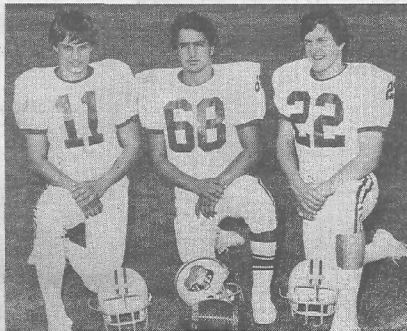


South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 6, NO. 13

50 CENTS

NOVEMBER 22, 2002



SPHS Tiger's football game against North Plainfield will renew a rivalry that began in 1956 and continued for 28 years until 1983. Pictured above are some photos from past games.

TIGERS READY TO ROAR!

Thanksgiving Day Rivalry With North Plainfield Revived

By Patricia Abbott
(SPHS class of '76)

South Plainfield High School students can be proud of their role in the return of Tigers vs. Canucks rivalry. Thanksgiving will be a day with plenty to be thankful for; a day that will go down in SPHS history. The South Will Rise Again! On Thanksgiving Day 2002 an old and much-revered tradition returns to South Plainfield. Football players from both South and North Plainfield high schools will meet at Jost Field in South Plainfield for the final game of the season. While they may not be aware of the significance of this single game, these young athletes are nothing short of heroes in the eyes of many alumni and Tiger fans.

South Plainfield vs. North Plainfield high school, was not just a football game but THE game, without question the biggest game of the season. The Thanksgiving rivalry that dates back to 1956 was one of the biggest in the state, second only to the Plainfield-Westfield turkey day game. The Plainfield-Westfield game is still going strong today.

For residents who were high school age in the 50's, the game has even



South Plainfield Mayor Dan Gallagher and North Plainfield Mayor Janice Allen pose with their school's mascots.

more meaning. Our town was without a high school until the mid fifties and students attended North Plainfield. This could have tugged at loyalties a bit once South Plainfield High School, now the Middle School, opened its doors.

No matter what the outcome of the season, the winners of this game were the champions entitled to a year's worth of bragging rights. It was a sad day in 1983 when conflicting schedules within the football conference ended the 28 year rivalry. Both schools attempted to revive the spirit of those games, playing other schools on Thanksgiving Day. South Plainfield played Dunellen for a few years but that old Tiger-Canuck tug-o-war feeling wasn't there. The mayors of both towns were upset to see the custom

come to an end. Steve Novak, Mayor of North Plainfield taught history at SPHS. Former South Plainfield Mayor Mike English taught History at the school a few years later. Joining forces, they took a full page ad in the football program for Thanksgiving 1983, the sentiment was a simple one. "A tradition that should not end..."

Several other traditions were lost when the rivalry ceased. In the early years on the evening before Thanksgiving, a final pep rally in the gym left the rafters ringing with the Tiger fight song and cheers. A magnificent bonfire followed the rally, blazing lights shooting towards the sky. The fire was surrounded by a sea of teenagers, many of whom wore green South Plainfield jackets. The wave that emanated outwards came not

just from the heat of the flames but from the intense feeling of camaraderie. The two activities were the epitome of school spirit. Another misplaced tradition was Homecoming. The weeks leading up to the big game were a flurry of activity not just for cheerleaders and the pep squad, but also for the young ladies nominated for Homecoming Queen. The Homecoming itself has undergone numerous changes but one small tradition will be revived. The King and Queen will join the team captains on the field Thanksgiving morning to a flip the coin to see who starts the game. The 2002 Pep Rally will take place in the SPHS gym at 5 p.m. on Wednesday evening Nov. 27. On this evening the Homecoming

Continued on page 13

SPHS Gearing Up For Game

By Cailly Fodor, SPHS

These days, everyone at SPHS is talking about is the Thanksgiving game between South Plainfield and North Plainfield. This tradition was started in 1957, but discontinued in 1983. Now, here we are 19 years later, and the tradition has been revived. On Nov. 28, the Tigers and the Canucks will meet once again on the gridiron at 10 a.m. at Jost Field.

This event is very exciting for all of the citizens of South Plainfield, especially the SPHS alumni. It brings back that old rivalry feeling that has been lost for the past decade or so. Current students at SPHS don't really have as much of an appreciation for the game as the alumni do, but they are still very excited about the game and have all sorts of plans in store.

Continued on page 13

Pre-Game Pizza Party Planned

The South Plainfield High School alumni, football players, cheerleaders and friends are all invited to a pizza and beer party at the Italian American Club located on Somerset St. in North Plainfield. The festivities begin at 6:30 p.m.

Most of the former coaches from both schools will be attending the event. The evening will include a 14-minute video of highlights of past games and former South Plainfield football greats.

A visual time line has been created by Steve Novak and Graphic Arts teacher Rich D'Urso.

To purchase tickets call (908) 753 9338. Over 140 tickets have been sold to date.

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TEEN NIGHT AT THE PAL
The next TEEN NIGHT at the PAL will be Saturday, Dec. 7, due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Don't look for the Observer next week. It's the one week of the year that we do not publish. Have a great holiday!

Community Invited to Attend Thanksgiving Service

South Plainfield's Annual Community Thanksgiving Service will be held Tuesday, Nov. 26 at Sacred Heart Church, 7:30 p.m. Reverend Dr. Irene Campbell will be the speaker for the evening. Music will

be from a combined choir. The service is sponsored by the South Plainfield Clergy Group.

An offering will be taken to benefit FISH Ministries, a local ministry to the homeless. Please bring a

non-perishable food product which will be forwarded to a local food shelf.

Plan to attend this worship service which has become a tradition in our community.

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, December 9 Thursday, December 12

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
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
Nov. 14, Nov. 21, Dec. 5, Dec. 19

board of education meetings

Grant School Gymnasium on Cromwell Place unless otherwise noted
Committee of the Whole meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m. - Dec. 10,
Jan. 14, 2003, Feb. 11, March 11, April 1.
Regular Board Meeting held Tuesdays at 8 p.m. - Nov. 19, Dec. 17,
Jan. 21, 2003, Feb. 18, March 18, April 8.

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.
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
Dec. 3

environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday except August)
Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7621
Dec. 11

business advisory group

Meets once a month (first Wednesday)
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 5 p.m. • Questions? 908-757-8100
Nov. 13 (second Wednesday)

traffic safety advisory commission

Meetings, held at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room, Borough Hall
Nov. 27, Dec. 18



Motorists are Seeing Red Flags At Intersection Crosswalks

By Jane Dornick

If you have driven past the post office or Senior Center in the last few days, you can't help but see the bright red flags hanging in receptacles at the crosswalks. These flags are part of a new Crosswalk Flag Program funded by the NJ Division of Transportation. South Plainfield is one of the first county towns to begin using them.

Salt Lake City was one of the first towns in the country, with 90 marked intersections, to successfully use the pedestrian flag program during the re-

cent Olympic games. The idea is to hold a flag high while crossing the street to increase visibility, and then to return the flag to the holder on the opposite side. The site of the brightly colored flags hanging in the receptacles are also supposed to warn motorists that there is a pedestrian crosswalk ahead.

Flags have been installed at the intersection of Maple and Lakeview avenues and the crosswalk in front of the post office. Sarah Visokay, an intern representing Keep Middlesex Moving, part of the NJDOT, warned that even



when holding a flag, pedestrians should still follow the rules and be cautious when crossing the street. Motorists are also reminded to yield to people crossing at these junctions. Instructions on how to use the system have been posted in these designated areas.

IN YOUR OPINION

Dear Editor:

I am currently a Life Scout in Troop 324, at St. Stephens Church in South Plainfield. For my Eagle Project, I am chairing a toy drive in the South Plainfield community. This project will benefit the needy children in the South Plainfield community around the holidays.

The basis of this toy drive is to collect as many toys (brand new) as possible and donate them to the needy before Christmas. In order for this project to be a success, I need the help of the residents of South Plainfield. I would like to ask for your help. Throughout the month of November and the beginning of December, collection boxes for the toys will be placed at the following locations: all public schools in South Plainfield, except the high school, Town Hall, South Plainfield Library, Peter Pan Pharmacy, Pilgrim Covenant Church, St. Stephens Church, Sacred Heart School, Sacred Heart Church, Razors Edge on South Plainfield Ave., Sports World, Carpet Bazaar and Dr. Craig Menker Orthodontics on Park Ave.

Sincerely,
JOSEPH J. HELGESEN, EAGLE SCOUT CANDIDATE

To the Editor:

I would just like to thank the following people for their donations to The Roosevelt School's Bake Sale which was held on Election Day:

Cathy Cribb, Charles Decker, Harvey James B. Demegille, Maria Sottirou, Diane Lee, Evelyn Lopez, Pamela Sbordone, Grace Ragno, Elaine Somers, Janet Whalen, Dianne LaVerne, Kelly Vacca, Cindy Driscoll, Christina Kovalevich, Francisco Dias, Brittany Alvarado, Tammy Smith, Sue Bodyl, Diane O'Day, Gabrielle Littrean, Vivian Rivera, Kristen Wong, Debbie Persaud, Margaret Celentano, Carol Macchia, Lynn Loalbo, Nancy Pasternak and Barbara Schaefer.

Thank you for your continued support. Without your help/donations our bake sale would not have been such a success.

**SINCERELY,
THERESE MONTUORI, ROOSEVELT SCHOOL PTA PRESIDENT**

Dear Editor,

At the Grant Central Sixth school, an American flag shines at night without a light. This was spotted by a veteran, Mr. Curtis. He told a student to

Submit Letters to the Editor:

Letters may be submitted to our office: South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, by email at our website at spobserver.com or faxed to 908-668-8819. Deadline is Monday, 5 p.m. Letters must be accompanied by a name and telephone number for verification. Please limit letters to no more than 500 words. 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.

ask the principal, Mrs. Burchell, why there was no light shining on it at night.

So the next day, the student went to the principal and asked her. Her response was simply walking away. So the student told Mr. Curtis and he got angry. So then he told me, Robbie Hoffman, to ask her and her response was saying "Well, we just didn't have enough to buy one yet."

I went to Mr. Curtis and told him about it. He got a little angrier. So I told my mom about it and she said to write it to the Observer. And here I am, telling the story about the flag that flies at night without a light.

**SINCERELY,
ROBBIE HOFFMAN
GRANT SCHOOL STUDENT**

South Plainfield Observer

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NANCY GRENNIER
Publisher/Editor
WAYNE GRENNIER
Associate Publisher
SUSAN KANEPS
Art Director/Associate Editor
PATRICIA ABBOTT
Staff Writer/Photographer
CAROL GRENNIER
Editorial Assistant
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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 the 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.

There's so much going on in South Plainfield!
Don't miss any of it!

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form on
page 21

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New Book on South Plainfield Now Available

A new book, "Images of America-South Plainfield," has just been released. The 130-page book has hundreds of images of South Plainfield's early days, a history of how it was once part of Piscataway and how, over the years it evolved to become South Plainfield.

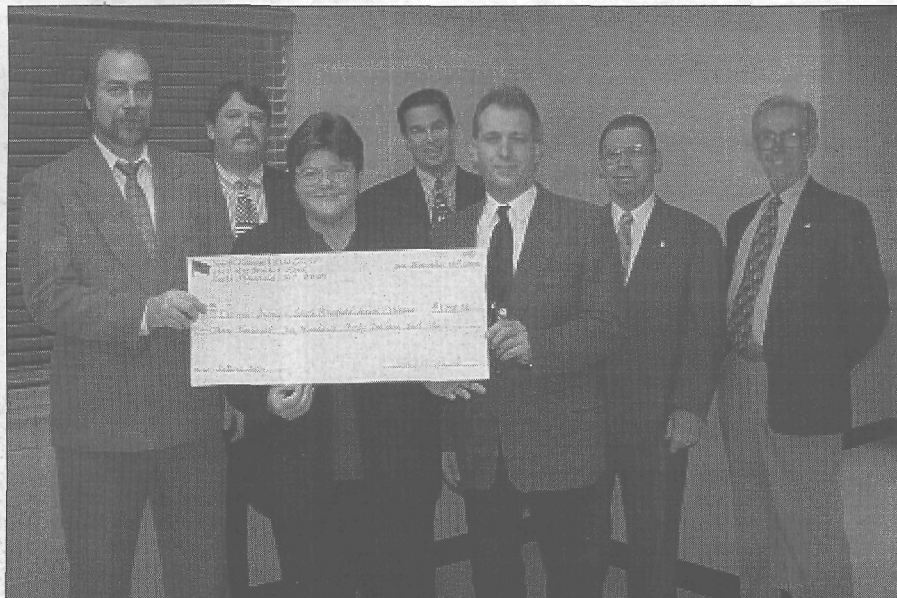
The book, written by Richard Viet, was compiled with the help of many residents, including Dorothy and Sara Miele, who dug up many old photos and Larry Randolph, our resident expert on South Plainfield history. Many South Plainfield organizations contributed photos, including the Historical Society, the Fire Department and the Library, just to name a few.

Author Richard Viet is a resident of South Plainfield. He graduated from South Plainfield High School and was inducted into the SPHS Hall of Fame

this past June. He teaches in the Department of History and Anthropology at Monmouth University.

The cost of the book is \$19.99 and is now available at the *Observer* on Hamilton Blvd., Twin City Pharmacy on Park Ave. and at Custom Creations on South Plainfield Ave. All proceeds from the sale at the *Observer* will go to local organizations.

Books will also be available at Sunday's program on the Lenape Indians at the library.



Elks Club Exalted Ruler Richard Burns, Loyal Knight Pete Smith, Leading Knight Nick Chupko and Trustee Chairman Alan Mateyka are pictured presenting a check for \$3240.45 to Senior Coordinator Joann Graf towards the purchase of a kiln for the new Senior Center. Also pictured are Councilman Ray Petronko and Mayor Dan Gallagher.

New Hours Set For Garbage Collectors

In the past few years residents who live directly behind the CVS Shopping Center on Plainfield Ave. have complained about the noise garbage trucks make in the middle of the night while collecting refuse from the garbage dumpsters.

Presently there is a law about collecting garbage in a residential zone at certain hours, but commercial property is not included in the restrictions. Because of that garbage collectors have been arriving at 3 or 4 in the morning, disturbing the residents who live directly behind the shopping center and they are losing a lot of sleep in the interim and getting very irritated.

For the past few months, Chester

Brown, one of those residents who lives directly behind the CVS Shopping Center, has been regularly attending Council meetings asking for help in solving the noise problem. He said that it has even effected his children's sleep and thus their schoolwork.

Mayor Gallagher said he had attempted to talk to the garbage companies involved, but some still persisted in collecting garbage in the middle of the night. Summons were issued, but they were thrown out of court because the law was not specific enough.

A new ordinance, which was introduced at a special meeting held Mon-

day night, is directed at solving these noise problems. This ordinance specifically restricts refuse collection from commercial property which is adjacent to residential property and the ordinance should close the loophole which has stopped police from writing summons thus far.

Truckers will face a stiff fine of \$1,000 per day if they do not follow the new hours of collection. The bill was introduced Monday, will be published in this week's *Observer* and is scheduled for passage on Dec. 12 meeting. Garbage carters will be notified when the ordinance becomes law.

News from Terra Nova Garden Club

The November monthly Terra Nova Club meeting will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 20 at 7 p.m. at the North Edison Library, 777 Grove Ave. in Edison. The meeting will feature guest speaker Kari Jorgensen of Clean Ocean Action. The topic is "What's In Our Water", information on water pollution in New Jersey and ways to get involved in solving the problem.

The meeting is free and open to the public. Persons interested in gardening, flower crafts and the environment are welcome to attend the meeting and join the club.

Terra Nova's community service group Garden Therapy will meet at 1 p.m. on the same Wednesday, Nov. 20 at the Muhlenberg Adultcare Facility in Plainfield. The floral design is "Peace and Plenty" featuring fruits and vegetables.

Write a Letter to Santa



It's that time of year again! Everyone is talking about writing a letter to Santa for their Holiday wishes. A special mailbox will be placed in front of the South Plainfield Post Office, located on Oak Tree Rd. All letters should be mailed by Dec. 15 and include a return address inside.

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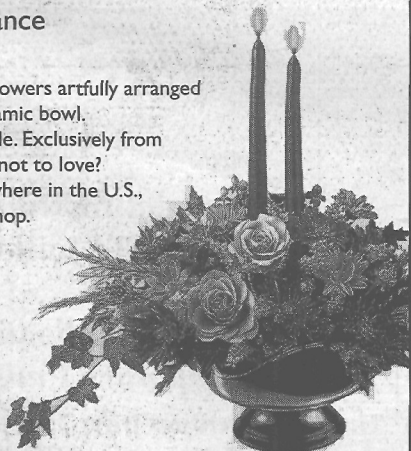
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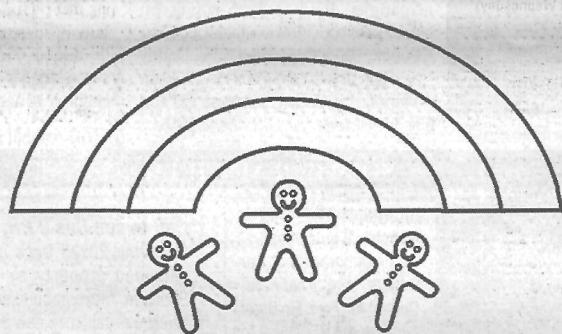
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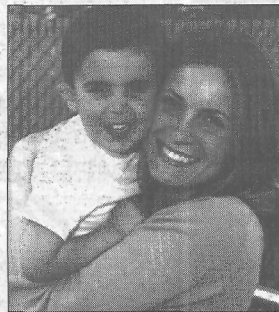


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ATA Black Belt Academy Kids Walk for DARE



Story/photos by Patricia Abbott

ATA Black Belt Academy students recently put their best foot forward to raise money for South Plainfield's DARE; Drug Awareness Resistance Education program. Over 100 people registered for a walkathon in Spring Lake Park. Walkers had the option to

register for \$10 or raise a minimum of \$20 in pledges.

