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South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 8, NO. 13

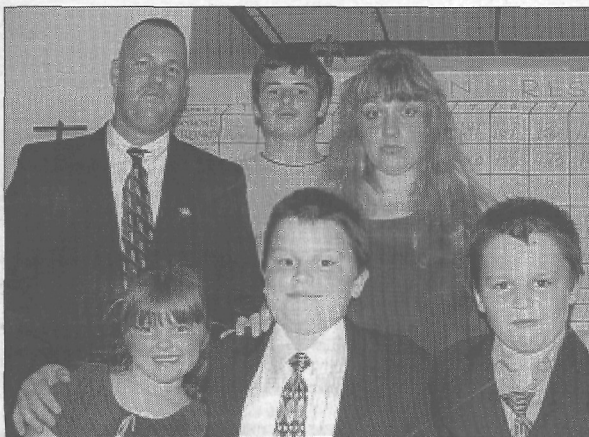
NOV 07 2003

50 CENTS

NOVEMBER 7, 2003

Dems Hold On To Council Seats

Local Democrats Re-Elected to County, State Positions



Councilman Bob Cusick with wife Monica and children Robert Jr., Gabriella, Shane and Garret.

South Plainfield voters made their choice clear when they elected Democratic incumbents Ray Petronko and Bob Cusick over Republican candidates Marge Reedy and Ray Rusnak.

South Plainfield Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan and Freeholder John Pulomena, both Democrats, were also re-elected. The margin of victory was less than last year, but the voter

turnout was also lower. Last year, 44 percent of the voters cast their vote, but this year only 29.7 turned out. Last year was also a mayoral election, which may account for last year's higher turnout.

Petronko was the top vote getter with 1,977 (55%), Cusick received 1,796 (50%), Reedy got 1,572 (44%) and Rusnak received 1,469 (41%). A total of 3,565 of the 11,989

registered voters cast their votes in this election.

"We are all just trying to do the right thing for South Plainfield," said Ray Petronko. "I want to thank my running mate Bob Cusick, who walked the entire town with me, as well as Mayor Dan Gallagher.

"The people of South Plainfield have spoken once again and re-elected us. Apparently, they think we are doing the right thing," said Councilman Bob Cusick.

Republican candidate Marge Reedy said, "I'm disappointed, but I am glad that we had such a good experience. We were able to walk the town and talk to a lot of people. And while we're disappointed, we will be back!"

"I have never been prouder of a team than I am tonight. Ray and Bob made a decision that to keep their good name and character, they would look people in the eye and tell the truth, even if it meant losing the election," said Diegnan, Democratic Party Chairman, "and I couldn't be happier that the citizens of South Plainfield confirmed they did the right thing and voted for them."

Patrick Diegnan, re-elected as



Councilman Raymond Petronko with wife Patricia and daughters Kimberly and Alexandra. The Petronko's son Randall is serving in the U.S. Navy.

State Assemblyman representing the 18th District, will serve his second two-year term. Middlesex County Freeholder John Pulomena has served for the past six years. Also re-elected were Assemblyman Peter Barnes and State Senator Barbara Buono.

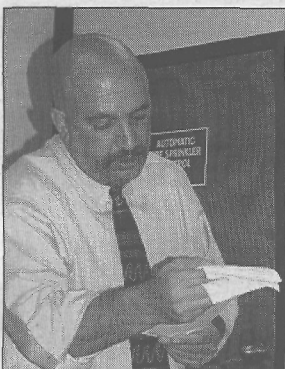
Democrats ran on a platform that they have not raised taxes in four of the last six years as well as their accomplishments in upgrading parks and a senior center. The Republicans stressed the increased traffic problems due to more building in town, and emphasized the need for a two-party system.

Republican candidate Ray Rusnak said, "I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the Democrats on their recent victory in town. We will continue to make strides with the Republican Organization and once again be a presence in the Borough of South Plainfield."

Republican Chairman Bob Jones, said, "It's difficult to compete with the power of incumbency and the huge sums of money spent by the Democrats. Obviously we had hoped to win, but it's encouraging to see the

gains we made this year. Our efforts to rebuild the organization are taking hold, and the slim margin by which the other side won shows that our message is connecting with voters.

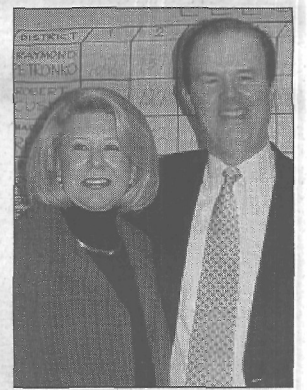
We wish them the best of luck and look forward to a rematch next year. The future of South Plainfield depends on their full commitment to some pressing issues."



Middlesex County Freeholder John Pulomena, who was re-elected to another term, reads the numbers on election night.



Councilman Ray Petronko and Bob Cusick give each other "pounds" at the news of their re-election.



Patrick Diegnan, pictured with wife Anita, was re-elected to the State Assembly.

Truck Hits Telephone Pole, Closes Oak Tree Avenue

By Jane Dornick

A box truck owned by Taurus Transportation of NJ Inc. of Manalapan veered off the road on Oak Tree Ave. on Monday and struck a telephone pole leaving the pole and wires on top of the truck. It also struck a



sign and an electrical box before it came to a stop.

The driver, Sandros Dulcio of Irvington, stated he was headed east on Oak Tree when he came to a curve in the road and his steering locked, forcing him off the road. The South Plainfield Police checked the steering of the vehicle and found it was very tight.

The stretch of road between Front and Joan streets was blocked off for several hours so workers could repair the damage. Coincidentally, the accident occurred on the opposite side of the road from where an elderly South Plainfield resident had driven through a fence and was impaled by a fence post over the summer.

SPHS Field Hockey Team Takes GMC Title

What a spectacular game.... defeating Sayreville 2-0 to capture the title of 2003 GMC Champion! The SPHS Varsity Field Hockey team won their 18th game of the season, bringing their sensational record to 18-2-1. This is the second consecutive GMC title for the team; they defeated Sayreville 4-0 in last year's tournament.

As the number one seed in the tournament, they defeated South Brunswick 7-1. In the semi-finals they defeated Piscataway 5-0, then faced second seed Sayreville before a crowd of 300 spectators in the championship game. The game remained scoreless until the last 13:30 minutes. Captain senior forward Ngozi Oparaeke fired in a shot bringing the score to 1-0. The team wore down Sayreville with their 26 penalty corners and out shot them 12-5.



The SPHS Field Hockey Team win their second consecutive title as 2003 GMC Champions last weekend.



The Almost Famous Players' Putnam Park Haunted Woods Tour last week was a resounding success. The group, whose performances benefited the South Plainfield Lions Club, plans an encore for next year. Donations are still being accepted. Make checks payable to "Almost Famous Players" and mail to 2 Page Court, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or call (908) 756-8011 or (908) 346-2290. See the November 14 issue for complete coverage of the Haunted Woods Tour.

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, November 10 Thursday, November 13
Monday, December 8 Thursday, December 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
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
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.: Nov. 11, Dec 9
Regular Board Meeting held Tuesdays at 8 p.m.: 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.
November 18, December 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
November 11 (Nov. 4 is Election Day) and December 2.

environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)
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) at 7 p.m.
in the Conference Room, Borough Hall

South Plainfield Observer

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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in the South Plainfield Observer:

1. Type (double spaced) the article you wish published.
2. Mail, fax or drop it at: South Plainfield Observer, Editorial Department, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or drop it in the box at Mohn's Flowers on Plainfield Ave. or at (908) 668-8819 or e-mail us at sposerver.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. All letters must be submitted with name and phone number, for verification.

IN YOUR OPINION

Dear Residents,

It was with much regret I submitted my resignation at the October 20 Board of Education meeting. I have enjoyed serving my community for nearly six years. I feel I have held to my campaign promises of always putting children and taxpayers first in all decisions in which I was asked to vote. I find this is no longer possible.

Many will say I was against the negotiated agreement. Although I did not support a 13.9% increase over three years, my reasons go well beyond a disagreement with the negotiated agreement. My reasons revolve around how we will pay for this and at who's expense. I repeatedly asked for information to convince me that children would not be hurt, programs would not be cut by simply providing me with the financial information needed to convince myself and the other members of the board. I was unable to vote on this agreement or any other financial commitment without that information.

I pray that I am wrong, but already I have received telephone calls from staff members reporting budget cuts in the arts, reports of holds on textbook orders and other concerns.

We are in the beginning of the budget year. It began July 1 and there could be no explanation of holds or cuts at this point.

You be the judge, watch closely South Plainfield, "Put Our Children First!" It was my motto for nearly six years as your board member; it will continue to be so even off YOUR Board of Education!

DAWN JEFFERYS

To the Editor,

In last week's *Observer*, there was a note about getting involved in scouting. Recently, I was speaking with a former boy scout who was in the troop when I was the scout master of Troop 202 at Sacred Heart School. We talked about some of the great things we did. Two of the most memorable ones were a five-mile hike at Washington Rock and a 20-mile walk at Jockey Hollow, from the Gladstone-Peapack station to Morristown for the Historic Trails Medal.

At that time one requirement for the Second Class badge was a five mile hike. We started at the A&P, which at that time was on Plainfield Ave., to Washington Rock. The parents picked up the boys about 4 p.m. There were about 12 in the group and everyone made it.

My friend and I were wondering how many 12- through 14-year-olds today could have made that trip. I am sure that today's boy scouts are one group that can make the long hike.

