

# South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 8, NO. 21

50 CENTS

JANUARY 16, 2004

## Former Senior Director Dies

Suzanne Ella (Cary) Mischka died last week at her home in Westfield, following a battle with cancer. She was 66.

Mischka had been the director of



**Suzanne Mischka, former director of South Plainfield Senior Citizens for 20 years, died last week at her home.**

the South Plainfield Senior Citizen's Center for over 20 years before her retirement last year. Sue was committed to helping others, especially seniors. Her lengthy career in social services began at the Welfare Department in her hometown of Syracuse, NY, before she eventually relocated to New Jersey in 1979. She ran Meals on Wheels in Dunellen for Middlesex County before assuming her role as senior advocate in South Plainfield.

Sue truly loved working with seniors. She initiated novel programs that nurtured both physical and emotional well-being. As a nursing home activities director, she introduced events incorporating physical activities long before it was the norm. She pushed for and implemented programs such as Meals on Wheels and Outreach for the Elderly. In South

Plainfield she oversaw the integration of five disparate senior programs into what eventually became the Senior Citizen's Center. During her tenure, she was instrumental in overseeing the planning and construction of the new Senior Citizen's Community Center located on Maple Ave., which now serves more than 650 seniors.

*"Sue was a true giver. We will really miss her."*

Councilman Ed Kubala

Born in Syracuse, Sue received her undergraduate degree in social work from St.

Joseph's College in Emmettsburg, Md. She resided in Buffalo and Boston, before settling in New Jersey with her family in 1979.

Sue was the wife of the late Robert E. Mischka, Sr. She is survived  
(Continued on page 6)



Artist's rendering of proposed senior housing complex on McKinley Street.

## Senior Housing Proposed

Developer Jack Morris, owner of Edgewood Properties, appeared in front of the mayor and council on Monday to ask for their support in building a senior housing complex on the Tingley Rubber property. In order to develop that property, the Master

Plan will have to be revised and the property rezoned from industrial to residential. Morris plans to appear before the South Plainfield Planning Board to make those requests.

The Tingley Rubber property, located on the south side of town on McKinley St. near Rt. 287, has been vacant for some time. Tingley Rubber is no longer located in the U.S.A., having moved their manufacturing overseas.

Attorney Bob Smith, representing Edgewood Properties, approached the mayor and council Monday, explaining that there is a great need for senior housing in our area. He said that some seniors are relocating to senior residences in South Jersey, then driving back each week to visit their relatives in town. He stressed that the impact of senior housing on local services would be minimal

to South Plainfield, since it would have no affect on the schools, thus no increase on school taxes and its proximity to Rt. 287 would have little impact on traffic.

According to Jack Morris, manufacturing is a dying sector in our country, with most of the manufacturing jobs moving outside of the United States. The Tingley Rubber property could be put to good use in the proposed senior housing. He recently asked professional planner Richard Lapinski to study the need for senior housing in our area. Lapinski said that according to the 2000 census, 23 percent of South Plainfield residents are over 55 years old, and he estimates that number is currently closer to 25 to 30 percent.

Joe Zekas, a member of the South Plainfield Office of Aging, initiated a  
(Continued on page 10)



Councilman Dennis Cerami is sworn in as president of the Borough Council at the 2004 Reorganization meeting while wife Michelle and sons Joe and Dennis look on.

## House Decorating Contest Winner Named



The Al and Pat Stilo-Mitchell home on Ritter Ave.

For many, holiday house decorating is a chore. Dragging the boxes out of the attic or garage is a daunting task, an obligation, that is undertaken every season.

For others, including this year's winner of the *Observer's* Holiday House Decorating Contest, it's a

labor of love, an opportunity to experience the child-like joy of the season.

The Stilo-Mitchell house on Ritter Ave. has earned the distinction of number one in the eyes of this year's judges. Every year Al and Pat Stilo-Mitchell go over the top, decorating

their corner of South Plainfield to delight passersby. They leave nothing out—carolers, snowmen, Santa Claus, and Mary, Joseph and Jesus. The garage is converted into a display window with an elaborate lighted animated village, complete with operating trains. They also open their home to children wishing to convey their Christmas wishes to Santa Claus (an outfitted Al), and offer visitors hot chocolate.

If you seek to rekindle your holiday spirit, an annual stop by the Stilo-Mitchell house should be first on your list.

Congratulations Al and Pat Stilo-Mitchell, and thank you for keeping the spirit of the season alive in South Plainfield.

The Stilo-Mitchells will receive a year-long membership to the South Plainfield P.A.L., courtesy of Mike English of the Recreation Dept., as well as a year's subscription to the South Plainfield *Observer*.

## Resident Charged In Infant Son's Death

Criminal charges were filed last week in the recent death of an 11-day-old infant boy. Tiray J. Summers, the infant's father, 24, of Astor St., has been charged with the offense of aggravated manslaughter. The infant, Tanyell Summers, was born on Dec. 12, 2003 in Muhlenberg Hospital, Plainfield.

Tanyell was discharged from the hospital as a healthy newborn shortly after his birth. On the evening of Dec. 23, 2003, Tanyell was brought back to the hospital by family members and pronounced dead in the emergency room at 10:08 p.m. An autopsy performed by Assistant Middlesex County Medical Examiner Frederick J. DiCarlo, M.D., found injuries consistent with shaken-baby syndrome and determined the death a homicide.

A joint investigation by the South Plainfield Police Department and the Middlesex County Prosecutors' Office led to the complaint signed

against Tiray Summers. That complaint was signed on Tuesday, Jan. 6 by South Plainfield Police Sgt. James Parker, and lists the medical examiner's examination and report and the statement by the defendant as probable cause for the charge. Tiray Summers was arrested and confined in the Middlesex County Adult Correction Center until bail was set on Jan. 7, when defendant was arraigned on the complaint before the Hon. Frederick P. De Vesa, J.S.C. at 1:30 p.m.

Prior to his arrest, Tiray Summers resided with his wife at the Astor St. residence. The couple has another son, age two, who is currently in the custody of the Division of Youth and Family Services.

It is anticipated that the Summers' complaint will be presented to a Middlesex County grand jury sometime in February. As in all such matters, the defendant must be presumed innocent at this stage of the proceedings.



# 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, February 2	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 17	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
Monday, March 1	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
Monday, March 15	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.

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

Jan. 20, Feb. 10 and 24, March 9 and 23, April 6 and 20, May 11 and 25, June 8 and 22, July 6 and 20, Aug. 10 and 24, Sept. 21, Oct. 12 and 26, Nov. 16 and 30 and Dec. 14 and 28.

## zoning board of adjustment

Meets second and fourth Thursday of the month

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

Jan. 22, Feb. 12 and 26, March 11 and 25, April 8 and 22, May 13 and 27, June 10 and 24, July 8 and 22, Aug. 12 and 26, Sept. 9 and 23, Oct. 14 and 28, Nov. 4 and 18 and Dec. 2 and 16.

## board of education meetings

Roosevelt Administration Gymnasium on Jackson Ave. unless otherwise noted

Committee of the Whole meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m.: Feb. 10, March 9 and April 6.

Regular Board Meeting held Tuesdays at 8 p.m.: Jan. 20, Feb. 17, March 16 and April 13.

## 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.

Feb. 3, March 16, April 13, May 18, June 15, July 13, Aug. 17, Sept. 14, Oct. 5, Nov. 9 and Dec. 7.