ATA Black Belt Academy is located on Maple Ave. Director and owner Tiffany Lewis hit upon the idea after hearing her students talk enthusiastically about their DARE classes and the officers. After meeting with DARE Officers Alan Lamonda and Dave Franchak, Tiffany began to organize the event. With the help of students and parents registrations and donations began to pour in. Over a dozen area businesses donated supplies and made contributions. Before the walk \$1,000 had already been raised. Joshua Fennelly, age three and a half is a few years away from DARE classes but that didn't deter him from raising \$400 with a little help from his family.

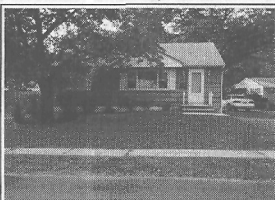
The afternoon began with the Star Spangled Banner. Performing on trumpets were Joshua Jackson, Greg Publik, Wajdi Kanj, Wael Kanj, Danny Sierzeaga, Joel Cortese and Adam Toth. The gazebo, decked out with red and

black balloons was the starting point for the trek. Walkers of all ages arrived bundled up against the chilly breeze. Matthew Siepmann, age four had his friend Beary Nice along for the walk. Beary Nice, a stuffed animal, wore earmuffs and gloves and traveled in the comfort of Matthew's backpack. After a circuit around the lake they enjoyed hot and cold drinks, and snacks. Parent Teresa Montouri fired up a gas grill and cooked hotdogs for the hungry walkers. Each participant received a bag of goodies including water bottles, Dare hats, stickers, pencils and more. Joining the fun was McGruff the Crime Dog, a staunch supporter of DARE. The pooch in the trench coat shook hands, posed for photos and played with the youths.

The afternoon ended with the release of the Dare Balloons. All pledges are due by the end of November. Tiffany believes the final total may well be double the current amount. The successful DARE walk-a-thon will become an annual event.



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Residents' Art Work on Display at United Family

Art work, including water colors and paintings, completed by residents of the Park Hotel will be on display at United Family & Children's Society in Plainfield on Friday, Dec. 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This Fourth Annual Art Exhibit will feature various original works painted by the residents under the instruction of local artist Fermin Martinez. United Family & Children's Society, a non-profit family services agency, provides counseling, advocacy, recreational, social and support services to residents of the Park Hotel, a licensed residential health care facility for adults located in Plainfield, under a grant from the NJ Division of Mental Health Services.

According to Tom Reedy, LCSW, agency executive director, the first three years of the art show were very successful and the artists have been preparing for the event for the past twelve months. All are welcome to visit the display and light refreshments will be served. United Family is located at 305 West Seventh St. in Plainfield. The agency also provides professional counseling, licensed outpatient mental health services for children, adolescents and families, programs for pregnant teens and infant foster-care.

Call (908) 755-3636 for directions or more information.

Dr. Ozbalik Opens Advanced Chiropractic and Wellness Center

Dr. Norayr Ozbalik is proud to announce the opening of Advanced Chiropractic and Wellness Center, located on Oak Tree Ave., across from the A&P. A resident of South Plainfield, Dr. Ozbalik had been practicing in the North Edison area for the past 11 years and has relocated his practice to the Oak Tree Business Plaza.

He is a 1991 graduate of New York Chiropractic College as well as a 1988 graduate of Kean University with a B.A. in biology. Dr. Ozbalik utilizes therapeutic modalities such as ultrasound and electric muscle stimu-

lation. He specializes in the treatment of disc injuries and resulting pain by using motorized flexion distraction tables and also treats numerous patients for headaches stemming from spinal related conditions. Massage therapy is also offered as a part of overall patient wellness.

Advanced Chiropractic and Wellness Center has convenient office hours every day including Saturdays. They can be reached at (908) 561-1777. Most major insurance plans are accepted and coverage can be verified upon request.

Music Booster Meeting

The South Plainfield Music Boosters will hold a meeting Dec. 4 at 7 p.m. in the band/chorus rooms. They will be discussing the upcoming concerts and the winter guard/drum line positions.

Also, the music boosters are having

a fund raiser during the month of November/December, selling entertainment books and kid stuff books.

For information, call Vicki Kiczula at 756-5631.

The fund raiser benefits the students of the music program.

SPHS Class of 1963 Reunion

SPHS Class of 1963 will hold their 40th year reunion at the Metuchen Country Club on Saturday June 7, 2003. A number of events are planned, cocktail party, golf outing and a breakfast over the four day reunion. If you have not received your reunion letter

and were a member of the Class of 1963, contact Georgia and Ernie Temple at (908) 561-6464 or e-mail Hachidan@prodigy.net.

If you were a teacher for the Class of 1963 and would like to attend, please contact us for information.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Right about now, you're probably wondering where you put all the good silverware, measuring the oven to make sure the turkey will fit, checking on the plane schedules, looking up the point spread on the football games, or some other Thanksgiving-related activity. But, we've got news from the South Plainfield Library, so let's take a break from all that.

Don't forget about the special program scheduled for Sunday afternoon at 2 p.m. It's "Lenape Culture: An Introduction to Native American Life in NJ". The program will focus on the daily life and culture of the Lenape in the early days of European exploration and colonization of this area. The program is presented free of charge and everyone is invited to attend. It's presented in association with the NJ Council of the Humanities, and is sponsored by the South Plainfield Historical Society.

First, be advised that the Library will close at 6 p.m. on Wednesday and be closed all day Thursday in observance of Thanksgiving Day.

Due to the change in our hours, we'll only be having one Storytime program next week: the Tuesday morning program at 10:30. It's for children ages three and over; no pre-registration is required. The program will last about an hour and feature stories and a craft activity. If you'd like more information, please call us at (908) 754-7885 and ask for Miss Linda.

Tuesday will be the last day of availability for this month's group of Circuit videos and DVDs. Titles this month include *The Terminator*, *Legally Blonde*, *Bombshell*, *Men of Honor*, *The Bugs Bunny Mystery Special* and, on DVD, *Insomnia*. If you're interested in these or other November titles, you'd better hurry.

We now have two charity collections based at the Library. First, we're still collecting for the Books to Keep program, which provides books to disadvantaged children. Information on donating to Books to Keep is available at the Circulation Desk. Also, local

Eagle Scout candidate Joseph J. Helgesen is chairing a drive to collect new toys for needy children. The collection box is on the table in our main display area. Please donate what you can to these causes.

As you're no doubt aware, Thanksgiving will arrive next week. Beyond the spiritual and familial traditions of the holiday, it also means food. Lots of food. Food that you probably have little or no idea of how to cook. (At least, I don't.) The Library can help you in this respect. We have a variety of books and videos about cooking, featuring lots of recipes for the Thanksgiving feast, whether you want to stick with traditional fare or try something different. And, to provide necessary balance, we also have a number of items on exercise and physical fitness, to better aid you in shedding the pounds that those recipes and the resulting dishes will bring. If you need help finding what you're looking for, feel free to check with a Reference Librarian.

That's about all for now. We at the Library wish you all a happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday. See you on Friday. Don't forget the heartburn medicine.

Subscribe to Observer and Help DARE

The South Plainfield Police Department DARE Program is running a fundraiser in order to purchase a photo ID card machine. The machine will be used to make photo ID cards for the children of South Plainfield.

In order to aid in this fundraiser, the *Observer* will contribute \$5 for every new subscription received during the Month of November.

Any businesses that would like to make a contribution should call (908) 226-7688. All donations should be made out to the South Plainfield DARE Program.

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Events Around Town

SPHS PTA Meeting

November 21

The next meeting of the SPHS PTA is Thursday, Nov. 21, at 7 p.m. in the SPHS Information Center (Library). We will be discussing our upcoming Project Graduation Auction (scheduled for March 8th) and activities planned for Project Graduation night. Everyone is welcome. Your help is needed!

Sacred Heart Advent Wreath Workshop

November 22

The Sacred Heart HSA invites all students and families of our school and parish to come and begin their holiday by making an advent wreath for the coming Christmas season on Nov. 22, 7-8:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart School cafeteria. The cost is \$15 per wreath (all supplies included).

Christmas ornament kits will also be available at a cost of \$1 each (please bring smock, paint will be used).

SPHS Class of 89 Reunion

November 24

The South Plainfield High School Class of 1989 reunion committee is in the process of planning the 15-year reunion. The projected date for the reunion will be the night of Nov. 27. If you are interested or know someone who is, please contact via email at SPHSClaskOf89@yahoo.com, or contact South Plainfield Middle School at (908) 754-4620 ext. 307 to give your contact information.

Historical Society to Host Lenape Culture Program

November 24

On Sunday, Nov. 24 at 2 p.m. the South Plainfield Historical Society will host a free program entitled, *Lenape Culture: An introduction to Native American life in New Jersey*. This family program will be held at the South Plainfield Library and was offered by The New Jersey Council for The Humanities, a state partner of the National Endowment for The Humanities.

The Historical Society will have copies of the new book on South Plainfield on hand for sale.

Beverly Friend, a Lenape Indian and a member of the Cherokee Nation will be presenting this program.

What's happening in NOVEMBER

Daily Events
9-11 AM Coffee & Cake
9 AM-4 PM Cards & Pool
(908) 754-1047

The Senior Citizen's Center is open Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
NOW OPEN SATURDAYS 8:30 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.

Senior Center EVENTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Dec. 23 - Openings Available EVENTS Christmas Show Hunterdon Hills Playhouse			21	22
Exercise & Walking Club 8:45-9:45 AM Adult Crafts 9:30-11:30 Yoga 10:30-11 AM	Bingo 10AM-2PM	Exercise & Walking Club 8:45-9:45 Movie 11:30 AARP Crafts 1 PM Shopping Pathmark 9AM	Shopping at Pathmark 9 AM Practical Crafting 10-11AM Have a Happy Thanksgiving CLOSED	Bingo 10AM-2PM Pizza Lunch 11:30 AM Listening to Children 9:30AM-12:30PM Center Closed
25	25	26	26	27
TO SIGN UP FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER, VISIT THE PAL BUILDING ON MAPLE AVE.				

Friend received cultural instruction from her mother and maternal grandparents and other members of the Cherokee Nation. She was a protege of James "Lone Bear" Revey, Partner chairman of the New Jersey Indian Office. Revey is buried in the Hillside Cemetery of Samptown on New Market Road. In addition to discussing Lenape daily life, beliefs, and culture, Friend will bring authentic artifacts, crafts and clothing including a bear skin rug.

SPJB Night of Holiday Shopping

November 24

The South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club's Women Auxiliary is holding a Night of Holiday Shopping at Menlo Park Mall on Nov. 24 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. It is a special night with shopping discounts, entertainment and events.

Ticket price is \$8 and can be purchased at the Baseball Complex in the clubhouse during registration on Nov. 14, 15 and 16 or by calling Stacey Lake (908) 757-9531, Kathy Pollin (908) 756-3803 or Colleen Hubner at (908) 753-8933.

SPHS Class of 71 Reunion

November 29

The South Plainfield High School Class of '71 thirty-something reunion will be held on Friday, Nov. 29, at the

Willows Restaurant in Green Brook. If you have not received an invite, we couldn't locate you.

Call Linda at (908) 561-7209 or Pat at (908) 580-9196 immediately as space is running out. There will be no tickets available at the door.

Rev. Stephenson & St. Peter by the Sea Back At Sacred Heart Church

December 1

Father Alphonse Stephenson and his 45-member symphony orchestra, *St. Peter by the Sea*, will return to Sacred Heart Church to perform a Christmas concert on Sunday, Dec. 1.

Rev. Stephenson and his orchestra performed last December to a sell-out crowd, so order your tickets early.

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

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

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

with his good cheer and charisma.

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

The performance takes place at 3 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church. General admission is \$25; students and seniors are \$20.

For ticket information, call (908) 756-0632, ext. 10, (908) 755-6416, or (732) 549-9633.

Afternoon With Santa at Feigley's

December 1

Feigley's School of Gymnastics, located on South Clinton Ave. is inviting everyone to come spend an afternoon with Santa on Dec. 1 from 1 to 4 p.m. Admission is \$5 for children ages 1-16, adults are free.

There will be a concession stand,

50-50 raffles, arts and crafts, holiday gift shopping, pictures with Santa (cost is \$3 and includes picture frame), contests and games.

This promises to be an afternoon filled with fun and entertainment, including a special performance by the Bridgettes National Gymnastics Team. For more information, call (908) 561-8888.

Knights Plan Breakfast with Santa

December 7

A Breakfast with Santa will be held at the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus hall, located at 334 Hamilton Blvd. on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

The cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children, or a \$15 limit per family.

To reserve your tickets or for more information call Steve at (908) 791-0640 after 6 p.m.

Elks Sponsoring Annual Hoop Shoot

December 8

Elks will be holding their 'Annual Hoop Shoot' on Sunday, Dec 8 at 1:30 p.m. at the Riley School Gym. Registration starts at 1:30 p.m.

The Hoop Shoot is open to girls and boys, age groups 8-9, 10-11 and 12-13. A copy of the participants birth certificate must be present at registration.

Eight-year-olds can not be nine by April 1, 2003; nine year-olds can not be 10 by April 1, 2003; 10-year-olds can not be 11 by April 1, 2003; 11-year-olds can not be 12 by April 1, 2003; 12-year-olds can not be 13 by April 1, 2003 and 13-year-olds can not be 14 by April 1, 2003.

Trophies will be awarded to first and second place finishers in each age

Continued on next page

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

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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. 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.

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Events

Around Town

Continued from previous page

and gender group. First place finishers will also move onto the District Hoop Shoot Challenge.

Any questions, call Pete Smith (908) 656-4011.

Elks Breakfast With Santa

December 15

The Elks, located on New Market Ave., will hold their annual "Breakfast with Santa" on Sunday, Dec. 15, 8 a.m. till noon. Cost for adults is \$6, children 5-12 are \$4 and children under five are free.

The menu includes pancakes, French toast, eggs to order, bacon, sausage, coffee, tea and juice.

Christmas in the City and a Play

December 15

South Plainfield Recreation Dept. is sponsoring a trip to NYC on Sunday, Dec. 15, to see the Broadway show "Chicago." There will also be time to shop in the city. Cost is \$70 per person. Get tickets at the PAL on Maple Ave. Bus leaves at 10 a.m., returns about 5:30 p.m.

Christmas Show at Hunterdon Playhouse

December 23

The Senior Center is sponsoring a trip to the Hunterdon Playhouse's Christmas Show on Dec. 23. Cost is \$50 per person. Bus leaves the Senior Center at 10 a.m. Register at the PAL.

Subscribe
online at

www.spobserver.com

— Out of Town —

Adoption Support

November 25

CHATS (Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support) will meet from 7:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 25 at Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church, 170 Watchung Avenue, North Plainfield. "Experiences of a Korean Adoptee" by Joy Kim Lieberthal, MSW, Korean adopted adult reunited with her birth mother. Open sharing of adoption-related stories and light refreshments. Call Alyce at (732) 227-0607 or <http://community.nj.com/cc/chats> for information.

Bethlehem's Treasure at Alliance Bible

Dec. 6, 7, 8, 14, 15

A Live Nativity, will be presented at Alliance Bible Church in Warren on Dec. 6 and 13 at 8 p.m. and Dec. 7, 8, 14 and 15 at both 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Admission is free. This 45 minute musical adaptation of the Christmas story will be presented outdoors on the lawn of the church. Every effort is made through the use of live animals, a life-size stable and actors dressed in authentic costume to transport audiences back in time to experience the birth of Christ.

This is the fourth year that Alliance Bible Church has produced the live nativity. Last years production was played to over 200 community residents. Bethlehem's Treasure is fast becoming a holiday tradition for many area families; hence the addition of Friday performances to accommodate the audiences. Because the musical is performed outdoors, audiences are advised to dress warm and to bring blankets to sit on. The production generally lasts 45 minutes to one hour. Immediately following each presen-

tation, refreshments will be served at a Christmas Cafe inside the church. While actors and adults mingle and get warm, children can pet and feed the animals used in the creche.

The production, which was written and directed by Tom McKenna, incorporates various aspects of the Christmas narrative intertwined with seasonal music. Over the years, the production has become more elaborate and intricate, yet Mr. McKenna makes every effort to maintain the simplistic beauty of the Christmas story. This year a group of child dancers under the direction of Elissa Kuebler will be added to the production, along with a larger "Angel Choir" and some new musical scenes.

The church is located at 52 Mount Horeb Rd., in Warren, just minutes off Interstate 78. Take exit 33 off I-78 and proceed toward Martinsville. Travel three miles and turn left onto Mount Horeb Rd. The church is one mile on the right. For additional information or directions, contact the church office at (732) 469-1425.

