

See pages 8 and 9 for Labor Day Parade photos. Look for race coverage next week.

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SEP 12 2003

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 8, NO. 3

50 CENTS

SEPTEMBER 12, 2003

School Construction Complete

*Students & Parents Welcomed to View Facilities
At Roosevelt, Grant Open Houses*



Members of the School Board officially open Grant School with a ribbon cutting ceremony last week.



Superintendent of Schools Dr. Robert Rosado welcomes visitors.



Ribbon cutting ceremonies were led by members of the School Board at Roosevelt School's open house while the public looks on.



Roosevelt School Principal Jacqueline Keogh

Years of hopes, dreams and planning finally come to fruition with the grand opening of the new Roosevelt Elementary School and the addition to Grant Central. Consecutive ribbon cutting ceremonies were held last Tuesday, Sept. 2, the day before school started in the Borough. Both ceremonies were attended by dignitaries, parents and hundreds of students.

The simple words gracing the celebration's program spoke volumes: "South Plainfield Public Schools—A Special Place for Learning, Teaching and Growing Together." The two projects are the result of a bond

ordinance passed by the voters two years ago. It included expanding Grant Central School to accommodate fifth grade students and building a new Roosevelt School to replace the old school which was more than 60 years old, as well as upgrades to the other grade schools.

The evening began at Grant Central School and moved to Roosevelt School where a reception was held after the ribbon cutting. Both ceremonies began with Superintendent Dr. Rosado welcoming those attending the special occasion, followed by introductions by Board of Ed President Pio Pennisi and remarks by school architect Scott Prisco.

School Principal Janis Burchell and PTA President Terry Alexa spoke at the Grant School ribbon cutting and Roosevelt Principal Jacqueline Keogh and PTA President Lori Jankowski at the Roosevelt dedication.

Those in attendance at both ded-

ications included administration members and staff, members of the Board of Education (past and present), including former board presidents Carol Byrne, Marge Reedy (Republican council candidate) and Frank Mikorski. Also attending were Assemblymen Patrick Diegnan and Peter Barnes, Senator Barbara Buono, Mayor Dan Gallagher and members of the Borough Council, school principals from most of the South Plainfield schools and one former Superintendent of Schools and one

time principal of the original Grant School, Leonard Tobias.

Board of Education members took part in each ribbon cutting ceremony, just before students from the schools officially set foot in their new wing and school.

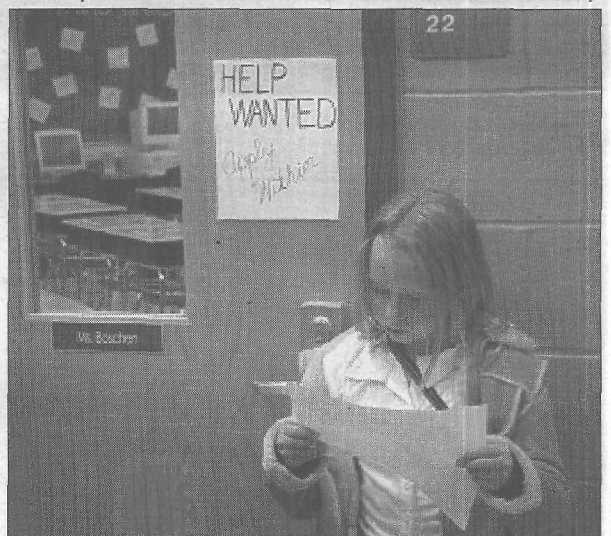
After Grant School's ribbon had been cut, the youth swarmed into the building darting from classroom to classroom, followed by more

sedate, but no less excited, parents and guests.

Shortly before 7 p.m. the crowd moved to the new Roosevelt Elementary School for the ribbon

tors traversed the hallways, peered into classrooms and revelled at the amenities of the new building.

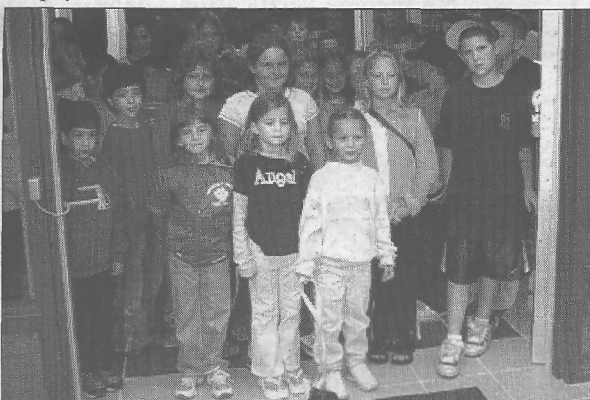
Visitors were treated to a reception with hors d'oeuvres served by



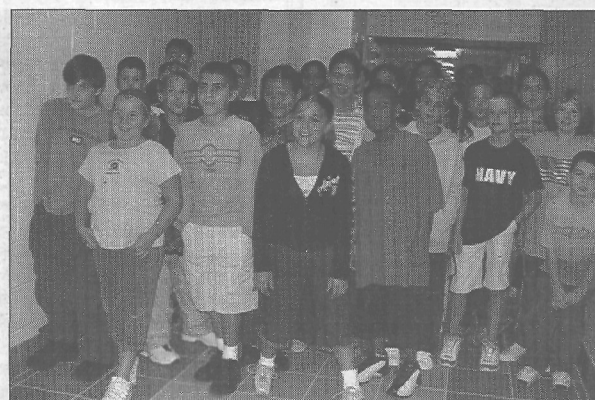
A Roosevelt School student acquaints herself with the maze of the school's expansive floor plan. At left, a well-equipped computer lab awaits the arrival of students.

cutting ceremony there. Students were allowed to be the first to enter their new state-of-the-art school, followed by visitors and guests. Visi-

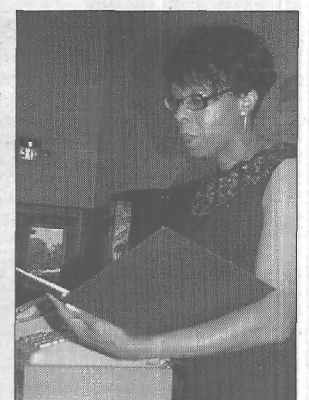
the Marriott staff on elegant tables adorned with flowers and buffet tables with desserts, cheeses, vegetables and refreshments.



Roosevelt School students await the "OK" to check out the new facilities.



Grant Central School students ready to rush the halls of the revamped school.



Grant School Principal Janis Burchell

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, September 15 Thursday, September 18

Special Meeting Monday September 29 (public hearing on budget 7 p.m.)

Monday, October 6 Thursday, October 9

Monday, November 11 Thursday, November 11

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

Sept. 23, Oct. 14, Oct. 28,

Nov. 11 (no meeting) Nov. 25, Dec. 9, Dec. 23.

zoning board of adjustment

Meets second and fourth Thursday of the month

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

Sept. 25, Oct. 16, Oct. 30, Nov. 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.: Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 9

Regular Board Meeting held Tuesdays at 8 p.m.: Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, Dec. 16

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? 908-769-0786.

site plan sub-committee

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

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

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

Meets once a month (fourth Wednesday-no meeting August) at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room, Borough Hall

A Tribute To The Victims Of September 11, 2001

From Rev. Dr. Nehemiah Thompson,
Pastor, Wesley Church

This Thursday marks the second anniversary of the September 11 attack on the United States by the terrorist organization called Al-Qaeda, headed by Osama bin Laden. It was an event no one expected. Almost 3,000 people died in New York alone. The misery and pain followed are still a fact of life for millions of people. No remedy, no comfort can match the suffering the families of the victims go through every day since then. I agree with President Bush that freedom was attacked. I also agree with him that freedom must be defended. What terrorists undermined was the American ideal of 'life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.' The American way of life that millions around the world long to reach was attacked on September 11, 2001 as the venues they targeted included The World Trade Center, The Pentagon, and possibly, Capitol Hill. This was a war indeed.

Americans were shocked. We experienced for the first time what we constantly hear happening in other countries like the Middle East and African tribal warfare. Al-Qaeda has attacked U.S. interests before in Africa. For some time they must have been planning these attacks. The U.S. administration was embarrassed that we could not catch them before they attacked. We went after Al-Qaeda and the

Taliban of Afghanistan and removed the power base of Al-Qaeda from that country. I wish we continued to go vigorously after Al-Qaeda until it is completely rooted out without diverting our attention to Iraq, a country was not involved in the September 11 attacks.

The war on terrorism must continue as President Bush said in his speech on Sunday night. But it must be fought on two fronts. One is the terrorist organizations and their resources must be rooted out from the face of the earth. This is the major front. However, this will give only a temporary relief, because those who hate us will still be out there, and they may not all be terrorists. They are a time bomb. This leads to the second front of war on terrorism. This is a more difficult front. We have not started this front attack yet. That is, a concerted and long term effort-political, economic and religious-to reach out to the Arab and Muslim world without negotiating with the terrorists themselves, and dialogue with the political, religious and economic establishments and ordinary people about our mutual grievances, including the occupation of Palestinian people. This dialogue must take place on political, economic and religious fronts. This must be a people-to-people program funded by the people on both ends. When this happens, the



Arab and Muslim people will isolate the terrorists and eventually terrorism will die down. At present the terrorists are using Arab and Muslim grievances to use violence against us. There should be a serious effort on our part to understand Islam without having the prominent American Christian preachers trash Islam in public. These kinds of hateful rhetoric by both sides have fuelled the conflicts more.

The Arabs and Muslims admire America. They are not the enemies. I believe the churches, universities, the Congress, the commerce community and others must get busy with this dialogue and listening process. We know how to do it. I know there will be a different attitude and there will be peace. Don't let the terrorists intimidate us. We have enough power to eliminate them. But true elimination will take place through working with the Arab and Muslim people around the world. The elimination of terrorism will be the true tribute to those victims of September 11, so that they did not die in vain.

IN YOUR OPINION

Dear Editor,

As the author of New Jersey's Bullying Prevention law and a parent of school-age children myself, I feel the need to inform parents and families that beginning this September, school districts are now required to have bullying prevention policies in place to enhance the safety of students.

When our children return to school this month, many will share with their families detailed accounts of the new friends they met during the first week. However, some stories will not be as welcomed or pleasant for parents to hear. Some students will be less apt to share their experiences with their families due to bullying they have been victimized by, witnessed, or even perpetrated.

The anti-bullying policy signed into law by the Governor last September requires all public school districts to adopt policies prohibiting bullying, harassment and intimidation at school, at school-sponsored events, or on the bus ride home, by September 1, 2003. The school district's policy is required to be printed in any publication that sets forth rules and regulations as well as any student handbook. The law requires that the adopted school policy includes several elements. Schools must define bullying and outline the consequences and appropriate actions to be taken against bullies. The measure also calls for the school to produce a statement of how the policy should be publicized so parents, family members, teachers and all those involved in educating students are fully aware of the new law.

For far too long bullying has been tolerated or ignored as a harmless "right of passage." This logic is simply inaccurate and counterproductive to the objective of a school, which is to give our children the best possible education in a safe and secure environment. This new mechanism takes a proactive approach to ensure safety throughout our state. Teachers will

have an appropriate process to follow in the event of a bullying incident.

Families now have the opportunity to reference current school code if their child is bullied. Students will be able to concentrate more on their work rather than worrying about the bus ride home at 3 p.m. It will further enforce an important life lesson for all involved - treat others with the same respect and kindness that you

wish to receive in return. This policy will help children to have the confidence, courage and desire to attend school and not let bullying stop them from enjoying the rewards of an education.

**BARBARA BUONO, SENATOR,
18TH DISTRICT**

(See pages 10 and 11 for more letters.)

Sacred Heart to Hold a Day of Healing

The Mother Ignacia Movement of the U.S. East Coast and the Filipino-American Association of Sacred Heart will hold a day of reflection with Rev. Dennis Kaelin from St. Patrick High School in Elizabeth on Saturday, Sept. 13 at Sacred Heart Church on South Plainfield Ave.

This day of reflection is to commemorate the death anniversary of Mother Ignacia del Espiritu Santo, founder of the Religious of the Vir-

gin Mary. There will be a 9 a.m. mass, followed by a conference about spirituality and works of Mother Ignacia del Espiritu Santo in the cafeteria. There will also be a healing session, led by Sister Raquel Reodica, RVM, also in the cafeteria. At noon there will be a potluck lunch and at 2 p.m. they will resume the healing session. At 4:30 p.m. snacks will be served. Individual sessions may be requested for those who may wish to stay.

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South Plainfield Observer

The South Plainfield Observer is published every Friday

G&G Graphics, Inc.
1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

(908) 668-0010 • FAX (908) 668-8819

NANCY GRENNIER
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www.spobserver.com

For subscriptions, advertising or information, call (908) 668-0010.

The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

The South Plainfield Observer (U.S.P.S. 018253) is published weekly, except Thanksgiving week, by G&G Graphics Inc. 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080-2004. Second class postage paid at South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080-9998. POSTMASTER: Forward change of address orders to G&G Graphics Inc. 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080-2004. Subscription rates \$25 per year in South Plainfield; \$30 per year out of town. To subscribe: 908-668-0010.

SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in 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 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: 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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Council Asking Freeholders For \$1.3M in Park Upgrades

Borough Councilmen Ray Petronko and Bob Cusick are seeking grant money to upgrade the parks in South Plainfield from the Middlesex County Freeholders. Plans of the upgrades produced by architect Joe DeAndrea were on display at last week's council meeting.

Ray Petronko explained that he became aware that the freeholders had money available by way of grants. "Even though we have been steadily upgrading our parks, it is going a little too slow to meet the needs of the Borough," said Petronko. Five major areas would receive the benefits of the grant money if it is awarded.

• The Highland Woods Environmental Reserve, located at Sylvania Place, would receive a building that could serve as a classroom. It will also contain bathroom facilities. The building would be locked when not in use.

Many people visit the Highland Woods Environmental Reserve to walk through the many trails during the year, but there are no rest room facilities on the site.

• The Ponytail Softball field on Pitt Street would receive lighting on Field A. Presently games can only be played until dusk. Lighting would enable games to be played to completion into the evening.

• The Soccer Field on Kenneth Ave. across from the Pop Warner Fields would get a clubhouse with rest room facilities and lighting. Presently, those attending soccer games must walk to the football fields to use the bathrooms.

• The Junior Baseball Club on Kenneth Ave., which is already a huge complex of fields utilized by baseball players of all ages, would receive lighting and additional parking.

Open House Month at Wesley United Methodist

Summer is over and it's back to work and back to school, so it's only natural to come back to church. Now is a great time to visit Wesley Church and see what Open Hearts, Open Minds and Open Doors is all about. This month they will host an "Open House" to the community with our new pastor, the Rev. Dr. Nehemiah Thompson.

Wesley Church is proud of its history in South Plainfield and has been

serving God and the community for well over 100 years. Sunday School begins at 9 a.m. and Worship service begins at 10:30 a.m. Enjoy light refreshments and fellowship after service and tour this beautiful church.

If you can't make it on Sunday, a contemporary worship service will be held on Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. We look forward to seeing you and your family at Open House Month this September.

Rape Crisis Intervention Center Recruiting Volunteers

The Middlesex County Public Health Department's Rape Crisis Intervention Center is seeking volunteers to provide support and advocacy to victims of sexual violence.

Those interested in volunteering will take part in the Center's 50 hour Volunteer Advocate Training Program, which will train individuals in crisis intervention, advocacy, and in the dynamics of sexual violence and recovery. Upon completion of the program, volunteers will serve on call, on a rotating basis. Responsibilities will include offering support, information

and referrals via the center's 24-hour hotline to victims, others affected by sexual violence and members of the community at large. Volunteers will also accompany victims during collection of forensic evidence and throughout the legal process to ensure that the victim's rights are being upheld.

Volunteer Advocate Training begins Tuesday, Sept. 23, 6 to 10 p.m. and Saturday mornings, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through October 25.

For further information, call (732) 452-5900, Monday through Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.



(L to R) Rebecca Paul, Jessica Holt, Owner and Manager Rosie Holt, franchise trainer Maria Carrozza, Nancy Pasternak and Co-Manager Vicky Kiczula.

Slim and Tone Weight Loss Center Holds Grand Opening

By Jane Dornick

Slim and Tone, offering a 30-minute workout for women, made its debut in South Plainfield with a grand opening held on Sept. 6. Located at 2601 Hamilton Blvd. between Durham and South Clinton avenues, the new facility and program combines a 30-minute cardio and strength training workout with nutritional guidance and emotional fitness.

Owner and South Plainfield resident Rosemary Holt has been an exercise buff for years. When looking for a new career she decided to open a Slim and Tone franchise in her hometown. Rosie attended the Cooper Clinic in Pennsylvania, a nutrition and fitness health clinic, where she became a licensed trainer. She then brought on board friends and family as employees to make the exercise center a reality.

If you're tired of the same old exercise and diet routines, the Slim and Tone program offers an interesting new direction.

For more information about Slim and Tone, call (908) 769-0009.

Terra Nova Garden Club News

The Terra Nova Garden Club is pleased to announce the new officers for the 2003-04 year: Joan Lippi, president; Debbie Czech, vice president; Eileen Holt, treasurer and secretaries Helen Behrens and Theresa Ward.

The September monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 24 at 6:45 p.m. at the North Edison Library, 777 Grove Ave. in Edison. New members are always welcome.

The main topic of the meeting is to finalize the club's preparations for the Metuchen County Fair, held Oct. 4. Terra Nova Garden Club is sponsoring a booth in line with the "baseball" theme. Demonstrations of crafts using plant materials and gardening information will be available.

The ongoing community service project, Garden Therapy, will resume at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 24 at the Muhlenberg Adultcare Facility in Plainfield.

Lifeguard Instructor and Water Safety Instructor Courses Offered

The Tri-County Chapter of the American Red Cross is offering a Lifeguard Instructor (R03) Course and Water Safety Instructor Course. Individuals who are 17 years of age or older can register for either course. The Lifeguard Instructor course trains instructor candidates to teach Lifeguard Training (including First Aid), CPR for the Professional Rescuer, Life-guarding Instructor Aide and Community Water Safety by developing their understanding of how to use the course materials and methods of conducting training sessions and evaluating participants' progress. This course also includes the new upgrade from Lifeguard Management. The Water Safety Instructor (WSI) course prepares in-

structor candidates to teach all levels of learn to swim courses.

Both courses will be held at the Plainfield YMCA beginning Sept. 18.

Don't miss this opportunity to be trained as an instructor! Call (908) 756-6414 ext. 27 to register or for more information on training dates.

Special Council Meeting Announced

A special meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Monday, Sept. 29, at 7 p.m. at the Municipal Building for a public hearing and adoption of the FY2004 Budget.

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Around Town

Girl Scouts Registration Night

September 12

The Girl Scouts of South Plainfield will hold an open registration night at Riley School on Friday, Sept. 12 from 6 to 8 p.m. All girls in the community are invited to attend if they are interested!

Anyone who may be interested in becoming a leader for troops of different ages and different sizes are also encouraged to attend.

HS Music Boosters Hosting Yard Sale

September 13

The South Plainfield High School Music Boosters will host an outdoor yard sale on Saturday, Sept. 13 on the South Plainfield Middle School lawn, located on Plainfield Ave., from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Table space is still available for \$20 (You provide your own standard size table.). For reservations or information, please call (908) 791-0294.

AARP Chapter #4144 Meeting

September 15

Chapter #4144 of AARP will resume their meetings at 12:30 p.m. on Sept. 15 at the South Plainfield Senior Citizens building on Maple Ave. Pam James, a training technician from Middlesex County Social Services, will present an overview of Medicaid, how it works and how to reach the proper person to handle certain problems.

On Oct. 29, we will have a bus trip to West Orange and Newark for a guided tour to the Cathedral of Sacred Heart, the Museum Complex, a backstage look at the NJPAC and a lunch at the Essex House. Open to all at a cost of \$60, which covers all expenses. Call Lee at (732) 968-6613 or Margo at (908) 755-4697.

On Nov. 6 and 7, a Drivers Safety course, open to all licensed drivers, will be held each morning from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., which will give a three year discount on your automobile insurance policy. Cost is \$10. Call Mary at (732) 752-3764 for information or registration.

Republican Club Monthly Meeting

September 17

The regular monthly meeting of the South Plainfield Republican Or-

What's happening in AUGUST

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 9:00 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
UPCOMING TRIPS.... September 28 & 29 Cape May Trip October 16 -- Annie Get Your Gun			Senior Center EVENTS	
Adult Crafts 15 9:30-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Drawing class 11:30am 11:30 am-12:30 pm	Bingo 10am-2pm 16 Lunch Available Ladies's Social Group 10 am Computer Classes 10am-11am or 2-3pm	Exercise & Walking Club 8:45-9:45am 17 Line Dancing 10-11:30 Movie Time 11:30am AARP Crafts 1pm Computer Class 1-2pm	Shopping Day 9am-11am 11 Video Exercise Class 9:30am-10:30am Practical Crafts 10-11am Computer class 1-2pm	Bingo 10am-2pm 12 Pizza Lunch Computer Class 10am-11am
Adult Crafts 15 9:30-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Drawing class 11:30am 11:30 am-12:30 pm	Bingo 10am-2pm 16 Lunch Available Ladies's Social Group 10 am Computer Classes 10am-11am or 2-3pm	Exercise & Walking Club 8:45-9:45am 17 Line Dancing 10-11:30 Movie Time 11:30am AARP Crafts 1pm Computer Class 1-2pm	Shopping 9am 18 Pool Tournament 10am vs. Perth Amboy Practical Crafts 10-11 am Computer Class 1-2 pm	Bingo 10am-2pm 19 Pizza Lunch Computer Class 10-11am

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

ganization will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 17 at the American Legion Hall on Oak Tree Rd. The meeting will begin at 8 p.m. Any interested residents are invited to attend and discuss town issues with council candidates Marge Reedy and Ray Rusnak.

Cultural Arts Celebrating 20th

September 20

The South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission will be celebrating their 20th anniversary with a gala evening of live entertainment, music and refreshments on Saturday, Sept. 20, at the South Plainfield Senior Center from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

RSVP is required as seating is limited. Semi-formal attire. Please RSVP to Frank Furino at (908) 754-5167 or to SPCAC@aol.com.

Rev. Stephenson's Orchestra at Sacred Heart

September 21

The Sacred Heart Rosary Altar Society will once again present the internationally acclaimed Orchestra of St. Peter by the Sea, conducted by Rev. Alphonse Stephenson. This year the orchestra will be playing Broadway tunes, as well as patriotic anthems. The con-



Rev. Alphonse Stephenson

cert will take place on Sunday, Sept. 21 at 3 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church.

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

St. Peter by the Sea consists of 45 members who have 750 years of study and performed over 57,000 concerts and recitals. General admission is \$25 and seniors and students are \$20.

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

Rutgers Athletic Recruiting Program

September 24

All student athletes in grades 7-12 and their parents are invited to join the South Plainfield Guidance Department K-12 for a presentation by Michael A. Miello from Rutgers University. The presentation will discuss the recruiting process, NCAA Clearinghouse procedures, eligibility standards, the student-athlete as school leader and making the transition to college. The presentation will take place on Wed., Sept. 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the South Plainfield High School, cafeteria C/D. To R.S.V.P., call (908) 754-4620 ext. 257.

Sons of American Legion Golf Outing

September 24

The Sons of the American Legion, Chaumont Post 243 will hold its first annual golf outing at Bunkerhill Golf

Course in Princeton on Wednesday, Sept. 24. The cost is \$85 per person and includes green fees, cart, prizes, breakfast, lunch and drinks, as well as a buffet dinner at Chaumont Post 243. Tee times start at 10 a.m. and a hole-in-one on the 13th hole will get you a trip for two in Hawaii!

Proceeds will go to the various charities supported by the Sons of the American Legion. Make checks payable to the Sons of the American Legion, Post 243, 243 Oak Tree Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

OLC to Hold a Spaghetti Supper

September 27

Our Lady of Czestochowa will be holding a spaghetti supper, sponsored by the OLC Rosary Society, on Saturday, Sept. 27 from 4 to 8 p.m. Cost for adults is \$7, children 5-12 are \$3.50, senior citizens are \$6 and children under five are free.

Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish Hall is located at 907 Hamilton Blvd.

Senior Center Atlantic City Trips

Oct. 1, Nov. 5

The South Plainfield Senior Center will sponsor two trips to Atlantic City on Oct. 1 and Nov. 5. The bus will depart from the Senior Center at 9 a.m. for the Taj Mahal. The cost is \$15 per person and you get \$13 back from the hotel. Stop by the Senior Center at 90 Maple Ave. to make your seat reservation. Reservations open up 30 days prior to the trip date.

For more information, call Joann at the Senior Center at (908) 756-4135.

Columbiettes Fashion Show

October 5

It's never too early to start planning! The South Plainfield Columbiettes will hold their annual fall fashion show on Sun., Oct. 5 at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Hamilton Blvd. Doors will open at 12:30 p.m. and the catered, family-style luncheon will begin at 1 p.m.

Fashions will be provided by Dress Barn and Dress Barn Women in South Plainfield. There will also be door prizes and a basket raffle. Proceeds from the luncheon will go to support local charities.

Tickets are \$22 and can be purchased by contacting Gerri at (908) 753-2032. Deadline is Oct. 2.

— Out of Town —

Middlesex East WOWs

September 12

The Middlesex East WOWs Carteret Chapter will hold a dance for widows and widowers on Fri., Sept. 12 at St. Demetrius Community Center, 681-691 Roosevelt Ave., Carteret. Admission is \$8. Live music will be played and refreshments will be offered. The dance is from 7:30-11:30 p.m.

For more information, call (732) 969-1123 or (908) 757-0515.

Walk and Fair for Homeless Paws

September 13

On Saturday, Sept. 13 (in case of inclement weather, Sunday, Sept. 14), the Friends of Wayne Animals (FOWA) will be hosting its Second Annual Walk and Fair for Homeless Paws.