BILL TUTHILL

To the Editor,

Two subjects I would like to cover:
1. With the cost of medicine rapidly going up and the economy the way it is, I can't understand why the Board of Education gave the Teachers Union of South Plainfield such a large increase in pay.

I'm not blaming the teachers, since they follow the lead of the National Education Association. The blame goes to the Board of Education. Is the board trying to squeeze retired people out of South Plainfield so that this will be a town for the rich? What is the board's poor excuse for this rate increase while retirees only got 2.1 to 2.4 percent?

This should be remembered for the next election.

2. The removal of the Ten Commandments from public view is another step to Socialism, and the like organizations of the A.C.L.U. are slapping the so-called Christians in the face and back into hiding. Where is the voice of Christians? Very few in the editor's page.

TED ZYCKLINSKI

Dear Editor,

"Children First" was the philosophy that Dawn Jefferys believed in during her tenure as a member of the South Plainfield Board of Education. Her

main concern was that South Plainfield provide the best education for its students. She represented and truly listened and worked for the parents of our children.

Whatever concern or problem one raised, Mrs. Jefferys took the time to address it. Whether the issue was regarding curriculum or any other concern, Mrs. Jefferys was always available and would take the time to look into the matter. She spent many long hours serving on various committees and attending meetings. She attended many school functions and one could always see her supporting the children at sports events or school plays.

My family would like to thank her for her dedication to the children of South Plainfield. Being a member of the Board of Education is a thankless job; however, we would like to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for working and for caring about our children. We know that "children first" was always at the bottom of your heart. Our Board of Education has truly lost a dedicated and hard working member.

Thanks, Mrs. Jefferys.

DARR AND LAMBERT FAMILIES

To the Editor:

During the last School Board meeting, board member Dawn Jefferys resigned. In her statement, she said she could not support a labor settlement for teachers, secretaries and aides that provided salary increases of 4.95% and 4.5% and other changes that involved costs, without being assured that sufficient funds were available to pay for this. Concern was also expressed that in the past year and projecting into school year 2003/2004, healthcare premium costs increased by approximately \$1M. There were no provisions in this settlement regarding plan design changes or contributions for current employees. Presently, full-time employees of the district (except some newly hired) receive medical, surgical, prescription drug and dental benefits at no cost to the employee.

Dawn had requested financial reports regularly starting in April '03. This past weekend, reports were received which were not complete. The audit report last year and in years past were received no later than Nov. 1. This year, an extension has been requested from the State to approve a delay for the audit until Dec. 1.

This reflects the background as to why Dawn resigned. Her resignation is a loss to the community. While on the board, Dawn served as chairperson for many committees, such as Building and Grounds, Public Relations, Finance, Negotiations and Curriculum. Dawn was always there at meetings and fulfilled her obligations and responsibilities with distinction.

bilities with distinction.

As chairperson of Building and Grounds, Dawn chaired regular meetings with the architect, project manager and attorneys during the construction of various referendum projects. You can see the results of these efforts that ensured that projects were on schedule and within budget.

Dawn has served for nearly six years and is a Certified Board member and a Master Board member by the New Jersey School Boards Association. Dawn was appointed to the NJSBA School Finance Committee and to the New Board Training and Orientation activities, a very distinct achievement.

Now Dawn is no longer on the board, and this is truly a tremendous loss. She represented both the students and taxpayers. She never wavered from this responsibility and never compromised their interest to satisfy powerful single interest groups who, on many occasions, made things difficult for her.

I thank her for all her efforts and feel fortunate that I was able to work with her during my terms in office.

FRANK A. MIKORSKI

Dear Editor,

Another Saturday morning (one of too many to count) and I am rudely awakened at 7 a.m. by the back-up beeper of some earth-moving machinery in my once peaceful neighborhood! This has been going on ad nauseum and ad infinitum since the corner of Park and Maple was sold and Bandy's Ice Cream Store was torn down and Eckerd's built! Eight houses are being crammed onto postage stamp-sized lots where mature trees filled with birds and other small wildlife once lived.

Our neighborhood, including my block of Audubon Ave., Morrill Dr. and several blocks of Linden Ave., as well as Maple and Holly avenues all bordering on the "Stacey Court" development, have endured almost three years of noise and air pollution created by interminable uprooting of trees, shrubs, grasses and mountains of soil and rocks and beeping monster earth-moving machines!

We purchased our home 22 years ago because of the location in this specific neighborhood, dead end street, mature trees, green space, Kennedy School area, peaceful, quiet neighborhood. My house and my neighborhood have been seriously compromised by this alleged "progress." The quality of my life, as well as my family and my neighbors, has been dramatically impacted in a negative way by the changes in this neighborhood and in South Plainfield in general.

There are no signs warning drivers
(Continued on page 8)

The Team that Works. Discover the Difference

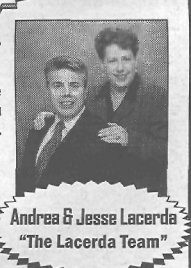
South Plainfield
Days on Market 9

South Plainfield
Days on Market 6

South Plainfield
Days on Market 6

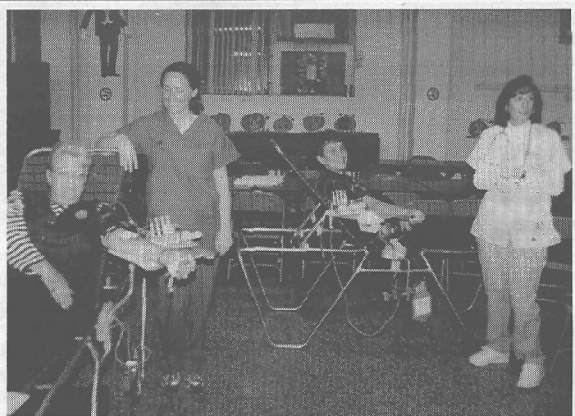
South Plainfield
Days on Market 8

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Donors Linda Goetz and Virginia Palmer are pictured giving blood during Sacred Heart's blood drive held last week. Also pictured are Red Cross volunteers Kathi Bradley and Kass Pagiabitia.

Calling All Student Writers! Observer and Hometown Heros to Sponsor Junior Journalist Writing Contest

The South Plainfield *Observer* and Hometown Heros is co-sponsoring a writing program entitled "The Junior Journalist Corner." The program will encourage students to write and then reward them for their efforts.

The program will be coordinated and promoted in all South Plainfield schools. Students will be able to submit their own original poetry, article, opinion piece or essay.

Teachers in all of the schools have agreed to help with, and to submit, the students' original writings to Hometown Heros and the *Observer*. After reading and judging students' works, a winner will be selected, and his or her article will be published in the *Observer* with a byline each week. Watch upcoming issues for winners and published works.

Students whose articles are selected will win a catered dinner for their families from Hometown Heros, which will be delivered to their homes.

At the end of the school year, winning students and their parents will be treated to a banquet, and each will receive a certificate of achievement for their journalistic efforts.

All students are encouraged to submit their essays, poems, opinion pieces or articles to their teachers. Each school has already been notified about the rules on submissions.

For more information on the contest, or if you would like the name of your school contact, call the *Observer* at (908) 668-0010, or stop by Hometown Heros, located at 340 Hamilton Blvd. or call them at (908) 755-4376.

4-H Teens Sponsor Project Gift

Middlesex County 4-H Teens believe that all children should receive gifts during the holiday season. To ensure that even children from families with limited resources get their fair share, 4-H Teen Council will again host a "shopping day" event, Project GIFT. The event takes place in December and will allow clients of county shelters to select gifts for their children in a holiday bazaar atmosphere.

Portions of this program are made possible through cooperation with the County Extension Office's Expanded Food & Nutrition Education Program. You can help 4-H with this charitable event by donating NEW clothing, toys, games, books and other items for children.

Donations will be accepted at the 4-H Center on the corner of Cranbury and Fern roads in East Brunswick, 7 to 9 p.m. on Nov. 19, Dec. 3 and 17.

Once families arrive at the 4-H Center, they will have an opportunity to place their children in child-care provided by the 4-H teens. Games, face painting and a visit from Santa himself will be available. Parents can then choose from several tables loaded with free gifts for their kids. Gift-wrapping will also be done by the 4-Hers for their guests. Monetary donations will also be accepted and used to purchase toys and clothing.

To make a donation to the shopping day or for information on other 4-H programs, call (732) 745-3446.

4-H programs are offered to all youth in grades 1 through 13 (one year out of high school) regardless of race, color, national origin, sex disability or handicap.

Cub Pack 224 Collecting Eye Glasses

Cub Scout Pack 224 at John E. Riley Elementary School is asking for your help. The scouts have joined efforts with LensCrafters and the Lions Club to collect eye glasses. If you have an old pair of prescription eyeglasses or regular sun glasses that you no longer need, please help us help someone see. The scouts' efforts are part of a nationwide eyeglass collection effort! The eyeglasses will be recycled and hand-delivered to people in developing countries by LensCrafters and Lions Club volunteers.

There will be drop-off boxes in the Riley School lobby.

For additional information on this program or Scouting, please call Marie Markey at (908) 755-3213.

Cultural Arts Tea Program Cancelled

The South Plainfield Cultural Arts Comm. has cancelled the Tea Program scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 9.

The Tea Program, "Winter Holidays," has been rescheduled to Saturday, Dec. 20 at 2 p.m. at the Senior Center.

Flowers & Fancy Foods
Gourmet Gift Baskets
Mohn's
2325 Plainfield Ave.
South Plainfield
(908) 561-2808
Corporate Accounts Welcome



Residents at the Senior Housing on Morris Ave. celebrated Columbus Day with an Italian dinner. The meal was organized and prepared by housing residents Fran Strobeck, Pat Szalai, Georgina Tietchen, Dominick DeNardo and Doris Baio.