## 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

Feb. 3, March 2, April 6, May 4, June 1, Aug. 3, Sept. 7, Oct. 5, Nov. 2 and Dec. 7.

## 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

# IN YOUR OPINION

## 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 limit the number of letters submitted by one individual on the same subject.

friendly reminder to my fellow pet owners, PLEASE HAVE YOUR ANIMALS SPAYED AND NEUTERED ALWAYS! Thank you.

## Dear Editor,

As a 70-year-old lifetime resident and former Borough employee with 25 years service, I would agree with Mr. Zekas pertaining to small increases in Social Security Pension that do not increase with cost of living. Also comes to play retirement plans or 401K that have diminished. Let's not forget hospitalization plans that have left most of us empty handed.

Some seniors have sold, not only because they can't afford tax increases "even though Mayor and Council says no tax increase," but also for climate and families that have moved to further locations. Let's not forget community services which have perished. Yes, senior population will grow, not from only present seniors, but seniors moving into town with their families.

You talk about going to set up a meeting with Jack Morris, the builder, about the building of Senior Housing on the Tingley Rubber tract. Where have you been for the last two years? That tract was planned for sometime. In fact, Mr. Morris has two huge dirt piles sitting behind the plant just waiting to fill in wetlands. Alice Tempel, Borough Environmental Specialist, observed the property in question and stated to me that there was vegetation that grows in wetlands beyond the dirt piles.

That property is not next to Rt. 287. You would have to drive into Edison, Talmage Rd. or fight the traf-

fic on Durham Ave. How about the seniors that don't drive any longer? Do we need additional buses for transporting them?

Mr. Zekas, you have to remember Mr. Morris is a businessman. He is in business to make money. Ask people in Edison, they can tell you about his business practice. He would be grateful to put up a senior complex. There would be no strain on the school system and no new roads other than on the complex. It could be like the project he built on New Durham Ave.-you know, the one that was destroyed by fire, probably because of minimum fire breaks between the buildings which was supposed to be state approved.

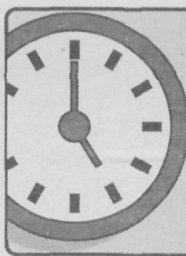
You want seniors to sign petitions on past experiences at Traditions? Did we check the water pressure at the complex so they can put the fire out before losing the building? If my memory serves me right, Tingley Rubber had their own wells with a storage tank. Where's Mr. Morris getting his water supply?

Let's not forget the burden on fire, police and the rescue squad, especially the rescue squad which has to drive to the other side of town to get there.

I proposed eight years ago Senior Housing where the Senior Center is presently. That site is better for all services and people involved. It could still be built at the location, but Mr. Morris won't make any money if it would be built there.

In three years we are told Mr. Morris will build our new library. My question is, what happens to Union workers who put up the present Borough Hall and library? Union workers are skilled and will only build the proper and safe way. Especially when lives are at stake. I, for one, will not sign your petition.

JAKE CATALDO



Deadline to submit ads and copy is Monday, 5 p.m.

## 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  
Publisher/Editor

Web page:  
www.spobserver.com

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

The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

WAYNE GRENNIER  
Associate Publisher  
SUSAN KANEPS  
Art Director/Associate Editor  
PATRICIA ABBOTT  
Staff Writer/Photographer

CAROL GRENNIER  
Editorial Assistant  
TONI MARIE CICCIA  
Production Assistant

CHRISANN ZUSHMA  
Web Page Design

ROXANNE CORTESE  
JANE DORNICK  
WILLIAM TUTHILL  
Advertising Sales

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. All letters must be submitted with name and phone number, for verification.

## To My Fellow South Plainfield Residents,

Are veterinarians supposed to be in business to earn as much money as possible or for the care and well-being of animals? This is a question I asked myself on Wednesday, Dec. 3. On this day, I called the Plainfield Animal Hospital and asked them if they would look at a stray cat I found only to tell me if she is still pregnant or is she has had her kittens. I found her here, in the middle of South Plainfield, cold and hungry, along with three of her brothers. I have several cats of my own and cannot afford another pet, but my heart told me that I could not leave her out in this brutally cold weather we've had.

My own vet's office was closing for the evening, so I called the Plainfield Animal Hospital to see if they would look at her to tell me if she'd already had her kittens, in which case I could not take her to shelter as the kittens would die, either of starvation or freezing to death, or if she is, in fact, still pregnant. My vet's office told me they would gladly help me tomorrow since the vets and the technicians would be gone before I could get there today. The receptionist at the Plainfield Animal Hospital told me she spoke to the hospital manager and one of the vets, and both told her I would have to be charged for an office visit. I asked her if this was the case even for a stray pregnant cat who was outside in 25 degree weather and I was told yes.

Now, the night has gone by, the cat is still out in the cold, possibly pregnant or with newborn kittens and I am unable to help her today, thanks to the Plainfield Animal Hospital. So, there you have it. My question: Are vets in business to earn as much money as possible, or do they truly care for the well-being of animals? Well, I guess the answer will be different depending on which vet we are talking about. How difficult would it have been for a trained medical professional to look at a poor, stray cat to possibly save her and her kittens' lives? This is why I will continue to take my business and my beloved pets to the Animal Medical Group of Plainfield (outside of South Plainfield), instead of the Plainfield Animal Hospital. What a sad fact for pet owners of South Plainfield that we do not have a vet in town who truly cares for animals more than the amount of money in their pockets.

## SIGNED, ANIMAL LOVER WITH A HEART

P.S. In the interim of my writing this letter and mailing it, the mother cat in reference has had her kittens, who are of course hidden and our town now has more stray cats who might possibly have been saved if the circumstances above had been different. As a

## Clarification

The Jan. 9 Police Report indicated that Anthony Fasano, 29, of Kosciusko Ave. and Spencer Gardner, 29, of Hancock St. threatened Manuel E. Borrero of Piscataway and his girlfriend, Virginia Zaehring, saying that they were going to kill both of them and their 16-month-old child. While the police report specified that Fasano did, in fact, threaten the couple, it did not reflect that Fasano made that specific threat.

**Sell Your Used Items Every Friday in the Classifieds**

Deadline to place a classified ad is Monday, 5 p.m.  
908-668-0010

TAX RETURNS PREPARED • WILLS, CLOSINGS  
INDIVIDUAL AND BUSINESS • PERSONAL INJURY  
WORKERS COMPENSATION

**PAUL W. GRZENDA**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

HOUSE CALLS AVAILABLE  
SO. PLAINFIELD OFFICE Tel.: (908) 769-8602

## Less Pain Means More Freedom!

## Do You Have...

Chronic Neck & Back Pain • Myofascial Pain • Headaches • Fibromyalgia  
Sports Injuries • Musculoskeletal Pain • Arthritic Pain  
Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy (CRPS I) • Cancer Pain  
Neuropathic Pain • Spasticity Management



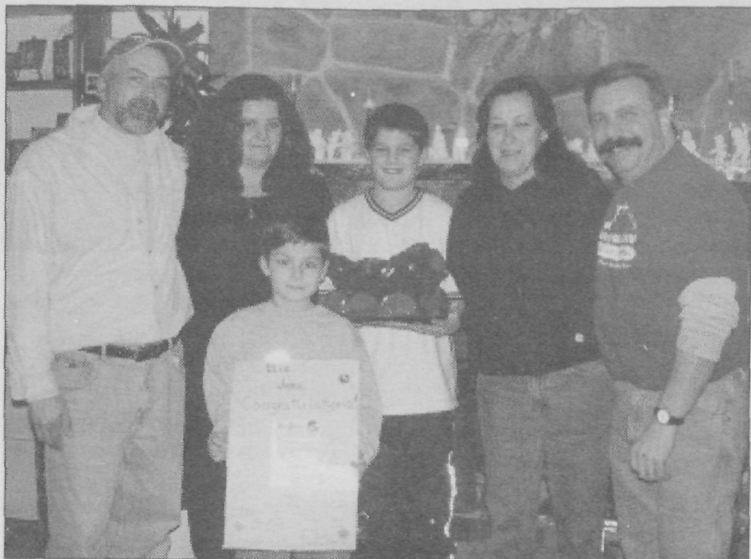
## ...We Can Help!

