, with his booming drives and over-all excellent play, has moved into a four-way tie with Stan Lipka, Joey Glowackey, and Kevin Bickunas. —Submitted by Bob Nilan

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IN YOUR OPINION

Continued from page 2

confidence in our capital markets system.

The collapse of Enron Corp. was the first of too many boardroom scandals involving accounting abuses. As public outrage grows, stock prices plunge. We need federal legislation to right a wrong that is claiming the savings of retirees, working class families and young professionals.

The American financial system depends on the broad availability of timely and truthful information. It is difficult enough for many investors to decipher the complex information in corporate financial statements. But it is criminal if corporate officials use fraudulent techniques to twist, disguise, inflate or distort the level of corporate earnings.

We think our measure, which is now pending in a House-Senate con-

ference committee, will serve as the most important piece of legislation for the financial markets system since the original securities act became law under President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

The measure would:

- Establish a strong independent board to oversee auditors of public companies. The board would have the authority to set standards, and to investigate and discipline accountants. Overseen by the SEC, it would have independent funding and membership and mark the end of weak self-regulation on the part of public company auditors.

- Address pervasive conflicts of interest, ensuring auditor independence by restricting auditors from providing many consulting services. Where such services are still permitted, they would have to be pre-approved by the

company's audit committee.

- Strengthen corporate responsibility, requiring CEOs and CFOs to be personally responsible for the accuracy of their company's financial reports, and requiring auditors to report directly to the board representing shareholders rather than to management.

- Establish safeguards to protect against investment analysts' conflicts.

- Provide the SEC expanded resources to hire additional staff to carry out its mandate of protecting investors.

With proper oversight and strengthened laws, we can return trust and integrity to corporate America, ensure that no corporation violate the public's trust, calm investors and let our markets return to business.

**SINCERELY,
JON S. CORZINE, UNITED STATES SENATE, NJ**

Obituaries

Irene F. Kiick, 80

Irene F. Kiick died on Monday, July 22, in Genesis Elder Care Center, The Woodlands in Plainfield.

Born in Jersey City, she resided in Lyndhurst before moving to South Plainfield in 1951.

Mrs. Kiick was employed as an accounting clerk for Mack Truck, formerly of Plainfield, for 20 years before her retirement.

She was a member of the Polish National Home and Sacred Heart Church, both in South Plainfield. She was also a member of the ladies auxiliary of the 69th Regiment of Veterans Corp. of Manhattan, NY.

Surviving are her husband, Charles Kiick; a daughter and son-in-law, Linda and Ed Cumming of New Providence. Also surviving are two grandchildren, Jeffrey and Timothy Cumming.

Funeral Services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Ethel R. (Gordon) Kolodnicki, 92

Ethel R. (Gordon) Kolodnicki died on Saturday, July 27, at her home in Neptune.

She was born in South Plainfield where she resided for most of her life, before moving to Neptune 12 years ago.

Mrs. Kolodnicki was employed by the former Middlesex Dress Company of South Plainfield from 1949 to 1959.

She was a member of the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary of Neptune, the First Baptist Church of South Plainfield and the International Ladies Garment Workers Union.

Her husband, Al Kolodnick, has predeceased her.

Surviving are a son, Joe Randazzo formerly of South Plainfield and presently residing in Monmouth Junction; a sister, Jule Brandt of Florida and two grandchildren, Michael and

Joanne.

Funeral Services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Dolores M. (Lusardi) Parneg, 67

Dolores M. (Lusardi) Parneg died on Thursday, July 25, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Plainfield, Mrs. Parneg had resided in South Plainfield for most of her life before settling in Dunellen 10 years ago.

She had been a volunteer for various local soup kitchens through the years and was always helping others before herself.

Mrs. Parneg is predeceased by a sister, Romaine and a brother, Daniel.

She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Scott and Lisa Parneg of Somerset; two sisters, Eva White of North Carolina and Evelyn Barbarino of Brooklyn and one grandson, Ryan.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Jean E. (Hartley) Dutcher, 82

Jean E. (Hartley) Dutcher died on Thursday, July 25, at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia.

Born and raised in Plainfield, Mrs. Dutcher had also resided in North Plainfield and Scotch Plains before settling to in Lavalette 17 years ago.

She graduated from Plainfield High School and became a registered nurse after graduating from the St. Barnabas Hospital Nursing School. She was employed by the hospital and later became the charge nurse for Westfield Convalescent Center, retiring 20 years ago.

She was a former member of the Plainfield Woman's Club.

Her husband, Charles Dutcher, Jr.,

died in May.