A Christmas Party at Howell Lanes

December 22

Enjoy an afternoon with Santa, Mrs. Claus and PBA Player of the Year, Parker Bohn III. A Christmas Party filled with fun, entertainment, games and prizes. Each child will have their picture taken with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Bowling will be included all afternoon and a snack will be served to all attending. Parents are welcome to leave their child or to stay and enjoy the festivities.

The cost is \$25 for three hours, and children of all ages are welcome. Don't miss out, register early at (732) 780-3509. This is a fund raising event, and all proceeds will benefit the children's tournament of champions.

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Debbie Boehm

See related story on page 10

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11 South Plainfield Avenue

OR

Friday, December 6, 6 p.m.

at Child's Play
Christian Day Care Ctr.
2319-2321 Plainfield Ave.
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Milestones



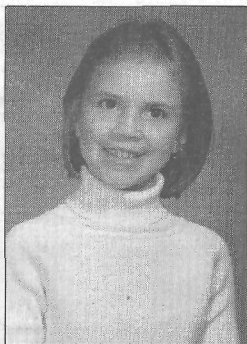
Megan Boyle (right), South Plainfield Middle School, all-star softball player, and her cousin Noel Pica, sophomore at Rutgers University, celebrated their "surprise" birthdays with Derek Jeter, Yankees shortstop on Thursday, Nov. 14 at Yogi Berra's Dinner Party. Jeter presented them with a chocolate mousse birthday cake!

Sarah Hageman Named Hero of the Month

Nine-year-old Riley School fourth grader Sarah Hageman was named "Student Hero of the Month" by Hometown Heros. Sarah took the initiative to write to the *Observer* asking all residents to donate books for children through the library's "Books For Keep" program.

Sarah also put \$10 of my her own money in the Books for Keeps jar at the library to encourage donations by residents.

Congratulations to Sarah for her efforts!



Gifts and Things Fundraiser Prizes Awarded

Roosevelt School PTA recently held its Gifts And Things Fundraiser and the children pictured right each received a prize for being the top sellers in their class.

The highest seller in the school was Jamil Rivera in Ms. Ferraro's second grade class. He received a big stuffed Scooby-Doo and his class was also treated to a Munchkin Party on Oct. 25.

The other top sellers were: kindergarten-Kelly Simpson; first grade-Brianna Ynigu, Jared Boyce, Louie Fasano and Crystal Custodio; second grade-Sydney Smith, Meghan Collins and Zachary George; third grade-Joshua Girguis, Samantha Pattison and Alyssa Ragno; fourth grade-Anthony Alexander, Amanda Steger, Alex Khidre and Jesse Coury; fifth grade-Chris Gualano, Jamie Handwerker, Aya Ashley and Katie Morgan.

The other children were awarded little Scooby-Doo's. Congratulations to all the winners and thank you to all those who supported this fundraiser.



Michael Augustine Completes Marine Basic Training

Michael Augustine, son of Greg and Kathy Augustine of Piscataway and grandson of Stanley and Nancy Pauls of South Plainfield, graduated Marine Basic Training in Parris Island, South Carolina on Oct. 11.

Michael, a 2002 Graduate of Piscataway High School, joined the Marines July, 2001 in the delayed entry program and shipped to Parris Island on July 15. While in South Carolina, he served as squad leader for his platoon, was meritoriously



Michael Augustine

promoted to Private First Class and was awarded a Marksmanship award.

Michael has just completed Marine Combat Training at Camp Geiger at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina and has been assigned to Job Training in Pensacola, Florida.

Red Cross Needs Help for Thanksgiving

The American Red Cross, Tri-County Chapter is seeking your help in providing Thanksgiving meals for people in need in our area. We are currently collecting food to distribute to families for Thanksgiving dinner. You can "adopt" a family and donate the fixings for a complete turkey dinner, including a turkey. If you prefer to make a cash donation, food vouchers will be purchased for local stores.

Food donations are being accepted until Nov. 25 at the American Red Cross, Tri-County Chapter office at 332 West Front St. in Plainfield. Because we don't have refrigerated storage space, turkeys can only be dropped off on Monday, Nov. 25 after 8 a.m.

The Tri-County Chapter services 22 towns in Union, Middlesex and Somerset Counties. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer please call (908) 756-6414.

South Plainfield Observer subscribers, please take note:

The Observer does not publish Thanksgiving Week, therefore there will not be a Nov. 29 issue.

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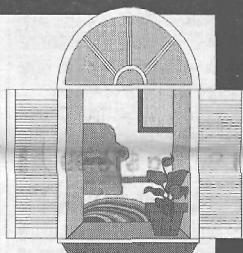
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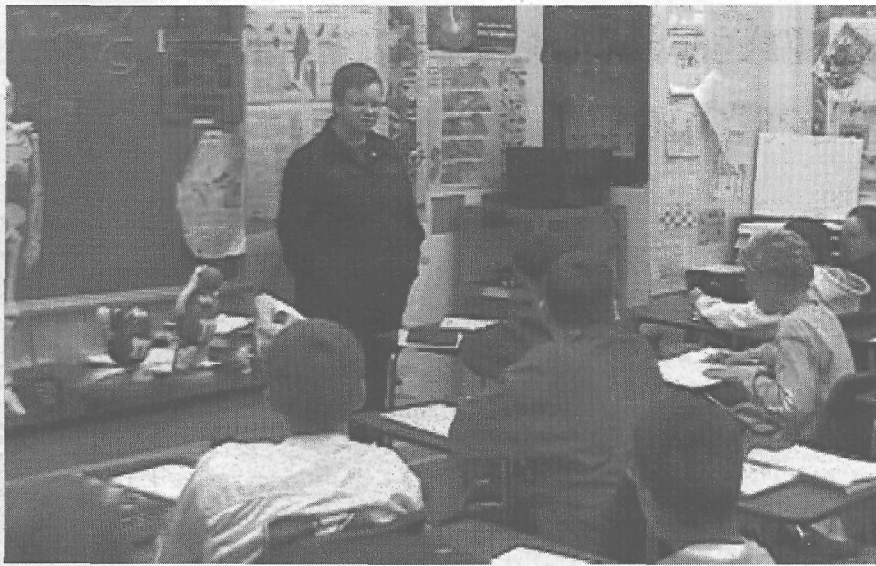
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Middle School Students Get the Dirt on Waste

Andrew Cefalo, science teacher at South Plainfield Middle School, recently invited a guest speaker to his seventh grade science class. Bonnie Oglesby, the mother of Sarah Oglesby, spoke to the students about Hazardous Waste and one method of solving the problem. Cefalo noted that "the classes really enjoyed having a parent from industry come to talk about a topic they were studying in class." One student, Chelsea Soisson, said that it was very interesting and "I learned stuff I never learned before." Cefalo also stated, "I encourage parental involvement, especially inside the classroom. I was impressed with her presentation. I was glad she was able to take time out of her busy schedule to come in and speak to the kids about a serious environmental problem. The kids were really into it!" Oglesby works for a local company, the Bayway Refinery, which operates an incinerator.

Borough Notes

Council Notes

- Lorraine Petroziello, principal tax clerk, announced her retirement effective July 7.

- The Borough has applied for a matching grant with the Department of Environmental Protection to create a digitized base map and open space layer.

- The Borough will waive all permits associated with the installation of a new scoreboard at Pitt Street Park for the South Plainfield Ponytail League.

- Anthony Otlowski, Keisha M. Carol and Vito Venetucci are the latest appointments to the Volunteer Fire Department, and Archie L. Dean has been reinstated.

- A 2003 Ford Exposition from Holman Ford will be leased for use by the Bureau of Fire Prevention. The Bureau will make the payments from their Penalty Trust Fund account.

Board of Adjustment

- QBI (Quality Botanical Ingredients), Inc. was granted a temporary use permit to park two 60' x 12' office trailers for six months.

- Peter Richkus of Mildred St. was granted permission to build a second story addition and a porch with a roof over it, with certain conditions.

- Anthony Pompilio of Arlington Ave. was granted permission to construct a 125 s.f. irregular pool deck, with conditions.

- The Quins of Oakmoor Ave. were granted a six foot side yard setback to construct a single family house.

- Vinod Patel of Arlington Ave. was granted a rear yard setback to erect a wood deck, with conditions.

- Shopper's World on Oak Tree Rd. was granted a variance for four facade signs.

SDW Tickets to "Evening of Giving"

The South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop is selling tickets to Menlo Park Mall's "Evening of Giving" on Sunday, Nov. 24.

This event features special sales and other events at the mall, including performances by the Summer Drama

Workshop and other groups. This is a fundraiser for the SPSPDW and the Simon Foundation, with each group benefiting from portions of the ticket sales.

For tickets or more information, please call (908) 756-6461.

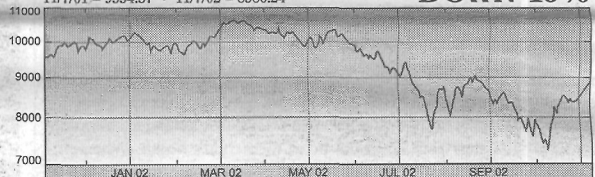
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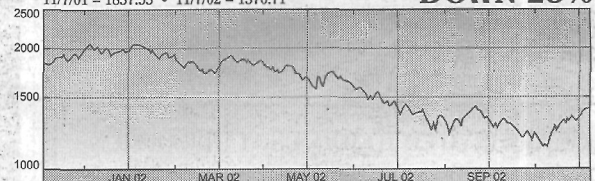
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Chiropractic & Children: What's the Story?

By Patrick M. Aiello DC

Having fielded several calls this past week regarding the issue, I thought I'd take a few moments to address it. First, to get everyone on the same page, let's define *chiropractic*, according to the Association of Chiropractic Colleges (ACC):



Dr. Patrick Aiello, DC

"Chiropractic is a health care discipline which emphasizes the inherent recuperative power of the body to heal itself without the use of drugs or surgery. The practice of chiropractic focuses on the relationship between structure (primarily the spine) and function (as coordinated by the nervous system) and how that relationship affects the preservation and restoration of health."

Wow. That was a mouthful... and not exactly helpful, either. Let's try and make things clearer. In layman's terms, when the spinal column (structure) is not working properly as a result of misalignment (things aren't *laying* the way they should) or impaired motion (things aren't *moving* the way they should), then the nervous system (function) can be and often is impaired. The term for this is the Vertebral Subluxation Complex (VSC).

You might ask, "What does this have to do with children?" Well, kids have spines, and they put a lot of wear and tear on them, just being kids. They fall, collide, contort... and, maybe most stressful of all, they *grow*. Any of these may impede the spine's proper function. Left untended, these "growing pains" can become much more permanent ones, and lead to serious spinal problems later in life.

Chiropractic for children, however, is about much more than bumps and

bruises. For example, most parents will agree that ear infections inspire numerous pediatrician's visits. The most common result of that trip: A prescription for antibiotics. Now this is a reasonable direction, assuming virulent bacteria are responsible.

When the cause of the infection is *viral* in nature, though (as it often is), antibiotics are *useless*. Worse, bacterial resistance to antibiotics is increasing daily, as the bugs get smarter and our bodies less responsive to antibiotics—often because we use them when they're not necessary or helpful.

Fallon DC, a noted expert in the field of chiropractic pediatrics, performed a study of ear infections in children in the October 1997 issue of the *Journal of Clinical Chiropractic Pediatrics*. It examined 332 children who had *otitis media* (a.k.a. ear infections). The results indicated that there was a "strong correlation" between chiropractic care and the resolution of *otitis media* for children in this study. Numerous other documented case studies support chiropractic's effectiveness in the treatment of ear infections. And this specific example is indicative of chiropractic's effectiveness on a much larger scale, as well.

In this age of throwing pills at problems, thoughtful parents are well advised to consider a role for chiropractic in their child's health. When employed by a skilled practitioner, it is of great benefit to children with no risk of side effects from what is, at times, unnecessary medication.

For more information on this topic, I would encourage you to contact my office at (908) 755-2289.

Debbie Boehm to Speak on Health Supplements

As a home economics educator for almost thirty years, Debbie Boehm has been helping people make food choices and change their diets. Research indicates that we cannot obtain all the nutrients our bodies need from our present diets alone. That is why she strongly believes supplementing is important. Boehm uses and distributes Starlight products which are also recommended by a large number of doctors and medical professionals. The products are synergistically blended vitamins, minerals and herbs that target specific body needs.

Boehm is looking to get the word out about these incredible products. She has spoken with Patricia Hamm, owner of Child's Play, a Christian Day Care Center, located on Plainfield Ave. who is also interested in promoting good health at her day care center.

As a result she has scheduled a presentation at Child's Play on Dec. 6 at 6 p.m. and will donate a portion of the profits to purchase equipment for the center. Child's Play Christian Day Care Center is located at 2319-2321 Plainfield Ave. in the LaCosta Shopping Center. The public is welcome to attend this informational meeting. Another presentation on the prod-



Debbie Boehm with Patricia Hamm owner of Child's Play.

ucts is scheduled for Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m. at Hair Keez Hair Salon located at 11 South Plainfield Ave.

With a rising population of overweight children, it has become a crusade of Debbie's to let people know that there is a connection between diet, weight and health. Added to that are the effects of stress and our busy life

styles. She will inform parents about the benefits of making small changes in their children's diets can result in improvements in their general health and weight.

For information about either events or to have a group presentation, contact Debbie at (908) 405-6230. See Debbie's ad on page 7.

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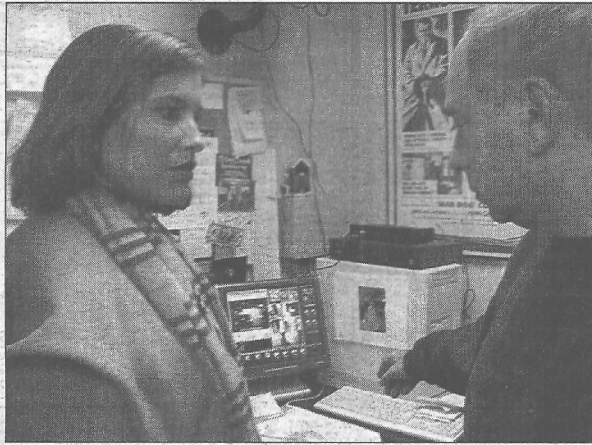
Liquid Asset's Ghost Takes a More Shapely Form

By Jane Dornick

By now everyone in South Plainfield and just about all of the metropolitan area has heard of the paranormal phenomenon at the gentlemen's club Liquid Assets on New Market Ave.. The story was first reported in the *Observer* and has since gone national.

Well, nationally known psychic and ghostbuster extraordinaire Jane Doherty is at it again, reviewing the most recent tapes of the so-called invisible patrons that occupy the bar. She now believes, after hearing recent testimonies of the increased physical activity from club employees and reviewing new infrared images taken by the surveillance cameras, that whomever or whatever is there is beginning to manifest itself. The images are becoming more defined, which means that the "blob" recorded on the security camera tapes is beginning to take on a more humanly form. Doherty is completely convinced that this is an apparition that is trying to make its presence known. Finding out who it could be is her job and she intends to be there when it shows its face.

Club DJ Sergio has become so ob-



NBC news reporter, Linda Vicaro, reviews the security camera tapes with owner, John Colasanti. The story appeared on NBC's 11 o'clock news on Tuesday evening.

essed with the idea of a ghost there that he bought a night vision video camera and aimed it at himself while he slept there overnight. Strange streaks of light were captured as well as a scene where his blanket rises up in the air over him. Even images from a professional photographer brought to a seance by Doherty captured some interesting images.

Employees have noticed more objects falling or flying and have actually felt physical contact by something when no one else is around.

On Nov. 11 another outdoor surveillance camera captured the "blob" or orb as it's called amongst paranormal experts, in the alley way. Owner John Colasanti is seen lurking around outside trying to see what might be

causing this ball of light, but to no avail. However, this time the orb appears to have arms and legs.

Colasanti is skeptical, but still can't explain what's going on and is perturbed by all the attention the club is getting. He claims that people are walking in with tales about the place. Even some of his acquaintances have come forward with stories about their own ghostly encounters.

Sometime after the holidays Colasanti intends to have a male revue night for female ghost fans with a special appearance by Doherty. She also intends to spend the night and plans for a video documentary about the ghost of Liquid Assets are also in the works -- so stay tuned -- this story is not completed

Grant Central Sixth Grade First Period Honor Roll

High Honor Roll

Francesca Bayak, Audrey Cupo, Jared Czech, Jeannine DeAndrea, Rebecca Deffler, Lindsay Fredericks, Kelliann Friday, Zane Lesky, Eric Nuber, Rachel Smith, Nicole Soisson, Nora Stasio, Kara Thomas and Erik White.

Honor Roll

Jonathan Addesa, Anthony Alunio, Daniel Alligier, Jorge Alvarez, Arielle Armand, John Barry, Samantha Barthel, Lindsay Barton, Darnell Beverly, Cori Black, Jacqueline Bosse, Michael Boyle, Kenneth Breslau, Barry Brown, Kyle Buck, Vikash Budhan, Michael Bumback, Guilanny Burgos, Michael Burton, Ashley Capparelli, Ashley Cardinale, Kurt Carlson, Henry Carrillo.

