

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 6, NO. 39

50 CENTS

MAY 30, 2003

Police Car Chase Ends With a Crash

Two Injured, Two Arrested

On May 21, at 10:22 p.m., Plainfield Police pursued a motor vehicle on Park Ave. that entered South Plainfield on Park Ave. The chase began after the vehicle disregarded a stop sign and then used excessive speed to avoid being stopped.

The Plainfield officers terminated the pursuit when they saw that the vehicle turned off its headlights. The officers then observed the vehicle strike another moving vehicle at Park Ave. at Chambers St. and leave the scene. That vehicle was occupied by a 30-year-old female Woodbridge resident, who received minor injuries in the collision. Plainfield officers then reactivated the pursuit.

The suspect's car raced onto Susan Terrace, Clark Lane, then onto East Nassau Ave., before exiting back onto Park Ave. The vehicle then struck another moving vehicle on Park Ave. at West Nassau Ave. The driver of that vehicle, a 26-year-old female Scotch Plains resident, re-

ceived minor injuries from the collision. At that point, the driver of the suspected vehicle then fled the scene on foot and was captured shortly afterward by Plainfield officers.

The driver of the vehicle was identified as Howard C. Woods, Jr., age 30 of Plainfield. Plainfield Police charged Woods with eluding police and possession of marijuana. South Plainfield Police also charged him with two counts of aggravated assault upon the two injured motorists. Woods had numerous outstanding warrants and was also issued several motor vehicle summonses. He is being held on \$10,000 bail for the charges.

A passenger in the suspect's vehicle was also arrested. He was identified as Milton D. Harris, age 27, also a Plainfield resident. Plainfield Police charged Harris with hindering. His bail was set at \$2,500.

The injured were treated at Muhlenberg Hospital and released.

"To Honor Those Who Proudly Serve Our Country"

Labor Day Parade Theme Announced, Grand Marshal Nominees Sought

The Public Celebrations Committee is seeking nominations for honorary grand marshal of the 46th Annual Labor Day Parade to be held Monday, Sept. 1. This year's theme is "To Honor Those Who Proudly Serve Our Country."

If you know of an individual that has contributed outstanding service to the Borough of South Plainfield, the committee is asking that you send a letter stating why this person should be considered for honorary grand marshal. Please include the candidate's name, address, telephone number and accomplishments. Send your

nomination to: The Public Celebrations Committee, John Sorrentino-Chair, 225 Hopkinson St., South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or fax to (908) 753-4003. You can also email your nomination to jmsorrentino@comcast.net.

The Parade Committee is also asking any non-profit organization that wishes to have a concession stand at the PAL grounds during the festivities to contact the Public Celebrations Committee c/o Marie Smith, Concessions, 579 Melrose Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or email to southplainfieldnj.com.

Tigers One Game Short of GMC Title

South Plainfield High School Tigers Softball Team fell one run short of taking the GMC Championships Tuesday when they lost to Old Bridge by a score of 2-1.

The Tigers went into the tournament with a 17-6 record and were seeded ninth. However, they finished the season winning 10 of 12 games.

To reach the GMC finals, the Tigers defeated Highland Park 10-0, South Amboy 10-0 and East Brunswick (No. 1 seed) 3-1. Their

semi-final match was a tough one, going 13 innings before The Tigers scored two runs, defeating Middlesex 2-0.

The finals, postponed Monday due to rain, pitted the Tigers against Old Bridge (seeded 2). The game took place on Tuesday afternoon at South Plainfield High School Softball Field.

The finals turned out to be a close game; both teams had five hits. In the end Old Bridge scored one more run and defeated the Tigers 2-1.



The VFW Post 6763 held Memorial Day closing ceremonies inside this year due to inclement weather.

Memorial Day Ceremonies Well Attended Despite Rainy Weather

Monday's rain couldn't cancel South Plainfield's Memorial Day Services, but they did curtail them. Opening ceremonies were held indoors at the American Legion. Wreaths were laid at the cemeteries, but public ceremonies were not held. The VFW was host for the closing ceremonies and they, too, were held indoors. Each year the Veterans Memorial Day ceremonies are co-sponsored by American Legion Chaumont Post 243 and VFW Post 6763. In preparation for Memorial Day this year, almost 2,000 flags were placed at the graves of veterans.

Members of the Knights of Columbus attended a special mass at the Holy Redeemer Cemetery Mausoleum officiated by Father John Paul of Sacred Heart Church. Members also placed flags at the gravesites of all deceased Knights of Columbus members.

Despite the inclement weather, many turned out for the ceremonies at both the American Legion and the VFW.

Pam Janizak sang the *Star Spangled Banner*, while her brother Steve played *Taps*. Pam also sang *The Lord's Prayer* and an inspiring rendition of *Proud to Be an American* at both the American Legion and the VFW. The Janizak family has participated in the Memorial Day ceremonies for several years.

Attending were Mayor Dennis Gallagher and Councilmen Dennis Cerami, Charles Butrico, Ray Petronko, Ed Kubala, Jim Vokral, Bob Cusick, Police Chief Bob Merkler and many veterans representing every branch of service.

On the walls of the VFW thank you cards were on display. The cards were created by seventh grade students from Barbara Pinelli-McDonough's class at the Middle School.



Knights of Columbus member Bob Long (below) plays the trumpet at Monday's Annual Memorial Day mass celebrated by Father John Paul at Holy Redeemer Cemetery Mausoleum. (Above) Ceremonies at American Legion Chaumont Post 243.



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, June 2 Thursday, June 5

Monday, June 16 Thursday, June 19

All meetings of the Governing Body are held in accordance with New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (NJSA 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

June 10, June 24

zoning board of adjustment

Meets second and fourth Thursday of the month

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641

June 12, June 26, July 10, July 24, Aug. 14, Aug. 28, Sept. 11, Sept. 25, Oct. 16, Oct. 30, November 6, Nov. 20, Dec. 4, Dec. 18.

board of education meetings

Grant School Gymnasium on Cromwell Place unless otherwise noted

Committee of the Whole meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m.: June 10, August 12, Sept. 9

Regular Board Meeting held Tuesdays at 8 p.m.: June 17, July 15, August 19

taxpayers advisory group

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

siteplace sub-committee

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

June 17, July 15, Aug. 19, Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, Dec. 16.

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

June 3, September 2, October 7, November 11 (Nov. 4 is Election Day) and December 2.

environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday except August)

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

business advisory group

Meets once a month (first Wednesday)

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

traffic safety advisory commission

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

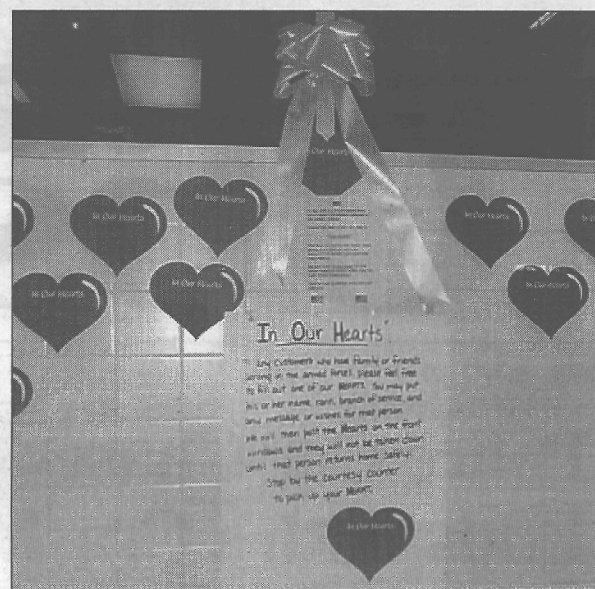
A&P Has a Heart for Servicemen

By Jane Dornick

Employees Nora Connor and Stephanie Ciak of the A&P on Oak Tree Rd. wanted to do something special for the many U.S. servicemen and women currently stationed abroad.

They heard that another division of the A&P in Michigan was posting the names of customers who have family and friends serving in the armed forces on the walls of their store.

So they decided to start their own "wall of hearts" containing the name, rank and branch of service, along with a message or wish for that person. Red paper hearts were donated by Wedgewood Communications in Green Brook. There are still plenty of hearts available at the courtesy desk for anyone who wants to fill one out. As each serviceman or woman returns home from service, the hearts can be taken down or they can be left up indefinitely.



IN YOUR OPINION

To South Plainfield Residents,

On behalf of Bulk Fuel Bravo Marines 2nd Platoon, from Wilmington, DE and Green Bay, WI, that are stationed in Iraq in support of "Iraqi Freedom," we would like to send a big thanks to all who sent cards and care packages to us. They are greatly appreciated. Also, a special thanks to the A&P store, #650 in South Plainfield, which generously donated countless boxes of much-needed items from hygiene gear to snacks and games to pass the time.

On behalf of my platoon commander, Warrant Officer Timothy McMenamin, my platoon and myself, Platoon Sergeant Staff Sergeant Mark Raymer, thank you for supporting us!