Middle School Student Contest Supports UNICEF

Students at the South Plainfield Middle School decided to give back to the global community this past October. What started as a small act of community service quickly turned into a vast statement of generosity.

Seventh grade students on the school's Team Cyclone chose to raise funds for the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) by sponsoring a Halloween candy-guessing contest. An unspecified amount of candy was placed in a trick-or-treat pumpkin and students were then able to guess how

much candy was in it. Each guess was submitted on ballots that cost 10 cents a piece. At the end of the month, the winner was the student who guessed the exact amount of candy in the pumpkin or came closest without going over. All of the proceeds were then donated to UNICEF.

After three weeks of fundraising, the grand total of the student contributions was \$135.79 and the lucky winners, Danielle Armistead, Alan Kasner, Alyssa McCreesh and Paul Zushma received the pumpkin's sweet contents.

Submitted by Elizabeth Weiss

BOROUGHNOTES

- AMEC Electric LLC, has received a contract to furnish, install and wire two circuits and outdoor receptacles for diesel trucks, to be used by the police department, at a cost not to exceed \$1,650.

- A license has been issued for a self-service laundromat at 1711 Park Ave.

- The Tax Collector has been authorized to place liens on the following properties for the cost to abate a public health nuisance: In the amount of \$331.38 on property at 2603 Park Ave. and for \$377.08 on property 227 (229) Lowden Ave.

- Marie Aimone was hired as a part-time Public Safety Telecommunications Operator, effective Oct. 27.

- Docket Clerk Joan Tortorelli has resigned effective immediately.

- The Mayor and Municipal Clerk have executed the deed returning property to David and Bette DeLucia. This five foot property donated along Main St. was found not needed.

- The Mayor and Municipal Clerk will be executing an agreement with Middlesex County to allow the Borough to utilize a .6 acre portion of property at Monument Park.

- A \$2,500 grant from Senior Information Assistance and a \$4,600 grant from Older Americans Act Title IIIB have been received. These grants were received from Middlesex County Department of Aging.

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Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.
South Plainfield, NJ

Rev. John Paul
Alvarado, Pastor

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Evening Mass 5:00 p.m.

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

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

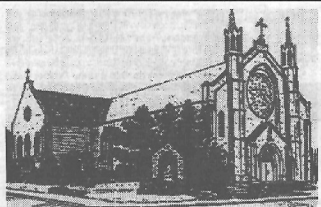
Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m.

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



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Hair Salon

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307 Oak Tree Ave. 908-668-8397

Wed.-Fri 8am-4pm, Sat 6:45am-3pm, Closed Sun/Mon/Tues

Events

Rainbow Academy Plans Open House

November 8

Rainbow Academy Child Care Center, located at 2177 Oak Tree Rd., will hold an Open House on Saturday, Nov. 8, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

In addition to the Open House, you are invited to visit the center for a tour during normal operating hours (7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday). For directions and additional information, visit their website at www.rainbowacademy.com.

Molly Pitcher Coming to Library

November 9

"Over Here, Molly Pitcher" is the name of the dramatic presentation by Stacy Roth, which will be held at the Public Library on Sunday, Nov. 9 at 2 p.m.

Hear Molly come to life with a first-person historical interpretation of her experience during the American Revolution.

The presentation is hosted by the South Plainfield Historical Society and is offered through the Horizon's Speakers Bureau of the NJ Council for the Humanities, a state partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities. There is no admission charge.

Veterans' Program at Franklin School

November 11

All veterans are cordially invited to be honored at the annual Franklin School Veterans' Day Program on Tuesday, Nov. 11 at 1:45 p.m. in the Thomas B. Lenahan Activity Center at Franklin School. We hope that you will join us in our special reserved seating area.

VFW Veterans' Day Observance

November 11

The VFW Post 6763 will be holding a Veterans' Day Observance on Tuesday, Nov. 11 at 155 Front St. at 11 a.m. Refreshments will be served during the Open House, noon to 2 p.m. The public is invited.

Historical Society Monthly Meeting

November 11

The next meeting of the S.P. Historical Society is Tuesday, Nov. 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the South Plainfield Senior Center.

On the agenda are programming for 2004, a wrap-up of Town History Day, Scholarship, Nomination and Fund-raising Committee appointments.

Don't forget that the MOLLY PITCHER program is scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 9, at 2 p.m. at the South Plainfield Public Library. Great for the kids, too. No charge for admission.

SPHS Booster Club Meeting

November 11

The SPHS Athletic Booster Club is meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. They will be discussing any last minute details about our Auction/Raffle on Saturday Nov. 15., any coaches' requests, the upcoming winter season snack stand coverage and many other issues involving our student athletes. Fall Sports Awards will be Wednesday,

What's happening in NOVEMBER

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

The Senior Citizen's Center is open Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
NOW OPEN SATURDAYS 9:00 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.

Senior Center EVENTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Flu Shots November 10 5:30-7:30pm Thursdays, November 20 Thanksgiving Luncheon 12 Noon				
Adult Crafts 10 9:30-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Drawing Class 11:30am-12:30pm Flu Shots 5:30-7:30pm	Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social 10am Computer Classes 10-11am or 2-3pm	Exercise 8:45-9:45 Line Dancing 10-11:30 Movie Time 11:30am AARP Crafts 1pm Computer Class 1-2pm	Shopping Day 9am Practical Crafts 10-11am Computer Class 1-2pm Miss Saigon at NJ Pac Bus leaves at Noon	Bingo 10am-2pm Pizza Lunch Computer Class 10am-11am
Adult Crafts 10 9:30-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Drawing Class 11:30am-12:30pm Flu Shots 5:30-7:30pm	Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social 10am Computer Classes 10-11am or 2-3pm	Exercise 8:45-9:45 Line Dancing 10-11:30 Movie Time 11:30am AARP Crafts 1pm Computer Class 1-2pm	Shopping Day 9am Practical Crafts 10-11 9:30-10:30am Computer Class 1-2 pm	Bingo 10am-2pm Pizza Lunch Computer Class 10-11am

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

Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. in the high school auditorium.

If you need tickets to the auction, please see any executive member or call John George at 908-755-4633. Tickets are \$7 or \$10 at the door (if available). Doors open at 6 p.m., auction/raffle to start at 7 p.m. There will be plenty of sports related baskets and items along with other fabulous items like bicycles, TVs, etc. Come for an evening of friendship and fun and bring your lucky charm!!

Congratulations to the Boys' Cross Country team who won the GMC White Division and congratulations to the Field Hockey team for winning the GMC tournament!!

Library Job Information Programs

November 12 & 19

The South Plainfield Library is planning the following programs for November, as part of the library's Job Information Center.

Looking for a job? Have you searched on the internet? **Job Searching on the Internet** on Wednesday, Nov. 12, 7:15-8:45 a.m. will explore the possibilities of combining traditional job search methods with the internet.

Is your resume not getting you the results you want? **Resume and Cover Letters for Beginners** on Wednesday, Nov. 19, 7:15-8:45 a.m. will provide some of the answers.

All programs are free. Space is limited and reservations are required. For information, call (908) 754-7885 or log on to southplainfield.lib.nj.us.

Knights of Columbus Trip to Army Game

November 15

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a bus trip to West Point to see Army play Houston University on Nov. 15. Game time is 1 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person and the bus price will be \$25 per person.

If you are interested in getting tickets or need more details, please call

Tony Moskal at (732) 727-4841 or Joe Scudato at (908) 754-0869.

The bus will be leaving from the Knights of Columbus building in South Plainfield on Hamilton Ave.

Wine Tasting at Embassy Suites

November 15

The South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department invites you to attend a wine tasting, sponsored by Oak Tree Buy-Rite Liquors, located at Embassy Suites, Piscataway on Saturday, Nov. 15, from 6 to 11 p.m.

Tickets are \$40 per person. Price includes the wine tasting reception from 6-9 p.m. and a cash bar, DJ and dancing from 9-11 p.m.

For tickets or information, contact Mike Gallagher, (908) 755-9874; John Celentano, (908) 757-5691 or Buy-Rite Liquor, (908) 561-0051.

St. Stephen's Annual Gift Raffle Auction

November 15

St. Stephen's Orthodox Church, 609 Lane Ave., will hold its second annual Gift Raffle Auction on Nov. 15. This event will be held at the Middle School on Plainfield Ave. Doors will open at 6 p.m. for browsing and the auction calling will begin precisely at 7:30 p.m.

Admission of \$6 includes complimentary coffee and tea. Pizza, soda and dessert will be available for purchase.

Join us for a fun evening and shop for your holiday gifts, as well. There will be beautiful theme baskets, small appliances, jewelry, toys, bed and bath items, door prizes and a 50/50 chance drawing. For more information, call (973) 635-2797 or (908) 754-4813.

SPHS Athletic Boosters Sports Auction/Raffle

November 15

The South Plainfield High School Athletic Booster Club will be holding their annual Sports Auction-Raffle on Saturday, Nov. 15. Doors open at 6 p.m. The auction starts at 7 p.m.

Send Us Your Events:

Mail or drop off stories and photos to
South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B,
South Plainfield, NJ 07080, fax (908) 668-8819;
or email to ggnan@aol.com.

Tickets for opening night, Oct. 31, are \$16 and include a champagne reception. All other performances are \$15. Seniors and students receive \$1 off, with I.D., on Sunday matinees.

Circle Players is located at 416 Victoria Ave., Piscataway. For tickets and information, call (732) 968-7555.