Matthew Carringer, Suneet Chandler, Steven Chen, Alex Cihanowyz, Allison Clawans, Sean Coffey, Janee Coleman, Jonathan Conroy, Gina Curcio, Taylor Curtis, Michael Dandola, Ann Dang, Taylor Deskins, Michael Dezmin, Lauren Diana, Stephanie Dicindio, Jennifer Disch, Justin Ditmars, Courtney Easterday, Brian Erhardt, Faryn Evans, Christopher Fierro, Tina Foscolo and Christopher Fulton.

Ashley Galan, Allen Garcia, Cindy Garzon, Maricela Gonzalez, Keri Gould, Ashleigh Gray, Richard Guaraci, Jennifer Gustafson, Jessica Handwerker, Richard Harzula, Caitlin Herriott, Terry Ho, Robert Hoffman, Chelsea Hunt, Christopher Izzi, Nicholas Jeglinski, Hannah Johnson,

Sara Johnson, Alan Kasmer, Christopher Kedmenec, Garrett Kelly, Michelle Kobilis and Matthew Kopchack.

Catherine Krawiec, Jaclyn Kukuch, Alexa Kunch, Joseph Lacerda, Phong Lai, Stephanie Lanza, Jacqueline Laverne, Christopher Lesniak, Anthony Louise, Kenneth Luckey, Colleen Mackenzie, Daniel Maistickle, Kelly McCormack, Alyssa McCreesh, Ian McGregor, Joseph Mennuti, Lisa Migliore, Stephanie Milicia, Tramane Miller, Rachel Moloughney, Jessica Murtagh and Lyndsey Murtagh.

Brittany Musolino, Joanna Nastarowicz, Alex Nieradka, Patrick Nolty, Kirsten Nuber, Nosavoen Ogeboven, Brittany Okosko, Timothy Oppelt, Emily Orlandini, Eric Pantaloon, Dharti Patel, Mark Piltz, Rachel Pinto, Sandra Pleeter, Diego Portero, Douglas Porzio, Matthew Praul, Brian Pullen, Kyle Quail, Nicole Rann, Patricia Robles, Anthony Salerno, James Sansone, Jeric Santos.

Johnathan Schurr, Amber Scott, Christopher Seesselberg, Rocco Severini, Saira Sheikh, Aneri Sheth, Richard Sierzega, Anthony Simms, Sagar Sindha, Michelle Slover, Christine Snogans, Mark Sprenger, Vincent Stark, Andrew Staynings, Heather Stoloff, Spencer Stubbs, Scott Suleski, Alyssa Sutherland, Susan Tian, Loan Tran, Brittany Tucci and Anthony Usuriello.

David Valerio, Andrea Vedutis, Gina Viola, Isabel Vordzorgbe, Stephen Wagner, Kaleigh White, Nicholas Whitney, Steven Wiczorek, Kristen Yorkanis, Robert Yulick and Paul Zushma.

**Subscribers,
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The *Observer* does not
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Week, therefore there will
not be a Nov. 29 issue.

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Thanksgivings Past Recalled



A simple request for Thanksgiving Day football game memories by Pattie Abbott resulted in a deluge of replies. SPHS Alumni from 1966 to 1979 offered their own flashback of Thanksgivings gone by.

Bob Kutz, class of 1975 has plentiful memories of the fun before the game. He said "I remember the firing up of huge bonfires, dances with spiked drinks and stolen kisses. This wasn't the Tigers playing just anyone, these are games of honor. To be able to hold your head up high and if you ran into someone from North Plainfield you could walk just a bit taller and be the 'Good Winner' and say things like 'you played a good game...but WE PLAYED BETTER!' Then off home to devour the Thanksgiving meal with family and watch that pretend football game on TV and sleep the sleep of the sated and victorious... not just any game but the Thanksgiving South/North game."

Sue Lillo Buttrico class of '79 was a Pom Pom girl. She spent those cold Thanksgiving mornings cheering on the Tigers. She said, "I have memories of smelling the turkey cooking before we left for the game, knowing there would be a great meal by the time we came home. The cheers of 'Chop the trees, burn all the leaves' referring to the Canucks, they sure made the bonfire symbolic! For me, it was all about families, each generation enjoying the game in their own way, and all the alumni, recent graduates that were home from college, reliving the tradition and catching up with friends. Now that's Thanksgiving."

Joanne D'Alessio Orlowski class of '68 said, "What made the games so interesting, was that my mother, as well as her brothers and sister graduated from NPHS. Thanksgiving game time was always interesting, with each cheering for their high school team. Sometimes we even bet on the game, the winner paid for ice cream sundaes at Grunnings in Plainfield. Such fond memories. I'm glad to see the game returning!"

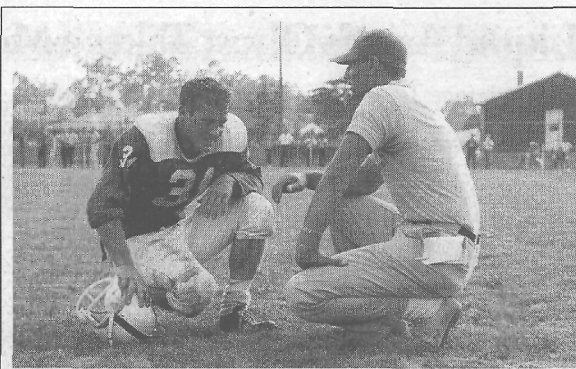
Linda McAllister Zablocki Gimnich, Class of 1966, was also a teacher at SPHS. "I remember the school's first undefeated winning season was climaxed by our win over North Plainfield on that Thanksgiving Day. It was the perfect end to the perfect season. I remember sitting in those bleachers on the football field and not being able to feel my feet. I am glad that it is back! Hope that they win their first 'second round' of Thanksgiving games!"

Susan Mazza Romeri class of '72 remembers, "It was a home game and the last football game played on the old football field behind the old high school. It was cold but that never stopped the die hard student body from rooting the Tigers on. I do remember the honking horns from SP fans if we won, and the somber silence

if we lost. I remember going real early to the game, about 8:00 or 9:00 a.m. just to get a seat. The band's half-time show was always different from any other half-time show."

Roberta Conroy Hunter, Class of 1972, "The Thanksgiving Day game was always the best! My father used to bring me as a baby and the only game I ever missed was the day my son Colin was born and Bobby still made it to the game! I was a cheerleader and it was so exciting — the twirlers twirled with fire batons, everybody

Continued on page 23



Scoreboard of Games Past

Someone once said "It's not whether you win or lose but how you play the game." While surely politically correct at the time, when it comes to the South vs. the North, it certainly is all about winning! It seemed that everyone attended the big Thanksgiving Day game in town. So what if you didn't understand the intricacies of the game...as long as you could scream at the top of your lungs while sitting on the icy bleachers in frigid temperatures. All you needed to get by was a warm hat and coat, double layer of socks and gloves and a lot of school spirit.

Sadly South Plainfield lost their first seven games, from 1956-62. In '63 the SP Tigers gassed up and won by a hair, with a score of 27-22, in 1964 it was 7-0 our favor and in 1965, the score was 26-20.

The following year, 1966, the Tigers lost their edge and went home with a score of 7-9. The score was tied in 1967, 0-0, the only tie in the history of Thanksgiving game. 1968 brought another win 7-0, but from 69-71 the Tigers lost.

They made a comeback in '72 and '73 with respective scores of 7-0 and 19-12. In 1974 the Tigers didn't fare well, the game ended with a score of 47-18 in favor of the Canucks. 1975-1977 brought a winning streak of 9-0, 20-8 and 9-0. In 1978 and 1979 the Tigers went home empty-handed again. The eighties brought a welcome change, from 1980 right on up to the last game the Tigers were back at the top with scores of 14-7, 23-8 and 15-0 and the final game a close 7-6.

Conclusion: the SPHS TIGERS won 14 and the Canucks 14, with one tied game. This is the year to pull ahead, Come On Tigers.. LETS GO!

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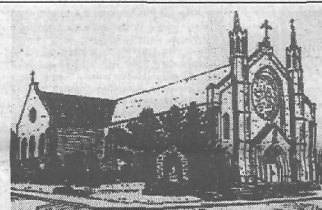
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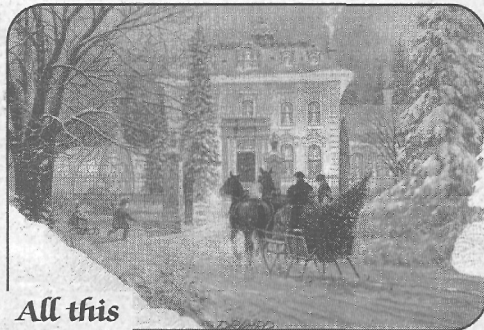
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Thanksgiving Day Rivalry With North Plainfield Revived

Continued from page 1

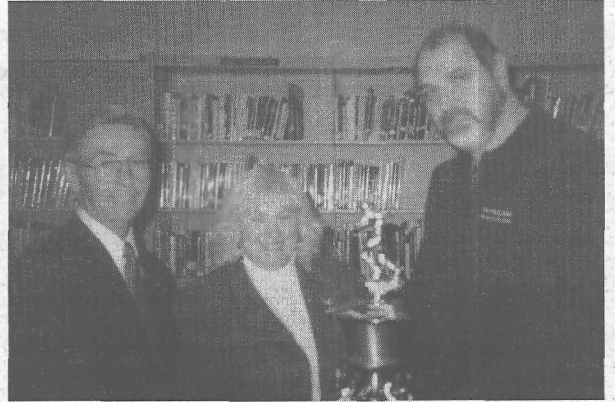
King and Queen will be crowned.

SPHS Principal Tony Massaro and Athletic Director Mike Buggey, along with many others have been working for some time to arrange for the teams to reunite on Thanksgiving. Former mayors English and Novak

are among the ardent supporters of this effort. Novak said, "I am very glad to see the rivalry renewed and hope it will renew friendships and bring lasting memories to all the players." He also arranged for tee shirts welcoming the return of the game. The South Plainfield shirts are green,

the front emblazoned with South vs. North, the back proudly proclaims "The Tradition Continues..." North Plainfield's shirts are maroon and read North vs. South.

Mayor Dan Gallagher and North Plainfield Mayor Janice Allen have a good-natured bet on the outcome of the game. Gallagher is confident of a win saying, "I think North Plainfield has had plenty of time to rest, but it won't do them any good. We have a bet, the losing mayor buys dinner for the winner and I expect to be having dinner at Michael Anthony's soon!" On a more serious note Gallagher said, "I think it's a healthy rivalry and I am glad to see it return."



Mayor Dan Gallagher, North Plainfield Mayor Janice Allen and Mike Allocco of AKA Trophies, who donated the trophy for the Thanksgiving Day winner.

English Glad the Tradition Has Returned

Recreation director Mike English was South Plainfield's Mayor when the 28 year rivalry came to an end. A longtime Tiger fan who taught history at SPHS for many years, English is excited to see the tradition renewed. Mike commented saying, "I'm glad that the game is being revived because it has always served several purposes."

"No matter what the record of the teams we're going into the Thanksgiving Day game, the success of the entire season was determined by who won the game. The games became the meeting place for all the alumni of the respective schools. It served as the opening activity for Thanksgiving Day and was a source of pride for both towns. A place becomes a community when its residents see their neighbors as an extended part of their family. The Thanksgiving Day game was a visible manifestation of the family nature of the South Plainfield community. I hope that the game will be a success and the day will be another example of what a great place South Plainfield is."

SPHS Gearing Up For Game

Continued from page 1

During this past week, students at the high school voted for homecoming king and queen. Approximately 18 guys ran for king, and around 27 girls ran for queen. Students were able to vote for six, and the results will be announced on Friday night at the Homecoming dance. The top six guys and the top six girls will be announced as the Homecoming Court. Next week, on Wed. Nov. 27, there will be a pep rally at about 4:30 p.m. in the high school gym. The king and queen will be crowned, and a bonfire will follow outside the gym, where a Canuck tree will be burned as a tradition. The king and queen will be present at the game the following day to assist the captains of the football team with the coin toss at the beginning of the game.

The cheerleaders have been very busy planning for the game as well. They have prepared numerous banners, including a very large one that has been on display in the main office of the high school. The banner displays the mascots of both schools and advertises the game. They have also been busy preparing buttons, balloons and pins promoting the game. Each school has sold over 200 t-shirts through their booster clubs to promote the game as well. South Plainfield's shirts are green and North Plainfield's are maroon.

Teachers at SPHS have been busy too, including Steve Novak and Rich D'Urso. They have prepared a video which depicts the stars and games of the past. The video will be given to each team prior to the game. There is also a reunion being held on Wednesday night at the Italian American Club in North Plainfield. All former players, coaches and cheerleaders are invited to attend. The video will be shown at the reunion.

The game and the events leading up to the game all look very exciting, and hopefully this tradition will carry on to next year. Maybe after this game, young students will be able to develop the rivalry feeling that is still alive with the alumni and begin to look forward

to a Thanksgiving game every year as well. Good luck to all the players of both teams!

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Sports

Middle School Lady Tigers Soccer Team Ends First Season on a High Note

With victories over Perth Amboy and Hillsboro and ties against Piscataway and Timothy Christian of Piscataway, the Lady Tigers looked like champions. An end of season celebration, shared with the successful Middle School boy's soccer team, capped off the good times.

The unbeaten streak was on again with a 4-0 victory over Perth Amboy. The offensive charge was led by a hat trick by Victoria Plasse. Becky Keller added to the scoring with an assist from Ashleigh Gaspari. Jen Capparelli added an assist and two by the speedy Joy Masczak kept the pressure on Perth Amboy. A solid defensive effort by the entire team helped earn Katie Reichert the victory and shut-out.

The Lady Tigers were on the move averaging their only loss of the season by defeating Hillsboro 4-2 on a very muddy Hillsboro field. The Tigers kept their unbeaten streak on the road intact. A total team effort was

needed to gain the victory. Becky Keller was strong in the net for the Tigers and earned the victory. In at various times for the Tigers' defense were Bitsy Flannery, Ashleigh Gaspari, Jackie Miller, Rachel Senz and Megan Boyle. At middle, support was found with the help of Katie Reichert, Joy Masczak, Jenna Delillo, Stephanie Szeliga, Clare Kelly and Brooke Denitzio. Midfielder Jen Applaud scored two goals and Lauren Fry scored one goal and assisted another. On the front line were Jen Capparelli, Victoria Plasse, Ryan Olexson and Katie Hardy, who scored one and assisted one.

In the second meeting between the Lady Chiefs of Piscataway and the Tigers, the girls themselves were in a very even match. A sensational pass by Katie Hardy and an equally sensational goal by Jen Copeland, while being fouled, put the Tigers on the board. Thanks to terrific goal tending by Becky Keller and Katie

Reichert, the Tigers were able to earn a tie. Other key contributions were made by all, especially Jackie Miller, Jen Delillo, Megan Boyle and Lauren Fry.

In the final game of the season, the Lady Tigers looked as if it would end on a loss to the 11-1 Tigers of Timothy Christian. Strong defensive play kept the Tigers in the game. Outstanding play by Ashleigh Gaspari, Rachel Senz and the non-stop running of Joy Delillo and Megan Boyle kept the opposition on its heels. Controlling the midfield were Joy Masczak, Jen Copeland and Lauren Fry. Pressing the attack were forwards Victoria Plasse, Jen Capparelli, Ryan Olexson and Katie Hardy. With less than five minutes to go and down 1-0, the Lady Tigers got the break they needed. Left wide open and 40 yards out, Lauren Fry placed the perfect kick towards the goal. The ball landed in the back of the net helping earn a hard fought tie against a very skilled opponent. The Lady Tigers completed the season with eight wins, three ties and only one loss.

The Coach would like to thank the parents for their support. Without the help of donations, time and dedication to the sport of soccer and to their children, the season would not have been such a success or as much fun as it was.

Thank you!

-Submitted by Rob Rickkus

Subscribers, please take note:
The Observer does not publish Thanksgiving Week, therefore there will not be a Nov. 29 issue.



PONYTAIL SOFTBALL Batters Box

By Sharon Miller

Ponytail Softball Association Meeting—November 26

The South Plainfield Parents' Association will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 26 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 Nov. 26. New members are always welcomed.

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.

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Sports



American Martial Arts Wins 2002 Best School Award

American Martial Arts, located at 902 Oak Tree Rd., continues to maintain its reputation for another year, by winning the Garden State Cup 2002 Tae Kwon Do Championship "Best School Award." This is the second consecutive year that American Martial Arts received the three highest honors given by the United States Tae Kwon Do Union, the highest level of Tae Kwon Do competition.

Only the most elite schools in the United States are members and have the invitation to compete. "My students are defeating the best athletes in New Jersey. It is truly rewarding to see my students setting goals and reaching each one. Most important is the confidence they are gaining from these experiences," Master Vigneri explains.

Although it is not tournament season, Master Kevin Vigneri continually

teaches his students the skills and endurance required to defeat the competition. Hanah Bong, one of his students, says, "It is a lot of hard work, but without Master Kevin pushing me I would never have won the gold." The proper guidance definitely pays off in the end.