She is survived by two sons, Charles Dutcher III and his wife Ilona, of St. Petersburg, Fla. and Timothy Butcher of Blackwood and four grandchildren, Laura, Lee, Christopher and Brittany.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Andrew J. Janeczek, Sr. 92

Andrew J. Janeczek, Sr. died on Tuesday, July 30 at his home.

Born in Czechoslovakia, he came to the United States in 1910, residing in New York City, Piscataway and Plainfield before moving to South Plainfield in 1956.

He was employed as a machinist for the former Hyatt Bearing Co. of Clark for 12 years. Previously he worked for Mack Truck of Plainfield as a machinist for 20 years. He retired in 1974. He was a Sgt. in the Piscataway Police Dept. from 1941 to 1946.

Andy was a member of the United Auto Workers Union Local #736 of Clark. He was a member of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield, where he served on the church's building fund from 1963 to 1965. He was a member of the church's Holy Name Society and San Alfonso weekend Retreat Group of Long Branch.

His wife, Sophie Janeczek, died in 1987 and his son, Andrew Jr. died in 1988.

Surviving are his son, James Janeczek of Calverton, Long Island, NY and a sister, Irene Christ of Jamesburg.

Also surviving are three grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Alexis V. Fraser, 86

Alexis V. Fraser died on Sunday, July 28, at Genesis Elder Care-The Woodlands in Plainfield.

Born in Cange, Guyana (South America), Ms. Fraser came to the United States and had been a resident of Central New Jersey for several years.

She is a member of the New Life Gospel Church in Piscataway and a member of the Plainfield and South Plainfield senior citizens groups.

She is survived by three sons, Glasgow Limerick of South Plainfield, Keith Fraser of Brooklyn and John Fraser of Plainfield. She is also survived by 12 grandchildren and a host of family members and friends.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

LEGAL NOTICES

PLANNING BOARD BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Lawrence J. Massaro requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit construction of a single-family dwelling in R-10 zone whereas the property lacks frontage (100' required and approximately 91.5' proposed), and square footage (10,000 s.f. required and approximately 8280 proposed); and any other variances that may be required. Subdivision being located on Block 348, Lots 10 and 11 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, August 13, 2002 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 7:00 p.m.

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

\$35.00 1T August 2, 2002

PLANNING BOARD BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

Please take Notice that the Planning Board of the Borough of South Plainfield will consider an amendment of the Housing Element of the Borough's Master Plan to provide for the satisfaction of a portion of the Borough's low and moderate-income housing obligation by the entry into a regional contribution agreement with the City of New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Comments from interested parties will be considered by the South Plainfield Planning Board during a public meeting on August 13, 2002, in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 7:00 P.M.

The maps and documents pertaining to this matter are available for public inspection in the Zoning Office, South Plainfield, Borough Hall, any weekday between 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M.

\$24.50 August 2, 2002

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

July 27, 2002

Public Notice is hereby given that the following actions were taken by the South Plainfield Planning Board at its meeting held on July 23, 2002.

A. Case #655V-Jetpharma, USA-Block 297; Lot 1; m-3 Zone; 2220 So. Clinton Ave.-Applicant's request to withdraw this application without prejudice was hereby GRANTED.

B. Case #02-06-Patrick & Mary Muglia-Block 392; Lot 3; R-10 Zone; 105 Hopkinson St.-Applicant's request for a minor subdivision was hereby GRANTED.

C. Case #649-Lemon Drops Child Learning Center, Inc.-Block 265; Lot 32; HDD-Zone; 217 Hamilton Blvd.-Applicant's request for preliminary and final site plan approval for a child care center, was hereby GRANTED with waivers and conditions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Janice Muccilli,
Recording Secretary Planning Board

\$28.00 August 2, 2002

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Mary Ann Jenkins-Quinn and Kenneth Quinn requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the erection of a single family dwelling. Proposed dwelling lacks the required 8' side yard setback, 5' being proposed; and any other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 280, Lot 5 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, August 15, 2002 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

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

\$35.00 1T August 2, 2002

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Cheryl Villa requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the erection of an 8' x 11' x 8' wood deck, proposed deck exceeds lot coverage by 444 s.f. or 8.8%; and any other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 341, Lot 10 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, August 15, 2002 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

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

\$35.00 1T August 2, 2002

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BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by John and Stacie Marish requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the erection of a 6' high fence, proposed fence exceeds fence height allowed in front yard; and other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 152, Lot 143 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, August 15, 2002 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

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

\$35.00 1T August 2, 2002

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Ronald Calderoni requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the erection of a 12' x 20' wood deck, proposed deck lacks the required 20' rear setback, 96" being proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 345, Lot 13 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, August 15, 2002 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

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

\$35.00 1T August 2, 2002

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Mary Ann Robinson requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit a 21'5" x 20'5" x 14' high steel shed, proposed shed constitutes a second principal structure; and any other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 10, Lot 12.08 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, August 29, 2002 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