World Community Day 2003 "Circles of Love"

November 7

Christian women are invited to join us on Friday, Nov. 7, at 1:30 p.m. for the World Community Day as we extend our own circle outward in peace for the sake of justice with this year's theme, "Circles of Love." A local service is sponsored by Church Women United of the Plainfield Area at Trinity Reformed Church, located at 401 Green Brook Rd. in North Plainfield.

For more information, call Margaret Stewart at (908) 755-0615.

Union Catholic Craft Fair & Holiday Gift Market

November 8

A Craft Fair and Holiday Gift Market, sponsored by the Parent Guild of Union Catholic High School, will be held on Nov. 8 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the UC campus at 1600 Martine Ave. in Scotch Plains.

More than 100 tables of quality handcrafts, as well as new gift merchandise for the coming holiday season, celebrating Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas will be available for purchase.

Admission is \$1 for visitors and ample parking is available. Breakfast and lunch can be purchased and the Gourmet Tea Room will serve a variety of desserts and beverages.

B'Nai B'rith Ketubah Married Couples

November 9

The B'Nai B'rith Ketubah Married Couples Unit (40+) will be meeting for brunch on Sunday, Nov. 9 at 11:30 a.m. at O'Connor's Beef 'N Ale, 708 Mountain Blvd. in Watchung. The cost is \$11.85 per person, plus tax and tip. Seniors (62+) are \$8.95, plus tax and tip. Non-members are welcome to come. RSVP to Elaine at (908) 232-0062 by Nov. 7.

PKD Foundation Meeting

November 9

The NJ Chapter of the PKD Foundation for Research in Polycystic Kidney Disease will have an educational seminar and meeting on Sunday, Nov. 9, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Hackensack Univ. Medical Center in the Hackensack Conference Center. Speaking will be registered dietitians Wendy Caserta and Chrissy Grivas. A question and answer session will follow. Kidney-friendly refreshments will be served. Attendees are welcome to bring their lunches. There is no charge to attend the meeting. If you would like to register, call (201) 823-4498, (732) 274-0850, or email NJPKD@aol.com.

The Middlesex County/Union County area support group meets at St. John Vianney School, 420 Inman Ave., Colonia, 7-9 p.m. on the last Tuesday of every month. The next meeting is Saturday, Nov. 25.

For information or to register, call (732) 396-8476 or (908) 925-3604 or email NJPKD@aol.com.

(Continued on next page)

Tickets in advance are \$7, or \$10 at the door. Admission includes 25 auction tickets. Prizes include Giants tickets, autographed balls, sports theme baskets, Rutgers tickets, a DVD player and a television.

For tickets or more information, call The George's at (908) 755-4633, or the Keller's at (908) 763-1341.

Recreation Plans Trip to Atlantic City

November 16

It's time to "Go for the Gold." The South Plainfield Recreation is planning a trip to the Atlantic City Resort Hotel on Sunday, Nov. 16. The bus leaves from the PAL at 10:30 a.m. and returns about 8:30 p.m.

The cost is \$15 per person—you get back \$13 in coins. Sign up for the trip at the PAL Building.

Suburban Woman's Club Presents Musical

November 23

The Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield will be sponsoring a wonderful theatrical experience to benefit their annual scholarship fund on Sunday, Nov. 23 at 3 p.m. The play is "Jane Eyre, the Musical." Charlotte Bronte's classical story is now set to music and will be presented by the Circle Playhouse in Piscataway.

Ticket cost is \$16. All proceeds to benefit the annual scholarship fund. The award to be given to a graduating SPHS senior. Complimentary refreshments will be served during intermission and door prizes will be awarded. Circle Playhouse is located at 416 Victoria Ave. in Piscataway, just a few blocks from 7th St and Washington Ave.

For ticket information and reservations call (908) 6163 or (908) 757 3680.

— Out of Town —

Circle Players Present Jane Eyre Musical

November 7-22

"Jane Eyre: The Musical" is a timeless tale of a young woman's search for liberty and love during a time in which women had little freedom and love was an accident of marriage, not its catalyst. The show can be seen at Circle Players Nov. 7, 14, 21 and Saturday, Nov. 8, 15 and 22 at 2 p.m. Sunday matinees are Nov. 9 and 16 at 3 p.m.

even

(Continued from previous page)

Moonrakers Tall Club's "Meet & Greet"

November 11

The NJ Moonrakers Tall Club, Inc., a social and community service organization serving people of "taller-than-average" stature in the NJ/NY metropolitan area, will hold its monthly "Meet and Greet" social at the Saddle Brook Marriott Hotel, located between Route 80 and the Garden State Parkway in Saddle Brook, on Tuesday, Nov. 11 at 8 p.m.

For information about the club or for a schedule of social events, call our 24-hour hotline service at (973) 267-3648, or visit our website at <http://www.njtall.org>, or email at newjersey@tall.org.

Depression and Bipolar Support Meeting

November 12

The Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA Morristown Area) on Wednesday, Nov. 12, will feature Ivan Goldberg, M.D., a noted psychopharmacologist with an active private practice in New York City. The talk will be followed by Dr. Goldberg's "Ask the Doctor" program.

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

Visit the website of the Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance/Morristown Area at community.nj.com/cc/1stnjdmtdsg to learn more about the chapter. For local information, call (973) 994-1143 or the New Jersey Self-Help Clearing House at (800) 367-6274.

Tourette Syndrome Association Meeting

November 13

The Tourette Syndrome Association of NJ—Middlesex/Union County Family Support Group will meet on Thursday, Nov. 13 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Neuroscience Institute of JFK Medical Center, 65 James Street in Edison.

There will be an open forum on everyday life with a child affected by Tourette Syndrome and the impact on the entire family. There will also be a

movie presented. For more information, call Marilyn at (908) 757-5074 or after 6 p.m., call Debbie at (732) 283-1439.

Middlesex WOWs Dance

November 14

The Middlesex East Widows or Widowers Carter Chapter will hold a dance for widows and widowers on Friday, Nov. 14 at St. Demetrius Community Center, 681-691 Roosevelt Ave. in Carteret. Admission is \$8. Entertainment and refreshments will be provided. The dance will be from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. For information, call (732) 969-1123 or (908) 757-0515.

Union Catholic to Host Casino Night

November 14

On Friday, Nov. 14 Union Catholic High School of Scotch Plains is hosting a Casino Night at the Gran Centurions, located at 440 Madison Hill Rd. in Clark.

Guests at Casino Night will purchase a "money card," which will be exchanged for chips at the gaming tables. A variety of games including poker, Caribbean polder, blackjack, roulette and a big six wheel will be open to players. \$35 per person covers admission, hot and cold food stations, hot hors d'oeuvres, soft drinks, coffee, tea and dessert. A cash bar will be available. The evening begins at 7 p.m. and at 7:30 the games will officially begin.

To purchase tickets, contact Anne Wischusen at (908) 889-1600 x 316.

Reducing or Eliminating Menopausal Symptoms

November 15

There are a lot of things women can do to alleviate or prevent menopausal symptoms. Join licensed acupuncturist Carole Bishop for a free workshop on Saturday, Nov. 15 at 3 p.m. or on Monday, Nov. 17 at 7:30 p.m. at Fitness by Design, 120 Centennial Ave. in Piscataway on "Healing Foods and Lifestyle Changes to Reduce or Eliminate the Discomfort of Menopause." Bishop will discuss natural, safe, hormone-free effective ways to reduce or eliminate menopausal symptoms. The workshop is free to the public.

Reservations are required. Call (732) 885-1200 to reserve your place.

southplainfieldpeople Milestones

Twin Girls Born to the Rose Family on Oct. 18

George and Patricia Rose are the proud parents of twin daughters who were born on Oct. 18 at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital, Boston, Mass. Brooke Baie Rose, weighed in at five pounds-14 ounces and measured 18 1/4 inches. Ashlyn Autumn Rose weighed in at six pounds, 10 ounces and measured 18 inches.



The Rose's are residents of Westborough, Massachusetts.

The mother, the former Patricia Lynn Kukan is the daughter of Mrs. Joan Kukan of Springfield, NJ. The twins, Brooke and Ashlyn, have "adopted" a maternal grandfather, Dominic DiNardo, of South Plainfield. The father is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Rose of Georgetown, Mass.

Brooke Baie Rose and Ashlyn Autumn Rose. Pictured at left is mom Patricia and grandmother Joan Kukan and "adopted" grandfather, Dominic DiNardo.

Multitech Group (TMG) Listed as Top Design Firm

The List is Out! New York Construction magazine, part of the McGraw-Hill Construction Group, has finalized its roster of the Top Design Firms in NY, NJ and Connecticut for 2003.

The Multitech Group (TMG), led

by Cecelia M. Kennedy, John W. Kennedy, Ph.D., Scott A. Nilssen and James J. McLafferty, has made the list once again.

Cecelia is also one of five women identified as a principal of a top firm and heads this WBE as its chief executive officer. TMG is a 27-year-old

engineering services company headquartered in South Plainfield that has areas of focus in the Material Handling, Utility, Homeland Security and Industrial Construction industries.

Please visit our website at www.themultitechgroup.com for more information on The Multitech Group.

Hopkins Honored By Seton Hall

Mark Hopkins was inducted into the Seton Hall Hall of Fame at their 19th annual event held at Mayfair Farms in West Orange. Mark is a graduate of South Plainfield.

As a three-sport star, Mark shared the Outstanding Athlete Award with Seton Hall Prep Hall of Fame, Ira Bowman '91. He played three years of varsity football and baseball and was a standout for the track team.