**Pain Management**  
**Associates of Central Jersey, P.C.**

Birch Pointe Commons • 3840 Park Ave., Suite 102, Edison  
**(732) 549-9049**

**NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS**





Hometown Heros owners Charlie and Debbie Kurland (right) delivered a catered dinner to last week's Junior Journalist Corner Winner Jacob D. Rotella and his family. Pictured are Jacob's dad Ralph, mom Beth and brother Richard. Jacob is holding a congratulatory poster created by his third grade classmates. See page 12 for this week's Junior Journalist Corner.

## Borough Clergy to Hold Week of Prayer For Christian Unity

The week of January 18-25 will be observed as a week of prayer for Christian unity. The program started jointly by the Vatican and the World Council of Churches (the top ecumenical body of the Protestant churches located in Geneva, Switzerland), right after the second Vatican Council on the initiation of Pope John the 23<sup>rd</sup> is observed worldwide this week.

In South Plainfield, it will be inaugurated at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 18

at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church. A midweek prayer will be conducted on Wednesday at 10 a.m. at the First Baptist Church and the concluding prayer will be held at the Rescue House of Prayer on Friday at 7:30 p.m. with music and prayers. All are welcome to attend one or all of the services.

For more information please call your own church office or the Wesley Church at (908) 756-1044.

## Recycling Center Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

The Recycling Center on Kenneth Ave. will be closed on Tuesday, Jan. 20, because of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day holiday weekend. It will be open instead from 12 noon to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 21.

The Recycling Center regular

schedule is 12 to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Fridays and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays.

The Yard Waste Site at the end of Kenneth Ave. will not be affected by the holiday. Yard Waste winter hours are 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays.

2004 Yard Waste Decals are available in the Municipal Clerk's office in Borough Hall. Bring the registration of the vehicle you will be using.

For updates, call the Recycling Hotline: (908) 226-7620.

### Tax List Inspection

The 2004 tax assessment list for the Borough of South Plainfield will be open for inspection on Tuesday, Jan. 20, between 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Tax Assessor's office located in the Municipal Building on Plainfield Ave.

## Cub Pack 207 Sponsoring Illusion And Magic Show Fundraiser

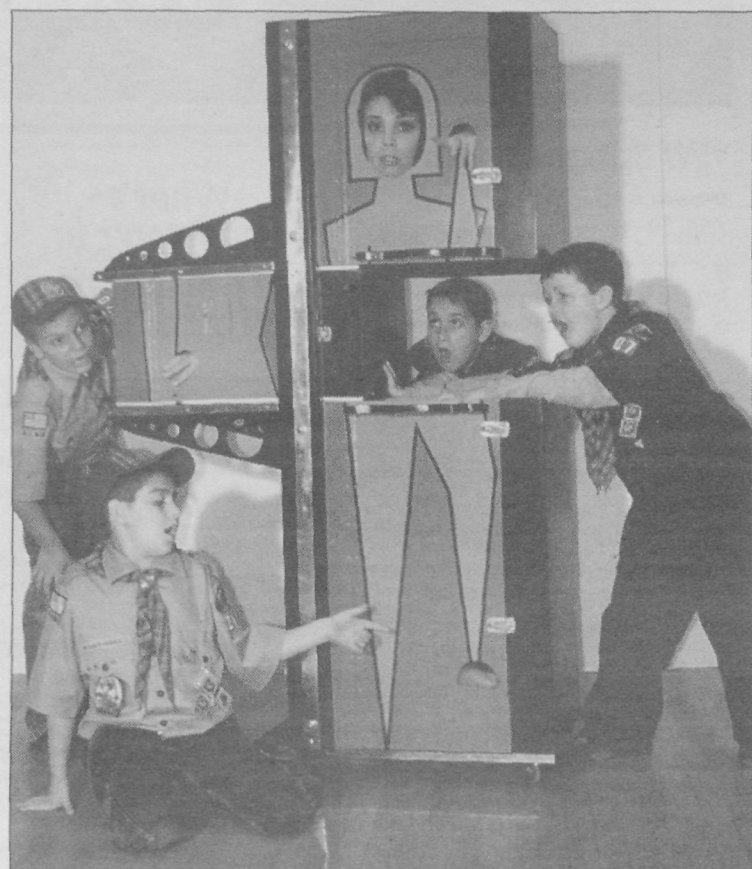
By Patricia Abbott

Illusion team John Bundy and Morgan will perform a magic show on Jan. 24, 2 p.m. at the South Plainfield High School. Illusions include the age-old but unbelievable act of cutting someone in half, levitation and much more. The show includes an intermission and runs approximately 90 minutes. The event is a fundraiser for Franklin School Cub Scout Pack 207.

John Bundy began his career in magic while studying for his BA in theatre at Rider University. He graduated in 1975 and spent several years learning the tricks of the trade and mastering his craft. He founded John Bundy Productions in 1982. The production company specializes in developing touring magic shows as marketing events for shopping centers throughout the United States, major theme parks and corporate events around the world.

In 1993 Morgan joined John Bundy and Company and they became illusion team, John Bundy and Morgan. They have appeared throughout the United States, including; Trump Plaza, Tropicana and Trump Castle in Atlantic City, The Late Show with David Letterman, Ricki Lake, Gordon Elliot and The Fox Kids Network. John has worked as a consultant for various film and television projects. He is credited with numerous magical special effects designs and is a sought after artist for illusions and theatrical props. He has been recognized by the magic world with cover stories and feature articles in the industry periodicals: *Magic*, *Magic Manuscript* and *Laughmakers* magazine.

Performing partner Morgan's career began as a result of a combined fascination with B-grade horror mov-



Ryan Bundy, Marc Paez, James Butrico and Joseph Zipp, Cub Scouts from Franklin Pack 207 are amazed at the magic of Bundy and Morgan.

ies, art and escape artist Dorothy Dietrich. This along with a desire to work in the entertainment field, led to an education in theater arts, fine and graphic arts fields. Throughout school and beyond, Morgan worked with a professional theater, performing, stage managing and training extensively to direct. She also served as the theatre's resident graphic artist. She traveled with a touring magic show performing in shows at casinos in Atlantic City. She became the head writer on an Emmy award winning Children's TV show and the make-up artist for a mid-

night horror talk show. In 1994 she was one of only a handful of artist chosen to study at the Jim Henson studios in New York.

Advance tickets are \$5 and are available at Franklin School, Thursday Jan. 15 from 5-8 pm. To order tickets or for more information call Bill at (908) 561-8128. Tickets purchased at the door will be \$7. Bundy and Morgan are donating their services. The money raised will be used for various scout activities and service projects. Joe Zipp is the Pack Cubmaster. The event is being chaired by Bill Butrico.