SGT. MARK RAYMER

Dear Mr. Beegle,

Guess what! This past Tuesday morning, May 13, a minivan cut off a school bus in the entrance driveway of John E. Riley School. This is serious.

We have received numerous letters,

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 spsobserver.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.

requesting—for the safety of our children—not to do this. On occasion, the principal, Mr. Beegle, stands out there to deter violators, but we all know it is only for a day or so.

The following day, Wednesday afternoon, May 14, similar chaos took place at pick up, a police car drove right past the school.

My gripe is, can't we have a "traffic safety officer" standing by for the half hour it takes to deter these people, if they're going to be driving by the area anyway. Why not pay a crossing guard

to stand there daily and deter the parents from this dangerous habit they have gotten themselves into? Will it take a serious accident to enforce the already existing rules about not using the school bus entrance?

I feel with the way the school is set up, drop off and pick up can be done safely with a few changes. Make the area just outside the kindergarten blacktop restricted for dropping off students only; do not allow vehicles to be parked there. Why should I have to drop my child off way down by the soccer field because some parents feel the need to park their vehicle and walk their children to their line? If they want to do that, have them park beyond a certain point and they can walk.

Please allow the parents whose children can be ready to step out of the vehicle safely, the space to do this. Restrict the area in front of the curb six car lengths or so for dropping off students only, and then allow parking beyond that.

**SINCERELY,
A VERY CONCERNED PARENT**

EPA to Clean Up Site in South Plainfield

Rep. Mike Ferguson announced recently that the Environmental Protection Agency will name a long-shuttered dump on Woodbrook Rd. in South Plainfield as a Superfund site, paving the way for federal funds for clean up.

The EPA in 2001 published its intention to include the South Plainfield dump as a Superfund site. Now that the public comment period has passed, EPA officials will initiate a study to identify the best alternatives for cleaning up the contamination from leaking electrical capacitors.

New Jersey currently has more Superfund sites than any other state—113 and the South Plainfield location would be the 13th in Middlesex County.

"Designating this South Plainfield site under Superfund is the first step necessary in cleaning up the dump and protecting the environment and our community from potential harmful toxins," Ferguson said. "Because New

Jersey has more Superfund sites than any other state in the nation, it's crucial that New Jersey's sites receive the critical clean up status they deserve."

The site, currently owned by Texas Eastern Terminal Co., a subsidiary of Duke Energy Corp., was operated as a dump in the 1940's and 1950's that accepted household refuse, building debris, automotive supplies and electrical

capacitors. The dump was closed in 1958 by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

During the past sixty years, the large capacitors began leaking polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) into the surrounding environment. PCBs are an extremely toxic substance that have been linked to promoting the growth of tumors and birth defects.

South Plainfield Observer

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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in the South Plainfield Observer:

1. Type (double spaced) the article you wish published.
2. Mail, fax or drop it at: South Plainfield Observer, Editorial Department, 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 spsobserver.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: ggnan@aol.com or fax 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 the writers request their name be omitted when published.

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Rosemarie Cusmano (second from left) and her brother Vincent Gianfrancesco (right) accept the National Community Service Award on behalf of Dan Gianfrancesco, from AARP Chairman Mary Stevens and AARP President Bill McAllister.

AARP Honors Local Residents and Volunteers

By Jane Dornick

On May 19 the AARP Community Service Dept. posthumously awarded

long time South Plainfield resident Dan Gianfrancesco with a special National Community Service Award. Gianfrancesco served in the U.S.

Navy during WWII as a Seaman Second Class. Dan and his wife Dorothy lived in Bound Brook before moving to South Plainfield in 1955. He worked for the Ruberoid Co. in South Bound Brook and after retiring, worked at the Plainfield County Club. Dottie was a homemaker. The Gianfrancesco's had two sons, Harry and Robert.

They were both members of Our Lady of Czestochowa, where Dottie served as president of the Rosary Altar Society and Dan was famous for his Italian sauces, which he created for the Feast of St. Anthony dinners.

Dan and his wife had joined AARP Chapter #4144 of South Plainfield in 1992. Dottie passed away in April of 1997 and Dan in February of this year, while his AARP award was being processed. Accepting the award were his brother, Vincent Gianfrancesco and his sister Rosemarie Cusmano.

The AARP Community Service Dept. also honored many of their local volunteers.



AARP volunteers honored are (front left to right) Chairperson Mary Stevens with Blanche Sabol, Marie Stanley, Mary Conboy, Doris Lant, Kay Fedashko and Chris Vanderhelm. At back (left to right) are President Bill McAllister with Betty Gargiuli, Vicki Padovian, James Taylor, Giuseppe Formica and Bill Hannah.

AARP Salutes Senator Buono

AARP recognized State Senator Barbara Buono (D-18) for her advocacy on behalf of older Americans and all consumers at their AARP Day at the Capitol 2003. AARP leaders stressed her work on consumer protections against predatory lending and unwanted telemarketing calls, as well as preserving state prescription drug assistance programs from budget cuts.

• **Predatory Lending**—“Thanks to months of hard work by Senator Buono, legislation designed to curtail the worst of predatory lending practices in New Jersey was signed

into law by Governor James E. McGreevey on May 1, 2003,” said Marilyn Askin, AARP New Jersey President.

• **Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs**—AARP recognized Senator Buono for her vocal call to protect pharmaceutical assistance programs from budget cuts.

• **Telemarketing Do-Not-Call List**—Senator Buono was also recognized and thanked for her work in support of the establishment of a telemarketing do-not-call list law which was approved in a final vote in the State Assembly recently. The bill now goes to Governor James E. McGreevey who has pledged to sign it, according to AARP.

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COACHES CARE Charity Softball Marathon Set for June 7

On Saturday June 7, the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club is holding its Third Annual COACHES CARE Charity Softball Marathon and Chinese Auction. All monies raised will go to the Children's Fund at the JFK Medical Center. In addition, the Jr. Baseball Club will be holding its Opening Day Ceremonies which were rained out in April. The softball portion of the day will consist of club coaches playing against various organizations including, JFK Medical Center, Chris Berman Rotisserie Baseball League, Soccer Club Coaches, Pop Warner Coaches, Ponytail Coaches, and the leagues Umpires. The feature game at 7 p.m. has the Middle School teachers facing off against the eighth grade baseball and softball players.

Various items have been donated for the auction, including two Bruce Springsteen tickets for Aug. 31, an AT&T Blackberry, Baltusrol Golf bag and travel bag, several golf clubs and putters, a one year membership to the PAL Weightroom, autographed items from Terry Bradshaw, Kenyon Martin, Scott Niedermeyer, Mario Le-

mieux, Joe Torre, Ward Burton, Christine Applegate, Jennifer Love Hewitt, Bobby Thomson, Jay Williams, a Senior Golf Program with over 20 autographs, and several gift baskets from Chanel, Con-Air, Church and Dwight. Prizes are being donated daily, and tickets for the auction can be purchased at the club.

The Ward Burton #22 Caterpillar/Tempstar NASCAR Simulator will be on hand with a prize awarded for the fastest time. T-shirts will be sold to help raise money for the hospital and all proceeds from the snack stand will be donated as well.

The Charity helps ensure that all children who enter the hospital receive a gift to ensure that their stay at hospital is as pleasurable as possible. The club prides itself in the fact that they were the first organization to donate to the Children's Fund, and look forward to its continued partnership. The club has earmarked this year's proceeds towards computers for the hospital's pediatric wing. The day begins at 9 a.m. with Opening Day Ceremonies at 12 noon.



Cafe Everest owner Chris Kousouris receives a thank you from Jack Pedersen, president of the South Plainfield Business Association.

Cafe Everest Hosts Business Association Luncheon

Last month's meeting of the South Plainfield Business Association was an afternoon luncheon held at Cafe Everest at 2002 Park Ave. The event was well attended, more than 30 business members, South Plainfield councilmen, department heads from Borough Hall and members of the South Plainfield Fire Department were present.

Cafe Everest owner Chris Kousou-

ris hosted the luncheon, which included soup, salad and a choice of several entrees. Buy Rite Liquors on Oak Tree Rd. supplied the wine. All who attended the lunch felt it was a tremendous success.

The South Plainfield Business Association meets the third Thursday of every month. For information on joining the group, call (908) 757-8811.

Special Board of Adjustment Meeting Scheduled

The Board of Adjustment will hold a special meeting on Tuesday, June 3 at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall. The case to be discussed is the continuation of a proposed housing subdivision sub-

mitted by K-Land on Oak Tree Ave. The property is the former location of the WERA radio station and the development will also be directly next to Hall's Trucking.

Morris Ave. Seniors Enjoy Outdoor BBQ

The Morris Avenue Tenants Association hosted a BBQ on May 17 at the Morris Avenue Senior Residence. The affair was organized by Rose Contey and members of the Association.

Dora DiNardo and James Turner served as cooks. Members volunteered to prepare the food and serve the guests. Approximately 50 residents enjoyed the delicious food and good weather.

The group is planning to have barbecues on a monthly basis, and also a flea market sale in June.