Originally from South Plainfield, Mark now lives in Cranbury.

Fredos Welcome Birth of Cassidy

Gerald and Tara Fredo of South Plainfield are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Cassidy Morgan Fredo. Cassidy was born on Oct. 1 at 8:20 p.m. at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Cassidy weighed in at 7 pounds, 11 ounces and was 20 1/4 inches long. She joins her seven year old brother, Xavier, at home.

The proud grandparents are Ann-Marie and Edward Wojciechowski Jr. of South Plainfield, LeighAnn Bickner of Manahawkin, Thomas Roach of



Cassidy Morgan Fredo

Port Saint Lucie, Florida, Rose Zarro of Bloomfield and the late Joseph Fredo Jr. of Bloomfield.

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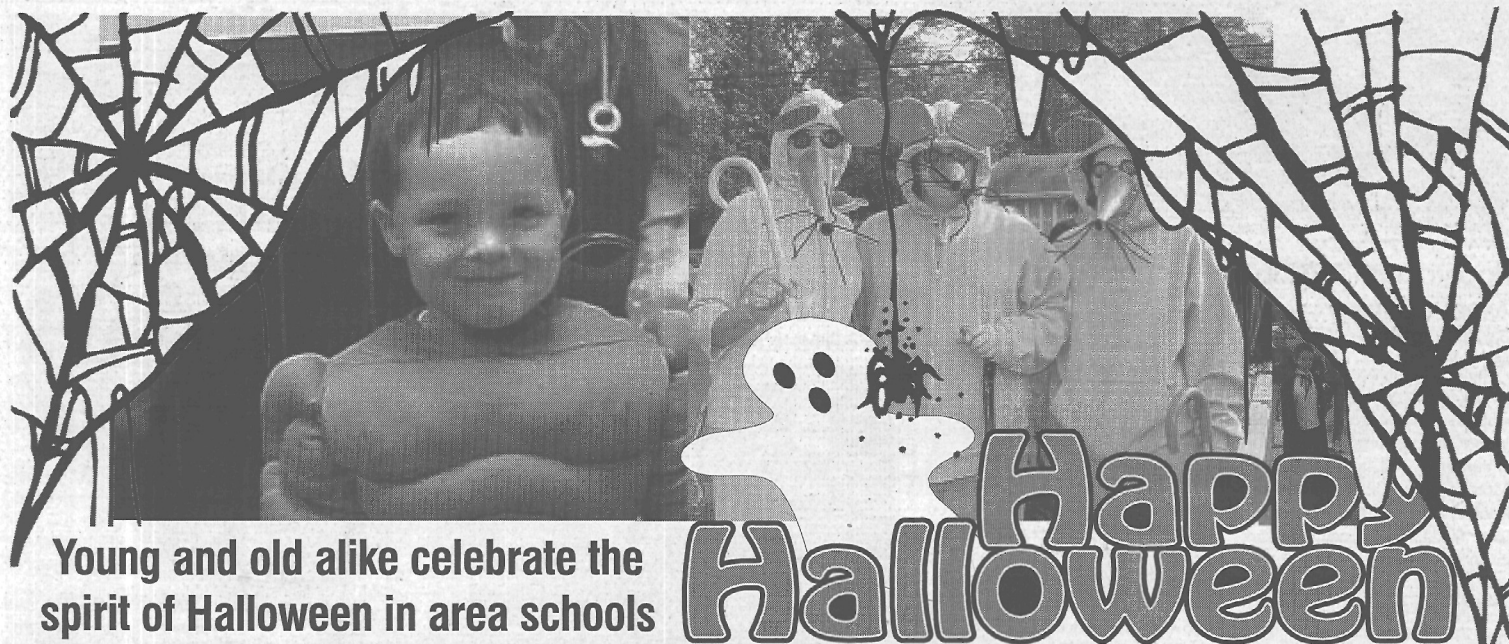


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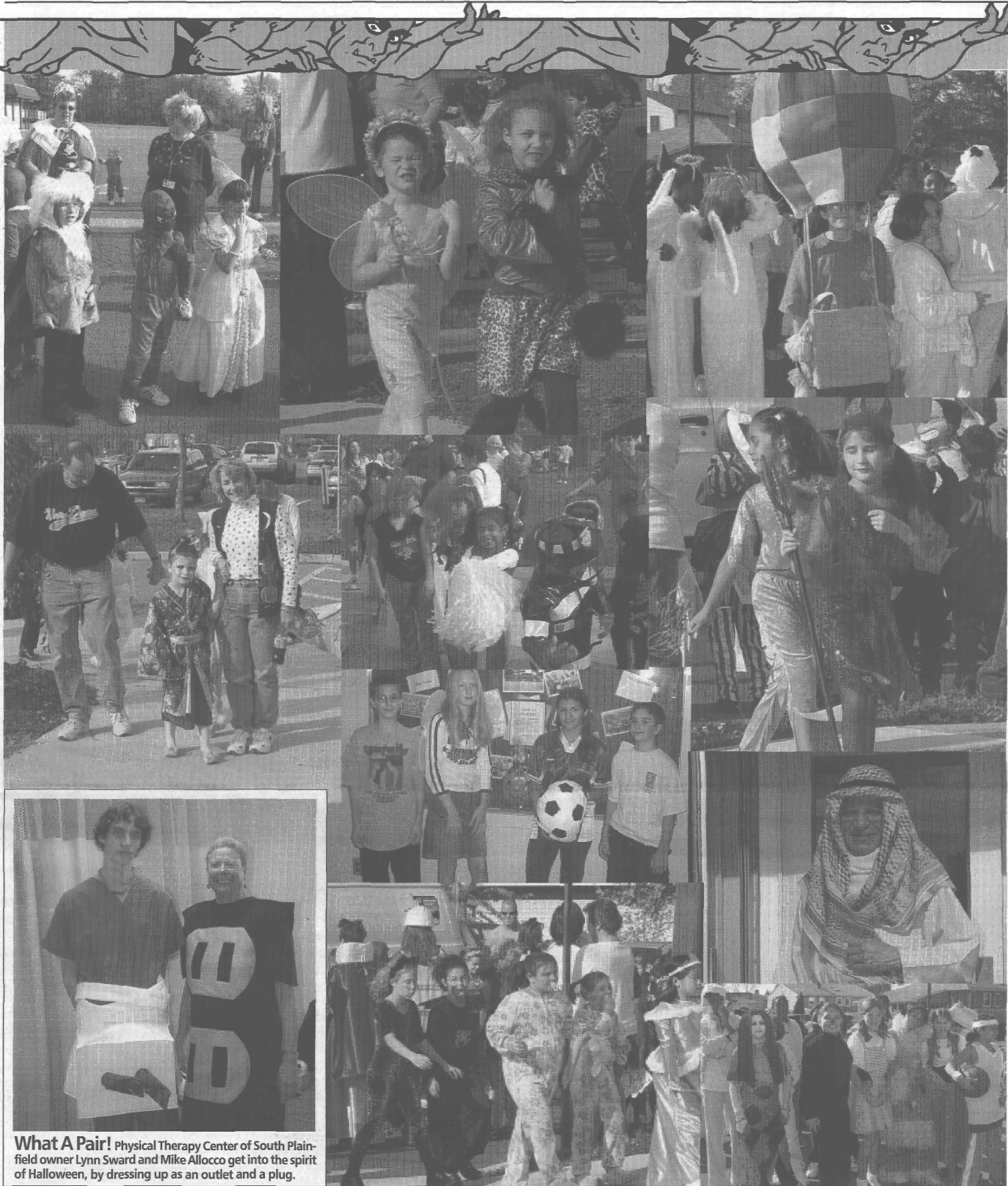
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What A Pair! Physical Therapy Center of South Plainfield owner Lynn Sward and Mike Allocco get into the spirit of Halloween, by dressing up as an outlet and a plug.

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South Plainfield Marching Tigers Place Second!

On Saturday, Oct. 25, the High School Marching Band once again performed a dazzling show to earn them a second place win with a score of 84.25. In addition to second place, the Tigers placed first in Best Marching, Best Percussion and Best Pit Crew. Marching instruction is under the direction of Joe Borgese and Kevin Adams. Percussion is led by Bob Publik, Charlie Bubnick and Maggie Temple.

The Tigers previously placed first in their Group III Division in Williamstown on Oct. 19 with a score of 79.45. Their jump in score, two weeks away from the Atlantic Coast Championships, places them at 23rd in the top 25 bands from nine states in



the East Coast. The Tigers are under the direction of Mark Tweed and Kathy Petrocelli. Their last competition will

be Saturday, Nov. 1 at East Brunswick High School for Chapter X Championships.

IN YOUR OPINION

Continued from page 2

to block Morril Dr. so gridlock ensues. We continue to have idiot drivers zooming down Morril Dr., thinking they can beat the traffic light at Maple Ave., only to come to a screeching halt when they see it ends and then turn around in my driveway!

With traffic tie-ups on Park Ave., we cannot exit south onto Park Ave. because of the gridlock. I have almost been hit several times by motorists crossing over the solid yellow line proceeding north on Park to pass the backed-up traffic to get to the left turn lane at Maple Ave.! I'm afraid one of us will be killed with this situation un-addressed!