## Local Math-a-Thon to Raise Funds for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

John E. Riley Elementary School will hold a Math-a-Thon to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The event, scheduled to begin in January, is being coordinated by Eileen Stellakis. By supporting the participants of the event, you will help St. Jude in its ongoing fight against childhood catastrophic diseases.

"Our goal in holding the Math-a-Thon is to help the children of the world who are stricken with diseases like cancer, AIDS and sickle cell disease. St. Jude Children's Hospital is a world leader in the fight against these

diseases and they have made great progress, but only because of the help of people like the citizens of South Plainfield," said Eileen Stellakis. "We are asking that all citizens and businesses of South Plainfield support our students as they participate in the program. Any person or business that would like to make a donation may call the school at (908) 754-4620, ext. 344. We really need everyone's help."

The Math-a-Thon is sponsored by Six Flags Theme Park, who provides free passes to their parks for every student raising \$35 or more through the

program.

St. Jude Children's Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee was founded by the late entertainer, Danny Thomas. The hospital is an internationally recognized biomedical research center dedicated to finding cures for catastrophic diseases of childhood. It is non-sectarian and treats children without regard to race, religion, creed or ability to pay. ALSAC/St. Jude, the fund-raising arm, covers all costs by insurance for medical treatment rendered at St. Jude. Families without insurance are never asked to pay.

### ALERT

#### Board Meeting Time Changed

Please be advised that the Regular Public Board of Ed Meeting, originally scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 20 at 8 p.m., has been changed to 7:30 p.m. in the Roosevelt Administration Building gymnasium, 125 Jackson Ave.



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

**Aiello**  
Chiropractic Center, P.C.

Dr. Patrick M. Aiello, D.C.

### Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave.  
South Plainfield, NJ

Rev. John Paul Alvarado, Pastor

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 10-11 a.m., 4-4:45 p.m.  
and after 5 p.m. Vigil Mass

#### Mass Schedule:

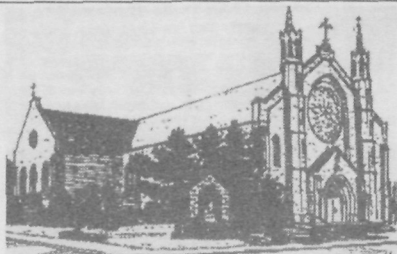
Saturday Evening Mass 5:00 p.m.

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.



#### AIDA SANTOS

ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT  
BRANCH MANAGER

#### Valley National Bank

Durham Ave. & Hamilton Blvd  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

(908) 757-5868

Fax (908) 757-0494

### Our Lady Of Czestochowa R.C. Church

807 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield

#### MASS SCHEDULE

Daily at 8am except Wednesdays

Regular Weekend Schedule:

Saturday evenings 5:30pm

Sunday mornings 8am and 11am



## Advertising Gets Results!

Join the ranks of satisfied customers that advertise in the *Observer*. Choose what's right for your business... Classified, Business & Professional Services section or display ads.

**South Plainfield Observer**

Your #1 Source for South Plainfield News

**908-668-0010**

Call for information on advertising.



# Events Around Town

## VFW Spaghetti Dinner January 16

The VFW Memorial Post 6763 is hosting a spaghetti dinner on Friday, Jan. 16 from 5 to 8 p.m. The donation is \$7 and a children's menu is available. Awards are to be presented to the South Plainfield Middle School winners of the VFW Patriot's Pen Essays at 7 p.m. at the dinner. For more information, call (908) 668-9751 after 3 p.m. daily and after 12 noon on weekends. The VFW is located at 155 Front St.

## Republican Organization Mtg. January 21

The regular monthly meeting of the South Plainfield Republican Organization will be held Wednesday, Jan. 21, at the American Legion Hall on Oak Tree Ave. The meeting will be held at 8 p.m.

All residents of the borough are invited to attend to discuss any borough issues and concerns.

## Workshops for College Financing January 21

Families of South Plainfield High School Students and the community are invited to attend the following evening workshop:

**Making College Financing Count**—How to plan for and manage college costs. Strategies that will help prepare you and your family for the next steps, ways to navigate the college financial aid process, presented by Making It Count and College Solutions Network. The presentation will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 21 from 7-8 p.m. at the high school, in cafeteria A/B.

The workshops are sponsored by the South Plainfield High School Guidance Department.

Please R.S.V.P. to Cindy Povall at (908) 754-4620 ext. 464.

## AARP Chapter #4144 Meeting January 22

AARP Chapter #4144 will hold its first meeting of 2004 on Thursday, Jan. 22 at the South Plainfield Senior Center. The speaker will be Capt. Giardo Balmori of the Salvation Army Corp. headquarters in New Brunswick. Our chapter has been privileged to do community service with his group for many years and he will talk about the services they make available to our citizens.

## Cedarcroft Presents "New Life Singers" January 31

On Saturday, Jan. 31 at 7 p.m., Cedarcroft Bible Chapel, located at 1715 Kenyon Ave., will present "Trophies of Grace," a program featuring the "New Life Singers" from the campus of Freedom Village, USA in Lakemont, NY. The "New Life Singers," one of four singing teams that travel to schools and churches throughout North America, will share the answer that helped them escape the teenage nightmare of addiction, abuse and suicide attempts. Since 1981, Freedom Village, USA, has been a "place of second chances" to young people who were once labeled "hopeless."

## What's happening in JANUARY

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
<b>Monthly meetings will now be on the third Thursday of the month</b>			Shopping Pathmark 9am Practical Crafting 10am to 11am MONTHLY MEETING	Bingo 10am-2pm Pizza Lunch Avail. Bridge Club 12:30pm Men's Forum Steering Committee 1:30pm
 <b>EVENTS</b>			15	16
<i>Jan 19 – Hunterdon Hills Playhouse “Best of Branson”</i>				
<i>March 17–Hunterdon Hills Playhouse “The Rainmaker”</i>				
Adult Crafts 9:30-11:30am Yoga 10:30-11:30am Drawing Class 11:30am-12:30pm <i>Hunterdon Hills “Best of Branson”</i>	Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social 10am Computer Classes 12pm & 2pm	Exercise 8:45-9:45 Movie Time 11:30am AARP Crafts 1pm Computer Class 11am & 1pm	Shopping at Pathmark 9am Practical Crafting 10-11am	Bingo 10am-2pm Pizza Lunch Bridge Club 12:30pm
19	20	21	22	23
TO SIGN UP FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER, VISIT THE PAL BUILDING ON MAPLE AVE.				

Don't miss this opportunity to be a part of a wonderful event featuring great gospel music and powerful testimonies of God's healing hand in the lives of young people. For further information on this event, call (908) 757-7598.

## SPHS Music Boosters Meeting February 4

All parents of students in the South Plainfield High School Band and Chorus are invited to attend the Music Boosters meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 4 at 7 p.m. in the SPHS Band Room.

## Tickets For Harlem Globetrotters February 14

Tickets to the Harlem Globetrotters at Continental Arena on Feb. 14 at 7:30 p.m. game are \$22 each (Section 211 upper tier lower. Seating will be filled on a first ticket purchase availability.)

Make checks payable to Cub Scout Pack 224 and mail to 201 Lane Ave., South Plainfield. Tickets are for admission only, you must provide your own transportation. Admission includes a two hour meet-and-greet prior to the game, Globetrotter University and a badge. You can only attend the meet and greet through a group purchase.