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

\$35.00 1T August 2, 2002

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Nancy and Rick McMahon requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the erection of a 12' x 20' above ground pool and a 12' x 6' attached deck. Proposed pool and deck lack the required 30' front setback from Baker Ave., and any other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 23, Lot 1 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, August 29, 2002 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

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

\$35.00 1T August 2, 2002

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by John and Joanne Perri requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the erection of a 18' x 40' x 15' high detached garage. Proposed garage lacks the required 30' front setback, 25.8' proposed and exceeds lot coverage, 576 s.f. allowed and 640 s.f. proposed; and any other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 75, Lot 5 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, August 29, 2002 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

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

\$35.00 1T August 2, 2002

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Douglas Cooper requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the erection of a 11' x 40' garage, a 20' x 6' covered porch and an 1150 s.f. second floor addition. Proposed garage and addition lacks the required 8' side setback, 5.4' proposed and lacks front setback, 30' required and 23.28' proposed; and any other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 234, Lot 40 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, August 15, 2002 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

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

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A Small World Pre-School Has All-Day Kindergarten Openings

A Small World Pre-School, located at 810 Hamilton Blvd., is a modest child care facility that offers big time activities and learning for little ones.

Owned and operated by lifetime South Plainfield resident David Riccadonna, the school has been in business for four years and boasts about its quality child care at a reasonable cost.

The school has many programs including arts and crafts, computers, math and reading readiness skills as well as a secured outdoor playground.

The school is open from 7 a.m. un-

til 6 p.m. Openings are still available for September for children ages two, three and pre-K. New at the day care center this fall is an all day kindergarten program. Registration is underway now.

The certified teaching staff offers small classes with a low student to teacher ratio. This gives your child the opportunity to be encouraged and challenged to his or her fullest learning potential.

For more information on A Small World, contact Director Cheryl Hughes at (908) 754-5400.

policereport

• On July 22 a Woodland Ave. resident reported the theft of two Snapper lawn mowers that were tied with cable to a tree on the lawn.

• A Schindler Dr. resident reported the theft of a Trek bike from their driveway.

• On July 23 Ivy E. Dolly and Jessica E. Franklin, 18, of Piscataway was arrested at Macy's for concealing \$65 worth of costume rings in her pant pockets.

• Bernard Monk, 31, of Perth Amboy was arrested at K-Mart for shoplifting \$419.96 worth of merchandise.

• A Kenyon Ave. resident reported the theft of his cellphone from his vehicle overnight.

• On July 24 a Park Ave. resident reported that he found a bike next to a tree on his property.

• A Worth Dr. resident reported that kids were walking down the block breaking bottles.

• On July 25 a Calderone Ave. resident reported that his 2001 Nissan Xterra had been stolen from his driveway.

• CVS on Plainfield Ave. reported the theft of a bike from in front of the store.

• On July 26 Verizon on Hadley Rd. reported the theft of a money order.

• A. Frieri Machine Shop on Belmont Ave. reported the theft of a ladder and assorted equipment.

• On July 27 a Firth St. resident reported that three unlocked bikes had been taken from their garage.

• A Ranger St. resident reported the theft of a Yamaha motorcycle from the side of the house.

• A Firth St. resident reported the theft of a car stereo from their unlocked garage.

• A South 11th St. resident reported that the window of their Volvo had been broken.

• A Cumberland St. resident reported the theft of a mountain bike from their back yard.

• On July 28 Sa's Spirit Shoppe on Park Ave. reported the theft of two cases of beer from a locked car.

• A Piscataway woman reported the theft of her pocket book from a shopping cart at Burlington Coat Factory. The purse was returned, but her money was missing.

• An Irving St. resident reported a back pack blower and chain saw were taken from their unlocked tool shed.

Safety Town Graduates Second Session

A second class of safe students graduated from the Recreation programs' Safety Town. They received their diplomas last Friday morning at a special ceremony held at the PAL building. Safety Town is a summer program for preschool children which sponsored by the South Plainfield Recreation Department, with the help of many volunteers.

Graduation ceremonies began with Head Teacher Kiley Jackson welcoming everyone in attendance and introducing the assistant teachers, John Rayho and Joe Reach, as well as the numerous volunteers who helped out during the two week program.