GOLDEN OLDIES CONCERT SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2003 8 PM
TICKETS ONLY \$15

starring 1960's Recording Group

THE VOGUES

"Five O'Clock World" "My Special Angel"
"Turn Around, Look At Me"

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Around Town

VFW Plans Country Breakfast

June 1

A country breakfast will be held on Sunday, June 1 at VFW Post #6763, located at 155 Front St., 8 to 11 a.m. Varied menu. Donation is \$5, children 12 and under are \$3.50. For information, call (908) 668-9751 after 3 p.m. daily and 12 noon weekends.

Bel Musica Presents a Tribute to "Cole And Noel"

June 1

BEL MUSICA presents a musical tribute to the legendary Cole Porter and Noel Coward entitled, "Cole and Noel," on Sunday, June 1 at 3 p.m., sponsored by the South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission. This program, the first of a concert series for the year, will be held at the South Plainfield Senior Citizens Center.

The program includes Florence Lazzeri, soprano; Rick McElhiney, baritone and pianists Carole-Anne Mochernuk and Paul Kueter. Also featured is guest violinist, Danny Hedinger of Clark.

Admission to the program is free. For further information, call (908) 668-3972.

SPHS Music Booster Annual Dinner

June 6

South Plainfield High School Music Boosters will be having their annual dinner dance on June 6 at 6:30 p.m. at McAters Restaurant. The cost is \$25 per person. If you are interested in attending and have not received the paperwork, please call Marge Reedy at (908) 561-3951 or Karen Magner at (908) 753-0754. No payments will be accepted at the door, you must make your reservations prior to May 31.

Also, the Music Boosters has had a paper drive for years and we would like to thank all residents that have participated over the years. However, the price of recycling newspapers has dropped dramatically over the years and now it is no longer feasible to continue this fund raiser. We will be discontinuing this fundraiser after June.

Rainbow Academy Plans Open House

June 7

Rainbow Academy Child Care Center, located at 2177 Oak Tree Rd., will

What's happening in MAY/JUNE



Adult Crafts 9:30-11:30am
Yoga 10:30-11:30am
Ceramics 12-1:30pm
AARP Bd meet 2:30pm
Senior Citizen Advisory Board Meeting 4:30pm

Bingo 10:30-2 PM
Lunch Available
Ladies's Social Group 10am-12pm

Atlantic City Trip 9am
Exercise & Walking Club 8:45-9:45am
Line Dancing 10-11:30
Movie Time 11:30am
AARP Crafts 1pm

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
			Shopping at Pathmark 9am Practical Crafting 10-11am Line Dancing 10-11:30 Trip to Lancaster	29 30 Bingo 10am-2pm Pizza Lunch 11:30am
			Shopping at Pathmark 9am Practical Crafts 10-11am Video Exercise Class 9:30am-10:30am	5 6 Bingo 10am-2pm Pizza Lunch 11:30am

TO SIGN UP FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER, VISIT THE PAL BUILDING ON MAPLE AVE.

hold an Open House on Saturday, June 7, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Rainbow Academy offers a variety of programs to fit your child's needs, from ages six weeks to 10 years. There is limited space available for the infant, nursery, pre-kindergarten, half-day preschool and summer camp programs. Everyone who registers will receive one free month of ParentWatch, an internet viewing service. For a demo, visit their website at www.parentwatch.com.

You are also welcome to visit the center for a tour during normal operating hours (7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday-Friday). For directions and additional information, visit their website at www.rainbowacademy.com.

Afternoon Music at Senior Center

June 8

Are you in the mood for an afternoon of music? If so, come join us at the Senior Center on June 8 for Musicale! This performance will feature local musicians including Paul DiDario, Gerard Pleasant, Eric Seiz, David Michalewsky, Judith A. Hannah, Al Ganun and the SPHS String Orchestra. The performance is open to the public (not just seniors!) and will run from 2-4 p.m. The Senior Center is located at 90 Maple Ave.

"River Dance" at Performing Arts Center

June 12

The South Plainfield Senior Center is offering a trip to the NJ Perform-

ing Arts Center on Thursday, June 12 for a matinee performance of RiverDance. A limited number of seats are still available at \$45 per person including transportation. Call the center to reserve your seat at (908) 756-4135.

Annual Fishing Derby at Spring Lake

June 14

On June 14, the South Plainfield Recreation Department and Fishing Club of SPHS will partner with the NJ Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Fish and Wildlife to run a Children's Fishing Derby at Spring Lake Park. The derby will be held from 9 a.m. to noon and is free to all children. A parent or other adult must accompany children. Children should bring their own bait and fishing equipment. For more information, call (908) 226-7714.

The Children's Fishing Derby program is part of the division's Take Me Fishing program. The derby program has been offered for more than 12 years to encourage family oriented recreation in urban and suburban areas. For more information about fishing, see the division's website: www.njfish-andwildlife.com

"All American Day" at Knights of Columbus

June 14

The Second Annual South Plainfield Knights of Columbus "All American Day" will be on Saturday, June 14,

from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Hamilton Blvd. The Knights will honor the American Flag and the USA.

The Knights will celebrate America by recognizing local protective services (police, fire, rescue and emergency management) elected officials (council and assembly), military services and Boy and Girl Scouts.

Tentative events include raising the Colors, reciting *Pledge of Allegiance*, singing the National Anthem and a flag disposal ceremony.

Hot dogs, hamburgers, lemonade, ice cream and apple pie will be served. The general public will also be invited for a small cover charge.

Call Pat Bonaventura for details at (908) 755-6203 or (732) 382-1534.

Baseball Club Plans Trip to See Trenton Thunder

June 13

The South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club is planning a trip to see the Trenton Thunder play the Norwich Navigators on Friday, June 13. Game starts at 7 p.m. Cost is \$7.

The baseball complex will be closed that night, so everyone can attend.

Checks should be made payable to SPJBS and mailed Attn: Lee Flanagan at 1801 Plainfield Ave. South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

For more information or questions call Lee Flanagan at (908) 561-6348.

AARP Chapter 4144 Installation Meeting

June 20

Chapter #4144 of South Plainfield will be holding their Installation meeting on June 20 at The Willows, in Green Brook. Lee Larson, Regional Coordinator of Central Jersey, will perform the ceremony and the featured speaker will be her husband, Sy Larson, AARP State Coordinator, Prescription Drug Task Force.

— Out of Town —

Asian Pacific American Heritage Celebration

May 31

New Jersey's Asian American Heritage Council of New Jersey (AAHC) will hold a banquet celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage on Saturday, May 31 at the Sheraton at Woodbridge Place Hotel, 515 Route 1 South in Iselin. AAHC is this state's

singular pan-Asian community organization representing Chinese, Indian, Indonesian, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, Mongolian, Pakistani, Vietnamese, Pacific Islander and other ethnic groups.

For information on attending or sponsorship, call AAHC President, Giga Andreyev, at (732) 363-9418 or s.andreyev@worldnet.att.net.

4-H Yard Sale

May 31-June 1

Looking for some good spring bargains? The 4-H Teen Council will be holding a yard sale on Saturday, May 31 and Sunday, June 1, at the 4-H Center on Cranbury Rd, in East Brunswick. The sale begins at 9 a.m. Proceeds from the sale will support the 2003 4-H Project GIFT.

4-H programs are open to all youth, grades 4-13, regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status.

For information on becoming a member or volunteer call (732) 745-4097.

Edison Arts Society Opening Reception

June 1

The Edison Arts Society will be holding an opening/reception of its second statewide juried Art Gallery exhibit "I've Been There" on Sunday June 1 from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Sheraton Edison Hotel at Raritan Center. "I've Been There" features 29 pieces of art and photography by 20 visual artists.

The gallery opening/reception, which is free and open to the public, features refreshments provided by the Hotel, and delightful music by harpist Mary Lebus of Tinton Falls.

For information, call Nina Hand at (908) 753-2787, or Linda LaStella, gallery director, (732) 906-4137.

Messiah Lutheran 80th Anniversary Services

June 8

A special service will be held on Sunday, June 8 at Messiah Lutheran Church, 630 East Front St. in Plainfield to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the church. Refreshments will be served. Service starts at 11 a.m. Guest preacher will be William Klettke, Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, New Jersey District President.

For more information call the church office at (908) 755-4525.

Flea Market at Autumn Woods

June 8

Autumn Woods Assisted Living invites you to join us for a flea market on Sunday, June 8 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., rain or shine! The Autumn Woods Assisted Living is located at 680 Route 202/206N, Bridgewater, NJ. To reserve space, call (908) 252-3400.

Middlesex WOWs Anniversary Dance

June 13

Middlesex East Widowers or Widowers Carteret Chapter will hold an Anniversary Dinner Dance on Friday, June 13 at St. Demetrius Community Center, 681-691 Roosevelt Ave. in Carteret, 6:30 to 11:30 p.m. Live music and open bar. \$30 per person. Tickets are required. To purchase of tickets, call Helen at (732) 969-1123 or John at (908) 757-0515.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CE Students Receive \$1,000 Towards Scholarships From American Legion



SPHS seniors Yamara Salazar and Missy Harrah are the recipients of the American Legion Chaumont Post 243 scholarships. Pictured here are Post member Joe McConville and Post Commander Joe Penyak.