## Rec Plans Trip To See Hairspray February 22

South Plainfield Recreation is sponsoring a trip to Broadway to see "Hairspray" on Sunday, Feb. 22. Bus will leave the PAL at 10:30 a.m. and return 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 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. on weekdays. Only 45 tickets are available, so come and get yours now!

## Senior Center EVENTS

### — Out of Town —

## Wardlaw-Hartridge School Open Houses January 24

Wardlaw-Hartridge School will hold an open house on Saturday, Jan. 24 at 9 a.m. for PreK3 and include all grades through 12. Tours are available of the college preparatory facility located at 1295 Inman Ave. in Edison. Directions are available on the school's website at [www.whschool.org](http://www.whschool.org).

The newly approved PreK3 program, known as "Smart Start," will only house a total of 16 students.

Admission screening for program readiness is now underway. Call the school at (908) 754-1882, ext. 156.

## Circle Players Perform January 16-18, 23 and 24

**Painting Churches**, a riveting comedy/drama by Tina Howe about family loyalty, dysfunction, aging and love is at Circle Players, the community theater of Piscataway, 416 Victoria Ave. Performances are Friday, Jan. 16 and 23 and Saturday, Jan. 17 and 24, 8 p.m. Sunday matinee is Jan. 18, 3 p.m.

Friday and Saturday performances are \$12. Matinees are \$11 (or two for \$20). Seniors and students receive \$1 off with I.D.

For tickets and information, call (732) 968-7555.

## WOW Dance/Social January 18

The Woodbridge Area Chapter of Widows or Widowers (WOWs) will have a dance/social on Sunday, Jan. 18, from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. There will be a live band and refreshments. The price is \$8 per person. The dance will be held at the Elk's Hall, 665 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge. For more information, call (732) 297-1775.

## SingleFaces January Dances January

The following is a list of dances planned by SingleFaces for the month of January:

**Friday, Jan. 16** at the Historic Old Bermuda Inn, 2512 Arthur Kill Rd. in Staten Island at 9 p.m. Cost is \$12. For additional information call (732) 542-2200.

**Friday, Jan. 16** at the The Historic Old Bermuda Inn, 2512 Arthur Kill

Rd. in Staten Island at 9 p.m. Cost is \$12.

**Saturday, Jan. 17** at the Woodbridge Hilton, 120 Wood Ave. in Iselin at 8 p.m. Free Dance Lessons from 8 p.m.-9 p.m. Dance 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

**Sunday, Jan. 18** at the Ramanda Plaza, 3050 Woodbridge Ave. in Raritan Center in Edison at 8 p.m. Cost is \$12. No Work Monday, always a great crowd.

**Friday, Jan. 23** at the Woodbridge Hilton, 120 Wood Ave. in Iselin at 9 p.m. Cost is \$12.

**Saturday, Jan. 24** at the Ramanda Plaza, 3050 Woodbridge Ave. at the Raritan Center in Edison at 8 p.m. Cost is \$12. Chinese New Year.

**Friday Jan 30** at the The Historic Old Bermuda Inn, 2512 Arthur Kill Rd., Staten Island at 9 p.m.. Cost is \$12.

**Saturday, Jan. 31** at the Shadowbrook, Rt. 35 in Shrewsbury at 9 p.m. Cost is \$12.

## B'nai B'rith Ketubah Meeting January 25

The B'nai B'rith Ketubah Married Couples Unit (40+) will be meeting for dinner at the Buttonwood Manor, Rte. 34 North in Matawan on Sunday, Jan. 25 at 6 p.m. The price of the dinner will be your equal share of the bill. Non-members are welcome to attend. RSVP to Elaine at (908) 232-0062 by Jan. 23.

## CHATS Adoption Support Meeting January 26

Adoption Support- CHATS (Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support) CHATS will meet 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 26 at Watchung Ave. Presbyterian Church, 170 Watchung Ave., North Plainfield. This meeting will be a sharing meeting, discussing how adoption affects family holiday celebrations. Open sharing of adoption-related stories will be told and light refreshments will be served. For more information, check out our website at <http://community.nj.com/cc/chats> or call Alyce at (732) 227-0607.

## Nutritional Sciences Preschool Open House January 28

The Nutritional Sciences Preschool at Rutgers University will be holding its Open House for registration for the 2004-2005 academic year on Wednesday, Jan. 28 at 7 p.m. The preschool is located in Davison Hall on the Cook/Douglass campus of Rutgers University, between the student center and the bookstore. The Nutritional Sciences Preschool is sponsored by the Department of Nutritional Sciences at Rutgers, licensed by the State of New Jersey and accredited by the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs.

Registration will be on a first come, first served basis. The snow date is Wednesday, Feb. 4. For more information or more specific directions, call Director Harriet Worobey at (732)

### SEND YOUR EVENTS TO:

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

## \*\*ONE SHOW ONLY- JANUARY 24\*\*

Cub Scout Pack 207 Presents

# UNBELIEVABLE!

The illusions of  
John Bundy & Morgan

See the World's Greatest  
**Magic and Illusion**

**CUB SCOUT PACK 207 FUNDRAISER**—Jan. 24 at 2 p.m. in the South Plainfield High School auditorium. Tickets will be on sale at Franklin School on Jan. 15, between 5-8 p.m. Advance ticket price is \$5. Tickets at the door will be \$7.





## Knights of Columbus Host Christmas Party for Keystone Community

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus held their annual Keystone Community Christmas party on Dec. 26 at their hall. The event was a great success with a dinner for the community and the arrival of Santa (Ed Kubala). The Knights also presented the Keystone Community with a check for over \$2,000 from the proceeds from their Special Citizens Drive that was held earlier in the year. The organizers for this event were Bill Thomas and Joe Scrudato. The Knights would like to thank all of the members and their children who helped out with this event.

## German Wood Carving Collection Featured at Library

South Plainfield resident Irene Fallheier and her thriving business, Gifts Galore, have just completed a busy holiday season.

The exquisite wood carvings she imports from her homeland in eastern Germany are popular Christmas decorations and gifts. The handmade pieces include nutcrackers, pyramids, candle holders and smokers that burn incense sending smoke billowing out of a carved wooden figurine's mouth, or, more likely, pipe.

Although Irene immigrated to the United States in 1959, several years before the Berlin Wall was built, she was born and raised in the former East Germany Republic where she grew up surrounded by the handiwork of the Erzgebirge mountains. Each year for Christmas her parents sent her a new item for her collection.

Irene described her childhood growing up with her two brothers in this rural area as very happy. She spoke as many memories of life in the ore mountains. One tradition calls for a miner candle holder to be placed in



Some examples of the German wood carvings in the December display at the library.

a window when a boy was born into a family, if a girl was born, an angel candle holder was placed.

Another favorite memory is of a Christmas when her father was unable to find a tree. She said, "He gathered some branches and drilled holes in a broom stick so we could put the branches in it. Since this tree was made by all of us, it was the nicest tree. Afterward, we children had to go to church while our parents finished the preparation. When we came home, my father played a certain song and we knew we could come in the living room. Each of us found a plate with cookies, nuts, candies, apple

sometimes a orange and little gifts what Americans would consider a token gift today.

Irene began importing the popular wood pieces in 1991, right after the Berlin Wall was demolished. She has been selling them at German festivals, clubs and schools and Christmas bazaars. She also sells wholesale to stores throughout the country.