The Walk and Fair takes place at Sunnybank Park on Terhune Dr. in Wayne. The goal is to raise funds to support the Wayne Animal Shelter and FOWA.

For more information about becoming a Walk and Fair for Homeless Paws sponsor, please contact Karina Tomass, 2003 FOWA Walk and Fair Chairperson at (973) 616-1860 or email at parkatnick@aol.com.

Dunellen Railroad Steam Train Rides

September 13-14

Enjoy a trip on the Scenic Raritan Valley Line from Dunellen through the countryside of beautiful Somerset County on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 13 and 14. The train will be pulled by an historic Susquehanna Steam Locomotive, with vintage cars and a functioning diner. Train departs Dunellen at 9:30, 11:30, 2:30 and 4:30. Coach is \$7 for child and adults are \$13.

For information, call 877-TRAIN RIDE; order online at 877trainride.com.

Auditions for 'Oliver!' to be Held

September 16-17

The Rainbow Experience, a multi-cultural community theater group, will hold auditions for the musical *Oliver* on Tuesday, Sept. 16 at 7:30 p.m. at the United Church of Christ in Plainfield on 220 West 7th St. and Wednesday, Sept. 17 at the First Congregational Church on 125 Elmer St. in Westfield. Come prepared to sing 16-32 bars of a song you like. Bring sheet music in your key or a tape. Dress comfortably so you can move. Auditions will be held on a first-come, first-serve basis. Bring a picture/resume if you have one. Contact Jessica Beltz at (908) 754-4837 for more information.

Jersey Shore Bottle Club Holds 31st Show

September 21

Sept. 21, a 30-year tradition continues as the Jersey Shore Bottle Club holds their 31st show. Dealers in antique bottles, as well as collectors, are invited. The show is held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Brick Twsp. High School, 348 Chambers Bridge Rd. in Brick. Admission is \$2. Limited number of tables are available. Contracts can be obtained from the club's website, <http://www.geocities.com/dtripet2000/jsbc/jsbc.html>.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

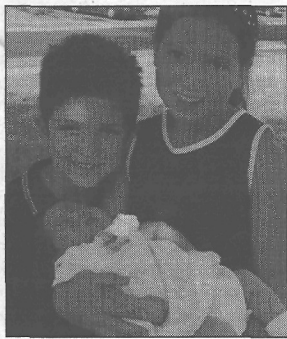
SEND US YOUR PHOTOS. If you have an event, take a photo, write a caption identifying the event and people and send it to us via mail. The best photos record action and don't include so many people that it is impossible to identify anyone. Please don't send us photocopies or laser prints. They don't reproduce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

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

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

southplainfieldpeople Milestones

O'Sullivans Announce the Birth of a Daughter



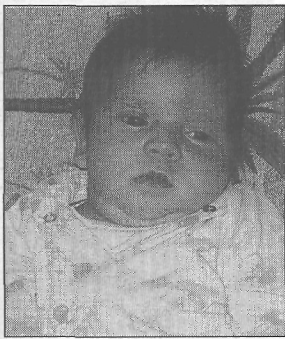
John, Michelle and Nicole O'Sullivan

John and Maria O'Sullivan of South Plainfield are the proud parents of a new daughter, Nicole Elcira, born at Somerset Hospital on August 11. Nicole weighed in at 9 pounds 2 ounces and was 21 1/4 inches long.

She was welcomed by her sister, Michelle, 9 and brother John 6, who were both delighted with the new addition to the family.

Send Your Milestones to:

South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or fax (908) 668-8819; email ggnan@aol.com.



Nicole Elcira O'Sullivan

Local Teen Sings the National Anthem at Shea

Stephanie Stellakis, daughter of Eileen and John Stellakis of South Plainfield, was selected to sing "The Star Spangled Banner" at the start of the Aug. 12 Mets game. The game was delegated to "Greek Night" as part of the Mets International Night Series. The Greek Children's Fund helped promote the event and received a portion of the proceeds from the 700 tickets they sold. The Greek Children's Fund provides financial assistance to the patients of Greek decent and their families at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and Schneider Children's Hospital at Long Island Jewish Medical Center.

There were over 35,000 fans in attendance, including dignitaries New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and former President Bill Clinton.

Stephanie is an honor student beginning her junior year at Mount St. Mary Academy. She is a member of



Stephanie Stellakis

the Varsity Winter and Spring Track teams, the JV Volleyball Team and has received Academic Scholarship Awards for her participation in the school chorus. In addition to being a Silver Award recipient and a Gold Award candidate for Girl Scouts,

Stephanie dances ballet and pointe and is certified in CPR, first aid and lifeguarding. Stephanie is also a very active member of the Greek Orthodox community, serving as Sunday school aid, summer camp coordinator and treasurer of her church's youth group.

At the game, San Francisco's Barry Bonds scored his 650th career home run, edging closer than any other player has to the 755 homerun record of baseball great, Babe Ruth. Despite Bonds' homeruns, the Mets beat the San Francisco Giants five-four.

If anyone would like additional information about the Greek Children's Fund or would like to make a donation, please contact: The Greek Children's Fund, P.O. Box 541500, Flushing, NY 11354; phone (201) 907-5090; or fax: (201) 843-4554. You can contact them online at: <http://www.greekchildrenfund.org>.

Unity Bank Brings Foy into the Fold

Anthony J. Feraro, president of Unity Bank, announced the appointment of Jacqueline Foy of Colonia as branch manager of the Colonia Office.

After graduating from Shaw University with a degree in Business Administration, Jacqueline began a long and involved career span in the world of customer service. For the past six years, Foy has acted as branch manager for PNC Bank in Colonia, where

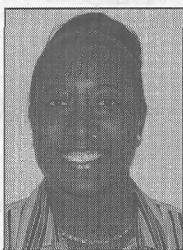
her continuous suggestions for new sales strategies increased branch sales over fifty percent.

When asked why the sudden switch to the Unity Team, Jacqueline was quoted in saying, "I wanted to locate a challenging position where I could utilize my education and previous work experience." Janice Bolomey, senior VP and regional operations manager of Unity Bank added further,

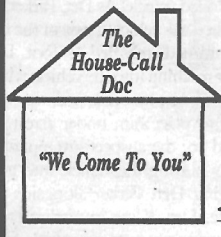
"Unity searched long and hard for the perfect branch manager, and the journey is now complete. Jackie Foy's belief in making the customer feel at home when they enter your branch is key evidence of her past successes. Her passion for pleasing her family, friends, and community is evident wherever she goes."

Unity Bank, 1379 St. Georges Ave, Colonia, is open from 8 to 5 Monday through Wednesday; 8 to 9 Thursday, 8 to 6 Friday, and from 9 to 12 on Saturdays.

For information about Unity Bank, see www.unitybank.com or call 800.618.BANK.



Jacqueline Foy



"We Come To You"

Phone: (908) 755-2289
Cell: (908) 581-3610
E-Mail: SoPlfdDoc@aol.com

Aiello

Chiropractic Center, P.C.
Dr. Patrick M. Aiello, D.C.

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Carousel

Hair Salon

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

307 Oak Tree Ave. 908-668-8397
 Wed.-Fri 8am-4pm, Sat 6:45am-3pm, Closed Sun/Mon/Tues

Tickets Still Available for Christmas Show and "Hairspray"

The South Plainfield Recreation Department still has a few tickets left for the Radio City Christmas show on Dec. 8. The cost is \$70 per person. The bus will leave the PAL at 4 p.m. and there will be a few hours for shopping in New York.

They also still have tickets to see *Hairspray* on Sunday, Feb. 22, 2004. Bus leaves the PAL at 10:30 a.m. and returns around 7 p.m. There will be plenty of time to shop and eat before the show. Tickets are \$100 per person and are available at the PAL Building between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. on weekdays.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Marcia Lubansky

Sunday Hours Resume—Summer is over, school starts and we are open for business again seven days a week. On Sept. 7, the library resumed its Sunday hours from 1:30 to 5 p.m. Who knows? Perhaps we can provide just the right information for that school assignment due early Monday morning. Children's programs also resume Sept. 23.

Back to School—Attention students! Did you know that our online catalog can create bibliographies in MLA or Chicago format? Go to our online catalog and get a list of search results using whatever search method you like. To the right of each title in the list, click "Add to my list". At the bottom of the list, you have the option to e-mail the bibliography in the format you select. Your choices are: HTML, plain text, MLA and Chicago. This is just one more trick to make your life easier!

Special Programs—"Meet the Author" on Sunday, September 14 at 2 p.m. Ludwig Wilhelm Knapp will present *Growing Up Under Hitler—I Was There*. Bridget Lupia of UBS Financial Services, Inc. will present an investment seminar on "Paying for College" on Thursday, Sept. 18 at 7 p.m. Discover a number of education funding alternatives that can help you accumulate significant savings, including: 529 College Savings Plans, Coverdell Education Savings Accounts (formerly called Education IRAs), Custodial Accounts (UGMA/UTMA),

and trusts for education expenses. Free! Looking forward to October, join us on Sunday, Oct. 5 for another "Antiques Appraisals." He's back! Alan G. Snyder will appraise two items per participant.

Your 24-Hour Library: Business Source Elite—Business Source Elite, available online, provides full text to over 1,000 journals covering business, management, economics, finance, banking, accounting and more. The rich collection of titles in *Business Source Elite* provides information dating back to 1985. This database is updated on a daily basis via EBSCOhost.

Here's how to get started.

1. Go to the library web page: www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us.
2. On the left side, click on Online Databases
3. Click on Ebscohost
4. (From home or office, enter your library barcode.)
5. Click on Ebscohost Web
6. Click on Business Source Elite
7. Click on MasterFile Premier if you wish to search ONLY Business Source Elite.
8. Enter terms to search by, and you're on your way!

Always New!—What brings you back to your favorite stores over and over again? Probably a choice of new merchandise. The library also offers new choices every day! We still have the best of the old, while new titles arrive everyday. Come take a look; there is something for everyone.

Your library, always open!

Plainfield Animal Hospital Gets Accreditation

Plainfield Animal Hospital on Parl Ave. again received accreditation following a comprehensive evaluation by the American Animal Hospital Association. The evaluation includes a quality assessment review of the hospital's facility, medical equipment, practice methods and pet health care management. About 15 percent of all small animal veterinary facilities in the U.S. receive accreditation. In order to maintain this status, Plainfield Animal Hospital must continue to be evaluated regularly by the association.

The American Animal Hospital Association is an international organization of more than 16,000 veterinary care providers who treat companion animals. Established in 1933, the association is well-known among veterinarians for its high standards for hospitals and pet health care.

For pet care information of a referral to an AAHA hospital, pet owners can visit the AAHA website at www.healthypet.com. Plainfield Animal Hospital has been a hospital member of the association since 1976.

Celebrating our 26th year in South Plainfield

Jo-Ann's Dance Studio

The Performing Arts Centre
 4475 South Clinton Avenue, S. Plainfield, NJ 07080
(908) 561-5094
 E-mail JOANNinNJ@aol.com

Hip Hop Sessions Available



A complete line of dancewear available

Classes available in all areas and levels of dance
 BALLET ~ POINTE ~ TAP ~ MODERNE ~ JAZZ
 PRESCHOOL CLASSES ~ COMBINATION CLASSES
 ~ HIP HOP WORKSHOPS ~
 ~ ADULT CLASSES AVAILABLE ~

Fall Classes Begin Sept. 10
There is still time to register!

JO-ANN FAULKNER,
DIRECTOR

*Official dance training for Feigley's School of Gymnastics
 South Plainfield, NJ



TARA FAULKNER-CATALINA,
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

*Home of the award winning
 LeCentre Dance Ensemble
 (membership by invitation only)

Walk in - Dance Out
 Visit our web site
<http://www.jo-annsdancestudio.bigstep.com>

To Serve and Protect

Police Dept. Recognizes Officers Who Go Above and Beyond

For the second year in a row, the South Plainfield Police Department has been forced to hold their annual dress inspection inside the Rescue Squad building due to inclement weather. In attendance were Mayor Dan Gallagher, members of the council and Rev. Charles Mingle.

The ceremonies were conducted by Chief Robert Merkler, whose speech began with the meaning and importance of the word "tradition." He encouraged each officer to continue to carry on the tradition of being vigilant and perform their duty with professionalism and pride, just as they and their predecessors have done in the past.

Eighteen officers were recognized for perfect attendance for the year 2002 and received a commendation bar indicating how many years of perfect attendance they have had in their career.

The following officers received special awards and commendations for their service:

Officer James Foran—Letter of Commendation.

On April 1, 2002 a resident of 129 Ten Eyck St. was the victim of a ho-

Officer Matthew Mahoney—Letter of Commendation.