An intense competition among 65 Cooperative Education seniors at South Plainfield High School was held by the American Legion Chaumont Post 243. Two seniors were chosen to receive \$1,000 each towards their college expenses. The winners are Yamara Salazar, daughter of Maria Rodriguez of Plainfield Ave., who will be attending the Citton Institute for Medical Administration, and Missy Harrah, the daughter of Joseph and Irene of Second Place. Missy will be attending Kutztown University in Pennsylvania and majoring in psychology.

Post Commander, Joe Penyak, and the members of the American Legion Scholarship Committee, Joe McConville, Arick Magri, and Donald "Doc" Austin, are very proud of these two young women. The American Legion initiated this scholarship competition ten years ago to honor CE students who excel in both academics and work skills, such as resume writing, interviewing skills, employer and school recommendations, as well as acceptance to post-secondary schools. "It is excellent training for these seniors to compete in the American Legion competition," said Joe McConville.

Because of their selection by the American Legion, both Yamara and Missy were selected to address the mayor and council on June 2 on behalf of the Cooperative Education/School to Careers program.

southplainfieldpeople Milestones

Local Resident Inducted to Dunellen High School Athletic Hall of Fame

Bob Harding was recently inducted in the Dunellen High School Athletic Hall of Fame at a Banquet held at the Italian American Club, North Plainfield.

Bob graduated from Dunellen High School in 1950 and was a four year member of the baseball, football, basketball and track team, receiving honors for athletic excellence throughout his high school years.

Bob was selected to All-County and All-State while playing basketball for DHS, and in 1949 set the County record for the discus throw.

After high school, Bob continued with his love for playing sports while attending William and Mary College, and also when serving in the United States Army, he was a member of the fifth Division Red Devils and the European Army All Stars.

Bob also played semi-pro football with the Crusaders and the Dunellen Bluebirds.

Bob and his family have lived in South Plainfield for 44 years, and over



Bob Harding

the years he has coached basketball, Little League and Pop Warner.

Bob is an active member of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department, serving for thirty-eight years. He is also a member of the Exempt Association, and has served as president, vice president and secretary on a local, county and state level, and is presently an Alternate Delegate to the National Volunteer Fire Council.

Dana Corp. Seeks Info to Mark 100th Anniversary

Dana Corp. of Ohio will mark their 100th anniversary in the near future and would like to gather as much material on the history on the Spicer Corp. as possible. The company is putting together a book for their anniversary and is looking for pictures and stories of the company when it was located in South Plainfield.

All contributions will be gladly accepted. Please put your name, address and phone number on anything submitted. All material will be returned to either the original owner or to the South Plainfield Historical Society.

For more information, call Dot Miele at (908) 754-3073 or Bill Tuthill at (908) 756-9654.

Summer Drama To Hold Auditions

The South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop will hold auditions for this year's show "Crazy for You" on June 2, 3 and 4 at the South Plainfield Middle School.

The program is open to all students who attend school in South Plainfield and have completed sixth grade through one year out of high school.

Scripts to review are available at South Plainfield Library, at SPHS and at the Middle School.

For more information, visit our website: www.spsdw.com, or call (908) 561-5255.

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The local PBA-sponsored NJ State Golden Gloves Competition, which raised \$17,000, benefits local charities and SPHS through purchase of a new speaker system.

Golden Gloves Boxing Competition Raises \$17,000

By Jane Dornick

South Plainfield High School was the venue for the final bouts of the NJ State Golden Gloves Competition. The evening was a knockout success for co-sponsors of the annual event and for the amateur boxers going on to the state competition.

Together the South Plainfield PBA Local 100 and the SPHS Athletic

Booster Club raised \$17,000, which will be used for a new speaker system at the high school and for the PBA's local charities.

The spectacular event showcased the best amateur boxers throughout the state, who performed to a sell-out crowd.

A 51-inch Panasonic HDTV projection television worth \$1,700 was also raffled off.



Donna Siepmann, owner of Custom Creations and Gifts on South Plainfield Ave., teaches a ceramics class at the Senior Center every Monday from 12 to 1:30 p.m. Pictured are students Mary Spisso (left), Donna Siepmann and Betty Jane Tingley (right).

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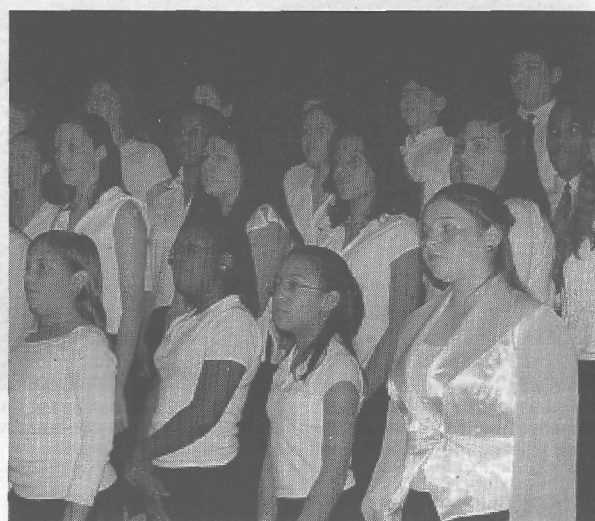
Middle School Performs Annual Spring Choral and Orchestra Concert and The Spring Instrumental Extravaganza



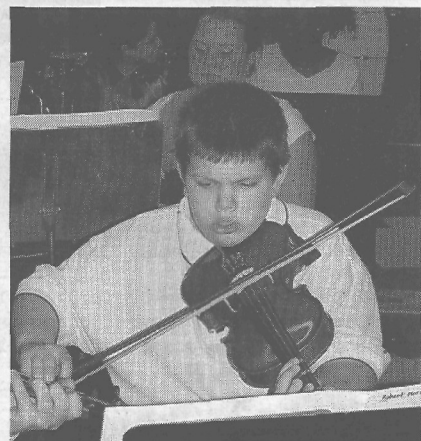
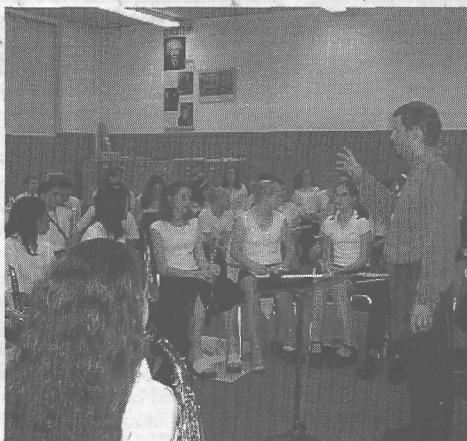
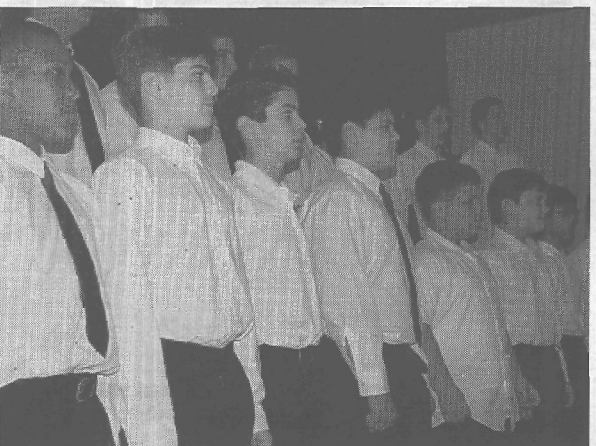
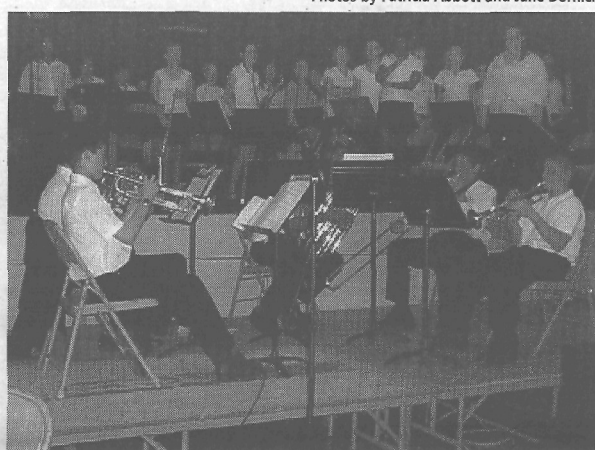
In separate events the South Plainfield Middle School proudly presented their annual Spring Choral and Orchestra Concert (May 22) and The Spring Instrumental Extravaganza (May 8).