Irene said, "Until the wall which separated eastern Germany from western Germany came down not many people were exposed to the wonderful things the wood carvers produced. When I decided to import the items myself, I had no idea how much time it would take away from

my own Christmas season, but no matter what by Christmas Eve my house is decorated."

Erzgebirge, where the crafts are made, translates to ore mountain, where for centuries people made their living mining silver, tin and more. Mine yields gradually diminished and mines closed down. The industry of hand carved wooden toys and gifts was born of necessity.

Determined to eke out a living the miners began to expand their craft creating the delicate pieces that are in high demand to this day. Her own decorations are put away in mid-January and she and her husband begin to prepare for the next busy season, Easter. Among her Easter items are a trio of adorable wooden rabbits, each holding a musical instrument. There are also lady bugs and flower children.

In December, samples of her collection were on display at the South Plainfield Library. Look for a possible Easter display in the future. For more information on Gifts Galore email: gifts.galore@worldnet.att.net or call (908) 756-8565.

classes, visit the library's homepage ([www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us](http://www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us)) and click on 'Job Information'.

There are also many internet sites designed to help you find a job or choose a new career. A great place to start is America's Career InfoNet ([www.acinet.org/acinet](http://www.acinet.org/acinet)), which provides contacts for millions of US employers, as well as an extensive online career resource library.

Workforce New Jersey ([wnjin.state.nj.us](http://wnjin.state.nj.us)) allows you to search for jobs in the state (civil service or other), or post your resume online. You can also access a variety of job-related information, including education, training opportunities, labor market information, and social services.

You will find many other excellent job and career sites on library's homepage. Just log on to [www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us](http://www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us), click on 'Useful Websites,' then select 'Jobs & Careers'. Check out the 'Business, Investment, & Money Management' page if you are thinking about starting your own business, or the 'Education' page if you are considering going back to school to update your job skills.

Of course, you can also survey the 'Help Wanted' ads of local and metro-area newspapers at the library.

### THIS WEEK AT THE LIBRARY:

**Adult Programs:** Drop-in computer and Internet training every Monday evening from 7:15-8:45 pm. Stop by to speak to our librarian on duty with questions about using a computer, learning how to use a mouse or just how to gain confidence on the Internet.

**Children's Programs:** Storytime and craft for ages 3 and up: Thursday Jan. 15, 1:15 to 2 p.m.; Tuesday Jan. 20, 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday, Jan. 21, 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. Join Miss Linda for stories and a fun craft.

KidCraft for ages six and up on Friday, Jan. 16, 4 p.m.

Books-n-Babies for ages up to three on Friday, Jan. 16, 10:30 to 11 a.m. Join Miss Linda for nursery rhymes and simple songs.

**Reminder:** The library will be closed Monday, Jan. 19 for Martin Luther King Day.

Visit us on the web: [www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us](http://www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us).

**SUPER BOWL CATERING**

**WE DELIVER!**

**Hot Catering Too!**

• 3-6 Foot Subs  
• Sloppy Joe Trays  
• Assorted Sub Trays  
• Homemade Salads  
• Chicken Cutlet Heros  
• Assorted Sandwich Trays

**"Quality Food For Everyday Heroes"**

**BUY 6" HERO GET 2ND 6" HERO 99¢**

Expires January 23, 2004

**\$5 OFF Super Bowl Catering Order Over \$50**

Exp. Jan. 30, 2004

**HOMETOWN HEROS**

340 Hamilton Boulevard  
(BY THE DARE BLDG)

**908-755-HERO (4376)**

**OPEN 7 DAYS**

## "Fox," Mensa "Test The Nation 2"

Last June, thousands of people across the country tested their intelligence during a two-hour "Fox" network special, *Test the Nation*. The show was such a success that "Fox" will be repeating the challenge this year. Once again, Mensa will assist with the program's preparations. *Test the Nation 2* is scheduled to be aired on March 5.

"Fox" is looking for participants who: (1) are not members of Mensa; (2) are between the ages of 18 and 70 and (3) have a love of riddles, puzzles and memory games, to take advantage of this unique opportunity. So why not accept the challenge and sign up for what should be a memorable experience?

If you'd be interested in taking part, contact Marta McKeon at (732) 494-5826 or at [mensamam@optonline.net](mailto:mensamam@optonline.net). In order to accommodate more participants, the test will be given

on two separate dates and at different locations. The first session will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 21, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Congregation B'nai Tikvah, 1001 Finnegan Lane in North Brunswick. The second session will be held on Saturday, Jan. 24 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Sayreville Public Library in Parlin. Since seating is limited, prior registration is suggested.

**Flowers & Fancy Foods**

Gourmet Gift Baskets

**Mohr's**

2325 Plainfield Ave.  
South Plainfield  
(908) 561-2808

Corporate Accounts Welcome

The South Plainfield Health Department  
Is Conducting Its Annual

## RABIES CLINIC

At the  
South Plainfield Borough Garage  
(corner of Spicer and Belmont Ave.)

**Dog and Cat Owners are urged to bring their pets for inoculation.**

Dog & Cat Licenses Will Be Available  
Please Note: Cats must be in a carrier

DATE:  
**Saturday, January 24, 2004**  
**9:00 am-12:00 noon**

For More Information Please Call  
**226-7631**

Personalized Handcrafted Items

Custom Creations & Gifts, Inc.

Specializing in  
Children's Craft  
Birthday Parties!

24 South Plainfield Ave.  
**908-755-5060**

• Boyds Bears • Village Candles

Thinking about it...  
Give me a call.

## REAL ESTATE

**Buying? Selling?**

Local, East Coast, West Coast, or Any State

Deal with Licensed Experienced People!!

• NO OBLIGATION •

**WAYNE GRENNIER, REFERRAL SPECIALIST**

**Weichert**

Referral Associates  
CO. INC.

LICENSED SALES REPRESENTATIVE NJ

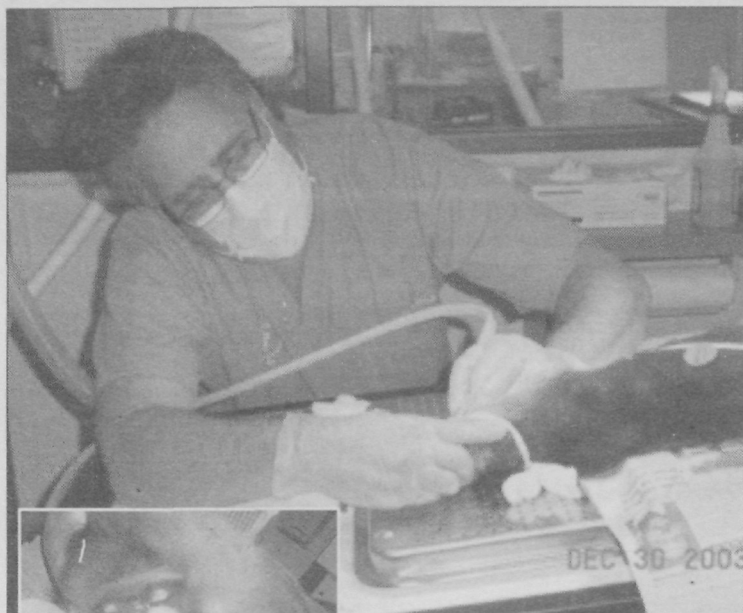
OFFICE: 800-937-6777

RESIDENCE: 908-755-3138

E-mail: [wgrennie@ix.netcom.com](mailto:wgrennie@ix.netcom.com)

1625 STATE ROUTE 10  
MORRIS PLAINS, NJ 07950





Scott Linick, veterinarian, performs oral surgery on an otter (above) and a baboon (left) at Plainfield Animal Hospital.