On Aug. 24, 2002 Off. Mahoney received a description of a vehicle and the suspects involved in an aggravated assault involving a stabbing which happened a short time earlier on Park Ave. While all other police units were occupied on other calls for service, Off. Mahoney observed a vehicle matching the description of the suspect vehicle. He immediately initiated a motor vehicle stop of the suspect vehicle and was able to secure the two suspects. A visual search of the interior of the vehicle revealed a knife on the floor where the front seat passenger was seated and a second knife in the rear passenger compartment of the vehicle. The victims of the assault were transported to the scene and made positive identification of the suspects, who were subsequently arrested and charged. Further investigation revealed that the suspects were members of the MS-13 gang. As a direct result of Off. Mahoney's observations and professional conduct, this case was cleared and two violent suspects were taken off the streets.

Sergeant Paul Wylam—Medal of Honor and Officers Wendell Born,



Chief Robert Merkler congratulated Police Officer Wendell Born for his role in the Traditions fire.

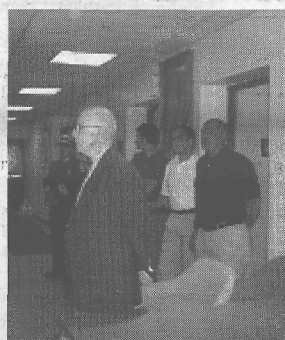
Wylam then retrieved the master keys from the complex superintendent, returned to the second floor of the building that was burning and continued with his evacuation efforts. Officers Born, Noonan and Courtney, despite the danger and the fact that burning debris was raining down upon them, conducted evacuation efforts of both the building that was burning as well as an adjacent building.

Detective Lieutenant Michael Lane—Letter of Commendation.

On Sept. 15, 2002 a burglary was reported at Regal Cinema in which more than \$12,000 in receipts were stolen from the company safe. Lt. Michael Lane responded to conduct the supplemental investigation. During the course of his investigation, he noted discrepancies in some of the explanations given by employees who had access to the safe. As a result of information developed during the interviews, he applied for and received a court order authorizing a telephone intercept. After executing this court order, Lt. Lane developed additional incriminating evidence that led to the issuance of five search warrants. The search warrants were executed and the

breathing. They immediately utilized a defibrillator and administered CPR. As a direct result of their intervention, the victim was revived and transported to Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center for continued care.

Sergeant John Alles, Officer Raymond Jazikoff and Officer David DeLair—Life Saving Medal.



Rev. Mingle and members of the Borough Council.

On Feb. 20, 2003 Sgt. Alles and Officers Jazikoff and DeLair responded to a residence in South Plainfield on a report of an unresponsive

and Stelton Rd. While Piscataway officers quickly apprehended two of the suspects, the third suspect fled on foot into a wooded area and remained at large. As Off. Iarrapino entered the area in order to assist in the search, sounds associated with someone walking through the wooded area were heard. Off. Iarrapino responded to the vicinity in which the sounds were coming in order to investigate further. As he did so, he observed the remaining suspect lying on the ground and attempting to utilize the brush to secrete his location. The suspect was subsequently apprehended without incident and charged with the robbery. Due to the diligence and professional response of Off. Iarrapino, the third remaining suspect involved in this armed robbery was apprehended and removed from the streets.

Officers Raymond Jazikoff and Wendell Born—Letter of Commendation.

On May 30, 2003 Officers Jazikoff and Born were working a DMV inspection detail. During the detail, a vehicle was directed to pull into the inspection area as a result of an overdue inspection sticker. During their investigation, the operator of the vehicle continued to be evasive and untruthful in his responses to the officers, indicated that he was a bounty hunter and attempted to convince the officers to allow him to continue on his way. Their suspicions were aroused and the operator was ordered from his vehicle so the officers could conduct a protective pat down frisk. As Off. Jazikoff conducted the frisk, Off. Born observed the handle of a handgun that was protruding from the operator's waistband. The operator was immediately taken into custody and subsequently charged with weapon offenses. Due to the diligence, persistence and observations of Officers Jazikoff and Born, a handgun was removed from the streets and an arrest was made.

Detective James Parker—Honorable Service Medal and Detective Gary Kline—Letter of Commendation.

On Aug. 14, 2003 Detectives Parker and Kline were detailed to conduct a surveillance of an abandoned stolen vehicle. Within 40 minutes, the three suspects returned in another stolen vehicle in order to retrieve the abandoned vehicle. As Det. Parker approached the vehicles, two of the suspects immediately fled on foot. Det. Parker reaching into the vehicle where the third suspect remained seated in order to place him under arrest. As he did so, the suspect attempted to flee by putting the vehicle into gear, dragging Det. Parker alongside the vehicle. Det. Kline immediately attempted to prevent the vehicle from going any further by driving towards the fleeing vehicle. As Det. Parker fell to the ground, the suspect's car and Det. Kline's vehicle collided. Det. Parker, even though he was injured as a result of being dragged, engaged in a foot pursuit with one of the suspects who fled and was eventually involved with the apprehension. The suspects were subsequently charged with aggravated assault, receiving stolen property and related crimes. Supplemental investigation not only revealed the identity of the suspect who eluded capture, but also connected these suspects to thefts of vehicles in other jurisdictions as well. Due to the persistence, diligence and professional responses of Detectives Parker and Kline, a group of individuals involved in various crimes in multiple jurisdictions were apprehended.



Chief Robert Merkler present Officer Brian Iarrapino with a Letter of Commendation in an investigation of an armed robbery.

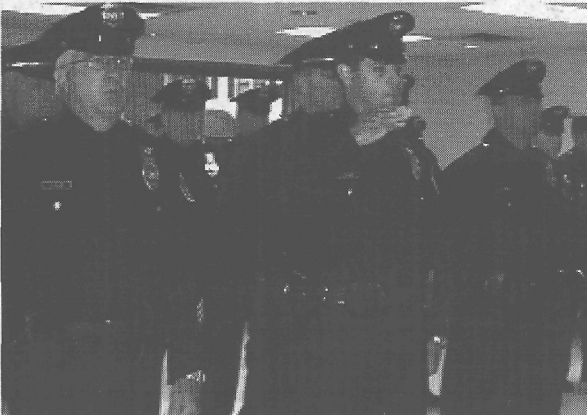
micide. As part of a supplemental investigation, four computers associated with this crime were seized and forensically analyzed by Det. Foran. Through his diligence and perseverance, evidence was recovered linking the suspect of this homicide to child pornography. As a direct result of his extensive and comprehensive investigation, additional criminal charges were filed against the suspect.

Officers David DeLair and James McConville—Honorable Service Medal.

On May 25, 2002 Officers DeLair and McConville, while working an extra-duty detail in the area of Coolidge St., observed smoke rising from the area of a townhouse complex located in Edison Twp. When they responded to investigate, they discovered the rear of one of the units fully engulfed in flames. They immediately called their dispatch center and initiated evacuation procedures to ensure none of the affected apartments were occupied. They also kicked in the door to the unit where the fire originated, but due to the fire and heavy smoke condition, they were unable to make entry into the apartment itself. After ensuring that none of the apartments were occupied, they remained on the scene and assisted the Edison Twp. Fire Dept. Officers DeLair and McConville acted in a professional and decisive manner, risking their own safety to ensure that none of the apartments were occupied.

Daniel Noonan and Sherlyn Courtney—Meritorious Service Medal.

On Sept. 9, 2002 a 9-1-1 call was received regarding smoke and flames coming from one of the buildings at the Traditions condominium complex. Sgt. Paul Wylam immediately responded and was the first officer on the scene. As he arrived, he observed smoke and flames coming from the roofline of one of the buildings. Officers Wendell Born and Daniel Noonan responded as backup officers. Off. Sherlyn Courtney, who was off-duty, responded to assist. Sgt. Wylam directed the other officers to initiate evacuation activities. Sgt. Wylam responded directly to the hallway where flames and smoke were coming in order to evacuate residents. Sgt. Wylam did in fact locate an elderly resident in one of the units in the vicinity of where the flames were observed. Once this resident was safely evacuated, Sgt. Wylam continued with his efforts. As he did so, he observed flames emerge from and then retreat into a ceiling panel in the hallway. Recognizing the danger, he quickly completed his evacuation efforts and ran toward the stairway. As he did so, a fireball exploded towards him from the ceiling area, forcing him to jump from the third floor to the second floor, bypassing the stairs. The entire third floor was quickly engulfed in flames. Despite his efforts to avoid the fire, his hair was singed and his forehead was slightly burned. Sgt.



Det. Gary Klein and Det. James Parker received a Honorable Service Medal and Letter of Commendation for stopping a car thief in August.

majority of the proceeds of the burglary were recovered. As a result of Lt. Lanes diligent and comprehensive investigation, criminal charges were filed and arrests were made of four suspects for burglary, theft and receiving stolen property.

Sergeant John Alles and Officer Daryl Strother—Life Saving Medal.

On Jan. 27, 2003 Sgt. Alles and Off. Strother responded to a residence in South Plainfield on a report of a woman having severe chest pains. Upon their arrival, they found the victim to be unresponsive and not

overdose victim. Upon their arrival, they immediately initiated and continued to administer CPR for approximately 45 minutes. As a direct result of their intervention, the victim was revived and transported to Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center for continued care.

Officer Brian Iarrapino—Letter of Commendation.

On March 25, 2003 Off. Iarrapino responded to assist the Piscataway Police Dept., who were investigating an armed robbery of a business located at the corner of New Durham Ave.

From the Republicans

Billboards Should Be Banned

Despite public concern, the Borough Council several months ago changed the zoning ordinance in town to permit billboards. Since then, one billboard went up, and the town just approved another. Council candidates Marge Reedy and Ray Rusnak this week discussed the move to allow billboards, a move they characterized as a step backwards.

"South Plainfield does not need billboards," said Rusnak. "They are an eyesore and a blight on our town. I encourage the Mayor and Council to rethink their decision, because these unsightly signs don't help us move forward. They take us in the opposite direction."

Reedy agreed. "The huge signs, and they are huge, take away from the beauty of the landscape. Not only is it disappointing that the Democrats decided to allow billboards, but they put loose restrictions on the size. They're gigantic."

"Permitting billboards is a big mistake," added Rusnak. "The Democrats said they had to allow the signs, but our legal advisers tell us there were legitimate ways keep them out. The council just didn't fight hard enough."

"Ray's right," said Reedy. "It's unfortunate that the members of the council once again said 'yes' to what they were told by their party bosses. No one took a stand and pushed for the interests of the residents. Regrettably, this is what happens when you have one-party government."

"There's no room in South Plainfield for billboards," added Rusnak. "We need to repeal this ordinance. If elected, Marge Reedy and I will propose doing just that. We need to ban these eyesores from our town."

2003 VOTE

ATTENTION BUSINESS OWNERS:

Please join us....

at the
South Plainfield Business Assoc. Meeting
on Thursday, September 18, 2003

Hosted By:
Holiday Inn South Plainfield on Stelton Rd.
Crystals Restaurant

12:30 p.m. Arrive/Networking
1:00 p.m. International Lunch Buffet
and Meeting
2:00 p.m. Tour of the Hotel

R.S.V.P. by Friday, September 12
Susan Sales Office 908-753-5500 x611

From the Democrats

Improving Recreational Facilities Top Priority



Councilpersons Bob Cusick and Ray Petronko this week pointed out the tremendous improvement in South Plainfield's recreational infrastructure over the last several years. Cusick said, "By now almost everyone is aware of the beautiful state of the art Senior

Recreation Center and the doubling of the PAL, but those two outstanding facilities are just a part of what the Democratic team has been able to accomplish for the borough's recreation program. Over \$1.3 million dollars has been dedicated to improving our parks and recreational equipment, not counting the PAL and Senior Recreation Center. Our recreational facilities are the best in the state and there is one person who has been at the forefront the entire time, Councilperson Ray Petronko."

Petronko thanked his running mate for the compliment and commented, "South Plainfield is known for having outstanding recreational programs for people of all ages. When I travel to other towns, I always hear about our wrestling program, or pool complex or girls or boys baseball and soccer and our outstanding Senior Recreation Center and the programs it offers. The purpose of government is to improve the quality of life for all its citizens. In South Plainfield we try hard to meet that goal through our recreation department. In the last six years, new playground equipment, playground surfaces and safety improvements have been made at Veteran's Park, Ponytail Park, Shadyside Park, Willow Ave. Park, Cotton St. Park and Putnam Park along with the PAL Building, Community Pool and the boys baseball and soccer complexes. We were one of the first towns in the state to install a safe skateboarding facility behind borough hall. Recreation will always be a top priority as long as Cusick, Petronko and the Democrats have anything to say about it."

Bob Cusick continued the theme by pointing out the Democrats plan for continuing improvements to South Plainfield's recreational facilities. "Last Thursday, Ray and I made a presentation to the Middlesex County Freeholder Board seeking a \$1 million dollar grant which will allow us to make improvements to the Highland Woods Preserve, the Ponytail Softball Complex, the Soccer and Pop Warner Complexes, and the Junior Baseball Complex. Our hometown freeholder, John Pulomena, is the force behind this application and we are optimistic that the freeholders will act favorably within the next 30 days. It was nice to have John explain to the others freeholders exactly how each project will work. You can't put a value on having someone from South Plainfield working for our residents on the freeholder board everyday."