The May 22 event consisted of three vocal and two instrumental groups. The Gems, an elite all-female group, the Concert Choir and the new Men's Ensemble were conducted by Rebecca Lerner. The String Orchestra and String Ensemble were conducted by Carleen C. Tedeschi. The concert was recorded by Traveling Tracks Remote Recording Company and CDs may be ordered through the Middle School.

The May 8 event was led by Andrew Veiss, director. Separate performances featured the Brass Quintet, Woodwind Quintet, Stage Band, Clarinet Ensemble, Wind Ensemble, Flute Ensemble, Saxophone Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Concert Band and Middle School Concert Band.



Photos by Patricia Abbott and Jane Dornick



Terra Nova Garden Club News

The May monthly meeting of the Terra Nova Garden Club has been postponed due to remodeling at the Library. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday June 11, at 6:45 p.m. at the North Edison Library, 777 Grove Ave. in Edison. The program will feature a presentation of "Garden Jeopardy."

The community service committee will provide Garden Therapy at 1 p.m. on May 28, at the Muhlenberg Adultcare Facility in Plainfield.

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From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Before we consign May of 2003 to history, we have one more column of news from the South Plainfield Library:

Don't forget about the big Book and Bake Sale tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. We'll have a wide variety of items at stunningly low prices. Be sure to stop by and take advantage of our generosity before we regain our senses.

We're between groups on the Video Circuit today. The new group will be available early next week.

Turning to the Children's Department, we'll follow the usual schedule of children's Storytime programs next week. Those programs are for children ages three and over; no pre-registration is required. The programs are held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. We also have two additional notes: First, this year's Summer Reading program, "Camp Read-a-Lot" will be starting up in late June. Details are still being finalized; we'll let you know the schedule ASAP. Also, we're working on putting together a Storytime program for infants. If you're interested in such a program, or if you have questions about any children's program, please call us at (908) 754-7885 and ask for Miss Linda.

We'll be open this Sunday, June 1 and next Sunday, June 8. Following that, we'll be closed on Sundays throughout the summer. Sunday hours will resume in September.

Here's a reminder regarding the use of our phones. On occasion, we'll allow our patrons to use our phones for personal calls, preferably only in an emergency, at no cost. We do ask,

though, that patrons ask the permission of a staff member before using the phone, make local calls only, and that they take as little time as necessary with their call. And please don't abuse the privilege.

And here's a word for parents. We realize that it can be tough to find someone to look after your kids and that you may have to bring them to the Library with you. That said, we ask that you take great care and look after your children at all times, even if you're very busy with some library-centered task. We simply do not have the staff necessary for such a job; besides, such a matter is *your* responsibility. It is very easy for a child to get hurt if that child is allowed to roam around the library unsupervised. So, please, either watch your own child or bring someone along to do it. We'll all benefit from this. As always, thanks in advance for your help.

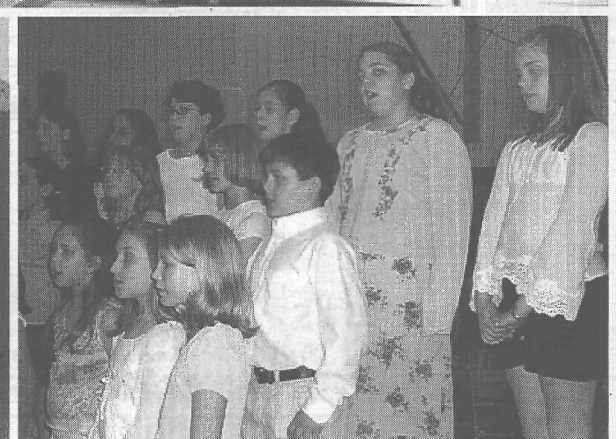
And, finally, a word for those typing up reports, term papers, essays, etc. While we have more than one computer equipped for word processing, only one has been hooked up to the central printer behind the circulation desk. We are working to correct this situation. Meanwhile, if necessary, you can type and save your information on disc; we can print it out on one of the staff computers. Blank discs are available from the Library for \$1 each. Also, if you need to use either of our Job Information Center computers or the Comcast computer, you must get permission beforehand and a librarian must log you on to the computer. Check with the Reference Department for details on these matters.

That's about all for now. Be sure to stop by every Friday for updates. Catch you later.



Spring Sizzles at Roosevelt School

Appreciative parents, teachers and guests enjoyed a festive Spring Concert courtesy of Roosevelt School Orchestra, Band and Chorus, conducted by Tobie Baldwin, Bruce Mikolon and Sharon Perez, respectively. We would like to commend the students for taking the time to participate in the orchestra, band and chorus, and to share their appreciation of music.



Job Information Center Programs Scheduled for May/June

Looking for help locating a job, preparing a resume or need a computer to type it on? Then look no further than the South Plainfield Free Public Library.

The Library, located at 2484 Plainfield Ave. (adjacent to the Municipal Building), has planned the following programs for job seekers for May/June:

Job Searching 101—Saturday, May

31, 10:30 a.m. to noon

Job Searching on the Internet—Saturday, June 14, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Resumes and Cover Letters for Beginners—Saturday, June 28, 10:30 a.m. to noon

All programs are FREE, space is limited and reservations are required. For more information, please call the library's reference desk at 908-754-7885.

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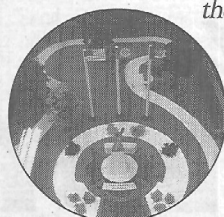
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Your purchase of a brick will help fund the South Plainfield Firemen's Memorial to be built next to the Senior Citizen Center. Your

brick will be engraved with the name of your choice and placed on the path to the memorial. Bricks can be purchased for only \$75 for individuals or \$175 for businesses.



Please show your support for our local volunteers!

Call John Cotone at 908-756-4761 to purchase your brick.

Sports



American Martial Arts Are 2003 Big East Champions

Without a doubt, American Martial Arts is New Jersey's leader in martial arts. On May 18, Master Kevin Vigneri, owner and master instructor of American Martial Arts on Oak Tree Rd., led his school to another outstanding championship.

In the events of sparring, breaking and forms, AMA students won 13 gold, seven silver and six bronze medals. With these remarkable results, American Martial Arts brought home the 2003 Big East Championship "Best Tae Kwon Do School" trophy for the third consecutive year. This eight-foot trophy stands strong in the school, representing the dedication and heart of Master Vigneri's students. In addition, Master Vigneri was proudly honored with a plaque before hundreds of spectators for his dedication and excellence in Tae Kwon Do, a recognition well deserved.

Congratulations Sommer Bovell, Richard Kazandzhidi, Daniel Quintin, Danver Quintin, Raymond Perez, Christopher Marrero, Thakur Das, Louis Como, Patrick Ventruedo, Alex Zeccardo, Mario Flores, Denzel

Mensah, Christopher Lee, and Master Vigneri. Your excellence in Tae Kwon Do rises above the others!

KC's Korner of the National Division got a solid team effort to defeat Patti Construction, 14-6, to remain the only undefeated team in the South Plainfield Golf League. Rich Steele was the medalist for KC's Korner while Mike Behr came through with another fine round of 36 in a losing cause for Patti's.

Fred Kirchofer and Ed Banach again demonstrated why they've become the most feared twosome in the league this season as they led Aiello Chiropractic to a resounding 17-3 win over Hank's Hackers. Kirchofer fired a 36 to tie Mike Behr for low-round of the night, while Banach turned in an impressive 37.

Twin City's Dave Mancini and Frank Capparelli both had 39's as Twin City crushed VFW, 15-5.

In American Division action, Jim Pornovets scrambled to a 39 to tie his partner, Marty Van DeVaart, as

Winter Guard Season Review

By Tim Morgan

After gaining the support of the Board of Education, the Winter Guard team was set for another noteworthy season. Despite a late start and having to combat four cases of mono and several injuries, the team recaptured the Chapter Ten Championship title, procured a sixth place ranking in the Atlantic Coast Championship Tournament, and produced respectable placings in a number of other competitions.

While the girls finished three places better in the Atlantic Coast Championship Tournament last year, there is a superlative story behind it. The girls received a standing ovation

for their performance, because they bravely completed their showpiece after their music stopped playing. Advisor Kathy Petrocelli felt that it was a heartbreaking, but gut-wrenching moment and said that she shed tears, because she had never been more proud of a group during final competition.

What primarily differentiates Winter Guard from Color Guard (besides the former being in the fall and the latter being in the winter) is that competitions are indoors and recorded music is used instead of live music. The competitors are placed in a more visible, up-close setting in the face of the audience and judges. The basic skills are the same and carry over in a reciprocal fashion. Both teams visually interpret music by using flags, sabers, rifles, dance, movements, and drill work, and both are judged on the criteria of individual performances, equipment usage, movement execution, visual flair, and ensemble performance.

At a rudimentary glance, practices consist of body, equipment, and drill work. Upon a more careful look, one realizes that a jelling and collaboration of every aspect is necessary for the overall presentation. There is a meticulous, discerning, and carefully considered arrangement of skills and elements in visually interpreting music. One realizes that an important purpose of Winter Guard is manifesting the feel and analysis of the complex art of music, which inherently communicates sensory appeal, to give each audience member his or her own impression.