## Zoo Animals Pay a Visit to Plainfield Animal Hospital

It was a real zoo at Plainfield Animal Hospital on Park Ave. recently, when owner and veterinarian Scott Linick practised his dentistry skills on some unusual patients.

Staten Island Zoo veterinarian Dr. Andrew Major and his assistants transported a 17-year-old Mandrill (or baboon) and an eight-year-old otter to the hospital.

Both animals were experiencing dental problems, and went to see Dr. Linick, who is well-known for his dental skills.

Upon their arrival, Dr. Linick, who has the distinction of being a Fellow of the Academy of Veterinary Dentistry, x-rayed their teeth and determined that each animal had an abscessed tooth that needed to be pulled.

By the end of the day, both patients were recovering nicely and sleeping soundly on their way back to the zoo.

Dr. Linick enjoys working on exotic animals and keeps photos of his work in a portfolio.

## Who's Who in Local Businesses

### Academy of Indian Music Celebrates Grand Opening with Yoga Workshop

By Jane Dornick

The Academy of Indian Music, located at 902 Oak Tree Rd., held a grand opening yoga workshop this past Sunday.

The Academy (or AIM), offers a wide variety of Indian vocal, instrumental, dance and yoga classes for all ages taught by masters in their field. The Academy believes in unity in diversity and that exposure to Indian music is an enriching experience. They are a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to supporting the artistic development of the community through their various programs.

For more information on classes, or to make a contribution please call (800) 246-0214.



Mayor Dan Gallagher cuts the ribbon at the grand opening of The Academy of Indian Music. He is joined by Trustees Badri Ramki and Ravi Shankar.

## Former Senior Citizen Director Dies

(Continued from page 1)

by a son, Dr. Robert E. Mischka Jr. and his wife Dawn of Westfield and her daughter, Ellen Mischka Gustafson and her husband Gary of San Francisco and four soon-to-be grandchildren. She is also survived by her sister-in-law, numerous nieces and nephews, godchildren, other relatives and countless friends.

Funeral services took place last Saturday under the direction of Dooley Funeral Home in Westfield.

Donations in her name can be made to: Atlantic Hospice, 33 Bleeker St., Milburn, NJ 07041 or Carol G. Simon Cancer Care Center, 100 Madison Ave., P.O. Box 63, Morristown, NJ 07962.

### An Angel Named Sue

To many she was a friend  
To some she was a ride  
To others a source of knowledge  
To all she was Sue

For years she provided these services  
To all those who needed it most  
She helped all the South Plainfield Seniors  
To all she was Sue

She knew how to tell a story  
She would listen to anyone's problems  
She always had a solution  
To all she was Sue

She was an organizer, a telephone operator  
She knew how to juggle four jobs at a time  
She helped build a place for our seniors  
To all she was Sue

Designing the Seniors' floats for the parades  
Cooking in the kitchen at the center  
Keeping everyone busy and happy  
To all she was Sue

She might be delivering meals to the elderly  
Setting up the main room for Bingo  
Planning a trip to see a show  
To all she was Sue

She has now gone to her rest  
She showed us all how to live a life of giving  
She gave new meaning to the word "caring"  
We will never forget you, Sue

- Michael English, Recreation Director -

## Developer Proposes Senior Housing

(Continued from page 1)

petition last week to ask the town to consider additional senior housing. In just one week he has gathered more than 100 signatures. South Plainfield has 100 units available at the Morris Ave. senior residence, which is run by the Lutheran Ministries. Residents must meet income requirements to obtain housing there. Zekas says more housing is needed for seniors, so they don't have to relocate from the borough.

Morris said that plans for the development are still in the early stages and are subject to change. Ron Aulenback, Edgewood Properties director of En-



Jack Morris explains his plans to council members.

gineering, showed a rendering to the council. Proposed plans call for approximately 484 units, both one and

two bedrooms, contained in three story buildings. Each unit would have their own garage on the ground floor of the buildings. The complex would have a 15,000-square-foot club house, a swimming pool, bocci ball and tennis courts, putting area and open space areas. Buildings would also have rooms for arts and crafts, cards and fitness.

Edgewood Properties is the builder of *Traditions*, a condominium-town house complex on New Durham Rd., formerly the property of Coppola Farms. Morris also built the senior center on Maple Ave., at no cost to South Plainfield taxpayers.



### Down in the Dumps?

**W**Jump start your business with an ad campaign in the South Plainfield Observer. We'll custom design advertising to target your market. We'll even feature your business in an article in our *Who's Who in Local businesses* column.

Every week, more and more people are reading the *Observer*, the only local paper serving the residents of South Plainfield. Give your business the boost it needs.

**Call 908-668-0010 for information.**

Share your good news with the community.....  
We'll publish them in Milestones.

Where you are always treated like one of the family

## Carousel

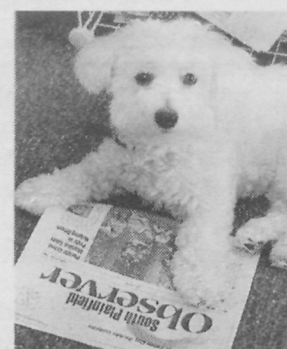
Hair Salon

### Want a New Look?

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



**Everyone's reading the Observer!**

To subscribe, call 908-668-0010.

South Plainfield  
**Observer**  
Your #1 Source for South Plainfield News



# Sports

## Knights to Sponsor Free Throw Championship

All boys and girls ages 10 to 14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the 2004 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship. Competition starts on Saturday, Jan. 31 at the Riley School gymnasium. Boys and girls ages 12, 13 and 14 will start at 9 a.m. Boys and girls ages 10 and 11 will start at 10 a.m.

All participants are required to fur-

nish proof of age (birth certificate) and written parental contestant. For additional information please contact Andy Provenza at (732) 254-0664 or Joe Scrudato at (908) 754-0869 or you can just show up at Riley School to register at 8:30 a.m.

Winners go to the Continental Arena for the Championship held at a later date.

## police report

- On Jan. 6 Jafco Supply on Tyler Pl. reported the theft of a rear license plate from a company vehicle parked on the property overnight.

- On Jan. 7 a Sprague Ave. resident reported that the rear sliding glass door of the residence had been smashed out with a rock. Nothing was missing.

- A Terrace Ave. resident reported that a window pane of the rear door of the residence had been broken and the inside bolt unlocked. Some jewelry and a jewelry box were taken from the master bedroom.

- On Jan. 8 Lorena P. Andrade, 20, of Plainfield was arrested at Kohl's for shoplifting \$855 worth of clothes.

- The Highlands on Cook Ln. reported the theft of five framed flower pictures and three decorative plants from the leasing office.

- On Jan. 9 John Walker Ryon, 26, of Edison was arrested for reck-

less driving and driving while intoxicated at a motor vehicle stop.

- George R. Thomas, 22, of Newark was arrested for possession of a controlled substance at a motor vehicle stop.

- On Jan. 10 Kevin R. Carney, 40, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, careless driving, refusal to take a breathalyzer test and failure to maintain a lane at a motor vehicle stop.

- A W. 8th St. resident reported that the driver's side front door window of her vehicle had been smashed.

- On Jan. 11 Omar J. Ghanim, 23, of South Plainfield was arrested for resisting arrest, hindering apprehension and two outstanding warrants after a foot chase near Best Western on New World Way.