Ray Petronko summed up the Democratic theme, "The Democratic team is proud of its record of accomplishments in enhancing our recreational facilities and we are doubly proud of our plans for even better facilities in the immediate future. Best of all, they have been and will be done Pay As You Go. That's why there is not tax increase this year and there won't be one next year either."



Wellness Corner

Chiropractic & Medication...

As a chiropractor, one question I have to answer quite frequently is related to whether or not I can prescribe medications for a particular ailment. For the record, prescribing medications is not within the scope of being a chiropractor. That being said, had I wanted to include medications in the treatment plans of my patients, I would not have gone to chiropractic school. Medical school would have been a more viable option for that method of treatment.

Now don't get me wrong, medications can be a very good thing. I know, strange for a chiropractor to say it but true. Medications are also necessary at times. No one knows that more than I do. Case in point. My grandfather developed a condition later in his life called Myasthenia Gravis. Categorized as a muscular dystrophy disorder, my grandfather was paralyzed and lost the use of his lower body from about his belly button on down. Without medications, he would not have been able to maintain the usage of his upper body. By giving him medication that his body wasn't able to produce, he was able to utilize his upper body and led quite an active lifestyle maintaining his garden and other various hobbies.

I've never looked at chiropractors not prescribing drugs as a bad thing. In fact, it's quite the opposite. Chiropractors give their patients the opportunity to correct problems without the use of medications. That can eliminate many of the side effects that medications have. A study done by the University of Toronto in 1998 found that over 100,000 people died in 1994 due to adverse reactions to prescription medications. That put adverse drug reactions as the fourth leading cause of death in 1994. I don't know what is



Dr. Patrick Aiello, D.C.

scarier, those numbers or that the medications were 'properly' prescribed. What's also troubling is that there is little monitoring of these consequences. Hospitals and doctors are not required to keep track of this problem. Now, to be fair, some of the deaths can probably be attributed to the usage of powerful

medications to treat cancers, etc. However, with no monitoring system in place, how do we define and identify where the problem lies.

Another thing that's bothered me is the usage of antibiotics for non-bacterial (ie viral) problems. How many times has a child with an viral ear infection been given an antibiotic? Since antibiotics work on bacteria and not viruses, that's totally useless. What's worse, it can produce drug resistance to these antibiotics. Essentially rendering them ineffective in situations where they could have been helpful.

That's why I think being in a drug-free profession such as chiropractic is a good thing. You have to wonder about whose interest the drug companies have in mind when they are spending \$10 billion dollars a year promoting their products. With an alternative to medications, you, the patient or otherwise known as the healthcare consumer, have the ability to decide what direction is best for you.

House-Call Update

Well into my third month of treating my patients exclusively through house calls, the response I've received from my patients has been tremendous. I look forward to continuing this method of service. Should you have an questions please feel free to call me at (908) 755-2289 or E-Mail me at SoPlfdDoc@aol.com.

Great Adventure Discount Tickets Still Available

There's still time to have some fun at Great Adventure Theme Park this year. The park remains open until after Halloween.

To get your discounted tickets, call the South Plainfield Recreation Department at (908) 226-7713 or visit the PAL on Maple Ave.

Opportunity Knocked.

...and over 60 advertisers answered and used the August 29 issue to reach every household in South Plainfield to expand their customer base and increase sales.

We would like to thank all the advertisers who supported the Observer in the August 29 issue. We hope you'll join us again in November when we once again offer the opportunity to reach the entire borough.

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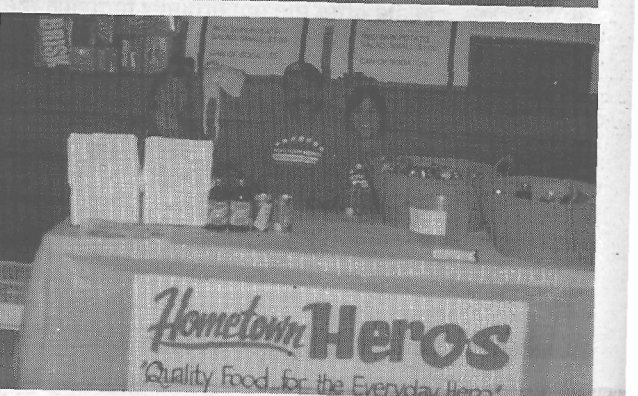
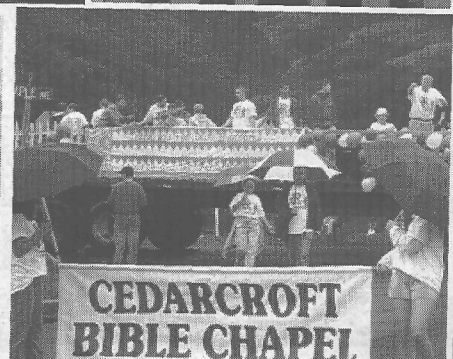
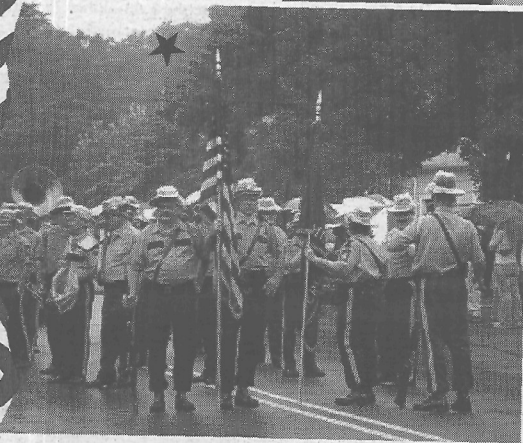
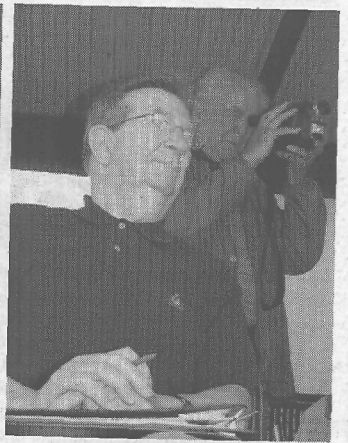
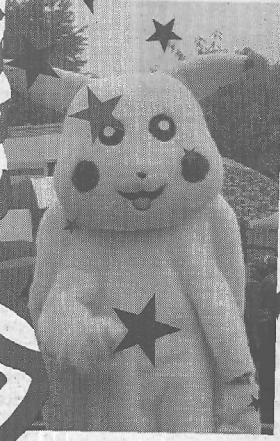
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The South Plainfield Observer would like to thank the following people for their help and support on Labor Day:

- Barbara Smith, who's been helping us faithfully every year.
- Sue and Justin Kanep, who are also there helping each year.
- Our hard working helpers Bob and Philip Dunn, Joe Grennier and leader Patrick Dunn.
- Patricia Abbott, who took pictures in the rain most of the day and son Christopher, who held an umbrella to try to keep her dry.
- Jane, Kimberly and Alex Dornick, for helping in the booth.
- Bill Tuthill and Marie Markey
- Wayne Grennier for spending the Labor Day weekend getting ready.





SPECIAL THANKS AND APPRECIATION TO SOUTH PLAINFIELD'S VERY OWN WHO PROUDLY SERVE...

South Plainfield-Celebrations Committee (John Sorrentino, Chair; Don Alexa, Ray Petronko, Council Liaison; Marion Gallagher, Patricia Vargo, Michael English, Joseph Scrudato, Marie Smith and Michael Mannix, Jr.) • Public Works Dept. (especially Vic Kurilew, who was there from 6am until well into the evening), members of the Police Dept., Rescue Squad, Fire Dept. and Emergency Management.

Many thanks to Hall's Trucking for donating the use of their trucks for the floats, as well as the volunteers who drove them

IN YOUR OPINION

Dear Editor,

In regards to the Labor Day festivities, I would like to thank all of our public officials, the South Plainfield Police, Fire Department and the crew at the Borough garage. What a great job, guys!

Great thanks to our Mayor, Dan Gallagher, for pulling this all off. With all the rain, the fireworks were perfect. South Plainfield residents can make the best of anything. God bless our town.

DAVE BARNES

To the Editor,

A card of thanks from Father John Skwara:

While visiting with Father John Skwara on Sunday, he said to pass on his thanks and blessings for the 130+ cards and letters he received for his birthday. He explained that he has a drawer "stuffed with them" and he was very pleased to receive them.

He is on dialysis three times a week at St. Peter's Hospital in New Brunswick, and is doing as well as can be expected.

BILL TUTHILL

To the Editor,

I want to thank you, Diana, for the extremely amusing letter you wrote last week. It never ceases to amaze me how worked up you get over the truth. In misquoting the board you stated that, "Thou doth protest too much" and you do my lady.

CAROL M. BYRNE

Dear Editor:

I am the council member who is responsible for overseeing the Helen Street Extension project, which will extend Helen St. to Metuchen Rd. When Helen St. is completed, all truck traffic will be directed away from the residential areas of the south side of South Plainfield directly to Durham Ave. by the Rt. 287 interchange. The Helen Street Extension project is being totally funded through Federal and State Grants and it is funded in stages every October only after completion of the prior year's requirements.

From its outset, everyone knew that it would take years to complete the project. The proposed Helen Street Extension borders the former borough landfill, crosses a brook and railroad tracks and impacts on wetlands. It has taken nearly six years to complete all the environmental studies and to receive all necessary environmental approvals, which include evaluation of six potential alternate routes. Approvals are granted by State and Federal agencies and these can sometimes take many months to obtain.

This is an extremely complicated project, which ultimately will cost upwards of \$15 million, totally funded from Federal and State grants and therefore subject to their requirements. The design stage will begin this fall and we have been awarded a 1.9 mil-

lion dollar grant to begin the design. Property acquisitions and construction will follow the design phase.

In the press release of Republican candidates for council last week, they recommend that the design be changed to include extending Hollywood Ave. Obviously they didn't bother to review the plan, which already includes extending Hollywood Ave. These comments are disturbing because they come from individuals who claim to be informed and prepared to serve on the Borough Council. The Republicans owe the voters the responsibility of researching the facts before they make reckless comments. They also claim that for years the project has been 'bungled' by the councilperson in charge. I can assure you that during my two years on the council, it has progressed on schedule. Prior to my taking over the project, the Republican campaign manager, Darlene Pinto, was the councilperson in charge of the project. Are the Republicans actually claiming their own campaign guru 'bungled' the project? For the balance of the campaign, I suggest that the Republicans put the silly season rhetoric to bed and talk about real proposals to alleviate traffic and congestion within South Plainfield, such as the Helen Street Project.

COUNCILMAN CHARLES BUTRICO

To the Editor,

A special thanks to the parents of our cub scouts who helped plan and put together the float for our children. Your work as always is appreciated. Also thanks so much for the hats for the boys; they wore them all day.

MARIE MARKEY AND
NANCY PAULS, CO-CHAIRS

To the Editor:

Last week's paper contained a letter to the editor from council candidate Raymond Petronko. In the letter, Petronko tried to score several low blows on Republican candidates Ray Rusnak and Marge Reedy. Apparently, he and his cronies consider anything but praise for the all-Democratic Borough Council negative campaigning.

Unfortunately, trying to score low blows was the only thing Petronko could do. He could not defend his record, so he attacked the messengers who brought his record to the public's attention. Marge and Ray have never said an unkind word about Petronko, but apparently Petronko figured he could muddy them up by saying they did. It's a game the Diegnan-Gallagher team plays. They distort their opponent's statements and then attack the distortion. They assume the public will never catch on.

Petronko also attacked Darlene Pinto for highlighting some of this administration's ethical lapses. Funny though, he could not deny the truth of what she said, because he knows Darlene can document everything.

Petronko could not deny how the council has discriminated against women. He could not deny how his party has given millions of dollars in no-bid contracts to campaign contributors, who in turn, give more money back to the Democratic Party. He could not deny the nepotism and cronyism that exists between our town, the county and the local Assembly office.

Nor could Petronko deny how his party has given favors to the big builders, the same builders who donate to the Democratic Party. Similarly, Petronko's letter never addresses how the council held secret closed-door meetings and how the Democrats have used public resources to help their reelection campaigns.

Petronko could not deny these things because they are all true. Darlene has the facts and the documentation to back up everything she said. Petronko knew this, so he attacked the messenger since he could not attack the message.

Petronko, aren't you the same councilperson who pledged your support to Darlene's face? Considering what you and all your friends are doing to a woman who was once a close friend, it doesn't surprise me that you are twisting the truth once again against another woman and her running mate. Shame on you!

MARIA KOZAK

To the Editor:

In a recent letter to the editor, the local Republican Party and I were accused by one of the council members running for re-election of bashing the town's public works employees. You have got to be kidding me.

The article the council member was commenting on the dilapidated equipment used by the Public Works Department employees to get their work done. Anyone reading the article would realize this and for a council member to spin the article as criticism of our public works employees is way out of line. If anyone would like copies of both articles, feel free to contact me and I will gladly forward them to you.