Congratulations to medalists Danver Quintin, Daniel Quintin, Mario Flores, Richard Kazandzhidi, Max Butler, Ashley Zeccardo, Sarah Hoffman, Arpita Patel, Sudeep Pisipaty, Hanah Bong, Eugene Bong, Denzel Mensah, Raymond Perez, Sommer Bovell, Samir Balwani, Neel Shah, Samar Shah, Gaven Burton, Giovanni Burton, Keegan Rollins, Darryl Houchins, and Bonnie Vigneri on their great achievement and by once again proving that American Martial Arts is the best Tae Kwon Do school!

Record Turnout at Jr. Baseball Registration

By Kevin Lykes

This past weekend's fall registration saw a record turnout for the fall registration period. With our annual number of participants at about 500 we have approximately two thirds of our players registered at this time.

Our thanks to all of you for coming out and signing up early. As most of you know by now, we have initiated a new registration process this year that offers greater incentives to register in the fall. We realize that all new things of this nature take some time for people to get used to and we want to give all residents every chance to take advantage of the fall early bird discounted fees. Therefore, we are extending the

fall registration period thru Nov. 30.

If you haven't already done so, you can still register. You can do this by mail using the registration form available on our website, spjbc.com, simply print out a copy of the form, fill it out, sign it and return it to us. Send the completed form, along with your payment and copy of birth certificate for new players to: S.P.J.B.C., P.O. Box 166, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, postmarked by Nov. 30, 2002. Take advantage of this final opportunity to sign-up at the fall discounted rates. On Dec. 1, the winter registration fees will go into effect.

The registration fee schedule until Nov. 30 are: \$75 single, \$105 double and \$125 three or more siblings. Be-

ginning on Dec. 1 the fees will go up as follows: \$95 single, 125 double and \$145 three or more siblings.

At the Dec. 2 monthly meeting we will be voting on a number of proposed changes pertaining to league restructuring, as well as a number of other issues. If you have voting rights be sure to attend and have your opinion counted. If you don't have voting rights just yet, but want to know right how things come out you're certainly invited to attend (7:30 p.m., at the clubhouse on Kenneth Ave.). This will start you off on your way to attaining voting rights before the start of the season next spring.

I will keep you apprised of how things turn out after the meeting.

Rovers Annual Soccer Camp

The Seventh Annual Rovers International Winter Indoor "Super Skills" Soccer Camp for boys and girls ages 3½ to 12 will kick off on Tuesday, Dec. 3 and Wednesday, Dec 4 in Edison at the Inman Sports Club on Inman Ave.

Each camp runs for seven weeks as follows: Tuesdays from 4 to 5:05 p.m., ages 3½-12 and 5:10 to 6:15 p.m., ages 3½-12. Wednesdays from 4 to 5:05 p.m., ages 3½ to 12 and 5:10 to 6:15 p.m., ages 3½-12.

Space is limited. Participants will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

For more information and to reserve a place, call Rovers at (732) 777-1160.

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Pop Warner Jr. Midget's and Jr. Pee Wee's in Garden State Games Sunday

Due to the bad weather last Sunday, both games involving the Junior Pee Wee's and Junior Midget's were postponed and have been rescheduled for this Sunday, Nov. 24. The Junior Pee Wee's will face the Tom River Indians at 10 a.m. in Marlboro. If the Jr. Pee Wee's win, they advance to the semi-final round to be held the following weekend at Bound Brook High School.

The Jr. Midgets will also be participating in the Garden State games starting this Sunday. The Eagles open up with the Manalapan Braves at 2 p.m. in Jackson. If the Jr. Midget's win, they advance to the semi-final round to be held on Sunday, Dec. 1 at Bound Brook High School.

For directions and/or more details about both games to be held this Sunday, please call the Eagle's Clubhouse at (908) 753-6344. Good luck to both teams and congratulations on a great year!

Important Upcoming Dates and Club Functions:

- Thursday, Nov. 21- 8 p.m. Monthly General Membership Meeting at Clubhouse.
- Saturday, Nov. 23 - Annual Pizza Party at the PAL (Call Club for details and times).
- Sunday, Nov. 24 - Garden State Games-First Round.

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Please take note:

The Observer does not publish Thanksgiving Week, therefore there will not be a Nov. 29 issue.
To Subscribe Call 908-668-0010



Seniors Take Time to Listen to Children

By Jane Dornick

A select group of seniors at the Senior Center have volunteered their time to participate in a "Listen to Children Program" sponsored by the Mental Health Association of Essex County. The program pairs a warm, accepting adult, age 55 or older, with a South Plainfield elementary school child, on a one-to-one basis during school

hours.

Children are referred to the program by school counselors or faculty members. Eligibility is based on having social, academic or family difficulties in which the child could profit from extra attention from adults.

Listeners are required to fill out applications with references and a background check is conducted by the State police. Chosen volunteers spend time

being trained and in monthly workshops given by a Listen to Children coordinator. South Plainfield is currently the only town outside of Essex County to participate in the program.

These dedicated seniors take great pleasure in the service they provide. Some have been visiting the same children for a few years and are saddened when the friends they have made move to higher grades.

Gallagher Asking for Resumes For Boards and Commissions

Mayor Gallagher is asking any resident who would like to serve on a board or commission in South Plainfield to submit their resume.

At the reorganization meeting held in January, 2003 more than 75 new appointments will be announced.

There are openings on most boards. For a list of all the boards and commissions, stop in the Borough Clerk's office and pick up a Municipal Direc-

tory. The directory lists not only the boards and commissions, but also when they meet. It includes council members and the mayor's phone numbers and the direct dial phone numbers of the offices in Borough Hall. It is a must-have for all residents.

Residents should send their resumes to Mayor Dan Gallagher, c/o Municipal Building 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Job Search Club Programs In December at Library

The South Plainfield Free Public Library, located at 2484 Plainfield Ave. (adjacent to the Municipal Building) has planned the following program schedule for December 2002:

- Saturday, Dec. 7, 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon, resumes and cover letters.
 - Tuesday, Dec. 10, 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon, Job Searching on the Internet
- All programs are FREE! Space is

limited and reservations are required.

For more information, call the library's Reference desk at (908) 754-7885 or visit the library web site at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us.

The library's Job Information Center provides free classes for job seekers, computer programs, books/materials on interviewing and resumes and fee services such as fax and notary public.

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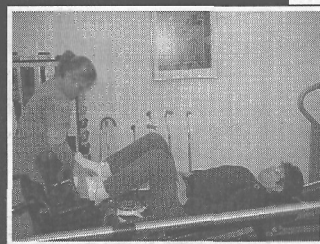
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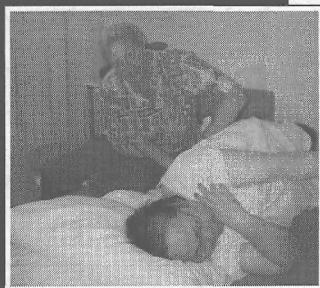
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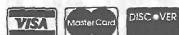
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Fire Department Hosts Gala Wine Tasting Event

Story/photos by Patricia Abbott

Not to be outdone by the wild success of the Rescue Squad Ladies Auxiliary Fun Night 2002 the Fire Department held a lively gala of their own. The crowd was in very good spirits at the recent fundraiser. Considering the fact that it was an evening of wine tasting this was not hard to do.

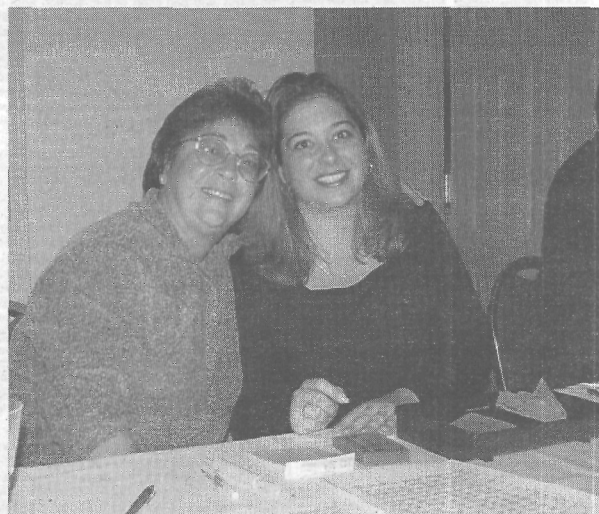
The annual event was sponsored by

the Fire Department and Oak Tree Buy Rite Liquors. Over 200 people arrived at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Piscataway for a chance to sample assorted wines, liquors and beers. The selection was provided by 31 wine vendors and eight microbrewery beer distributors. Among those on hand for the evening were many South Plainfield firefighters, Mayor Dan Gallagher and wife Marion, Recreation

Director Mike English, Councilman Charlie Buttrico and wife Sherry as well as guests from throughout the area and one from Dallas, Texas.

While circulating the room, guests chatted with friends and enjoyed hors d'oeuvres. After a trip or two around the room, some guests congregated at stations offering a favorite beverage. The evening included a 50/50 drawing and a variety of raffle items such as gift baskets and a television. As the evening wore on the merriment continued. The DJ picked up the tempo and the dancing began.

The South Plainfield Fire Department was founded in 1907. They are currently preparing for their 100 anniversary celebration in 2007. Across from the fire house is the site for the future Firemen's Memorial. The site is marked off and has three flagpoles. A sign advertises the sale of bricks for the memorial. Each brick purchased will bear the name of the family or business making the donation. The Middle School recently donated funds towards the memorial. For more information or to purchase a brick call (908) 756-4761.



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BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ORDINANCE NO. 1609 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1609 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 108 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ENTITLED "GARBAGE, RUBBISH AND REFUSE" adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, November 22, 2002 and that a public hearing be held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, December 12, 2002 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ORDINANCE NO. 1609 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 108 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ENTITLED "GARBAGE, RUBBISH AND REFUSE"

In conformance with the requirements of New Jersey Statute 40:66-5.1, the governing body of the Borough of South Plainfield hereby adopts a proof of service ordinance which requires all responsible solid waste generators to contract or otherwise legally provide for the collection of solid waste generated at those premises in the manner provided by this ordinance as follows:

1. In the case of single family residential housing, each responsible solid waste generator is required, in those instances where a solid waste collection system is not otherwise provided for by the municipality and if he has not already done so, to enter into a contract for regular solid waste collection service with any person lawfully providing private solid waste collection services within the municipality;
2. In the case of multi-family residential housing, the responsible solid waste generator is required, in those instances where a solid waste collection system is not otherwise provided for by the municipality and if he has not already done so, to enter into a contract for regular solid waste collection service with any person lawfully providing private solid waste collection services within the municipality; except that there is an exemption from this requirement in those instances where the responsible solid waste generator is transporting the solid waste which is generated at his residential premises directly to the solid waste facility utilized by the municipality for disposal. It shall be the responsibility of the owner of the multiple dwelling to provide a sufficient number of appropriate solid waste containers for the deposit of nonrecyclable waste materials to be disposed of as solid waste;
3. In the case of a commercial or institutional building or structure located within the boundaries of the municipality, the responsible solid waste generator is required, in those instances where regular solid waste collection services are not otherwise provided for, to enter into a contract with any person lawfully providing private solid waste collection services within the municipality; and
4. In the case of a responsible solid waste generator, within the municipality, who is transporting the solid waste which is generated at his residential premises directly to the solid waste facility utilized by the municipality for disposal, every such responsible solid waste generator within the municipality is required to furnish proof that the responsible solid waste generator is transporting the solid waste which is generated at these residential premises directly to the solid waste facility utilized.

The Governing Body, through the Borough Clerk, shall within six (6) months of the effective date of this ordinance and at least once every six (6) months thereafter notify all responsible solid waste generators of the requirements of the ordinance. In order to fulfill the notification of this section, the Governing Body, through the Borough Clerk, may at its discretion place an advertisement in a newspaper circulating in the municipality, post a notice in public places where public notices are customarily posted, include a notice with other official notifications periodically mailed to taxpayers or any combination thereof as the municipality deems necessary and appropriate.

All other provisions of Chapter 108 of the Code of the Borough of South Plainfield shall remain in full force and effect.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon publication and adoption in accordance with New Jersey Law.

Approved November 22, 2002

Daniel J. Gallagher/Mayor

ATTEST:

Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$00.00 November 22, 2002

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ORDINANCE No. 1610 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1610 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 184 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ENTITLED "TOWING" be adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, November 22, 2002 and that a public hearing be held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, December 12, 2002 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ORDINANCE NO. 1610 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 184 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ENTITLED "TOWING"

184 - 7 LICENSING OF WRECKERS

184 - 7.1 Findings. The Borough of South Plainfield Towing Regulations had been originally ordained and have substantially remained intact throughout the years, despite many developments in the law as well as factual developments in the Borough, which require a complete amendment and revision of the Wrecker Ordinance.

184 - 7.2 Short Title. This section shall be known and cited as the Borough of South Plainfield Wrecker Regulations.

184 - 7.3 Definitions. As used in this section:

Cruising shall mean the driving of an unengaged licensed wrecker to and from a public street in any fashion calculated for the obvious purpose of soliciting business along the public street.

Garage shall mean any parcel or property owned or leased by an official tower and located within the Borough of South Plainfield which has all of the following specifications:

- a. Contiguous to or a part of the official tower's

place of business, except that a secondary lot may be located elsewhere within the Borough to accept the overflow.

b. Adequate to store vehicles set forth in 184-7.6a.3.

c. The area where the vehicles are stored shall be completely encircled by a fence not less than six feet high, with at least one (1) lockable gate for ingress and egress.

d. Meets the requirements of any relevant ordinances, statutes or regulations.

e. If the garage does not meet the requirements in 184-7.3a, the garage must produce a written agreement stating that they have access to a secured fenced yard located within the Borough that meets the requirements of this section.

Police Chief shall mean the Chief of Police of the Borough of South Plainfield.

Wrecker shall mean a vehicle driven by mechanical power and employed for the purpose of towing, transporting, conveying, recovering or removing any and all kinds of vehicles which are unable to be and actually are not operated under their own power from the place where they are disabled to some other place, and any vehicle(s) which the Police Department has ordered to be impounded.

184-7.4 Official Towers are to be Licensed and Appointed

a. Any person having available space at a garage who desires to engage in the municipal towing at Police request, as delineated in this section, shall first apply for a license according to the terms and condition of this section and, if approved for a license, enter into a contract with the Borough of South Plainfield, which the contract must be approved by the Borough Council, for a duration of not more than one (1) year. Such persons shall be known as "official towers" and shall serve as such pursuant to the terms of the contract between the official tower and the Borough, subject to the Local Public Contract Law as well as this section.

b. No official tower shall subcontract to any person who is not a licensed official tower any work to be performed by him for the Borough, without having first obtained written approval from the Police Department for the use of the subcontractor, which approval is necessary in order to maintain an equitable and nondiscriminatory administration of the rotation lists referenced in section 184-7.21. Any official tower who is authorized to subcontract work remains liable for any violation by the subcontractor under this section. Any subcontractor shall be governed by all of the terms and conditions of this section.

c. Any "official tower" who voluntarily removes himself from the rotating list, thereby relinquishing his license under this section, forfeits the right to reapply for a license under this section until the next awarding of licenses and contracts by the Borough.

184-7.5 Services to be Furnished. Official towers shall furnish wrecking, towing, and storage services in conformance with this section, to motor vehicles within the limits of the Borough of South Plainfield when requested to do so by the South Plainfield Police Department. These services are to include the towing and storage of unclaimed or abandoned vehicles when requested to do so by the South Plainfield Police Department.

184-7.6 Application for license; Contents.

a. Applications for licenses issued hereunder shall be made upon blank forms prepared and made available by the Police Chief and shall state:

1. The name, home address and proposed or actual business address of the applicant, and where he is the owner, lessee or bailee.

2. The location, description and hourly availability of the wreckers owned or operated by the applicant.

3. That the applicant has a garage, or access to one, with the available space for properly accommodating and protecting all motor vehicles to be towed or otherwise removed from the place where they are disabled or impounded and that any such vehicles will not be stored or allowed to remain on public property or Borough streets or on any property which is not zoned for such storage. The applicant must, therefore, obtain from the Zoning Officer of the Borough of South Plainfield, a zoning permit demonstrating that the premises upon which the garage is located does not violate the Borough of South Plainfield Land Use and Development Ordinance. The zoning permit, once obtained, shall be made part of the application.

4. Description of the vehicle(s) for which licenses are desired, including year, make, model, type, serial number of body and motor capacity, length of time the vehicle(s) has been in use and any other information which the Police Chief shall deem necessary or proper to effectuate the purpose of this section have been complied with.

5. That the applicant can ensure no more than fifteen (15) to twenty (20) minute response time on all calls between the hours of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm and can ensure no more than thirty (30) minute response time for calls between the hours of 5:01 pm and 7:59 am.

b. That the applicant shall have affixed thereto an affidavit to be sworn to by the applicant that all of the information given in the application is true and correct and the application shall be submitted to the Police Chief.

184-7.7 Effective Date/Application Processing. Upon this section becoming effective, applications shall be received during the thirty (30) day period immediately following and shall be acted upon in accordance with the other provisions of this section during the next sixty (60) day period. During this ninety (90) day period, the terms and conditions of the prior Borough of South Plainfield Towing Ordinance shall remain in effect so as to provide order during this time of the transition to this new ordinance

184-7.8 Application Fee. An application for each official tower licenses shall be accompanied by an application fee of one hundred (\$100.00) dollars payable to the Borough of South Plainfield, the fees for the criminal history check, and drivers abstract set forth in subsection 184-7.9 and as well as any other fees required by this section. These fees are not refundable in the event that an inspection of the vehicle(s) has been made and no license is issued because of the failure to comply with any regulations mandated under this section by the Police Chief.