However, the real reason for this letter is to publicly address two "rumors" that have been circulating for awhile—one being the break through of Audubon Ave. to Maple Ave. Are you people nuts?! We already have idiots racing up Morril Dr. in an attempt to beat the traffic light to Maple Ave. and seriously compromise the safety of the families on Morril Dr. and Audubon Ave. Currently, we have seven out of 15 families with young children and the other families have grandchildren, or other young relatives who spend time in our neighborhood. While you are at breaking streets, why not break through West Crescent Ave. to run through Kennedy School property to

the other end of it that exits onto South Plainfield Ave.! Our neighborhood has successfully fought this hair-brained break through of the street idea several times before—the last time being two years ago when the Stacey Court project wanted to break through. Since then, the Mayor has promised us "no such thing will ever happen." Several neighbors have continually approached the Borough to purchase the land at the end to protect themselves and their families from the street ever going through, but no response has been received from the Borough that I am aware of. We have also been promised that Morril Dr. and our block of Audubon Ave. would be paved. (It took 20 some years to get any potholes patched—how long will it take to be repaved?) Is there any chance the badly deteriorated curbs could be done as well? I know I'm dreaming!

The second rumor that has only recently surfaced is the threat of changing the name of the unattached section of Audubon Ave. Let me be very clear how the four families feel about a change to that affect—WE DO NOT CONDONE ANY CHANGE TO THE NAME OF OUR STREET! Let me impress upon the readers that the Borough has never consulted with us or had the common courtesy to ask us about any of these possibilities that greatly affect our lives on this street!

Another classic case of elected officials operating in a vacuum with no real information from the people whose lives it affected most—the homeowners! Let me ask Mayor Gallagher and Company: Are you and the Borough prepared to pay all of the homeowners' expenses for new title searches, local, county and state filing fees, as well as any and all other legal, bank and personal fees that may be involved in changing the name of a street? No? I didn't think so! Be assured that if such a name change were to be put through against all of our wishes—we're coming after you all to pay every last penny of any expense it might cost the homeowners right down to postage for change of address forms! This block of Audubon Ave. has been named that for more than 50 years since the first homes were built here! And we are not changing it now! Educate your emergency services personnel to read a map and know their community if that is your concern—we have never had a problem with a delivery of any kind of with any Borough personnel finding us. The only people who never seem to be able to find our block of Audubon are the politicians—except during electioneering time!

Now these rumors rear their ugly heads again because three additional houses are being proposed on even smaller lots on the other side of Stacey Court by real estate man Guy Moretti! What will become of the tall pine trees lining that side of the street and the other mature hard woods? What provisions are being made for the additional drainage on our town's infrastructure and schools? Why isn't he and his engineering outfit being held to the same rules and guidelines that the Stacey Court development was?

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Sports

By Lee Flanagan

JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

The Junior Baseball Club registration from now to Jan. 1, 2004 is \$75. However, there are only a few dates left to catch this early discount. The dates are: Nov. 12, Dec. 1 and Dec. 15. Times for all dates are 6 to 7 p.m.

After those three dates, the registration will increase to \$95. There will be no exceptions. This will give Parents seven opportunities to sign up their son or daughter before the first of the year. We are also selling SPJBC club members cards for \$10. A manager and/or coach will not be allowed on the field without a club member's card. Buddy Hutchison is asking all managers, to return your equipment bags poor to the club members meeting in December. We still have nine equipment bags out there from the spring season.

The Junior Baseball Club is running a trip to the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York. Yes, the Baseball Hall of Fame. On Monday Dec. 29, we will be leaving 6 a.m. in the morning by bus and arrive in Cooperstown at 11:30 a.m. and take the complete tour of the Baseball Hall of Fame. We will leave Cooperstown and stop at the Old Country Buffet on the way home. This will be a great trip. Total cost for the



whole trip is \$65 per person and includes transportation, entrance to the Hall of Fame, and Buffet style dinner on the way home. We would like to start registering parents and kids for this trip. It

is very important to register early so you are not left out.

The Women's Auxiliary will be conducting once again the "Night of Holiday Shopping." This event will take place at the Menlo Park Mall on Nov. 23 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Ticket price is \$8. This is a night of special shopping discounts, entertainment and events. For more information, call Stacy Lake at (908) 252-9531 or Betsy Spayder at (908) 252-8928.

SPJBC is always based on volunteer efforts by parents, grandparents and friends. Any help you can give to us is always appreciated. This Saturday, Nov. 8 at 8 a.m., we are looking for volunteers to work on Field #4 until 12 p.m. Recognize yourself as unique and valuable. Please come out and give us a little of your time. The one thing everyone needs to remember is we are here for the kids. Volunteering time to the youth of South Plainfield is the best. It will be time well spent. "It is a new Beginning"

SOUTH PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL From Sharon Miller

Field Hockey Corner Weekly Wrap-Up



The SPHS varsity team won their 18th game of the season, bringing their sensational record to 18-2-1. This is the second consecutive GMC title for the team as they defeated Sayreville 4-0 in last year's tournament. They then faced second seeded Sayreville before a crowd of 300 spectators in the championship game. (See page 1 story and photo.)

Special Events - November 7—With the thrill of the GMC championship behind them, the team must now focus and concentrate on the State Tournament. They have earned the third seed in the sectionals for North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3. They had a bye for the Nov. 4 game. Nov. 7 will have them facing sixth seeded rival Warren Hills, this time at home on the Carol Espinosa field. The semi final round will take place on Nov. 12 with the sectional final being held on Nov. 15. These games will be played at the field of the higher seeded team.

This year's team is the no. 1 team in Middlesex County!!!! They have climbed in the Group 3 rankings to take the no. 5 position. They have been ranked among the Top 20 best field hockey teams in the state as they move in to proudly capture the 18th position. (rankings as of 11/5)

Please come out and support a wonderful team of players. There are only a few games remaining and you don't want to miss seeing this team play.

The best of luck to players and coaches in the State Tournament. Go Tigers!

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Sports

South Plainfield Basketball Team Wins Second Straight Fall-Ball Classic Title

By Greg Machos

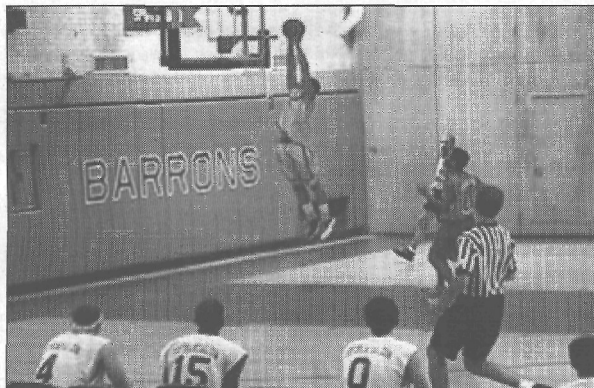
For the second consecutive year, the South Plainfield Tigers won the Woodbridge based Hawks Basketball Fall-Ball Classic. However, the second time around was a more challenging, and consequently, a more satisfying run for last year's GMC White Division Champions and GMC Tournament Semifinalists.

With the Tigers 82-69 victory over Plainfield, the Tigers claimed the championship in a field of 24 teams, which listed as a Who's Who of Basketball in New Jersey. Among the teams that were in this year's Fall-Ball Classic were: Linden, which is a perennial powerhouse in the Watchung Conference and Group IV Scotch Plains, which overnight has become a state playoff contender with one of the nation's top sophomores, Derrick Character joining the mix; Plainfield, which has improved over the last several years; CJ Group II power Holmdel, Columbia, Bridgewater; Franklin; Roselle Catholic; Marist and eleven GMC teams.

The road to this year's championship started with a 9-1 performance in the regular season, which gave the Tigers a first place tie with top seeded Linden. Among the Tigers nine wins was a 67-52 victory over St. Joseph's of Metuchen despite an outstanding performance by 6'10" center Andrew Bynum, who transferred in over the summer from Solebury Prep of Pennsylvania. The only blemish on the Tigers record was a 52-35 defeat at the hands of Scotch Plains, who are led by two of the top sophomores in the state: Derrick Character and Lance Thomas.

Then, in the playoffs, the Tigers got a first round bye and faced Rutgers Prep in the second round. Rutgers Prep was able to get to the second round by virtue of an overtime win over South Brunswick, 78-76. The 21st seeded Argonauts, were led by a solid performance from Corey Wilburn, who scored 19 points while the Tigers were led by Marquis Jones, who collected 17 points, seven rebounds, three assists, two steals and a block. With their suffocating team defense, South Plainfield was able to move onto the quarterfinal round with a 59-43 victory.

In the quarterfinals, the only difference was the name of the opponent as South Plainfield dominated Roselle Catholic in a game where it wasn't as close as the score would indicate. As a matter of fact, the Tigers had a 40-24 lead with only 6:38 left in the game,



Soaring to another title: Marquis Jones leaps up for the slam in South Plainfield's 82-69 victory over Plainfield in the Hawks Basketball Fall-Ball Classic Championship.

but the Lions rallied with a 20-9 spurt to make the final score, 49-44. South Plainfield was led by Marquis Jones who had 15 points, five rebounds and a steal and Darren Smith who added 14 points, four rebounds, two steals and one assist. Idris Hilliard scored 16 points for Roselle Catholic.

The semifinal game was against St. Joseph's. The Falcons, who have a very formidable lineup with the 6'10" Andrew Bynum, Josh Batts, who won last year's GMCT semifinal game against New Brunswick with a buzzer beating layup and Fofie Mgbako, who is a large presence off the bench at 6'5". In the game, St. Joseph's controlled the early first half as they jumped to an early 6-0 lead and then had a 22-15 lead with 8:49 left in the half.