Councilmen, going forward, please don't put words in my mouth. You asked to run a clean and positive campaign, and I couldn't agree with you more. Let's not let things get out of hand.

RAY RUSNAK, CANDIDATE FOR
BOROUGH COUNCIL

To the Editor:

One of the best endorsements of the financial policies of the South Plainfield Borough Council has been the improvement in the Borough's credit

rating with Standard and Poor's. Every taxpayer in South Plainfield should know about this significant improvement that has occurred under the guidance of Ray Petronko and Bob Cusick. Standard and Poor's is the recognized leader in rating the credit of municipal governments and analyzing the ability of towns to repay their debts on time. Every time the Borough borrows money, Standard and Poor's rates the credit-worthiness of the Borough's municipal bonds. The "S&P" rating is one of the primary factors used by investors in determining which municipal bonds to buy.

Over the past few years, South Plainfield's credit rating has improved to AA- (Double A-) without insurance. This is one of the best non-insured ratings of any town in New Jersey. This credit ratings means that South Plainfield can borrow money at lower interest rates saving its taxpayers millions of dollars in the long term. It also means South Plainfield can borrow money without paying for expensive bond insurance (much like mortgage insurance). This credit rating emphatically demonstrates that the Pay-As-You-Go philosophy adopted by the Mayor and Council really does work. It has reduced our Borough's debt by 50%, brought in a zero tax increase in four out of the last six years and will help save millions of dollars in the future. This smart financial planning also demonstrates why Ray Petronko and Bob Cusick deserve your vote for Borough Council on Election Day.

BILL THOMAS

Dear Editor,

The August 29 *Observer* contained letters from long-time Democrat Frank Furino and Democratic Party Secretary Eleanor Haines. In their letters, Furino and Haines berate local Republicans for doing the unthinkable: criticizing the voting record of self-proclaimed hometown hero Patrick Diegnan. It seems that in the view of these two, critiquing Diegnan's voting record is the equivalent of treason simply because he lives in town.

The two were livid. Haines scolded the Republicans for taking "pot shots" and "saying bad things about a good person," and Furino said he was "disgusted" by what he called "nasty and bizarre" comments the Republicans made. What was it that caused all this rage? The Republicans simply took Diegnan to task for voting to cut the senior citizen tax-freeze program, something both writers never mentioned and something Diegnan did not and apparently cannot defend.

It's a fact. Diegnan voted to cut this vital senior program, and in doing so,

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 400 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.

increased taxes on those least able to afford the increase.

This is a legitimate issue. If Diegnan wants to explain his vote, he has every right to. But for Haines and Furino to suggest that this topic should be off limits is absurd. Nothing is more relevant during an election than a candidate's voting record.

But apparently the duo of Haines and Furino thinks we should ignore Diegnan's record and limit this year's campaign to issues chosen by the Democratic Party. Well, those two may want to listen to the sugarcorned dribble fed to us each year by the current administration, but I don't. While personal attacks should not be tolerated, a candidate's voting record is a legitimate issue. It's fair game. Diegnan is an elected official and accountable for how he votes. Yes, it may be nice that he's from South Plainfield, but I would hope we elect people to the Assembly because of stands on issues, not where they reside.

The Haines and Furino letters are great examples of an old political trick. When you can't defend a position, attack the other side for bringing the issue to light. I think the people of this town have this game figured out. I hope I'm right, but I guess I'll have to wait until November to see.

BARBARA L. BALLARD

Dear Editor,

I can't recall being as disgusted by politics as I was after reading last week's letter from council candidate Robert Cusick. As the chairman of the South Plainfield Republicans, I've taken great care to make sure our campaign has been issue-oriented. While we've aggressively stated our positions, we've never attacked anyone personally. Nor have we criticized anyone who works for our town.

Despite this, Robert Cusick signed a letter last week accusing the Republican candidates of "trash[ing]" our public works employees. Well, I went back and re-read what our candidates said. And nowhere in that article did

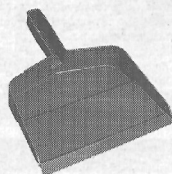
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IN YOUR OPINION

(Continued from previous page)

said. And nowhere in that article did Marge Reedy or Ray Rusnak say a single disparaging word about our DPW workers. They said two things: 1.) the department is understaffed, and 2.) the department has dilapidated equipment. The dismal results of last year's snow plowing and leaf collection evidence these problems.

For Cusick to distort what Ray and Marge said is nauseating. He—and I hate to use this word—lied throughout his letter in an attempt to disparage his opponents. Mr. Cusick, I dare you to show, without taking words out of context, where Ray or Marge made a single disparaging remark about any town employee.

You and your pals in the Democratic Party may think these types of antics are humorous, but they disgust the public and turn off voters. Even though you may not like it, the Republican candidates, I can guarantee, will continue to talk about issues. But unlike you and your pals in Borough Hall, we will not stoop to doing what you did last week.

ROBERT JONES, JR.

To the Editor,

Last week's letter in the *Observer* from Raymond Petronko ended with the following lines addressed to Borough Council candidates Marge Reedy and Ray Rusnak: "You do not have to worry about personal attacks and other indignities from the Democrats. Isn't it time you make the same promise?"

Apparently Petronko did not understand the irony of that statement. He had just finished making scathing personal attacks on Reedy and Rusnak. Maybe Petronko should take his own advice.

GEOFF CHAMPION

Dear Editor,

I was the council liaison to Recreation prior to Ray Petronko taking

over that responsibility. During my time working with recreation, many plans were in the concept stage, such as the addition to the PAL and the Senior Rec Center. As one who was there in the beginning, it is hard to explain how much work is involved in getting just one major project completed. Ray Petronko, the Recreation Commission and Recreation Director Mike English have been just amazing in what they have been able to accomplish for every age group of this borough. Last year, the addition doubling the size of the PAL was opened, along with the beautiful state-of-the-art Senior Rec Center. On top of that, over \$1 million was invested in upgrading every park in the borough and putting long overdue improvements at the girls' and boys' baseball and soccer complexes. Putnam Park is in the process of becoming a model of a neighborhood friendly complex. It will formally open in a couple of weeks.

You would think Ray would be content with his accomplishments and sit back. Not on your life. At last Thursday's council meeting, he unveiled a plan which he, Mike English and the Rec Commission have been working on to receive a \$1.1 million grant from the Middlesex County Freeholder Board to do even more tremendous improvements to our recreational facilities throughout the borough. Ray enlisted our own Freeholder John Pulomena to help with the lobbying effort and he feels confident that with John's help, we will be awarded the grant within 30 days. Can you think of anyone better to continue to work for our recreation program than Councilperson Ray Petronko? This one is a no-brainer. Ray is the finest council member who has ever worked for recreation in the history of South Plainfield.

We should all work together so that he and his running mate, Bob Cusick, get re-elected on Nov. 4. They are a terrific team.

ED KUBALA



Seniors Enjoy a Labor Day Picnic

Residents at the senior housing complex on Morris Ave. celebrated the Labor Day weekend on Aug. 29 with an indoor picnic catered by the Lutheran Ministries which operates the facility. A keyboardist accompanied diners who feasted on salads, lasagna, ice cream and grilled hotdogs and hamburgers and more.

Friends of the Woods Seeks Volunteers

Friends of the Woods needs help at the Fall Trail Maintenance Day in the Highland Woods Environmental Education Reserve on Saturday afternoon, September 20. We will meet at the Sylvania Place gate at noon. Work will continue through the afternoon till about 3 p.m., so late arrivals are also welcome.

Volunteers will tackle a variety of projects, including trail maintenance (pruning, blazing), control of invasive alien plants, erosion control and litter cleanup. Gloves and bags will be provided. Volunteers are asked to bring any appropriate tools they can. These include shovels, rakes, hoes, pruners or loppers and wheelbarrows or carts.

Friends of the Woods holds two trail maintenance days a year. These keep the trails safe and enjoyable for the science classes, scout troops and the public that use the nature reserve year-round. They also offer an opportunity to learn more about the Woods, and to meet other people who like to be around trees and wildlife. The April event was rained out, as were many of FOW's planned nature walks, in this year's wet, cool spring. Thus, the Woods need their fall grooming more than usual.

For more information, call Lisa Roseo at (908) 561-8280.

Music Boosters Selling Entertainment Books

The South Plainfield Music Boosters are selling 2004 Entertainment Books as a fundraiser. The books are \$30 each. For more information or to purchase a book, contact any band member or Diana Maiorino at (908) 668-1155 or Julia Yon at (908) 791-0294. Cash or check is accepted. Checks should be made out to SPSHS Music Boosters.

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY
ORDINANCE No. 1631

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1631 entitled: "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 48 ENTITLED 'POLICE DEPARTMENT' OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD" be adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, September 12, 2003 and that a public hearing be scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 9, 2003 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ORDINANCE NO. 1631

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #1592 ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 48 ENTITLED 'POLICE DEPARTMENT' OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD"

New Sections to replace existing sections:

3-3 Appointments and Promotions.

All appointments and promotions within the police department shall be made in accordance with the provisions of New Jersey Department of Personnel Administrative Code—Title 4A and N.J.S.A. 40A:14-123.1. Residents are given preference in appointments.

7-7 Qualifications of Police

Each applicant shall comply with all the laws of the State of New Jersey pertaining to the appointment as a police officer. No person shall be given or accept, a permanent appointment as a police officer in the Borough unless such person first has been given a probationary or temporary appointment to such office for a period of not longer than one year, and has successfully completed a police training course at a school approved and authorized by the Police Training Commission in the Department of Law and Public Safety of the State of New Jersey, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 56 of the Laws of 1999.

No person shall be appointed to the police department as a regular or probationary member unless he or she shall at the time of making application be between the ages of 18 and 35 years of age, except as provided by law. This provision shall also apply to all appointees or employees who are reemployed by the Borough pursuant to the reemployment lists submitted by the NJ Department of Personnel.

All other provisions of Ordinance #1592 shall remain in full force and effect.

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

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$70.00 September 12, 2003

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY
ORDINANCE No. 1632

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance #1632 entitled: "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #1337A ENTITLED: 'AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH FEES FOR THE USE OF THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT'S OUTDOOR FIRING RANGE'" be adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, September 12, 2003 and that a public hearing be scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 9, 2003 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ORDINANCE NO. 1632

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #1337A ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH FEES FOR THE USE OF THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT'S OUTDOOR FIRING RANGE"

Be it ordained by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield that Ordinance #1337A be hereby amended as follows:

SECTION 2. The fees to be charged to law enforcement agencies of the State of New Jersey and political subdivisions shall be as follows:

One Hundred (\$100.00) dollars per day.

All other provisions of Ordinance #1337 shall remain in full force and effect.

This Ordinance shall take effect on January 1, 2004, after publication and adoption in accordance with New Jersey Law.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$45.50 September 12, 2003

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY
ORDINANCE No. 1629

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ordinance NO. 1629 entitled: "AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF MUNICIPAL LAND KNOWN AS BLOCK 279 LOT 5 TO A CONTIGUOUS PROPERTY OWNER AT A PRICE OF \$2,500.00 was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield on Thursday, September 4, 2003 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ATTEST:
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$22.75 September 12, 2003

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Trevor Williams requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the construction of a sun shelter, and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 1332 Hogan Drive, South Plainfield Avenue on Block 528.04, Lot 3 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, September 25, 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 Planning/Zoning Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 am and 5:00 p.m.

\$35.00 September 12, 2003

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Colorful Story Books requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit two, 40 foot storage trailers; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 2 Hollywood Court, South Plainfield Avenue on Block 390, Lot 5.04 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, September 25, 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 Planning/Zoning Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 am and 5:00 p.m.

\$35.00 September 12, 2003

South Plainfield Observer

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Sports

South Plainfield Football Eagles

The South Plainfield Football Eagles held the 2003 season canning drive on September 4-6. The organization would like to thank our community businesses for allowing our cheerleaders and football players to stand in front of their businesses, their hospitality made our major fundraiser of the season a success! We would also like to thank their customers for their generous giving to our young athletes.

Phase two of the cheering surface has been completed! A new rubberized surface has been sprayed on the home and visiting cheering pads which were poured by Bob Stilo. With the addition of stunting to cheerleading, this surface will provide a safe surface for our talented cheerleaders. Come out on Sunday, Sept. 14 and see our girls use it!

The Eagles descended on the Montgomery Wildcats on Sunday, Sept. 7.

The Flag squad had a successful day in their first game. Although they faced a team with many veteran players older than our Eagles, South Plainfield held their own! This team is progressing nicely, showing good sportsmanship and making South Plainfield proud. Kyle Dickerson, Zach Gorman and Mike Lampasona were outstanding defensive players. On offense LJ Scarpitto, Ryan Walsh and Chris Graves were awesome!

The Flag cheerleaders cheered their team on throughout the game. Showing great South Plainfield spirit were Ashley Gruver, Nicole Bythell, Diamond Pender and Taylor Maistick.

The Mighty Mites beat Montgomery 6-0. Troy Heilmann threw a touchdown pass to Eric Burnham who ran it in to score.