The Winter Guard team had seventeen members and practiced

Wednesday through Friday for about two and a half hours at a time, often competing on the weekends and practicing for hours beforehand. Advisors Petrocelli, Kara Giorgio, and SPHS Music Director Mark Tweed coordinated a joint effort in guiding the program.

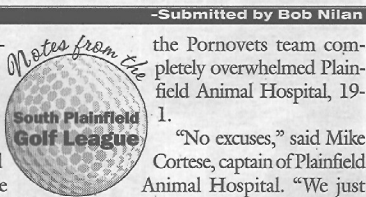
"Our show basically was written and created by the upperclassmen on the squad," said Petrocelli in reference to the fact that most other squads have professionals who write their acts. "The basic concept of the show comes from our girls," she added. She credited the team's success to a group effort, especially by the juniors and seniors.

Creatively, the girls are superior to their competition, because their act comes totally from their own minds. The fact that the interpretations they present are their own is an accomplishment in itself which magnifies their victories and achievements; this is a quality that should be noted by the professional music industry, where artists writing their own pieces are in growing rareness.

From one competition to another, the girls concentrated on polishing their skills based on the judges evaluations, while keeping the effect of the show as a whole in mind. They progressively modified and added things to their act in order to give the best, most comprehensive effort they could. By the end of the season, their act was improved significantly, and everyone was proud of how far they came and of the final results, especially the advisors and participants.



Tim Morgan, Jr



the Pornovets team completely overwhelmed Plainfield Animal Hospital, 19-1.

"No excuses," said Mike Cortese, captain of Plainfield Animal Hospital. "We just played like dogs."

With their convincing win, Pornovets moved into a three-way tie for first place in the National Division with the South Plainfield Elks and Masters.

Danny Griffin's splendid start has marked him as this season's number-one candidate for Player-of-the-Year honors. Griffin had a 36 last week and a 37 this week to lead his Masters team as they wiped out the Elks, 18-2.

Last year's champions, Sport & Social, can't get it together this season as they dropped another match to fall to a record of 0-4, losing this time to Witty's 12-8. Howard Adler, low man for Witty's, had a 39.



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Sports

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Ponytail Softball A League Lady Knights are Stephanie Szeliga, Jennifer Little, Becky Keller, Lauren Primavera, Julianne Bosse, Lori Sepkowski, Theresa Huber, Dana Alexa, Jessica Gray, Dana Cacciatore, Melissa Fisher, Lauren O'Day and Kory McGovern. Coach is Rich Szeliga.



Ponytail Softball Batters Box

By Sharon Miller

C League Games Extended—The players in C League will have their season extended until Tuesday, June 10. Recreation Director Mike English will provide coaches with more details.

Play-Off Tournaments—May 29—The A&B Leagues will begin their play-off double elimination tournaments on May 29. The "A" League's final game will be played on June 10. The "B" League's final game will be held on June 11.

Pool Party—June 6 - The Ponytail Parents' Association will sponsor an end of season pool party. This event is open to all Recreation Ponytail softball players so please join us on Friday, June 6 at the South Plainfield Community pool. Additional info will be provided in upcoming publications of the Batter's Box.

All-Star Tag Day—June 7 - All-Star Tag Day will take place on Saturday, June 7. It is a mandatory requirement that every All-Star player participate in two tag days. This tagging requirement can be fulfilled by participating in any two of the four tag days. If an All-Star player is unable to tag on June 7, they will be permitted to tag during any two of the three recreation tag days (please see your coach to arrange this). Players will meet at the snack stand at the Pitt Street Park Complex to receive their tagging location.

Ponytail Softball Association Meeting—June 24 - The South Plainfield Parents' Association will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, June 24 at 8 p.m. in the South Plainfield Middle School library. If you are interested in becoming a member and being involved in girl's Ponytail softball, please join us on June 24. New members are always welcomed. Please note time change to 8 p.m.

SP Summer Softball Camp—July 14 through July 18 - The South Plainfield Recreation Department will be running a summer softball sports camp for girls ages 7-15. It will take place at the SPHS varsity softball field. The cost is \$35 and includes a T-shirt. Applications are available at the PAL. For more information, contact Recreation Director Mike English. In case of rain, the camp will be held in the SPHS gym.

Sponsorship Program - Last year we revised our sponsorship program. Our sponsors can have an advertising sign placed on the outfield fences of our fields at the Pitt Street Park Complex. The sign will be 4 feet by 8 feet in size. Sponsors can design their sign with any information or logo they choose. The signs will be up for our Spring, Summer and Fall programs (now through end of October). Sponsors will have the choice of a one-year agreement at a cost of \$300 (includes cost of sign with two colors) or a two-year agreement at a cost of \$400 (includes cost of sign with two colors). Additional colors may be added at a cost of \$20 per color. After the initial agreement period is up, the annual renewal fee will be \$175. This new program offers our sponsors a cost-effective advertising opportunity which will reach hundreds of families. All of the funds, which are collected from our sponsors and fundraisers, go directly towards improving and upgrading the Pitt Street Park softball facilities, as well as benefiting the girls who play recreation and all-star softball. If you are interested in funding a sign, please contact any member of the S.P. Parents' Ponytail Association or contact me via our website at www.spponytail.com.

Ponytail Softball Website

Visit Ponytail Softball online at www.spponytail.com. You will find the latest news/events, team rosters, schedules, pictures, information on our Parents' Association, and All-Star teams. Feel free to contact me by keying on the email link webmasters@spponytail.com found on our home page.

Coaches Care Day, (C.O.A.C.H., or Coaches Offering Assistance for Children's Health) is going to take place at the complex on Saturday, June 7 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. This a charity softball marathon featuring the SPJBC Coaches vs. various other teams from around our area with the proceeds from the entire day benefiting the Children's Fund at JFK Medical Center. The two previous events resulted in over \$10,000 being raised to help support the Children's Fund. This coupled with corporate and private donations to the fund given throughout the year has raised the total to over six figures.

Also featured is a Chinese Auction with prizes that include two Bruce Springsteen Tickets, an AT&T BlackBerry PDF and phone valued at \$500, various memorabilia items signed by sports, movie and TV celebrities and numerous other valuable merchandise. Tickets for the Chinese Auction can be purchased during the week preceding June 7 at the club during regular games, and on Saturday, June 7. A NASCAR simulator is scheduled to be on hand for entertainment and a variety of special foods will be prepared for your enjoyment. The final game of the evening will pit the South Plainfield Middle School Baseball and Softball teams against the Middle School teachers. Come out one and all to cheer on your favorite player, coach or teacher and help support a worthwhile cause.

Opening Day Activities, rained out last month, have been rescheduled and will also be held on Coaches Care Day, Saturday, June 7, at approximately 12 noon. Small Fry teams are invited. They should all bring along their banners and assemble at Field 6 (down near the football complex) at 11:30 a.m. for a short parade down the street to Field 2 where an abbreviated version of the Opening Day ceremonies

will take place. Lifetime Member and Commissioner's Award recipients will be on hand to accept their awards, along with other special guests. Everyone is invited to attend to support these well deserved honorees.

The annual club baseball trip is scheduled this year for Friday, June 13. The Trenton Thunder will be hosting a Friday the 13th Halloween Night at Waterfront Park in Trenton. This year the Thunder have become the Double AA affiliate of the New York Yankees, so you never know what future Yankee might be playing that evening. You might even see a present Yankee rehabbing. Tickets can be ordered from Lee Flanagan at (908) 561-6348, or you can pick up an order form at the snack stand. Hurry though, tickets are going fast.

This Week's Results

"C" League Game Summaries (8 & 9 year olds)

Dodgers vs. Red Sox—Red Sox - It was a good day at the plate with some timely hitting by Chris Giakas while his teammate Mark Tomei pitched two strong innings.

Cardinals vs. Yankees—Cardinals - Outstanding efforts on the mound were turned in by Nick and Chris Kukuch and the key hits were supplied by Connor McCarthy and Joey Pellegrino.

Red Sox vs. Giants—Red Sox - Mark Tomei and Patrick Boyle each had a multiple hit game and Dan Bori put in

two excellent innings from the mound

A's vs. Reds—A's - Anthony Torchia struck out four in his pitching debut and Alex Dornick had an excellent catch at Shortstop. Reds - Tim O'Leary had a big single that drove in two runs and teammate Tyler Herriott had two doubles.

Dodgers vs. Cardinals—Cardinals - Steve Petricello smacked a nice double, Kevin Farrell made a nice putout at third base and Nick Kukuch pitched well with three strikeouts

Red Sox vs. Phillies—Phillies - James Conrad scored a big run for the Phillies and he also had an excellent day in the field with his glove. Mike Atcuchunas had a big day on the bases scoring three times.

Giants vs. Yankees—Giants - Sam Bermudez turned in an unassisted double play plus he had a double with an RBI. Nick Muglia also smacked a single with an RBI. Matt Ward turned in a strong pitching performance and Andrew Sanchez had an excellent game in the field. Yankees - Anthony Ashnault crushed a clean triple and Joey Skwiat pitched a clean and quiet fifth inning.