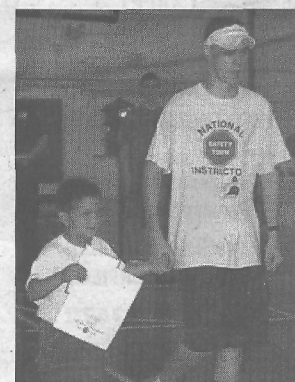
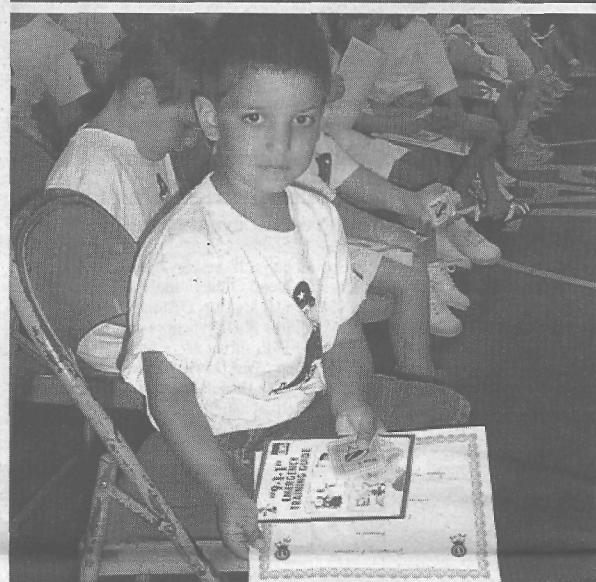
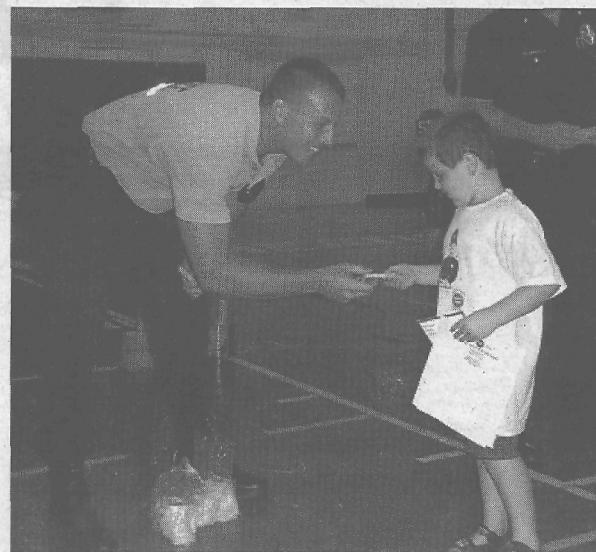
The volunteers who gave many hours of their time for the second session were: David Allara, Stacie Carrasca, Katie Crilley, Samantha Deffler, Dan Erhardt, Matt Fabino, Nicole Freitas, Kendall Green, Meghan Hartmann, Barney Johnson, Gina Lampasona, Kayleigh McGovern, Alicia Miranda, Lauren O'Day, Trevor Rastelli, Selene Rayho, Eric Reiner, Lacey Santone, Chris Stoeckel, Janine Turrisse, Joe Turrisse and Kelly Whitney.

The class performed two special songs which they had learned during Safety Town, *At the Curb and Stop, Look and Listen*. Armed with tricycles they road through a pretend town and showed off what they had learned about bike safety, as well as other skills they were taught. During the two weeks, the children also learned about fire, water and traffic safety, dealing with strangers and much more.

The ceremony concluded with each graduate receiving a diploma. On hand were South Plainfield Police Chief Bob Merkle and Officer Dave Franchak to congratulate each child and give them a pamphlet on bike safety and reflectors for their bikes.

The second session graduates were: Colin Berry, Nolan Berry, Erica Bullard, Nicholas Castagno, Alexis Cavaliere, Chris Cieszkiewicz, Tommy Dunn, Luke Elmsan, Madison Faustini, Shayna Hodge, Carolyn Kowalski, Charlotte Macchia, Megan Mann, James Markey, Kelley O'Brien, John Michael O'Sullivan, Austin Rivera, Amanda Rowlands, Anthony Santone, Riley Sella, Shannon Sheedy, Kelly Simpson, Matthew Szeman, Daniel Vargas, Matthew Vargas, William Walsh, Xavier Wilson and Christian Wizda.

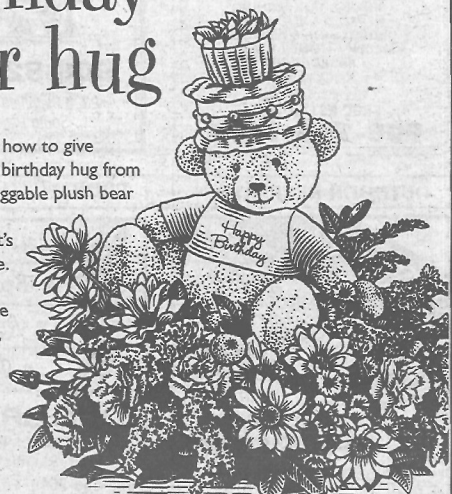
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