184-7.9 Investigation and Inspection by Police Chief.

a. Upon receipt of a completed application as provided for herein, the Police Chief shall cause an investigation to be made of the applicant and his proposed business operation and shall make or have made an inspection of the vehicle(s) to be licensed. The Police Chief may delegate the

inspection of the vehicle(s) to an independent person, not engaged in business in the Borough, who shall be qualified by experience and training to make such inspection and such person shall report to the Police Chief whether the vehicle(s) are in a thoroughly safe and sanitary condition and complies with the requirements and standards of this section, as set forth herein.

b. Within sixty (60) days after the receipt of the completed application, the Police Chief is to complete the investigation and inspection and according to the terms of this section as well as subsection 184-7.10 and any other relevant subsection, either refuse to approve the application, or shall approve the application and classify each wrecker to be licensed as "Light Duty" or "Heavy Duty" ensuring compliance with the minimum standards delineated in subsection 184-7.11.

c. Included in the Police Chief's investigation of the applicant shall be a criminal history check with the New Jersey State Police Bureau of Identification and drivers license check.

d. The Borough of South Plainfield recognizes that the official tower shall be trustworthy in that he is safeguarding vehicles belonging to others. Therefore, to protect the public interest, the Borough may disqualify anyone who has been convicted of a crime of violations under this section of the preceding ordinance within the past ten (10) years, which crime or violation would indicate that the official tower or his employees may not be responsible to perform in the best interest of others. Such crimes or violations would include but not limited to car theft, stealing of car parts, break in's, thefts, overcharging, etc. The Police Chief may waive these standards if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the Borough.

e. If the official tower or his employees are found guilty of any such crime or ordinance violation during the term of his license, the license may be cancelled by the Borough for the reasons aforesaid. The official tower shall notify the Police Chief in writing of any criminal charges that become pending against him or his employees during the term of the license.

f. The Police Department reserves the right to investigate at any time, the official tower or anyone employed by the official tower for the purpose of fulfilling the contract herein.

184-7.10 Standards for Approval of Applications. The Police Chief shall approve and classify an application only when he finds that the following requirements have been met:

- a. That the public convenience and necessity will be served by the use of the vehicle for which the application has been made.

- b. That the insurance policies as required herein have been procured and supplied.

- c. That the applicant and proposed workers are fit persons to operate the wrecker and conduct a wrecker service in the Borough. License holders will be required to submit a list of operators and the legal addresses and keep the Police Department informed of any changes in the operator's and/or legal addresses.

- d. That the requirements of this section and all governing laws, statutes and ordinances have been met.

- e. That the wrecker(s) have been properly licensed and inspected by the State of New Jersey and has the necessary stickers affixed thereto. No vehicle shall be licensed as a wrecker which is using dealer license plates on which have failed the State inspection.

- f. That the wrecker(s) license, on inspection, meet with the required minimum standards for "light duty" or "heavy duty" wrecker as described in the following subsection.

- g. Compliance with the requirements of the subsection 184-7.9 and any other relevant subsection of this section.

- h. That the applicant demonstrates to the Police Department that the applicant will be able to ensure no more than a fifteen (15) to twenty (20) minute response time for calls between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm and ensure no more than a thirty (30) minute response between the hours of 5:01 pm and 7:59 am.

184-7.11 Classification of Wreckers. The wrecker shall be the minimum standards to be utilized by the Police Chief in the classification of wreckers as either light duty or heavy duty:

a. **Light Duty Wrecker:** Light Duty wrecker shall be able to handle all makes of passenger cars, small trucks and any other vehicle having a registered weight less than twelve thousand five hundred (12,500) pounds and which complies with the following minimum standards;

1. Dual rear wheels or equivalent.
2. A power take-off controlled winch with a minimum cable thickness of one half (1/2) inch or equivalent.

3. Comparable weight equal to the vehicle to be towed, with a minimum of five thousand five hundred (5,500) pounds.

4. A three eighths (3/8) inch safety chain. The lift chain of the safety chain shall not be attached in any form of manner to the same part of the wrecker.

5. One (1) reflectorized traffic vest for each employee at the scene.

6. A five (5) pound CO2 dry powder extinguisher or equivalent.

7. One (1) broom, shovel and debris container.

8. Ten (10) pounds of absorbent material, such as "speedy dry", and any other materials necessary to remove any and all debris from the roadway at the tow site. In addition to removal of any absorbent material at the scene, each official tower must dispose of any vehicle debris, such as glass or vehicle parts, removed from the roadway in a lawful manner.

9. Functioning emergency lighting in conformance with applicable Federal and New Jersey State Statutes and regulations. This lighting must include at minimum either an amber beacon or a light bar, either of which must have a three hundred sixty (360) degree visibility.

10. Equipped with a winch rated to accept at least eight thousand (8,000) pounds.

11. A cellular phone to communicate with the police department.

b. **Heavy Duty Wrecker.** Heavy duty wrecker shall be able to handle all makes of trucks, as well as any other vehicle having a registered weight in excess of twelve thousand five hundred (12,500) pounds, and which complies with the following minimum standards:

1. Dual rear wheels or equivalent.

2. Manufacturing rating - gross vehicle weight of fifteen thousand (15,000) pounds. Manufacturing rating may be obtained from the factory where the truck originates. Other written evidence of gross vehicle weight may be acceptable by the Police Chief, if verified.

3. Power take off controlled winch with a

minimum cable thickness - of five eighths (5/8) inch.

4. A half-inch (1/2) safety chain. The lift chain and safety chain shall not be attached in any form or manner to the same part of the wrecker.

5. Air brakes

6. Connecting air lines for connection with the air compressor and air brake lines of the towed vehicle.

7. A detachable truck light bar to be attached to the rear of the towed vehicle.

8. Ten (10) pounds of absorbent material, such as "speedy dry", and any other materials necessary to remove any and all debris from the roadway at the tow site. In addition to removal of the absorbent material applied at the scene, each official tower must dispose of any vehicle parts removed from the roadway in a lawful manner.

9. Functional emergency lighting in conformance with Federal and New Jersey State Statutes and regulations. This lighting shall include, at a minimum, either an amber beacon or a light bar, either of which must have a three hundred sixty (360) degree visibility.

10. Each heavy-duty wrecker shall be equipped with either two (2) winches, each rated for at least twenty-five thousand (25,000) pounds, or one (1) winch, which are rated for at least fifty thousand (50,000) pounds.

11. A cellular phone to communicate with the police department. Each "official tower" licensed with heavy-duty wreckers, in addition to any other criteria, have available at least one flatbed truck duly licensed under the terms of this section.

c. **General Requirements.** Every official tower must have "wheel lift" or "flat bed capability" for its light duty wrecker. Every official tower must have access to a light duty wrecker with "flat bed capability". Every official tower must have "under reach capability" for its heavy-duty wreckers. This is necessary in order to ensure the capability of the official tower to lift towed vehicles from the underside of the vehicle in a damage free manner.

184-7.12 Issuance of Licenses.

- a. Upon written notification by the Chief of Police that an application has been approved and classified as well as compliance being met with all other subsections of this section, the Municipal Clerk of the Borough of South Plainfield shall issue a license to the "official tower" under this section, as well as individual licenses for each wrecker owned and operated by the official tower designating each wrecker as "light duty" or "heavy duty". Additionally, prior to conducting any towing activities licensed pursuant to this section, each official tower must execute contract approved by laws department, as well as the Municipal Clerk, which contract is in conformance with the Local Public Contracts Law and any relevant laws, regulations and ordinances, and which will be for a duration of not more than one (1) year.

- b. The license to be awarded to an official tower pursuant to the terms of this section is for one (1) year term, it is expressly ordained that all vehicles licensed by the official tower under this section, must be inspected by the Police Department annually and the license issued for each wrecker is to be issued annually.

184-7.13 Wrecker License Fees. The fee for wrecker license shall be fifty (\$50.00) dollars per year for each wrecker owned and operated by any official tower licensed under this section. The fee for the same person may be licensed and the fee shall be fifty (\$50.00) dollars per vehicle. The full amount due for each vehicle shall be payable before the issuance of the license regardless of the time of year in which the license is issued and fees shall not be prorated. In the event that duplicates of a license are required, the same shall be supplied for one (\$1.00) dollar each.

All fees shall be payable to the Municipal Clerk.

184-7.14 Insurance Policies Required.

- a. **Garage Keeper's Policy and Garage Liability Policy.** Each licensee shall obtain a garage keeper's and liability policy in accordance with current State Statute 39:3-84.8, which at this time of adoption of this ordinance are:

1. **Garage Keeper's Policy.** A garage keeper's liability policy covering fire, theft and explosion in the minimum amount of sixty thousand (\$60,000) dollars and collision coverage subject to five hundred (\$500) dollars deductible with each accident deemed a separate claim.

2. **Garage Liability Policy.** A garage liability policy covering operation of the licensee's equipment or vehicles for bodily injury or property damage. This policy shall be in the amount of one million (\$1,000,000) dollars for any one (1) person killed or injured; one million (\$1,000,000) dollars for more than one (1) accident; and one hundred thousand (\$100,000) dollars for all property damage from one (1) accident.

- b. Each policy required herein shall contain an endorsement providing that ten (10) day's notice shall be given to the Borough of South Plainfield in the event of any material change or cancellation for any cause.

- c. In the event that any policy is changed so as to fail to conform to the above requirements or if any policy on any licensed wrecker is cancelled for any reason, the Chief of Police shall notify the person responsible for the policy, and it shall be corrected or reinstated or replaced with a conforming policy within ten (10) days after the notice is received and before the date of cancellation. If the policy or certificate is not corrected, reinstated or replaced within ten (10) days of the date of cancellation, the Chief of Police shall immediately suspend the wrecker license and shall pick up from the owner all indicia of licensing, including any stickers, cards, medallions or other means of identification.

- d. Official towers shall produce a certificate of insurance at this time of license renewal, as well as at the time of the insurance policy renewal.

184-7.15 License Register. The Chief of Police shall keep a register of the names and legal addresses of all persons owning or operating wreckers licensed under this section, together with the license number and description of such wreckers, and the date and complete record or inspection made of them.

184-7.16 Exhibition of Issued Card or Plate. The Borough Clerk shall also issue to each official tower a card, not less than four (4) inches in width nor more than eight and one half (8 1/2) inches in width. In such form as may be set by the Chief of Police, the card shall be carried in each licensed vehicle so that the same can be produced and displayed at the request of any law enforcement officer. The card shall bear the name of the licensee, official license number of the wrecker, the service rates and conditions of employment under which such wrecker is operating, the maximum weight capability of the wrecker and a notice that in case of any complaint, the Chief of Police shall be notified. Such card shall have attached thereto the signature of the Chief of Police and the date of

inspection of the wrecker by the inspector, together with blank spaces upon which an entry shall be made of the date of every inspection of the wrecker by the inspector. In lieu of the card, a metal plate furnished by the owner, giving the same information, may be affixed to a prominent portion of the wrecker. Vehicle cards shall be updated by the Chief of Police.

184-7.17 Service Rates.

- a. Charges for the transportation, hauling and storage of disabled vehicles by any licensed official tower of the Borough are subject to the following limitations:

1. For responding to a service call within the Borough, to be charged in addition to any gasoline or other items or services at the scene:

- (a.) 8:00 am to 5:00 pm - forty (\$40.00) dollars.

- (b.) 5:01 pm to 7:59 am - fifty (\$50.00) dollars.

This fee can be charged once the vehicle to be towed is hooked to a licensed wrecker, but not if the vehicle is actually towed.

2. For conveying any passenger automobile, station wagon, pickup truck, Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV), motorcycle and panel truck having a registered weight of less than twelve thousand five hundred (12,500) pounds from any point in the Borough to any other point in the Borough:

- (a.) 8:00 am to 5:00 pm - seventy (\$70.00) dollars.

- (b.) 5:01 pm to 7:59 am - eighty (\$80.00) dollars.

There will be no additional mileage charges to be applied to these fees, if the vehicle was towed within the Borough of South Plainfield.

3. For conveying any truck or omnibus having a registered vehicle weight in excess of or equal to twelve thousand five hundred (12,500) pounds from any point in the Borough to any other point in the Borough:

- (a.) Straight body truck: eighty-five (\$85.00) dollars plus thirty (\$3.00) dollars for mile towed.

- (b.) Tractor trailer or any vehicle over two (2) axles: two hundred fifty (\$250.00) dollars plus five (\$5.00) dollars per mile towed.

- (c.) Flatbed/dolly wheel use: sixty-five (\$65.00) dollars when necessary.

4. For conveying vehicles from a point within the Borough to a point outside the Borough, or vice versa, the rate is to be predetermined by agreement between the official tower and the disabled vehicle owner or driver.

5. For the storage of passenger automobiles, per day: thirty (\$30.00) dollars.

- (a.) It is expressly ordained that the daily storage rates recited in paragraph a.5 of this section shall not be charged for the calendar day on which a vehicle arrives at the place of storage.

6. For the storage of trucks and omnibuses having a registered weight in excess of or equal to twelve thousand five hundred (12,500) pounds, eighty dollars (\$80.00) per day.

- (a.) It is expressly ordained that the daily storage rates recited in paragraph a.6 of this section shall not be charged for the calendar day on which a vehicle arrives at the place of storage.

7. Waiting Time:

- (a.) Light duty wrecker, per hour in one quarter (1/4) hour increments: forty (\$40.00) dollars.

- (b.) Heavy Duty wrecker, per hour in one quarter (1/4) increments: sixty (\$60.00) dollars.

Waiting time charges shall not begin until one-half (1/2) hour after the time of arrival of the wrecker at the scene and shall not be prorated into quarter hours.

8. Crane service / winching/ recovery services:

- (a.) Light duty wrecker, per hour in one-quarter (1/4) increments: forty (\$40.00) dollars.

- (b.) Heavy duty wrecker, per hour in one-quarter (1/4) increments: sixty (\$60.00) dollars.

- b. Every Operator of a wrecker shall give the customer a written itemized receipt for the fee paid, when requested. All disputes as to fares shall be determined by the Police Officer in charge, if one is present, and a report of the dispute shall then be made by the Officer to the Chief of Police. Every official tower will be required to accept all currently accepted methods of payment as per State Statutes, which at time of adoption of this ordinance includes cash, credit card, money order and personal and business checks.

- c. The hours of release for towed vehicles from the tower's yard shall be from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday.

- d. Towing locations.

- (1) All towed vehicles pursuant to this ordinance shall be towed to and stored by the respective tower, unless otherwise directed by the police officer in charge.

- e. Any official tower is hereby authorized to charge, in addition to the service rates delineated in this subsection, a surcharge in the amount of twenty (\$20.00) dollars per vehicle towed, as an accident clean up. Accident scene clean up is considered the application and removal of an absorbent material for fluid spills (i.e. coolant, oils etc.) and removal of glass, debris and other materials.

184-7.18 Conduct of Official Towers and Operators Generally.

- a. No person owning or operating a wrecker shall:

1. While waiting for employment, stand on any public street, intersection, or on any public property without first obtaining the consent of a Police Officer or stand on any private property without first obtaining the consent of the owner of the property.

2. Seek employment by repeatedly and persistently driving his wrecker to and fro in a short space in front of any disabled vehicle or by otherwise interfering with the proper and orderly progress of traffic along the public highways.

3. Permit or invite loitering within or near his wrecker.

4. Solicit or attempt to divert prospective patrons of another wrecker, nor shall he solicit or divert prospective patrons of a given garage in the Borough to any other garage.

5. Solicit, demand or receive from any person any pay commission, or emolument whatever, except the proper fee for transporting the disabled vehicle in accordance with the schedule of service rates listed in subsection 184-7.17

6. Pay any gratuity, tip or emolument to any third person not involved in the accident, or to any Police Officer, for information as to location of any accident or for soliciting the employment of the licensee's services, nor give any gratuities, fees or other

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compensation or gifts to any member of the Police Department.

c. Towed vehicles shall be stored in an area with protective fencing.

184-7.19 Record Book of Vehicles Towed.

a. Every official tower shall record, whether in a hard book or in a computer based system, solely for the purpose, the details of each disabled vehicle towed, serviced or transported, together with full information concerning the details surrounding the hiring, the names of the owner of the towed vehicle and the patron engaging him, with the exception that it is expressly required that each tower maintain a hard copy receipt of all services provided for under this section which receipt shall bear the original signature of the person to whom the vehicle was released. The record book herein described shall be kept open for inspection at all times by the Police Chief or any duly authorized representative of the Police Chief.

b. All official towers shall maintain a record regarding all vehicles impounded at the request of the South Plainfield Police Department. These vehicles may include abandoned vehicles, recovered stolen vehicles or vehicles held for investigation by the Department. This record shall be made available to any Police Officer for inspection upon request and shall contain the following information:

1. The date, time, location and name of the wrecker driver who towed the vehicle at the Department's request.
2. The physical location of the vehicle being towed.
3. Identification of the impounded vehicle to include make, year, model, vehicle identification number, license number and name of registered owner, if known.