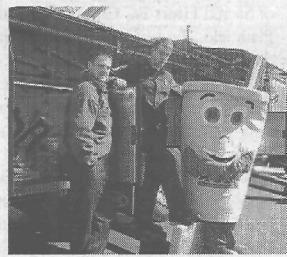
Tigers vs. Reds—Tigers - Dylan Dorey belted an inside the park homerun and Joe Zipp Smoked a big double.

Red Sox vs. Phillies—Red Sox - Albert Vill drove in three big runs with a triple and teammate Joe Parillo had a great hit for the Phillies.

South Plainfield Recreation Youth Fall Soccer Program

The Soccer Program is open to all boys and girls ages 6-13 as of October 1, 2003. There will be separate boys and girls leagues if we get enough participants. Registration begins June 2 and ends August 15. The program begins in September and ends in November. All games are played on Saturdays. You must be registered to play. The fee is \$35/participant. Register at the PAL, 1250 Maple Ave.

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8 & 9 / 10 & 11 / 11 & 12 / 13 & 14 / 15 & 16

\$50 per player, includes Fall-Shirt & Hat

Individual registrations only, *out of towners* welcome

REGISTRATION DATES

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Friday May 30th, 6pm to 9pm

Saturday May 31st, 9am to 3pm

also

Friday August 1st, 6pm to 9pm

Saturday August 2nd, 9am to 3pm

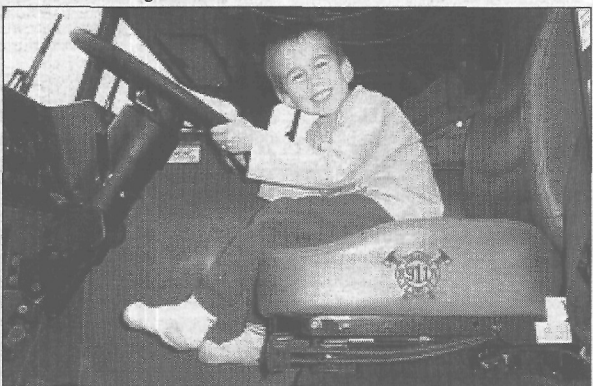
Registrations will be accepted informally from July 1st through August 15th
See any Board Member, or Vijay Bijlani - Fall Ball Director
S.P.J.B.C. - P.O. Box 166, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 - 908 754 2090

FALL BASEBALL



Future Stars Students Have a Fun Day

A cloudy day with chilly temperatures didn't stop Future Stars classes and their guests from enjoying their Family Fun Day on May 18. Little ones spent the afternoon running from one amusement to the next. Food and drinks provided energy for the blow-up castle, hot-air bouncing rides and a miniature ferris wheel. A local petting zoo offered a variety of animals for the children to see and touch up close and the local fire department allowed visitors to tour one of their fire engines.



Obituaries

Anne H. Baker, 74

Anne H. Baker died on Wednesday, May 21, in her home.

Born in Scranton, Pa., Anne resided in Elizabeth and South Plainfield before moving to Edison.

She was employed by the South Plainfield Board of Education for 18 years. The last five years of her employment, she was serving as secretary to the school superintendent. She served superintendents Mr. Cole and Mr. Ferri before retiring in 1996. Previously, she was employed by Exxon Research of Linden as head of the steno pool. She had also worked for Rutgers Medical School in Piscataway.

Anne was a member and past president of the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary, Council #6203. She was also a member of Sacred Heart Church and the South Plainfield Columbiettes.

Surviving are her husband, Eugene F. Baker, a son and daughter-in-law, Thomas and Sally Baker of South Plainfield; a daughter, Mary Beth Baker of South Plainfield and a sister, Peggy Hanifan of Sarasota, Fla.

Also surviving are grandchildren Kenneth, Kristin, Karylann, Kyle and Kristopher and two nieces, Maryanne and Kathleen Burt.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

Memorial contributions in her memory may be made to the Ameri-

can Cancer Society, 846 Main St., Fords, NJ 08863.

Josephine (Facciponte) Maniscalco, 85

Josephine (Facciponte) Maniscalco died on Wednesday, May 21 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Newark, she had resided there until 1957 when she and her husband settled in South Plainfield.

She had been employed by Prudential in Newark as a claims clerk and Lionel Trains, also of Newark. Later working for the former Bamberger's Department Store in Plainfield, she then became a crossing guard in South Plainfield at the corners of Park and Fairview Ave. where she worked for many years before retiring in 1980.

A member of the South Plainfield Senior Citizens and a Communicant of Sacred Heart RC Church in South Plainfield, she was also a member of the Traveling Seniors of Piscataway.

Her husband of 64 years, Peter Maniscalco, died on April 1 of this year and her daughter-in-law, Diane Maniscalco, died in March of 2002.

She is survived by a daughter, Diane Scioscia-Zaslow of Westport, Conn. and a son, Peter Maniscalco of South Plainfield; three grandchildren, Jennifer Marie Scioscia, Jessica Lynn and Adam Paul Maniscalco all of South

Girl Scouts Registering for Summer Day Camp

In about a month, summer will be here. Are you looking for a fun and safe place for girls at an affordable price? All the great sights and sounds of summer await your daughter at Girl Scout Summer Day Camp. Fun, motivating activities in a safe, secure environment help girls discover more about themselves and the world around them.

The four summer day camps located in Elizabeth, Hillside, Roselle and Plainfield offer an abundance of activities that run from July 7 through Aug. 1, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and cost only \$65 per week. Programs are open to all girls entering grades 1-8, regardless of race, color, religion, age, national origin socioeconomic level or disability.

Each camp offers girls the opportunity to learn new things and make new friends every day! The camp program provides girls with fun, physical activity, new experiences, choices and challenges for an overall quality experience. Trained counselors provide arts and science programs, sports, games and contemporary Girl Scout programs. Summer Day Camp helps girls learn to get along, work together, build their self-confidence and grow strong while having fun.

For questions about the Summer Day Camps, please call the Council office at 908-232-3236, ext. 1202.



Friends of the Woods "Family Fun Friday"

Environmental Hazel England, naturalist with Somerset County's Lord Stirling Environmental Center, led a hands-on program at the Senior Citizens Center for the whole family last Friday. Games and activities were the order of the evening.



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policereport

• Demetres T. Taylor, 40, Perth Amboy was arrested at K-Mart for shoplifting DVD's, clothing, personal items and miscellaneous items worth \$781.53.

• An Oak Tree Ave. resident reported an attempted burglary at his residence. The homeowner's son was upstairs when he heard a knock at the front door. As he went to answer the door, he heard a loud crash. When he came down the steps he saw the front door open and a white male with a sleeveless shirt running back out the door. The suspect was described as having collar length hair.

• A Melrose Ave. resident reported the theft of two boxes of assorted collectibles and a Rhino bike from his unlocked garage.

• Middlesex Water Co. reported that graffiti had been spray painted on the side of the Spring Lake pumping station on Maple Ave.

• A Piscataway resident reported the theft of her pocketbook at Kohl's.

• Centrel Lomont Smith, 21, of Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, crossing double lines, driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

• On May 24 a Pine St. resident reported the theft of a statue of a black man eating watermelon from the front porch.

• An Edison resident reported that her purse had been stolen from her unlocked vehicle parked in front of Macy's. The purse had been found near a tree island

and \$10 and a cell phone were missing.

• Jamiallah Latifa Young, 28, of Plainfield was arrested for hindering apprehension, driving an uninsured and unregistered vehicle and an outstanding warrant at a motor vehicle stop.

• A Maple Ave. resident reported that someone had poured containers of bubble soap into their fish pond on the front lawn killing 12 tropical fish.

• An O'Loughlin Dr. resident reported the theft of two boxes of carpet installing tools from a locked room in the house. The door had been forced open to gain entry.

• Mauro Collao-Villegas, 27, of North Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, refusal to take a breathalyzer test, and reckless driving at a motor vehicle accident.

• Leonard Clayton Trapp, 31, of Piscataway was arrested for driving on a suspended license, careless driving and two outstanding warrants at a motor vehicle stop.

• Matthew S. Laspata, 22, of South Plainfield was arrested for obstruction, after a bike chase down the middle of Plainfield Ave.

• An employee of Red Lobster reported the theft of \$137 from her purse which was in the employee coat room.

• Lalchan Jettoo, 39, of Jersey City was arrested for driving while intoxicated, careless driving and outstanding warrants at a motor vehicle stop.