The defense was lead by Eric Ellsman, Jared Boyce, Scott Whalen and Tyler Hunt who also had an in-

terception and carried for the extra point.

Stand outs on Offense were: Ryan Harris, Ryan Hughes and Nick Brinks who provided excellent blocking.

Cheering the Mighty Mite team on to their win. Showing SP Eagles spirit were: Amanda Dolan, Shannon Hogan, Victoria Maino, Britany Papa, and Tatiana Lea Smith.

The Junior Pee Wee Eagles stomped the Wildcats in an exciting 33-12 win.

Mike Wagner had three great runs for touchdowns. Randy Jakubik had a wonderful interception and was responsible for the extra points. Dylan Papa had a tremendous run and Nick Heilmann ran for the first score and for the Pee Wees final touchdown of the game.

Awesome defense was provided by David Smith and Brandon Downes. Outstanding offensive players

were: Steven Petrillo and Anthony Torchia.

The Junior Pee Wee Cheerleaders had no problem rallying support for their team, showing great spirit were Gina Louise, Kyesha Nietzer, Crysta Hay, Carly Ashnault and Rachel Scudato.

The Junior Midgets suffering from pre-season injuries were defeated by the Wildcats in the season opener 18-0.

Kyle Hughes led the team as QB. Michael Burton and Justin Smith had an outstanding game.

Great blocking was provided by Matt Kopchak and Jimmy Gorman.

Defensive leaders were: Doug Bush and Andrei Williams.

Cheering the Junior Midgets on were Jessica Scarpitto, Caitlyn Whalen, Nicole Molinaro, Deanna Ranger and Rachel Alexa.

The Punt Pass and Kick competition sponsored by Pepsi will be held

at the Eagles field on Saturday, September 13 at 9 a.m. for check in.

Boys and girls aged 8-15 are invited to participate. The aggregate high score in each age group and gender group wins and advances to a Regional Contest. Regional winners advance on to the State competition and a chance to compete at Giants Stadium during half time.

The Eagles will host their first home game on Sunday, Sept 14 against Washington Rock.

LET'S GO EAGLES!
BEAT WASHINGTON ROCK!

Game Times: Flag - 10 a.m.
Mighty Mites - 11a.m.
Junior Pee Wee - 2 p.m.
Junior Midgets - 2 p.m.

Fall 2003 September

SOUTH PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

SPORTS SCHEDULE

VARSITY FOOTBALL				
26	Fri.	Vineland	Away	7:00
JUNIOR VARSITY FOOTBALL				
22	Mon.	J. F. Kennedy	Away	3:45
29	Mon.	Vineland	Away	4:00
FRESHMEN FOOTBALL				
13	Sat.	Dunellen	Home	11am
19	Fri.	J. F. Kennedy	Away	3:45
26	Fri.	Vineland	Home	3:45
BOYS CROSS COUNTRY				
17	Wed.	Carteret	Home	3:45
23	Tues.	Perth Amboy	Away	3:45
30	Tues.	Bishop Ahr	Home	3:45
GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY				
17	Wed.	Carteret	Home	3:45
23	Tues.	Perth Amboy	Away	3:45
30	Tues.	Bishop Ahr	Home	3:45

VARSITY & JUNIOR VARSITY BOYS SOCCER				
13	Sat.	Johnson Regional	Away	10am
17	Wed.	Sayreville	Home	3:45
19	Fri.	North Brunswick	Away	3:45
26	Sat.	Dickinson	Home	11am
23	Tues.	Monroe Township	Home	3:45
26	Fri.	Colonia	Home	3:45
27	Sat.	Oratory Prep	Away	1 V
29	Mon.	Woodbridge	Home	3:45

FRESHMEN BOYS SOCCER				
12	Fri.	J. F. Kennedy	Home	3:45
17	Wed.	Sayreville	Away	3:45
19	Fri.	North Brunswick	Home	3:45
20	Sat.	Dickinson	Away	11am
23	Tues.	Monroe Township	Away	3:45
26	Fri.	Colonia	Away	3:45
29	Mon.	Woodbridge	Away	3:45

VARSITY & JUNIOR VARSITY GIRLS SOCCER				
13	Sat.	New Providence	Away	10am
15	Mon.	Hillside	Home	3:45 V
17	Wed.	Sayreville	Away	3:45
19	Fri.	North Brunswick	Home	3:45
26	Tues.	Monroe Township	Away	3:45
25	Thurs.	Perth Amboy	Home	3:45
26	Fri.	Colonia	Away	3:45
29	Mon.	Woodbridge	Away	3:45
State Tournament				

VARSITY & JUNIOR VARSITY FIELD HOCKEY				
12	Fri.	Vernon	Home	3:45
13	Sat.	Metuchen	Away	11am
15	Mon.	Monroe Township	Home	3:45
17	Wed.	Sayreville	Away	3:45
19	Fri.	South Brunswick	Home	3:45
22	Mon.	Union	Home	3:45
23	Tues.	Old Bridge	Away	3:45
25	Thurs.	Piscataway	Home	3:45
29	Mon.	East Brunswick	Away	3:45

FRESHMEN FIELD HOCKEY				
18	Thurs.	Cranford	Home	4:00
26	Fri.	Summit	Home	3:45

GIRLS TENNIS				
12	Fri.	J. F. Kennedy	Away	3:45
15	Mon.	Bishop Ahr	Home	3:45
16	Tues.	North Brunswick	Away	3:45
17	Wed.	Mother Seton	Away	3:45
22	Mon.	Perth Amboy	Home	3:45
29	Mon.	Cranford	Away	4:00

GYMNASTICS				
13	Sat.	Pioneer Classic @Somerville	12:30	
18	Thurs.	Old Bridge	Home	5:30
23	Tues.	Bishop Ahr	Home	5:30
25	Thurs.	Sayreville	Away	4:00
30	Tues.	South Brunswick	Away	

See Upcoming Issues for
Additional Fall Dates

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Sports

SOUTH PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

Field Hockey Corner

By Sharon Miller



HS Field Hockey Parents

The SPFHA thanks all of the parents who helped out at the Scrimmage Workshop and the alumni game this past weekend. Without your help, these two events would not have been as successful as they were.

Week of September 12

Summer had come to an end and it is time once again for Field Hockey. In preparation for the start of the season, the girls have been practicing extensively for the past several weeks under the guidance of head coach Fran Flannery and assistant coaches Tammy Zurka (JV) and Kiersten Bohl (F) and Joanne Haus. The team has competed in several preseason scrimmages and are well prepared for the first game of what should be a very exciting season.

Friday, Sept. 12 In the first game of the regular season, the team will play Vernon at home on the Carol Espinosa field at 3:45 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 13 The team faces

Metuchen in Metuchen at 3:45 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 15 This game is against Monroe at home at 3:45 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 17 The team plays Sayreville away at 3:45 p.m.

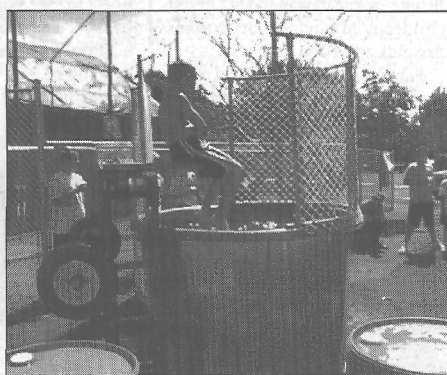
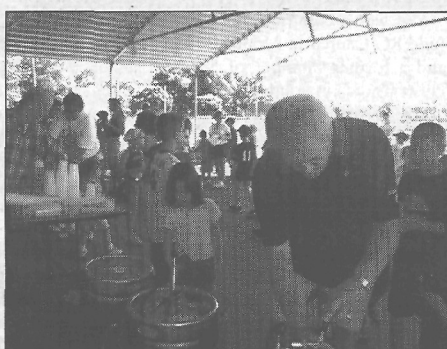
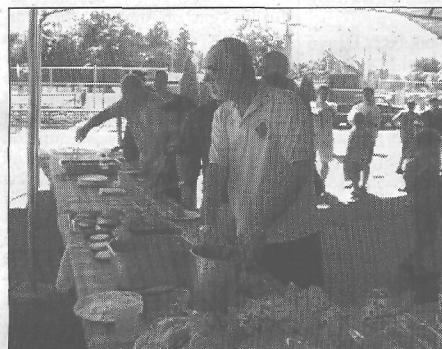
Friday, Sept. 19 The final game of the week has the team going against South Brunswick at home at 3:45 p.m.

Please come out and support a great team of players.

The best of luck to players and coaches for a great season. Go Tigers!

KidStuff Fundraiser

The Varsity, JV and Freshmen teams are selling the KidStuff coupon savings book as one of this year's fundraisers. The book offers hundreds of coupons for clothing, shoes, toys and sporting goods stores, as well as food, recreational, educational and cultural activities. The book is being sold for \$24. Please support this year's field hockey team by contacting any member of the team to purchase a book.



Jr. Baseball Club Sees Sunshine at Annual Picnic

Despite a washout most of the season, it was a beautiful day for the South Plainfield Jr. Baseball Club's annual picnic. Players and their families enjoyed hotdogs, hamburgers and corn grilled up by coaches and management. There was a dunk tank setup to test your aim and a parents versus kids softball game. Trophies were also awarded.

By Lee Flanagan

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

Our annual picnic this past Saturday was a huge success. The night before we had a set-up crew and I would like to thank Charlie Hubner, Jeff Marcoux, John Polizzano, Chris Hansen, Anthony Celentano, Rick Walton, Kevin Lykes and Pat Muglia for their help in this endeavor. Approximately 500 adults and kids attended the picnic. We had the dunk tank in operation and special thanks to Dylan Dorey and Michael Maiorino for their participation on being "dunked" in the tank. There was plenty of food and refreshments. I would like to thank Sal Severini for allowing us to use his grill for the affair. Sportworld supplied prizes for the Home Run Derby and pitching contests and a special thanks goes out to them. All Small Fry C players who could not attend the picnic should contact your manager or coach to get your participation trophy. Trophies were awarded to the Small Fry B, Small Fry A and Pony B first, second and third place teams. See your manager or coach to get your trophy if you did not attend the picnic, either. Out

going Executive Board received plaques for a job well done. It was a great day at the SPJBC.

Our fall baseball season is ready to start on Fri., Sept. 12. We currently have 260 kids signed up for this season. These numbers are great! This is our third season for Fall Baseball and our largest turnout ever. Our new Fall Ball Director is Vijay Bijlani. If you would like to umpire some fall baseball games at the complex, call the baseball club at (908) 754-2090. In addition, we still need three players whose age is currently 10 or 11 years old to play in the program.

We have the continuation of Coaches Care Day (C.O.A.C.H.), or Coaches Offering Assistance for Children's Health, at the complex on Sat., Sept. 13, from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. All proceeds from this charity softball marathon benefit the Children's Fund at JFK Medical Center. Come on out to cheer on your favorite player, coach, or teacher and help support a worthwhile cause.

Finally, our registration for the 2004 baseball season is under way. You can

go to the SPJBC website and

download the form. The registration will also be conducted at the baseball club on Oct. 16, 17 and 18. The registration from now to the first of the year is \$75.



Ponytail Softball Batters Box

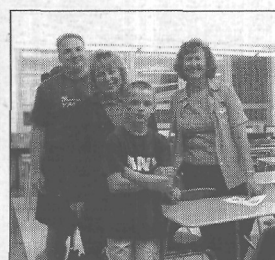
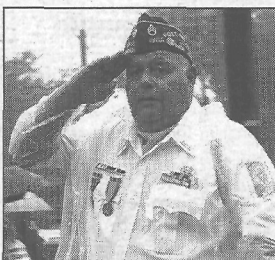
By Sharon Miller

The South Plainfield Parents' Association will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 23 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 Sept. 23. New members are always welcome.

On Friday, Oct. 3, the SPPPA will once again be hosting an art auction presented by Ross Galleries in the South Plainfield High School cafeteria. Tickets are \$5 per person and can be purchased at the door or in advance by contacting Debbie Boyle, Mark Sutherland, or myself (via our website). Art preview is from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Auction begins at 7:30 p.m.

Attention SPPPA members: the fundraising committee is looking for volunteers to help out during the auction. If you are able to assist in any way, please contact Debbie Boyle or Mark Sutherland.

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Saturday Evening Mass 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.

Weekdays 6:30 a.m. (except Monday) 9:00 a.m. (church)

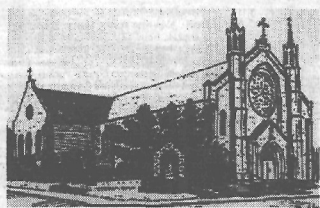
Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m.

Holy Days 7 p.m. (Vigil); 7 and 9 a.m., 12:10 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

and after 5 p.m. Vigil Mass



Obituaries

Joyce C. (London) Amick, 61

Joyce C. (London) Amick died on Thursday, Sept. 4 in Haven Hospice of JFK Medical Center, Edison.

Born in Newark, she has resided in South Plainfield for the past 25 years.