4. A vehicle impounded by the police shall not be released without a written Power Release Form authorizing this release.

5. A written record shall be kept or maintained by the towing service installing the name of the person releasing the vehicle, the type of "proof of ownership" presented and the name of the person receiving the vehicle.

184-7.20 Release of Vehicles.

a. Official towers shall only release vehicles towed as a consequence of the official towers performance under this section after receiving a written authorization from the Police Department to release the vehicle.

b. Vehicles towed as a consequence of a call from the call list will be available for release during the entire period that the wrecker is on call and from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday.

184-7.21 Rotating Call List.

a. Official towers shall perform licensed services on a rotating basis. The Police Chief is hereby authorized to establish a system of rotation in the assignment of the wrecker in the area when the owner or driver of a disabled vehicle declines or is unable to indicate any specific choice of a wrecker to remove the vehicle. No official tower shall respond to the scene of a disabled vehicle except upon notification by the Police Officer in charge at Police Headquarters or upon request of the driver.

b. In the establishment of a rotation system of assignment of licensed wreckers, separate lists will be administered by the Police Department for light duty wreckers and heavy-duty wreckers. The Borough of South Plainfield shall establish a heavy-duty rotation list consisting of at least three (3) qualified towers. If less than three (3) qualified towers from within the Borough of South Plainfield can not meet these requirements set forth, the Borough of South Plainfield shall establish a heavy duty rotation list utilizing qualified towers from outside the Borough limits. Selection for the heavy duty rotation list may include companies outside the Borough limits provided the tower can comply with all the requirements set forth in section 184-7.6. In addition an official tower for the "heavy duty" rotation list must own their own equipment as required in section 184-7.11b. If an official tower has both heavy duty and light duty wreckers licensed, the official tower's turn on the light duty list must be separate from its turn on the heavy-duty list.

c. Such additional rules and regulations regarding the rotation of wreckers as may be promulgated hereunder by the Police Chief and filed with the Borough Clerk shall take effect immediately after service of a copy thereof on official towers, which service may be made by addressing same to the licensees by ordinary mail at their last known address. If, pursuant to the rules and regulations for rotation of wreckers adopted under this section, the Police Department summons a wrecker to the scene of a disabled vehicle for the purposes of removing the vehicle and the summoned wrecker shall arrive at the scene, the owner or driver of the disabled vehicle shall use the services of the summoned wrecker.

184-7.22 Regulations Generally.

a. The Police Chief is hereby authorized and empowered to establish reasonable regulations for the inspection and operation of licensed wreckers, and for the design, construction, maintenance and condition of fitness for safe conduct of the wrecker service business, in accordance with the standards herein. The Police Chief shall maintain due vigilance over all licensed wreckers to see that they are kept in a condition of safety for the transportation and hauling of disabled vehicles, and shall have the right at all times to inspect all such licensed wreckers and shall maintain a record, in writing, of the report of all such inspections. If, at any time, the Police Chief shall deem equipment inadequate or unsafe, he shall have the power to demand immediate correction, and, if not corrected to the full satisfaction of the Police Chief, he shall then have the power to revoke or suspend the license as in the case he may deem fit and proper, after a hearing is had upon the nature and circumstances of the violation. The Police Chief is also hereby authorized and empowered to establish such additional regulations not inconsistent herewith; as may be necessary and reasonable, governing the issuance of any license provided for in this section. All regulations promulgated by the Police Chief shall be filed with the Borough Clerk.

b. Whenever the Police Chief promulgates regulations pursuant to Paragraph a. of this section, notice of the promulgation shall be published in the official newspaper of the Borough. That publication shall state that a regulation has been promulgated by the Police Chief pursuant to the authority of the Borough of South Plainfield Wrecker Ordinance and state specifically that a copy of the regulations is on file in the Borough of South Plainfield Municipal Clerk's office and, unless an emergency situation arises, any such rules or regulation promulgated by the Police Chief shall not become effective until ten (10) days after the date of publication in the newspaper.

184-7.23 Administrative Appeals. An applicant for

a license under this section, as well as any official tower, has the right to file an administrative appeal of any action taken or ruling made by the Police Chief in the administration of this section. The appeal must, however, be filed in writing with the Borough Clerk of the Borough of South Plainfield within ten (10) days of the Police Chief's decision. A hearing is to be held within thirty (30) days of the filing of the appeal with a written ruling forthcoming from the Borough Clerk within twenty (20) calendar days of the hearing. The Borough Clerk's decision shall be the final administrative decision rendered on any appeal filed pursuant to this section.

184-7.24 Applicability. Only official towers of the Borough of South Plainfield are subject to the terms of this section. When the owner or driver of a disabled vehicle indicates a choice of a specific wrecker owner who is not licensed as an official tower, that wrecker shall be called to the scene only at the discretion of the Police Officer on the scene based on his/her consideration of public safety and the need to clear the scene, this section does not apply to that wrecker's activities.

184-7.25 Abandoned or Unclaimed Vehicles. The Police Department shall be responsible for attempting to notify the owner of an abandoned vehicle towed under this section that his vehicle has been towed to the impound area within thirty (30) calendar days of the tow. In the event the towed vehicle is not removed within fourteen (14) calendar days by the owner, the official tower shall be responsible for notifying the Police Department in writing of this situation. Failure of the official tower to notify the Police Department, as stated herein shall limit the storage charge to fourteen (14) calendar days.

184-7.26 Sale of Unclaimed or Abandoned Vehicles. The Borough of South Plainfield Police Department shall, at its sole judgment and uncontrolled discretion, arrange for public sale any vehicle which has been the subject of impoundment or when the owner has failed to receive same. Such public sale shall be in accordance with State law.

The Borough of South Plainfield will not sell any vehicle without having first received the proper authorization for the sale as required by the New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicles in accordance with State law.

The proceeds from the sale of each vehicle shall be applied to the payment of any towing and storage charges due the appropriate official tower pertaining to the vehicle sold. Any surplus funds per each vehicle shall be disposed according to law. If the proceeds from the sale of such vehicle are insufficient to pay the accrued towing or storage charges for that vehicle, the official tower agrees that there shall be no further liability of the Borough of South Plainfield to pay same and any excess amounts which may be due shall be waived.

If no bids are received on a vehicle, then the official tower shall receive title for nominal consideration of five (\$5.00) dollars for such vehicle in lieu of any fees, which may be due the official tower pursuant to this section.

184-7.27 Availability of Documents. Every official tower shall furnish, at its expense, the owner of a disabled vehicle with a copy of towing and storage rates as provided by this subsection. Furthermore, the Borough, through the Borough Clerk's Office and the Police Department, shall make available all regulations and rules promulgated under this section to any member of the public during normal business hours of the Borough.

184-7.28 Penalties

a. Any official tower who violates any provision of this section shall, upon conviction thereof by the Municipal Court, be punished by a fine not exceeding one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars or by imprisonment for a term not exceeding ninety (90) days or both.

b. Notwithstanding the above penalty provisions, it is expressly ordained that in addition to any fines in conformance with section 184-7.22 herein, the Police Chief may explore the following suspension and revocation schedule to be applied to the license of the official tower, together with all associated wrecker licenses, found to have violated the provisions of this section by charging and collecting service rates in excess of those set forth in subsection 184-7.17.

1. Ninety (90) days license suspension of any license under this section for the first offense;
2. One hundred eighty (180) day; license suspension for a second offense;
3. Permanent revocation of any license issued under this section for a third offense.

c. Notwithstanding the above penalty provisions, it is expressly ordained that in addition to any fines, the following suspension and revocation schedule is to be applied to the license of the official tower, together with all associated wrecker licenses, found to have violated provisions of the section for "minor" infractions, such as but not limited to poor response times, improper debris clean up, improper maintenance of equipment etc.

1. Thirty (30) day license suspension of any license under this section for the first offense;
2. Ninety (90) day license suspension for a second offense;
3. Three hundred sixty five (365) days; license suspension for a third offense.

184-7.29 Effective Date. This section will become effective upon publication according to law, and be implemented as delineated in the proviso contained in subsection 184-7.6a.

184-7.30 Services to the Borough. The Borough of South Plainfield believes there will be occasions that require the official tower to provide services to police vehicles for the Borough. The official tower shall charge the Borough according to the service rates delineated in subsection 184-7.17 for performing these services. This is the only occasion in which the Borough of South Plainfield will pay costs directly to the official tower. The municipal expenditure is subject to Local Budget Law. This service shall include but not limited to jump-starts and change flat tires of police vehicles.

184-7.31 Severability. If any subsection or provision of this section shall be held invalid in any court of competent jurisdiction, the same shall not effect the other subsections or provisions of this section except so far as the section or provisions so declared invalid shall be inseparable from the remainder or any portion thereof.

All other provisions of Chapter 108 of the Code of the Borough of South Plainfield shall remain in full force and effect.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon publication and adoption in accordance with New Jersey Law.

Approved November 18, 2002

Daniel J. Gallagher/Mayor

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$131.90 November 22, 2002

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
PUBLIC NOTICE
RETURN OF PERFORMANCE BOND

To Harry G. Popik for public improvements at 139, 141, & 143 Hamilton Blvd. Lot 27 Block 265

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 Harry G. Popik for public improvements at 139, 141, & 143 Hamilton Blvd., known as Lot 27 Block 265 listed on the official tax maps of the Borough of South Plainfield. Said public hearing will be held on Dec. 9, 2002 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

Harry Popik
723 Front Street
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

\$35.00 November 22, 2002

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Township of South Plainfield
Middlesex County, New Jersey
Zoning Board of Adjustment

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that AT&T Wireless PCS, LLC ("Applicant") filed an application for a use and height variance, variance for exceeded impervious coverage and preliminary and final site plan approval with the Township of South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment, seeking permission to install an unmanned telecommunications facility including nine (9) panel antennas at 127 on an existing 158' monopole and small radio equipment cabinets at the base of the monopole located at 4000 Hadley Road, Township of South Plainfield, Middlesex County, New Jersey, which property is located in the M-2 zoning district and is designated on the Tax Maps as Block 528.01, Lot 46.01 ("Property"). Applicant is seeking the following approvals:

- Use Variance
- Height Variance
- Variance for exceeding impervious coverage
- Preliminary and Final Site Plan approval

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Applicant also seeks such approvals, waivers and variances from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance as may be deemed necessary or required by the Township of South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment at the hearing in this matter.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Township of South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will meet at 8:00 prevailing time, December 5, 2002 at the Municipal Building, Township of South Plainfield, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080, at which time opportunity will be given to all those in interest to be heard and at which time the Board may approve, modify or deny the application. Any interested party may appear at the aforesaid hearing, either in person, or by their attorney, and be given the opportunity to be heard with respect to the aforesaid application.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the application for development and all supporting maps, site plans and documents are on file in the Zoning Board of Adjustment office and are available for public inspection during normal business hours.

This notice is sent to you by the Applicant by order of the Township of South Plainfield, Zoning Board of Adjustment.

AT&T Wireless PCS of Philadelphia, L.L.C.
Pitney, Hardin, Kipp & Szuch LLP
Judith A. Babinski, Esq.
P.O. Box 1945
Morristown, NJ 07962-1945
(973) 366-5253
Attorneys for the Applicant

\$79.75 November 22, 2002

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received by the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey on DECEMBER 6, 2002 AT ***10:00AM*** prevailing time in the Council Chambers of the municipal building 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey at which time and place bids will be opened and read in public for

TRAILER MOUNTED TREE STUMP CUTTING MACHINE

Specifications and other bid information may be obtained at the Municipal Clerk's office in the municipal building at the above address during regular business hours 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.. Only bidders who have picked up specifications will be allowed to submit bids. All bids must be submitted on the Proposal Forms furnished by the Borough. A bid bond in the form of a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond payable to the BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD in the amount equal to 10% of the highest bid amount including alternates, any, but not to exceed \$20,000 and a duly executed Consent of Surety. Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of PL. 1975, c.127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27 et seq.), the New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act, N.J.S.A. 34:1156.25, Employment on Public Works N.J.S.A. 10:2. EOE, ADA

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$35.00 November 22, 2002

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Rodney and Danielle Jackson requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the 28'4" wide x 26'6" deep 2nd floor addition, proposed addition lacks the required front setback, 30' required, 17.76' being proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 202 Lot 29 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, December 5, 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 November 22, 2002

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by John Modrzejcki requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit construction of 15'6" x 25' wood deck with 4x4 entry platform which lacks required side setback, 8' required, 5' proposed for deck, 2.48 for entry platform; and other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 314 Lot 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 Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, December 5, 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 November 22, 2002

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
LEGAL NOTICE

November 18, 2002

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Zoning Board at its meeting held on November 12, 2002.

A. Case #652—Claudette Burnette, BLOCK 3; LOT 28.701 TRINITY STREET—Applicant's request for preliminary final site plan with waivers was hereby GRANTED with conditions.

B. Case#02-03/V—Jonathan Hornes, Inc.; Block 398, Lot 2.01 & Block 399; Lot 6; Tremont Avenue—Applicant's request for preliminary major subdivision was hereby GRANTED with conditions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Beth Khidre
Recording Secretary-Planning Board

\$24.50 November 22, 2002

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
LEGAL NOTICE

November 18, 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 November 14, 2002.

A. Case #85-02/TU—QUALITY BOTANICAL INGREDIENTS, INC.—500 Metuchen Road, Block 255; Lot 22—Applicant's request for a temporary use permit for six months was hereby GRANTED.

B. Case #78-02—PETER RICHKUS—117 Mildred Block 120; Lot 4—Applicant's request for front setback variances for second story addition was hereby GRANTED.

C. Case #82-02—ANTHONY POMPILO—Block 380; Lot 1.04; 605 Arlington Ave.—Applicant's request for a rear yard setback for a deck extension was hereby GRANTED.

D. Case #61-02—MARY ANN JENKINS-QUIN & KENNETH L. QUIN—226 Oakmoor Avenue; Block 280; Lot 5—Applicant's request for a side yard setback was hereby GRANTED.

E. Case #80-02—VINOD PATEL—Block 386; Lot 2.06; 547 Arlington Ave.—Applicant's request for a rear yard setback and lot over-coverage for a first floor deck was hereby GRANTED.

F. Case #81-21/J—JEFFREY SEIDER—The Board hereby upholds the determination of the Zoning Officer and DENIES the appeal of the applicant.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Beth Khidre
Secretary Zoning Board of Adjustment

\$42.00 November 22, 2002

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Unity Bancorp
Announces Stock
Repurchase
Program

UNITY, parent company of Unity Bank, recently announced that its Board of Directors has authorized the repurchase of up to 500,000 shares of the Company's common stock, which constitutes approximately 10 percent of the shares outstanding.

Such purchase would be made from time to time over the next two years in open market transactions. The amount and timing of purchases will be dependent upon a number of factors, including the price and availability of the Company's shares, general market conditions and competing alternate uses of funds, and may be discontinued at any time.

"We believe that the Company's common stock is currently undervalued relative to our peer group. The commencement of the share repurchase program will benefit our shareholders by reducing the number of outstanding shares at a very affordable price," said Unity President and Chief Executive Officer, Anthony J. Feraro. "The share repurchase program which will be funded from the \$9 million raised in the September Trust Preferred offering, will enable us to effectively lower our cost of capital."

Unity Bancorp, Inc. is a financial service organization headquartered in Clinton, New Jersey, with \$424 million in assets and \$374 million in deposits. Unity Bank provides financial services to retail, corporate & small business customers through its 12 retail service centers located in Hunterdon, Middlesex, Somerset and Union counties in New Jersey. For additional information about Unity visit our website at <http://www.unitybank.com> or call 800 618-BANK.

Cat/Kitten
Adoption
Nov. 23-24

People for Animals, a nonprofit animal welfare organization serving New Jersey, will sponsor a cat and kitten adoption event on Saturday, Nov. 23 from noon until 4 p.m. at the PETSMART store in the Watchung Square Mall on Route 22 and at the PETSMART store in Bridgewater's Promenade Mall, intersection of Rt. 28 and Rt. 287. Cats will also be available for adoption Sunday, Nov. 24 from noon until 4 p.m. at the Bridgewater store.

Among the many cats for adoption will be Magoo, a petite three-month old kitten with special needs. This beautiful female kitten has a pale orange coat with a few black spots and white tuxedo markings. She was rescued from a shelter where her future was very bleak. Magoo's eyes are misshapen and one of her back legs is deformed. None of this concerns Magoo. All is right with the world as far as she is knows. She has no problem using the litter box, no problem finding her food, no problem playing with the other cats and no problem showing affection to people. Magoo is the perfect kitten in need of a loving home. To adopt or for other information, call (908) 688-1073 and press 8 for cat adoption or 1 for dog adoption to leave a message. Other pets for adoption can be seen on the Internet at www.pfa.peffinder.org.