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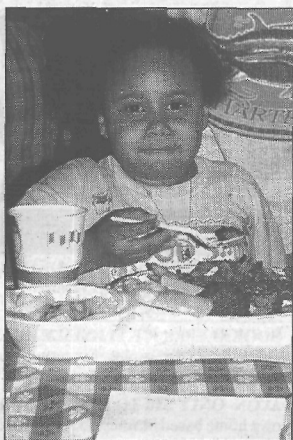
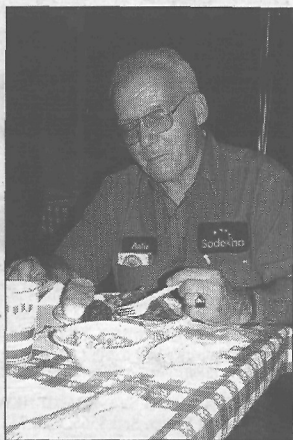
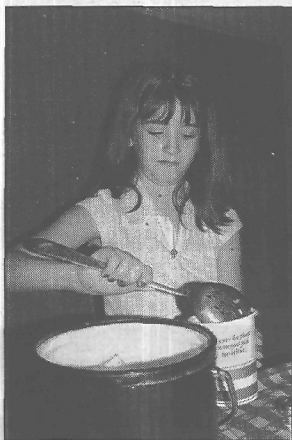
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Pasta Dinner at Riley Raises \$1000 for Stokes Trip

Story/photos by Patricia Abbott

Riley School's Fourth Grade Class recently sponsored a pasta dinner as a fundraiser for their upcoming Stokes trip in June. All the food and supplies were donated by Bob Boyle of Roma Food. Chef for the event, Thom Lanza, was assisted by Rich Little.

Student and parent volunteers were kept busy serving a delicious meal of pasta, sauce and huge meat balls, pouring soda and dishing up dessert. There was also salad and toasted Italian bread

as well.

Chairing the event's committee were Lori Little and Thom Lanza. Committee members were Millie Hunt, Rich Little, Donna Alfano, Christine Dispenziere, Cynthia Guancione, Joanne Jarema, Lisa Tjon. Student helpers were Matthew Little, Brandon Brady, Danny Hunt, Dana Hunt, Gabrielle Guancione, Jorgen Holtermann, Lisa Alfano, Taylor Jarema, Joey Nicastro, Chris Zwatschka, Jessica Ray and Michael Boyle. Parent helpers were Helene Nicastro, Mrs.

Holtermann, Mrs. Brady, Patty Zwatschka, Mrs. Watkins, Sharon Pisano, Maria Adorna and Debbie Boyle.

The committee also received donations from Insurance Restorations Specialists, McCrisky's Home for Furnerals and B&C Deli. Due to the darkening skies and sudden heavy rain, the turnout was not as high as expected, just 75 people risked the storm to attend the dinner, but they raised \$1,000 for the youth's Stokes trip.

Attempted Armed Robbery At Bagel Pantry

Just prior to closing last Thursday, an employee of the Bagel Pantry on Plainfield Ave. confronted a man brandishing a black handgun.

The employee was taking trash out the back door when a white male, 6'1", thin build wearing blue jeans and a red shirt, opened the unlocked

door. The employee told him to get out and observed a small black automatic handgun in the man's waistband.

The employee kicked the suspect and pushed him out the door and locked it. A search of the area was done with no results.

14-Year-Old Struck by Vehicle on Plainfield Ave.

A 14-year-old female was struck by a van as she crossed traffic on Plainfield Ave. in front of 7-11 on Tuesday. Disregarding the crossing guard at the corner of Sampton and Plainfield avenues, the youth was struck by a motorist traveling in the right hand

lane as she darted through cars stopped for the light. The vehicle was moving slowly to the corner and pushed the girl to the ground. The girl was taken to Muhlenberg Medical Center with possible head injuries. The driver was not charged.

Red Cross Offers Lifeguard Training

The Tri-County Chapter of the American Red Cross is offering a Lifeguard Training Course for individuals 15 years of age or older. The course teaches individuals the skills and knowledge needed to prevent and respond to aquatic emergencies and provides them with a Lifeguard

Certificate upon successful completion. It also includes certification in CPR for the Professional Rescuer and First Aid.

The training dates are Thursday, May 29 through Saturday, June 1. Please call (908) 756-6414, ext. 27 to register or for more information.

LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
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SECTION 00490
ADDENDUM

SOIL REMEDIATION AT THE VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK AND
PARK IMPROVEMENT BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

ADDENDUM NO. 1

Date: May 23, 2003

OWNER: Borough of South Plainfield

Project Name: Soil Remediation at The Veterans Memorial Park and Park Improvement

Addendum Issued Via: Facsimile and certified mail

1. INFORMATIONAL STATEMENT

This ADDENDUM is issued for the purpose of amending certain requirements of the Contract Documents, as noted hereinafter, and is hereby made part of and incorporated in full force as part of the Contract Documents. Unless specifically noted or specified hereinafter, all work shall conform to the applicable provisions of the Contract Documents.

The conditions and terms of the basic General Conditions and Specifications shall govern all work described in the ADDENDUM. Wherever the conditions of Work and the quality or quantity of materials or workmanship are not fully described in this ADDENDUM, the conditions of work, etc. included in the base Specifications for similar items of Work shall apply to the Work described in this ADDENDUM.

Contractors submitting Bids shall acknowledge receipt of this ADDENDUM on the Bid Form entitled Acknowledgement of Receipt of Changes to Bid Documents. Failure to do so may subject bidder to disqualification.

The following items included as Addendum #1 amend the Contract Documents as follows:

A. Project Manual Revisions:

Section 00410, page 00410-3

Bid Item #7 is replaced with the bid item #7R. Please make changes in the Bid Section 1 as described below.

SECTION 00490
ADDENDUM

SOIL REMEDIATION AT THE VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK AND PARK IMPROVEMENT
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

BID ITEM #	SECTION DESCRIPTION	UNIT MEASURE	ESTIMATED QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	Total Price
7R	Excavation of Asbestos-Containing Tiles and loading	Cubic yards	1300		

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$108.50

May 30, 2003

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Kwartler Associates, as Agent for Realty Associates Iowa Southfield, LLC, the Owner, has applied to the Zoning Board of Adjustment, Borough of South Plainfield for a use variance to permit the use of a portion of the Premises as a food service area for the retail sale of food and beverages to the tenants and users of the building located on the property known as Block 528.01, Lot 45.08 on the South Plainfield Tax Map. Said property is also commonly known as 1 Cragwood Road, South Plainfield, New Jersey.

Applicant will also seek such other and further variances, special exceptions and waivers as may be required upon the Board's review of the application.

A hearing on said application will be held by the Zoning Board of Adjustment on June 12, 2003 at 8:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Borough Hall, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080. The purpose of this notice is to afford you the opportunity to appear, if you so desire, before the Board for the purpose of being heard with respect to this application.

A copy of the plans and documents for which approval is sought are available for public inspection in the Zoning Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, any weekday between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., except holidays.

Dated: May 22, 2003

Kwartler Associates as Agent for
Realty Associates Iowa
Southfield, LLC, the Owner

By: Wendy M. Berger, Esq.
c/o Cole, Schotz, Meisel,
Forman & Leonard, PC
25 Main Street
Hackensack, New Jersey 07601

\$64.00 May 30, 2003

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

May 20, 2003

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Zoning Board at its meeting held on May 15, 2003.

A. Case # 86-02/S—JWV, Inc. Block 78; Lot 4; 2323 Park Avenue. The applicant's request to withdraw this application without prejudice was hereby GRANTED.

B. Case # 39-02/V/S—Matrix Outdoor Media, LLC. Block 528.01; Lot 46; 6000 Hadley Road. The applicant's request to withdraw this application without Prejudice was hereby GRANTED.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Beth Khidre
Secretary Zoning Board of Adjustment

\$22.75 May 30, 2003

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Karen and Tim Kaufmann requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the construction of a front porch. Proposed porch lacks the required 30' front setback, 23.85' being proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 515 Sampton Avenue on Block 395A, Lot 1 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, June 12, 2003 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 May 30, 2003



Girl Scout Troops 199 and 664 learn kitchen skills courtesy of Marie Markey and Pampered Chef.

Roosevelt School Girl Scouts Are Cookin' Now!

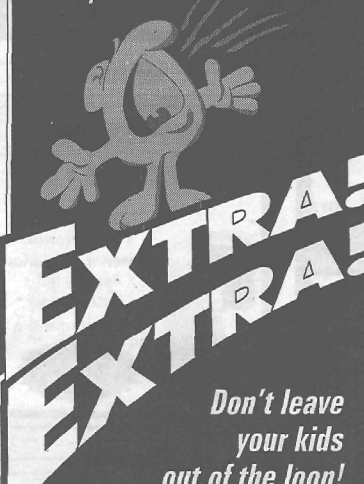
Learning proper kitchen safety is important and should be learned at an early age, says Marie Markey, Independent Kitchen Consultant with the Pampered Chef Lmt.

Leaders of Troop 199 and Troop 664, both of Roosevelt School, asked Markey to conduct a workshop for their girls this spring. They learned

about kitchen hygiene, kitchen safety, how to follow a recipe, prepare a grocery list and so much more. The hands on workshop allowed the girls to learn how to properly use kitchen tools as they each made their own Apple Smile Cookies.

For information on workshops, call Marie Markey at (908) 755-3213.

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