However, the Tigers rallied to tie it at 24-24 with four minutes left in the first half on a 9-2 spurt. St. Joseph's would take a one point lead into the locker room at 29-28 and held the lead at 44-43 with about eight minutes left in the game. But, the Tigers would prevail as they outscored St. Joe's 15-10 the rest of the way for the 58-54 win. Marquis Jones led the Tigers again with a 16 point, 3 rebound and one assist performance. Ian Robinson also chipped in with 16 points, three rebounds, one block and an assist. Sean Baptiste and Andrew Bynum kept the Falcons close with 15 and 14 points respectively.

Then, in the final, the Tigers and Plainfield Cardinals were knotted up at 37-37 at the half, but sparked by an early second half dunk by Jones, the Tigers outscored Plainfield 45-32 in the second half to win their second straight Fall-Ball Classic title 82-69. The Tigers got great defensive support by Corey

Gilmore and Gary Houston as well as clutch scoring from Darren Smith, who had 23 points, four rebounds, two steals and one assist. Ian Robinson also chipped in with 23 points, eight rebounds and two steals while Marquis Jones, the league MVP had 17 points, four rebounds, three blocks, three steals and three assists.

Coach Mike Lanza was elated with his team's performance. "This year's competition was much tougher than last year, but the kids worked hard and refused to lose." The entire team including Jonathan Bugey, Mike Richard, Jawaad Caldwell, Kevin Seidenburg, Gilmore, Houston, Robinson, Smith and Jones played like a team that is contending for a conference championship. We'll have to see if this holds up in February.

On a final note, Lanza, who has compiled a record of 27-2 the past two years in the Fall-Ball Classic, would like to thank Coach Lubreski and Allocco as well as Mr. Bugey and the parents for their support.



South Plainfield Football Eagles

The Eagles were away playing the Hunterdon Huskies.

The Junior Pee Wee team played Thursday, Oct. 30. Winning over the Huskies 7-0.

Brandon Downes for the touchdown and Mike Wagner for the extra point. Finishing their season with an 8-1-1 record, this team had the best record of the 2003 Eagles season. Congratulations, boys! We are so proud of your good sportsmanship!

Flag, Mighty Mites and Junior Midgets played the Huskies on Saturday, Nov. 1. Mighty Mites and Junior Midgets lost.

This week the South Plainfield Eagle Board and Parents would like to use this space to name and thank the dedicated coaches who, beginning Aug. 1 through Labor Day, spend five days a week conditioning and training football players and teaching our cheerleaders cheers and competition routines used at half time. Once school begins, our coaches spend three evenings a week and game day with our children. Teaching and encouraging our children to do their best, display good sportsmanship and sacrificing many hours away from their own families as they arrive each practice day directly from work and stay until 7 or 7:30 p.m. With nothing paid other than a display of gratitude at the end of the season. Our coaches make a difference to approximately 300 South Plainfield children and their families.

Thank you coaches for a wonderful season!

Flag Football— Head coach is Glenn Graves, assistants are Gary Lampasona, John Skelly, Mike Pellegrino,

no, Tom Heim, John Walsh and Joe Scarpitto.

Flag Cheerleading Head coach is Laura Maino, assistants are Lisa Abate, Tracey Bullard, Diane Pender and Tina Ruhnke.

Mighty Mites Football— Head coach is Jack Brady, assistants are Nick Heilmann, Jerry Harris, Bob Bors, Charles Gruver, Scott Delvecchio, John DiDolce, Greg Stasenka and John Pellegrino.

Mighty Mites Cheerleading— Head coach is Linda Skelly, assistants are Angela Barvosa, Amy Cottone, Abra Laznosky and Susan Miller.

Junior Pee Wee Football— Head coach is Mike Downes, assistants are Mark Wagner, John Papa, Tom Smith, Larry Hughes, Al Liszewski and Frank Malecki.

Junior Pee Wee Cheerleading— Head coach is Carolyn White, assistants are Kelly Butrico, Terri Christ, Cindy Driscoll and Sharon Scudato. Coach Trainee is Mallory Christ

Junior Midgets Football— Head coach is Paul Wylam, assistants are Mike Molinaro, Gary Cassio and Lloyd McNelly.

Junior Midgets Cheerleading— Head coach is Tracey Gratta, assistants are Dianne Herriot, Kathy Molinaro, Barbara Yulick and Robin Prendergast.

Overseeing each program, a great big thank you to our commissioners!

Football, Darren Gorman; **Cheerleading**, Cathy Scarpitto and Assistant, Denise Kelly.

IMPORTANT DATE CHANGE: Pizza/Award Party at the PAL on Sunday, Dec. 7. Visit our web site for off season information! Scholarship applications available now in guidance and on our website.

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Obituaries

Mary (Bilecki) Ayers, 83

Mary (Bilecki) Ayers of South Plainfield died on Tuesday, Oct. 28 at the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Mary was born and raised in Brooklyn and has been a resident of South Plainfield for the last 52 years.

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

She was a seamstress for the former Queen Dress Company in South Plainfield, then worked for Hodes Dress Company in Plainfield, retiring in 1985 after 45 years. She was a member of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union Local 149 of Plainfield.

Mary and her co-workers formed a knitting club which provided volunteer knitting projects for Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center and several area nursing homes.

Mary was also a volunteer at the Cedar Oaks Care Center in South Plainfield.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Frank P. Ayers, who died in 1999.

She is survived by her daughter, Karen and her husband, Hunter Birkhead of Warren Twp.; three sisters, Julia Maselli of Plainfield, Dorothy Approvato of South Plainfield and Helen Smereta of Punta Gorda, Fla. and her beloved grandchildren, Charles, Christopher and Jonathan Birkhead.

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

Chick was a member of the American Legion Post 119 of Dunellen.

He is survived by his wife, Harriet (Fosbre); two daughters, Susan of Metuchen and Sheri of California; three sons, Gregory of Harmony, Kerry of Middlesex and Eric of New Hampshire; two grandchildren, Danielle and Jed and his great grandson, Rory.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

David Garry, 50

David Garry of Piscataway died on Sunday, Nov. 2 at the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

David was born in Somerville and was a former resident of North Plainfield and a long time resident of Dunellen before moving to Piscataway six and a half years ago.

David was an electro mechanical specialist for National Starch in Plainfield for 26 years. He then worked for Lowes Home Improvement Center in Piscataway.

David was a big fan of the Dunellen High School Football team. He was the Destroyers number one fan.

He was a former member of the Dunellen Volunteer Fire Department and the Dunellen Rescue Squad.

He was predeceased by his beloved mother, Mabel Garry, who died in 1994.

He is survived by his loving wife, Theresa Stead Garry and three brothers, Carmen Crea of North Brunswick, Allan Traxler of Allentown, Pa. and Michael Garry of South Plainfield.

Funeral services were held at the James W. Conroy Funeral Home, 2456 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield.

Lea H. Nahoun (nee Ruzanski), 81

Lea H. Nahoun (nee Ruzanski) died on Monday, Nov. 3 at Cedar Oaks Center in South Plainfield.

Born in Saltsburg, Pa., Lea resided in Kew Garden Hills, NY for many years before moving to Fords, Piscataway and then South Plainfield where she entered Cedar Oaks Care Center.

She is predeceased by her husband, Andrew and by two children, Gary and Stephen.

Surviving is a dear friend, Maria Kohl of Far Rockaway, NY.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Jersey City, he has resided in South Plainfield since 1974.

He had been employed as a Milkman for the former Alderney Dairy of Newark for 38 years before retiring in 1974.

His wife, Susan Ciandella, died in 1994.

Surviving are three sons, Rev. Roch Ciandella of Wappingers Falls, NY, James, Jr. and Gerard, both of South Plainfield; three daughters, Judith Ann Mandia of New York, Barbara Vinci of Basking Ridge and Geraldine D'Adezzio of South Plainfield; two sisters, Catherine "Kitty" Tiscornia of North Bergen and Louise McGee of Florida and one brother, Patrick Ciandella of Georgia.

Also surviving are 10 grandchildren, a great granddaughter and a great grandson.

Services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to the Solid Ground Franciscan Ministries, C/O Fr. Jim Goode, 440 West 36th Street, NY, NY 10018.

Rosalie Franklin Traynor, 75

Rosalie Franklin Traynor of Beach Haven Park, formerly of South Plainfield, died on Friday, Oct. 31 at the Southern Ocean County Hospital in Stafford Twp.

Rosalie was born in North Adams, Mass. and was a long time resident of South Plainfield before moving to Beach Haven Park 22 years ago.

Rosalie was an inventory control

clerk for Trump Castle Casino and Hotel in Atlantic City for 14 years before retiring in 1998.

She was a communicant of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Long Beach Island. She was a former member of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield, where she was a member and treasurer of the Altar Rosary Society. She was a former member of the Sacred Heart School PTA and served as treasurer for many years. She was a volunteer at the rectory on Monday mornings, assisting with the collection.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Thomas R. Traynor, who died in 1983.

She is survived by her son, Thomas R. Traynor III of Beach Haven Park; two daughters, Sue Anne Traynor of Egg Harbor City and Irene Traynor of Highland Park and her sister, Lois Unis of Clifton.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory can be made to Deborah Hospital Foundation, P.O. Box 820, Browns Mills, NJ 08015.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY

November 3, 2003

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment at its meeting held on October 30, 2003.

Case #57-03—Trevor Williams. Block 528.04; Lot 3; 1332 Hogan Drive. The applicant's request for the construction of a 15 ft. wide by 20 ft. long sun shelter with a lot coverage variance of 317.5 s.f. subject to (1) condition was hereby GRANTED.