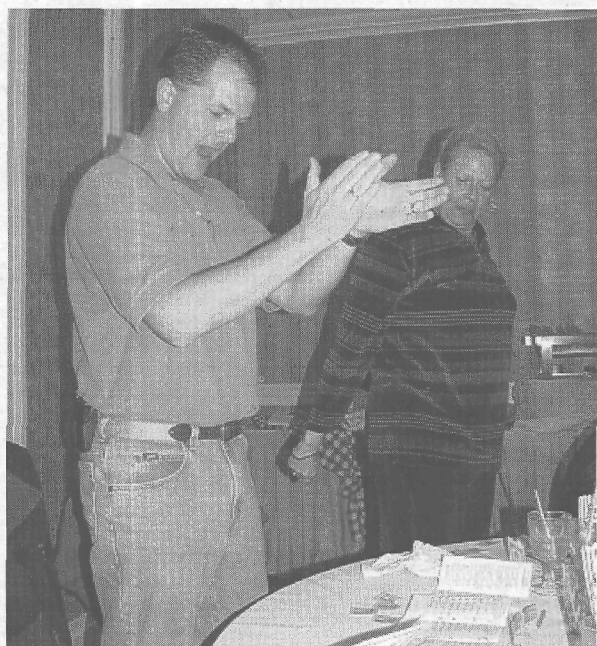
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“And They’re Off” at Ladies’ Auxiliary Night at the Races

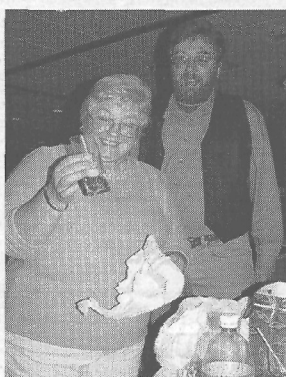


By Patricia Abbott

All bets were in and the South Plainfield Rescue Squad Ladies Auxiliary Fun Night came in first place with most of the 125 people in attendance. The fundraiser, Arm Chair Horse Racing is in its third year. Attendance was 20 percent over previ-

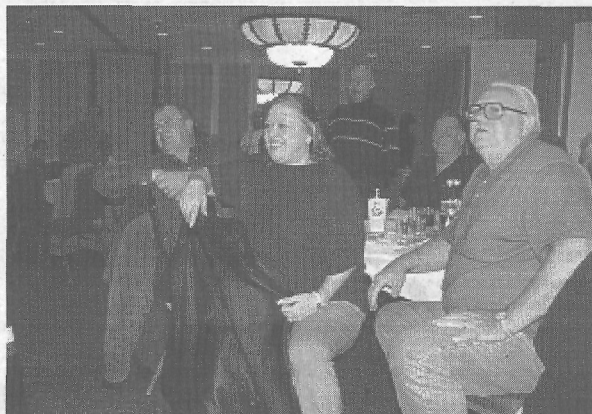
ous years noted Squad Captain Ron Sward.

The event, held at the Holiday Inn on Stelton Rd., offered all the fun of a night at the races with the comforts of an indoor picnic. Each guest received a racing form listing the horses. There were no long lines to endure as betting “windows” were just a few steps



away. Payoffs on each potential winner were read prior to each race. The crowd alternated between excited cheers and relaxed chit chat. The front of the room held four large televisions. At the start of each race an energized hush settled over the room, only to be quickly replaced with enthusiastic shouts of encouragement. Bettors jumped from their seats to cheer on their favorites. Some climbed chairs for a better view, others sat back seemingly sedate, but with clenched fists as the horses neared the finish line. Winners were immediately identified by exuberant shouts and high fives.

Waiting for the races to begin, guests enjoyed a variety of food that changed each hour—everything from hors d’oeuvres, pizza bagels, chicken wings, ice cream and popcorn, to hot dogs,



tacos and all the trimmings. Soft drinks and a cash bar were also available.

In between races the room settled down as attention once again focused on friends and food. Fifty-fifty tickets and daily doubles were sold. Themed gift baskets for each month of the year were raffled off. The baskets were made by Tracy Smizaski and Kathy Smolinski and other members of the Ladies Auxiliary.

In attendance were many familiar faces including Assemblyman Patrick Diegman and wife Anita Diegman, Mayor Dan and wife Marion Gallagher, Councilmen Ed Kubala, Ray Petronko and Bob Cusick.

Borough Clerk/Administrator Vinnie Buttiglieri and wife, Squad President Mike Zushma and wife Linda, Captain Ron Sward and wife Lynn,

Recording Secretary Heidi Quinn and husband Mike, Treasurer Glen Ewing and many more.

Fun Night 2002 Chairman was Joan Cantamessa. The success of the event is a direct result of the auxiliary’s long hours of hard work to perfect each detail. The South Plainfield Rescue Squad has been giving free emergency medical service to the community for 58 years. The Ladies Auxiliary works to support the volunteer members of the squad. Both are nonprofit organizations who rely solely on contributions from residents and area businesses. Fundraisers such as Fun Night are part of an ongoing effort to raise funds for the essential equipment that is necessary to carry out their rescue and life saving missions. Donations are always welcome as are new members.

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A Look Back on Those Teachers Who Served in South Plainfield Schools

The Educational Community of South Plainfield has much to be proud of when remembering four outstanding educational leaders who have recently passed away. What Janice Cotoia, elementary school teacher, Victor Porcelli, elementary school principal, Christine Sweeney, high school nurse and Emil Leporino, co-founder of Vision 2001 had in common was a life long career in the field of education, dedicated to the students and parents of South Plainfield. And it is in his or her individual way, that each has left an indelible mark on the entire community of South Plainfield.

Jan Cotoia spent her career as a teacher in Kennedy School, for many years as a fifth grade teacher and later as a reading specialist. Beloved wife of Tony, I first met Jan at social events or back to school nights, having taught both Meg and Patty in honors English. It was only later that I came to realize what an asset Jan was at district curriculum committee meetings, for she had a real understanding of the capabilities and needs of her students. In the dedication to last year's Kennedy School Yearbook, the yearbook staff wrote of Mrs. Cotoia: "Her classroom was a comfortable haven where students received encouragement, personal attention and the message that reading is essential for anything they do." Although I'm sure that many things had changed in the 46 years of

Jan Cotoia's educational career, what she will be remembered foremost for her ability to instill in her students the lifelong joys of reading and learning.

What saddens me deeply is that neither Jan Cotoia nor high school nurse Chris Sweeney had the well-deserved time to enjoy retirement. On any given day, many times well after four thirty, nurse Sweeney could still be found in her office, catching up on paper work. In addition to being our high school nurse for twenty years, Mrs. Sweeney was the supervisor of school nurses for the entire district. In this capacity she effectively set up the procedures and policies to care for the physical well being of all South Plainfield students. In the high school, she was a key member of Core Team, and along with recently retired assistant principal Frank Vatalare, was able to recall the family genealogy of just about any student. Although she was frequently called away on some emergency more often than not, I will miss having her encouraging presence at lunch.

Blessed with fifteen years of retirement, Victor Porcelli dedicated the many years of his educational career first as an elementary teacher, and later as principal of Kennedy School. For eighteen years, Mr. Porcelli remained child orientated, loved by students and parents alike. On any given afternoon, Mr. Porcelli could be found in the middle of the street,

guiding "his kids" safely across the street. According to colleague Dr. Janet Munger, Vic will always be remembered as a kind, compassionate human being.

Lastly, Emilio Leporino will be missed as a prominent South Plainfield businessman, who had the welfare of all the youth of South Plainfield in mind as he served two terms on the Board of Education. Recognizing that money for those "necessary extras" was becoming more difficult to obtain within the school budget, Mr. Leporino was instrumental in co-founding the South Plainfield Education Foundation Vision 2001, serving as president until June 2002. Additionally, Emil was instrumental in creating the local Alumni Hall of Fame as well as the Hall of Fame for the Arts and the Arts National Honor Society. I will always remember Emil as a parent who backed educators, no matter what.

Often people ask me how it feels to have spent thirty years of my career teaching in the same town. And partially in reply, it is through the example and dedicated service of those who have gone before me that I too am to continue to "aspire to greatness" within the Educational Community of South Plainfield. Thank you Jan, Chris, Emil and Vic.

—Submitted by Ann Ribinsky Brown,
High School English Team Leader

Obituaries

Remedios M. De Los Reyes-Angeles, 59

Remedios M. De Los Reyes-Angeles died on Wednesday, Nov. 13 in the John F. Kennedy Medical Center, Haven Hospice in Edison.

Born in Manila, Philippines, Mrs. De Los Reyes-Angeles had come to the United States in 1969, settling in Manhattan. She had resided there until 1998 when she and her husband settled to South Plainfield.

She was educated in Manila at the University of Santo Thomas, earning herself a Bachelors of Science degree in Chemistry. She had worked for the Hospital for Special Surgery in Manhattan as the Administrative Director of Laboratory for the past 30 years, retiring in 2001. She had been a member of the National Registry of Chemists.

Mrs. De Los Reyes-Angeles is predeceased by her brother, Dr. Antonio De Los Reyes.

Surviving are her husband, Roberto; three sons, Rene of Maryland, Robert Jr. and Rafael, both of Long Island; a sister, Maria Christina Carreon and her husband Rodolfo of the Philippines; three brothers, Delfin and his wife Emily of Woodbridge, Reynaldo and his wife Maria Felicissima of Edison and Marcial and his wife Teresita of the Philippines and a sister-in-law, Helen De Los Reyes of the Philippines. Also surviving are three grandchildren, Joshua, Katherine and Kiani.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Alexander J. Galbraith, 79

Alexander J. Galbraith of South Plainfield, died on Friday, Nov. 15 at the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in South Port, England, he was a former resident of Newark before moving to South Plainfield 42 years ago. Alexander was a selector in the shipping department of the Continental Baking Company in East Brunswick for 15 years before retiring in 1991.

Alexander served his country in the U.S. Army during WWII as Seaman First Class and was a member of the American Legion Chaumont Post 243 and the VFW Memorial Post 6763, both in South Plainfield.

He is survived by his wife, Florence Mazauskas Galbraith; two sons, Thomas John Galbraith and his wife Sandra, Kevin Galbraith and his wife Patt; three daughters, Patricia Owens and her husband Jim, Christine Lazarchick and her husband Andy and Eileen Galbraith and seven grandchildren.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory can be made to the South Plainfield Rescue Squad 2520 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

policereport

- On Nov. 4 Migdalia R. Csinos, 44, of Edison was arrested for driving while intoxicated, refusal to submit to a breath-a-lizer test and reckless driving.

- On Nov. 11 a Super Seal Inc. employee reported that his vehicle's window had been smashed in the parking lot.

- On Nov. 12 Kenneth E. Andrews, 23, of Edison was arrested for two outstanding warrants and obstructing the administration of law by refusing to give his name at a motor vehicle stop.

- Jesus Hernandez, 20, and Elias Gonzalez-Hernandez, 28, both of Passaic were arrested for theft at the Odd Job warehouse. Both were caught concealing walkman's and a cordless phone answering machine.

- The Lock Man Inc. on Hamilton Blvd. reported that someone tried to pry the pad lock off the front door. No entry was gained.

- On Nov. 13 Erik J. Feeley, 24, of South Plainfield was arrested for resisting arrest and disorderly conduct.

- Cherly C. Jabado, 39, of Edison was arrested for shoplifting \$168.49 worth of clothes and jewelry at Kohl's.

- Twin City reported receiving two forged prescriptions.

- A Conn. resident reported the theft of \$200 from his room at the Holiday Inn.

- On Nov. 14 a Bergen St. resident reported the theft of his wallet from his vehicle.

- On Nov. 15 a Plainfield Ave. resident reported that someone had attempted to gain entry to their residence. A loose brick from the rear step

was used to break a rear kitchen window. Two concrete slabs where on the porch in an attempt to crawl through the window. The residents were home at the time. No entry was gained.

- Williams Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Co. on Trinity St. reported that a company van had been broken into and a DeWalt and Mikita drill were taken.

- A High School senior reported that her vehicle had been scratched in the school parking lot.

- On Nov. 16 a Roselle resident reported that her vehicle's side window was smashed and a small knapsack purse and palm pilot were taken.

- On Nov. 17 Larnardo Romont Pittman, 36, of South Plainfield was arrested for assault.

- Spencer Jarrett Gardner, 28, of Plainfield was arrested for criminal mischief.

- On Nov. 18 Erica Jones, 40, of Fort Dix was arrested at Valley National Bank for forgery and theft by deception.

- Sandra Malena Rodriguez, 22, of Plainfield was arrested on two outstanding warrants, driving on a suspended license and having no insurance.

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**Subscribers,
please take note:**
The Observer does not
publish Thanksgiving
Week, therefore there will
not be a Nov. 29 issue.



The Future Stars Preschool recently held a Harvest Festival. The first day of the event, the weather was clear and pleasant and the children enjoyed the outdoors stuffing a scarecrow, bobbing for donuts and picking their own pumpkins. The next day the rain forced them indoors, but it didn't keep them from continuing their activities. Everyone, teachers, parent helpers and the children, had a great time.

Submitted by Frances Eleman

South Plainfield Receives Transportation Grant for Belmont Ave. Reconstruction

Senator Barbara Buono, Assemblyman Peter Barnes and Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan recently announced several transportation grants for municipalities in the 18th Legislative District. The grants are typically used for improvements to municipal roads and bridges. South Plainfield will be receiving \$150,000 towards the reconstruction of Belmont Ave.

"These funds will be of great assistance to all of the towns in this district," said Senator Buono. "This much needed aid will provide the residents of these municipalities with safer, more secure roadways, as well as offset costs that may have otherwise been passed on to the towns."

The 18th Legislative District received \$1.25 million in Municipal Aid Grants from the fiscal year 2003 Transportation Trust Fund.

Municipalities receiving funding are East Brunswick, Edison, Helmetta, Metuchen, South Plainfield, South

River and Spotswood.

Municipal aid funding is based on a formula that takes into account population and road mileage. In addition, municipal projects are selected for funding on a competitive basis by a panel of engineers who evaluate the condition of a roadway, the amount of traffic it carries and the role the road plays in the surrounding transportation network.

"Governor McGreevey and I are pleased to continue finding local projects that help preserve the existing transportation system and contribute to the social and economic well being of municipalities," said Jamie Fox, Commissioner of Transportation. "The finding of these various projects demonstrates a successful partnership that exists between local and state government."

Home Helpers Offer In-Home Inspection for Seniors

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Thanksgivings Past

Continued from page 12

had corsages, the football queen was escorted on the field. Thanksgiving hasn't seemed the same since we haven't played North Plainfield."

Bob Hunter, Class of 1971, "Playing against North Plainfield was so exciting because of the intense rivalry. School spirit was at a peak with the pep rally and huge bonfire the night before when a fir tree symbolizing the Canucks was burned. As a football player, it was the most exciting game to see who would get bragging rights over the Turkey Day trophy. Thanksgiving elevated the intensity of play for the athletes participating in the game."

Jo Anne Kaschak Catelli, Class of 1972, said: "Some of my most treasured high school memories evolved around the Thanksgiving Day game. Right before the bonfire the cheerleaders would decorate the football player's lockers. After the bonfire we would ride around town in our cars beeping our horns in anticipation of a victory over the Canucks. We would usually end up at Tony's Pizza or Friendly's afterwards. It was such an exciting and innocent time for a young girl. I shall cherish these memories forever. My heartfelt thanks to all that have made this possible."

Linda Barrett class of 1975 said,

"I loved the football games. Going to the game was a Thanksgiving tradition in my household, as I was a big football fan. Dad and I would bundle up and head out to the game together, while Mom prepared the turkey. Then we'd return half frozen for a warm meal. We wouldn't have missed it! I remember sitting through one game in the snow; we were such die-hards."

Statia Haig Moody class of 1972 recalls, "Thanksgiving games were so special and bring back great memories. We moved to New Jersey from Oregon when I was in grade school. Having no family around, my mom always made a special effort to make our holidays fun. Going to the game was like having a huge family to celebrate with, then we would all go our separate ways to have our dinner. I remember walking in the door, smelling everything cooking and my Mom in the kitchen in her apron."

Bob Publik class of 1975 said, "I was in the marching band and I can remember that the bonfire was placed between the high school and the middle school. The band would play and the cheerleaders would do their thing. There were no fences to separate us from the fire. It was hot and we were cold. Their embers and sparks were flying everywhere. It was great!"

John E. Riley In-Store Book Fair

The J.E. Riley PTSO will be sponsoring an In-Store Book Fair at the Waldenbooks Book Store at the Middlesex Mall from Friday, Nov. 29 to Friday, Dec. 13. All eligible purchases will be en-

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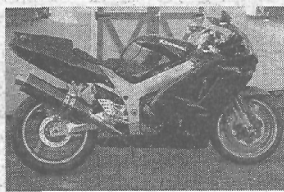
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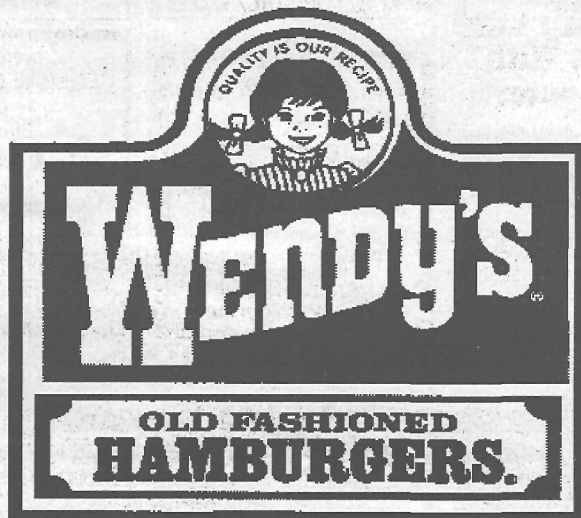
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