Joyce was employed by the South Plainfield Board of Education as a duty aide, working in Kennedy School for the past 21 years. She had been a dance instructor for the former Fred Eclair Dance Studio in West Orange and had a tremendous love for animals.

Her first husband, Paul London, died in 1993.

Surviving are her husband, James W. Amick; two daughters, Stacey (Edward) Eager of South Plainfield and Deborah London of North Carolina; a son, Brian (Karen) London of Whitehouse Station; her mother, Ruth Morachnick of Seminole, Fla.; a brother, Charles Morachnick of Seminole Fla. and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the American Cancer Society, 846 Main St., Fords, NJ 08818 or Friends of Animals, 1841 Broadway, #812 New York, NY 10023 would be appreciated.

Marie D. Heilman, 83

Marie D. Heilman died Tuesday, Sept. 2 at Heartfields Assisted Living in Richmond, Virginia.

Born in Metuchen, Mrs. Heilman had resided in South Plainfield for many years before moving to Richmond, Virginia.

She was a homemaker.

Mrs. Heilman is predeceased by her husband, John Heilman and her son, James Heilman.

Surviving are her daughter and son-in-law, Barbara and Ken Kisko of Richmond, Va.; her daughter-in-law, Barbara Heilman of South Plainfield; her three grandsons, Michael, Jamie and Robert and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Helen M. Weigly Atchison, 81

Helen M. Weigly Atchison of Holden, Ma., formerly of South Plainfield, died on Monday, Aug. 25 at home.

Helen was born in Hillside and was a former resident of Elizabeth and South Plainfield before moving to Maine two years ago.

She was a former communicant of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield.

She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Mary and John Arcaro of Grand Lake Stream, Maine; her sister, Emma DeGroat of Cranford; her dearest grandchildren, Linda DeFlaminis and her husband Nicholas of Holden, Maine; John D. and Michael Arcaro, both of Grand

Lake Stream, Maine and her great grandchildren, Ashley, Dena and Christina DeFlaminis.

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

Thomas G. Pellegrino, 90

Thomas G. Pellegrino of South Plainfield died on Friday, Sept. 5 at the St. Peters Hospital in New Brunswick.

Tom was born in New York City and has lived in South Plainfield for the past 85 years.

In his youth, Tom loved playing baseball and as a freshman, he started varsity for the North Plainfield High School baseball team. He went on to play semi-pro ball for the Plainfield Merchants in the Union County League. He organized and played for the South Plainfield Challengers, which disbanded in 1940 because of WWII.

In 1941, Tom had to decline an invitation to tryout for the Newark Bears of the International League because he entered the United States Army. He served his country as a Sergeant and received the Bronze Star for meritorious achievement in ground operations against the enemy in the Pacific Theater.

Tom was a home builder with his father and brothers for John Pellegrino & Company, from 1945 until 1966. He then worked for the Middlesex County Parks Department as assistant foreman at the Tamarack Golf Course in East Brunswick for 15 years before retiring in 1981.

He was a life member of the VFM Memorial Post 6763 in South Plainfield and the American Legion Chaumont Post 243, also in South Plainfield.

He was a member of the Plainfield Area Chapter of Deborah and the National AARP and the United Seniors Association.

He was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield.

He was predeceased by his beloved wife, Catherine Kowalchek Pellegrino, who died in 1991.

He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Catherine and Rick Splinter of South Plainfield; his brother, Anthony of South Plainfield; a sister, Mary Durnya of South River and his dearest grandchildren, Stephanie and her husband Louis Russo of Christopher P. Ernst.

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

Carmella Esposito Cavicchio, 69

Carmella Esposito Cavicchio of Mountain Top, Pa., formerly of South Plainfield, died on Monday, Sept. 8, at the JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Carmella was born in Sarno, Italy and came to the United States in 1953, settling up in Metuchen. She was a former 33 year resident of South Plainfield before moving to Mountain

Top 13 years ago.

Carmella was a seamstress for C. Bruno Manufacturing in South Plainfield for many years and was a member of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union.

She was a communicant of St. Jude RC Church in Mountain Top and a former member of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield.

She is survived by her husband, Pasquale (Patsy) Cavicchio; her daughters and son-in-laws, Kathleen and Philip Huson of Franklin Park; Maryann Shallow of Mountain Top, PA and Patricia and Louis Duffey of South Plainfield; her brother, Fred Esposito of South Plainfield; two sisters, Michelina Annunziata, Sisina Esposito and Concetta Montuori, all of South Plainfield and Frances Brunot of Piscataway and her grandchildren, Michele, Christopher, Amanda and Ricky.

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

Edythe M. Thompson Eichler, 94

Edythe M. Thompson Eichler of South Plainfield died on Saturday, Aug. 2 at the Mühlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Edythe was born on July 7, 1909 in East Orange and in 1949 she moved to Ocala, Florida. She returned to Bloomfield, NJ in 1988. In 1990, she moved to Norman Towers Senior Citizen in East Orange and resided there before moving to South Plainfield a week prior to her death.

She was the former owner and operator of the Welcome Stranger Motel in Ocala. She and her family then moved to Treasure Island, Florida, where she managed the Eldorado Motel for many years. Her grandsons were a very important part of her life and she shared every summer with them as her guests at the motel in their younger days.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband, William J. Eichler; her son, William R.; her grandson, Terry and her nephew, Jack, who was killed 9/11 at the WTC.

She is survived by three grandsons, Gerald and his wife Sharon; William R. and his wife Susan, David and his wife Cindy and Samuel and his wife Sherri Eichler; three nieces, Lois Churchill, Peggy Eichler and Joan and her husband Michael Aiello; ten great grandchildren and four great-great grandchildren.

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

Mary H. Danyo, 92

Mary H. Danyo died on Tuesday, Sept. 9 at the Foothills Acers Rehabilitation and Nursing Home in Hillsborough.

Born in Bethlehem, Pa., Mrs. Danyo had resided in South Plainfield for the past 40 years.

She was employed by Boyle Midland Co. in Cranford for 20 years before retiring in 1973.

Mrs. Danyo was a member of the

South Plainfield Senior Citizens and was also a member of St. Nicholas Byzantine Church in Dunellen.

She is predeceased by her husband, Peter Danyo, who died in 1981 and her brother, Michael Minyo, who died in 2002.

Surviving is her son, Peter Danyo Jr. of Woodbridge; two daughters, Elizabeth Vincent of South Plainfield and Marjorie Shoyk of Hillsboro and two sisters, Margaret Ranker of Harrisburg, Pa. and Helen Ryan of Bethlehem, Pa. Also surviving are six grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday at 8:30 a.m. in the McCriskin Home for Funerals, 2425 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, followed by a 9:30 a.m. Funeral Liturgy in St. Nicholas Byzantine Church, Dunellen. Parastas will be held on Friday at 3 p.m. in the funeral home.

Interment will follow in Resurrection Burial Park, Piscataway.

Visitation will be held on Friday, Sept. 12 in McCriskin Funeral Home, 2-4 and 7-9 p.m.

I Was Lost and Found!

A true story with a happy ending



My name is "Petey Z." I was lost but now I'm found, thanks to some very special humans.

My story actually begins on Aug. 26, when I literally flew the coop! My mom brought my cage outside to get some sunshine and fresh air. I was able to loosen and squeeze through the bars and I flew off to be with my bird friends. The weather was warm and dry that night, so I was able to fend for myself in a nice tree. (After living with my family for eight years, I never spent one night alone before.) I traveled about four blocks to the Tumi Building on Durham Rd. and was rescued the next day by some nice people from Commerce Bank. They brought me to a foster family in Flemington who took very, very good care of me for a week. Eventually, a neighbor walking his dog saw a flyer about me on a pole and brought it to my mom. She called the number and rushed to get me that very night with the help of her daughter and two grandsons. I'm very, very grateful to all the people involved in my rescue mission and I promise to only fly inside my house from now on! Thank You, Petey Z.

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policereport

- On August 29 a Holly Ave. resident reported the theft of a license plate from their vehicle.
- On August 31 a Dumas Ave. resident reported the theft of a locked 2000 Dodge Intrepid from their driveway.
- On September 2 AJ Jersey Inc. on St. Nicholas Ave. reported the theft of a 1997 Mack flatbed truck from a loading dock on Kennedy Rd.
- An employee of Innovative Folding Carton on Durham Ave. Reported that two tires and rims had been taken

off his car.

- On September 3 a Green Brook resident reported that the rear passenger window of his vehicle had been smashed while parked at 1510 Park Ave. The door had been unlocked and a Clarion AM/FM/CD player was taken.

- Synergy Gas Corp. on So. Clinton Ave. reported that the north side wall of the building had been broken through. The interior offices were ransacked and a cash box was taken with an unknown amount of money in it.

- On September 4 a Coppola Dr. resident's door was kicked in and the master bedroom ransacked. Indian 24 ct. gold jewelry was taken.

- On September 5 a Plainfield resident reported that their unlocked bike had been stolen from in front of Million Dollar Video on W. 7th St.

- On September 7 a Milford resident reported that their two vehicles had been scratched while parked on O'Donohue Ave.

Police Make Arrest in Tire Theft

On Sunday evening, officers were called to CMS, located at 3266 Kennedy Rd. on a report of a theft which had just occurred. Police were advised by the owner of the company that he had observed a man leaving the company parking lot operating a burgundy Chevy van. He also noticed that two company vehicles were missing their front tires and thought that the man he saw had just stolen the tires from the vehicles. A description of the vehicle, along with the license plate tag number was obtained by a witness and subsequently broadcasted to all patrol units. Officer Brian Iarrapino observed the vehicle on Plainfield Ave. His preliminary investigation resulted in the arrest of the driver and the recovery of nine tires and rims, along with air tools and pry bars from inside the suspect's van.

Officers checked surrounding businesses and noticed two additional vehicles with their front tires missing at Innovative Disposal, 3311 Kennedy Rd. and Alta Quip, 619 Montrose Ave.

Apparently, the suspect drove his vehicle up to targeted vehicles, used pneumatic tools and jacks powered by an air compressor, which were set up inside his van, to commit the thefts in a matter of minutes.

Christopher Mason, 39, of Hasbrouck Heights was charged with one count of burglary to a motor vehicle, three counts of theft and one count of possession of burglar tools. Bail was set at \$15,000 and he was remanded to the Middlesex County Adult Correction Facility.

ESL Tutor Training Offered

Literacy Volunteers of Middlesex will be holding its first ESL Tutor Training Workshop in Dunellen, starting this September. Please consider volunteering for this exciting new opportunity to help those who are eager to learn English as a second language (ESL). No prior teaching experience is necessary. Upon course completion, tutors will be matched with adult students who have requested help in learning English.

The four-session workshop will be held at the Dunellen Library on four Wednesday evenings, Sept. 10 and 24 and Oct. 1 and 8, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Call the LVM office at (732) 432-8000 for more information or to register.



National Emergency Preparedness Week

The Emergency Preparedness Educational Institute, an Illinois not-for-profit organization has declared Sept. 7-13, as National Emergency Preparedness Week.

This week is designed to inspire businesses, government agencies and families to take the time to prepare and review plans, supplies and emergency items that will be needed in an emergency or disaster at home, in their neighborhood, community or workplace.

Norris Beren, Executive Director, with 30 years of risk reduction experience, says, "In a widespread disaster/emergency situation, the employee's first response will be to look after his family and home."

Beren continued, "...because of the threat of terrorist activities, natural disasters and now the power outage exposure of the Northeast, the need for emergency preparedness planning and training takes on a greater importance."

People need to: Create an emergency plan for their families; establish

communications procedures and meeting places; arrange back-up plans for their work commute; be able to access news and information; practice evacuations plans at home and work; arrange plans for children left at school, daycare or home alone in an emergency; store emergency supplies, food, clothing, shelter and equipment and know how to relay messages to family members, get access to money, fuel, fresh batteries, transportation and other important necessities.

The Emergency Preparedness Educational Institute was formed to help people learn how to prepare for a disaster at home, in the workplace and the community.

In a new book and planning guide published by the Institute, *When Disaster Strikes Home: 101+ Ways to Protect Your Family from Unthinkable Emergencies*, Beren shows families how to prepare for the worst. The simple guide gives families the "emergency edge" by providing solutions, checklists, forms and ideas so they can cre-

ate their own personalized plans and feel safer and more confident. The book is now available at www.getprepared.org in English and will be available in Spanish in October.

For a free report on 50 *Ways To Get Prepared*, call (877) 670-7444 or e-mail info@getprepared.org.

Further information is available at (toll free) - (877) 670-7444; fax: (847) 670-7466 or by e-mail: Sara@getprepared.com.

Coaches Care Fundraiser Saturday

The rained out portion of Coaches Care will be held on Saturday, Sept. 13 beginning at 9 a.m. at the Baseball Club. Teams participating are Soccer Club, Pop Warner Coaches, SPJBC Umpires, Ponytail Coaches and the Middle School Teachers.

Thus far this year, Coaches Care has raised over \$5,000 and donated six laptop computers to the JFK Medical Center.



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