Case #60-03—Robert & Joan Holleran. Block 209; Lot 6; 132 W. Crescent Pkwy. The applicant's request for the construction of a 7 ft. by 30 ft. front porch on their home, with a 26 ft. front yard setback subject to (1) condition was hereby GRANTED.

Case #61-03—Antonio Cunha. Block 261; Lot 10; 318 Church St. The applicant's request for a 3.5 ft. side yard setback variance to permit an existing 10 ft. by 16 ft. shed to remain on the property with (1) condition was hereby GRANTED.

Case #62-03—Joseph Agriolo. Block 24; Lot 14; 404 Tompkins Ave. The applicant's request for the construction of a second floor addition to his home, with a 28.91 ft. front yard setback from Pershing Place, a 22.46 ft. front yard setback from Tompkins Ave. and a new front porch with a 25.62 ft. front yard setback from Tompkins Ave. was hereby GRANTED.

Case #63-03/A—Michelle Johnson. Block 343; Lot 15; 108 Arlington Ave. The applicant's request that a letter of interpretation be DISMISSED without prejudice was hereby GRANTED.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Beth Khidre
Secretary-Zoning Board of Adjustment

\$45.50

November 7, 2003

LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY

October 29, 2003

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Planning Board at its meeting held on October 28, 2003.

A. Case #672/VIS—G & W Labs, Inc. Block 481; Lot 1.01; 111 Coolidge Street & Block 481; Lot 1; 101 Coolidge Street. The applicant's request for final site plan approval with conditions has been GRANTED.

B. Case #02-03/V—Jonathan Homes, Inc. Block 398; Lot 2.01 and Block 398; Lot 6; Harvard & Tremont Avenues & St. John's Place. The applicant's request for final major subdivision approval with conditions has been GRANTED.

C. Case #670/Conditional Use—Klein Outdoor Advertising. Block 535; Lot 1.01; 2291 Hamilton Blvd. The applicant's request for conditional use approval and preliminary & final site plan approval with conditions has been GRANTED.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Beth Khidre
Recording Secretary-Planning Board

\$31.50

November 7, 2003

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Notices Online at
www.publicnotices.com

Charles A. "Chick" Lush, 78

Charles A. "Chick" Lush died on Tuesday, Oct. 28 at his home.

Born in Chester, Pa., Chick grew up in Dunellen and had attended the Dunellen schools, where he excelled in basketball. Along with his brother, Bill, they played for the 1943 Dunellen Destroyers State Championship Basketball team.

After high school graduation, Chick entered the United States Navy, where he served from 1943-1946 during WWII, then he and his wife settled in So. Plainfield, where they have resided ever since.

A Structural & Ornamental Iron worker by trade, Chick worked out of Union Hall Local #545 of Newark for 40 years, retiring in 1990. He spent most of his years at Irvington Iron & Steel of New Brunswick as a foreman and layout man.

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James Ciandella, Sr.

James Ciandella, Sr., died on Saturday, Nov. 1 at Muhlenberg Regional

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policereport

• On Oct. 24 an Iselin resident reported that she had lost her credit card at Kohl's and two purchases were made there 30 minutes later.

• On Oct. 27 the owner of Hunan Wok on W. 7th St. reported that her home had been broken into on Sunday and the entry point had not been repaired yet. The next day she found the keys to the restaurant missing from the home and \$5,000 was missing from a cash box.

• On Oct. 28 Best Western on New World Way reported the theft of two 27-inch televisions from two rooms.

• On Oct. 29 Natalie Laurie Walker, 20, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license and an outstanding warrant on a motor vehicle stop.

• On Oct. 30 Wilbert Othneal Gill, 41, of Plainfield was arrested for speeding, obstruction and providing false information.

• An employee of The Club at Richey on St. Nicholas Ave. reported that her vehicle had been broken into and a wallet, stereo and CDs were missing.

• A Linden Ave. resident reported the two male juveniles, dressed in all black, were putting shaving cream on her car. No damage was reported.

• On Nov. 1 the Gulf gas station on Stelton Rd. reported that a black male left without paying for \$18.75 worth of gas.

• A Parsippany resident reported that the windows of his vehicle had been smashed and the mirrors torn off while parked at the Palace of Jaipur on Hamilton Blvd.

• A Park St. resident reported that a rock had been thrown through the rear window of her vehicle while parked in the driveway.

• Sam Goode on Hadley Rd. reported that a white male left the store

with an action figure valued at \$12.99. When confronted in the parking lot he threw the doll down and fled on foot.

• On Nov. 2 a Leeds Dr. resident reported that for the second year in a row someone had torn a small tree out of the ground on the property.

• On Nov. 3 Isidro Ixcopal, 24, of Allentown, Pa. was arrested for being an unlicensed driver and having a fictitious inspection sticker at a motor vehicle stop.

• A Crown Ln. resident reported that their rear storm door screen to the house breezeway had been cut and the inside door was pushed or kicked in. The door into the dining room had been pried open and a two watches, a gold bracelet, a pin, a necktie pin, four rings and a pair of earrings were taken from a bedroom dresser drawer.

• The assistant manager of Good-year on Oak Tree Rd. reported that he had been harassed by a customer who received a wrong part.

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Dogs Walk Spring Lake Park for Charity



By Patricia Abbott

Spring Lake Park was doggone busy a few weeks ago. The Plainfield Area Humane Society combined two of their most popular events, the Annual Alumni Day and Dog Walk fundraiser. The sunny Saturday afternoon was perfect for a walk in the park. Over 20 dog owners circled the park with their four footed friends. The walkers and their pets raised \$1,215 towards kennel renovations. Fourteen of the dogs were alumni of the PAHS. They were easily identified by their red, white and blue bandanas. This is the tenth year for Alumni Day and the second for the Dog Walk.

After the walk the fun and games began. Jennifer and Cheryl Weeks gave



a dog agility demonstration and encouraged participants to take their pets through the course. Games included: Best Kisser, Fastest Tail Wagger, Cutest Butt, Stupid Pet Tricks, Musical Hoops (like musical chairs), Most Obedient, and Best Halloween Costume. There was also Doggy Foot Painting.

Sue Hahn, a 15-year shelter volunteer, said, "The mission of the Plainfield Area Humane Society is to find a loving home for every homeless pet. Alumni Day is an opportunity to celebrate the joy our animals have found with their new families."

Participants received purple ribbons because every dog that has a home is a winner.

NOTES FROM The Senior Center

by Joann Graff, Director of Office on Aging

As part of the services provided by the new Office on Aging and in an effort to keep our seniors informed, I will be writing news articles on topics of importance to our seniors.

Today's topic deals with changes to PAAD (Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled), Senior Gold and Medicare prescription programs.

All three programs now require mandatory generic substitution on all prescriptions. This means that the pharmacist must dispense a general substitute unless the prescribing doctor obtains prior authorization from First Health Services for the name brand. The doctor must obtain prior approval and transmit authorization to the pharmacist. The pharmacist may not call First Health directly to get an authorization. The prescribing physician is fully responsible for getting pre-approval before a senior can get their prescription filled.

The second change are the income limits for 2004. For single persons, the maximum income will be \$20,437, and for married couples, the combined income limit will be \$25,058. These income limits also apply to the Lifeline energy assistance and Hearing Aid assistance programs. Senior Gold income limits for 2004 will be between \$20,437 and \$30,437 for single persons and between \$25,058 and \$35,058 for married couples.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with PAAD and Senior Gold, they are state-sponsored prescription benefit programs available to permanent NJ seniors age 65 and older who meet the income limits shown above. PAAD participants pay a \$5 co-pay; Senior Gold participants pay a \$15 co-pay plus 50% of the remaining cost of the prescription up to a \$2,000 threshold.

For information on these programs or other senior matters, contact the Office on Aging at (908) 754-1047.

Sacred Heart Alumni Mass Scheduled

Sacred Heart would like to invite you to the Alumni/Alumnae Golden Anniversary of Sacred Heart School.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, Dec. 13. There will be a 5 p.m. Mass immediately followed by a reception in the school cafeteria.

From the South Plainfield Library Bookmarks

By Christopher Grippio,
Supervising Librarian

Next Tuesday, Nov. 11, is Veterans Day (the Library will be closed). Originally conceived to honor those who had fought in World War I, for many years it was known as Armistice Day (WWI ended at the 11th minute of the 11th hour of the 11th day of November 1918) but after WWII and the Korean War President Eisenhower expanded it to cover veterans who had fought in any war. Moreover the original concept was that people would use the day to reflect on the sacrifices veterans made for our country and that people also use the time to foster goodwill among nations.

There are many resources in the South plainfield Library to help you learn more about the military and the wars they fought. General books about the military are in Dewey number 355. Specific wars are in the 900s. World War I (the War to End All Wars) is in 940.53. World War II is in the 940.54s. Korea is in 951.9042 and

Vietnam is in 959.7043. Also there are two displays of military related materials. One features non-fiction books, movies, etc. on many of the wars our men and women have fought in, while the other is fiction books with a military theme. If you have any further questions please stop by the Reference Desk so we can answer your questions.

Furthermore in keeping with the military theme the South Plainfield Historical Society is presenting a program on Sunday, Nov. 9, titled "Over here, Molly Pitcher". This dramatic presentation by Stacy Roth has Molly Pitcher reminiscing about the days she accompanied her husband to battles and the winter at Valley Forge. The program begins at 2 p.m. and is free and no registration is required.

Finally, next Wednesday, Nov. 12, the Library has a free program "Job Searching on the Internet" at 7:15 p.m. Registration is required.

So if you are looking for something interesting to do that's free look to the South Plainfield Public library, 2484 Plainfield Ave. (908) 754-7885.



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