- On Jan. 12 an attendant at Raceway Gas on W. 7th St. reported that a woman had left without paying for \$10 worth of gas.

## SPHS Basketball

by Greg Machos

## 9-0 Start to Season Best Since 1991

This year's edition of the South Plainfield Tigers have already accomplished a good deal of milestones this year. Not only have they gotten off to their first 9-0 start since the 1990-91 season, but they've also won their second consecutive Rahway Holiday Tournament, gave Head Coach, Jeff Lubreski, his 200th career win at the school and beaten high caliber teams such as Elizabeth, Westfield, Rahway, Cranford and Colonia.

They also came back from a 11 point first half deficit to win in overtime over a Sayreville team that has beaten the likes of North Bergen, St. Mary's of Jersey City and Passaic. However, beating teams such as Elizabeth and Cranford, the defending North Jersey Section 2 Group IV and III champions respectively, is a pretty nice thing to have on a team's resume. It is wins against these solid programs that makes the Tigers 9-0 start better than the 1990-91 team.

There are other comparisons that can be made between the two teams and we'll get into some of those later, but first we'll look at how this team got to where they are. On opening night, South Plainfield traveled to Carteret, where they dismantled the Ramblers in a 82-45 rout that saw Darren Smith lead the way with 20 points including four three pointers while Ian Robinson added another 17 points and Gary Houston chipped in with 10.

Then, in a rare departure from the routine annual schedule for South Plainfield, the Tigers took on perennial powerhouse Elizabeth in the nightcap of the first day of action in the Hoop Group Tip-Off Classic that was held at Caldwell College some 24 hours after they played Carteret. The game got off to a late start due to two thrilling overtime games played prior to the start. Bloomfield Tech, ranked in the Top 25 nationally, had to come from behind to defeat perennial state power St. Patrick's of Elizabeth.

The game following that was even more exciting as Paterson Kennedy had to rally from a double digit deficit, not only to force overtime, but also play an additional overtime before defeating Camden Catholic. As a result, the South Plainfield game against

Elizabeth didn't start until after 10 p.m., and didn't finish until quarter to midnight. So, the Tigers had to deal with waiting and then had to overcome some early foul trouble to Marquis Jones and Ian Robinson.

Jones picked up three fouls in the first half and missed most of the third quarter with four fouls before coming back in the final period to help his team pull away with 11 fourth quarter points. In the meantime, it was Darren Smith, and a superb job by a bench that has had their share of doubts by the critics, that held the team together when it seemed that Elizabeth might prove to be too tough an obstacle.

Smith collected 24 points, including several three-pointers, five steals and four rebounds in the come from behind effort, with solid bench play by Jawaad Caldwell (seven points and five rebounds), Jonathan Buggy (two points and three rebounds) and Shawn Brown, who didn't score, but played extremely well on the defensive end filling in for Gilmore while getting two rebounds and two assists. Brown also had no turnovers.

Speaking of Corey Gilmore, the senior point guard turned in a solid performance with 11 points, four assists, one rebound, steal and charge, while forcing Elizabeth's very quick and talented point guard, Corey Williams, to commit seven turnovers, including three five second violations. Despite their foul problems, Jones managed to pick up 16 points, four rebounds, an assist and a steal, while Ian Robinson collected seven points, six rebounds, three steals and a block.

South Plainfield used the 67-58 victory over Elizabeth, not only as a statement to the rest of the Greater Middlesex Conference and New Jersey, but also as momentum for the always competitive Rahway tournament, which had several more participants this year. It didn't matter though, as the Tigers first beat Westfield 53-36, knocked off Rahway in the semifinals, 62-47, and then rolled past defending North Jersey Section 2 Group III Champion, Cranford by a 71-50 count.

With those wins in the Rahway Tournament, the Tigers compiled a 4-0 record overall against Union

County competition and a 3-0 record against Watchung Conference competition. The Watchung Conference is perhaps the most competitive league from top to bottom in the entire state of New Jersey. Then, the Tigers resumed their GMC schedule by knocking off Colonia, 55-42, edging Sayreville in overtime, 63-58, and holding off a winless North Brunswick 57-53 after jumping out to a 20-5 first quarter lead.

The Tigers wrapped up their tremendous start with a dominant performance against long time rival Bishop Ahr. Down 7-6 early in the first quarter, South Plainfield got eight points from Corey Gilmore and five points from Gary Houston to spark a 13-2 surge to end the period and grab a 19-9 lead. They never looked back as they outscored the Trojans, 20-8 in the second quarter and 10-0 to start the third to have a 49-17 lead on their way to a 77-45 victory.

The win saw four different Tigers in double figures with Houston having 12 points, Jones scoring 12, Smith netting 19 and Robinson cleaning up with 14. South Plainfield had almost every player get into the scoring column as Buggy collected six points, while Mike Richard (three points), Shawn Brown (two points) and Kevin Seidenburg (one point) wrapped up the scoring with a combined six points.

This year's edition of the South Plainfield Tigers have a long way to go this season, but they could be even better than that 1990-91 team. The only thing that this team lacks is a lot of size up front and they're not as deep as the 1990-91 team was. Nevertheless, they're a much better defensive team, although you could make a good case for the 1990-91 team because of Eddie Bolton's shot blocking ability.

They also get the edge in overall shooting since Jones has improved in that area, along with Gilmore, and sharpshooters Houston and Smith are such pure shooters. Again, you could make a strong case for the 1990-91 team, though with the likes of Malik Sheppard and Darrec Jones, who ended up being one of the top three point shooters in the GMC upon his graduation in 1992.

COMING  
SOON!

to  
South Plainfield

The world's largest  
women's fitness & weight  
loss franchise!

Guinness World Records 2002

Curves

The power to amaze yourself.™

Call: 908 - 757 - 4422  
for more information!

The Team that Works.  
Discover the Difference

Andrea & Jesse Lacerda  
"The Lacerda Team"

THE LACERDA TEAM.... dedicates 100% of our energies to servicing our clients' needs FULL TIME... EVERY TIME.  
THE LACERDA TEAM.... has several buyers specialists and a marketing assistant to service our clients.  
THE LACERDA TEAM.... works out of the Century 21 Moretti Realty office in South Plainfield.  
THE LACERDA TEAM.... is involved in community activities and are residents of South Plainfield.  
THE LACERDA TEAM.... has extensive real estate, financial and negotiating expertise.  
THE LACERDA TEAM.... is a top award winning realtor for the past 9 years with over 70 homes sold in 2003.

Andrea and Jesse Lacerda

CENTURY 21  
MORETTI REALTY

225 Maple Ave.,  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080  
(908) 755-5300 Ext. 302  
(908) 578-1166 Cellular  
Email: LacerdaA@MorettiRealty.com  
Website: www.LacerdaTeam.com

Our Customers refer us  
again and again  
because we care!

South Plainfield  
\$289,900



This Week's Featured Property  
Franklin School Area

MOVE RIGHT IN TO THIS... Mint condition 3 bedroom ranch. New timberline roof, new kitchen w/ ceramic tile floors & backsplash, newly tiled bathroom, new windows & garage door, new Belgian block driveway, steps & sidewalk, beautifully finished 36 x 15 basement, attached garage. Great backyard for your family enjoyment!

ob·serve (v.t.): 1. to

celebrate ceremonially // 2. to notice (something), to pay special attention to // 3. (a) to look at with attention // 4. to perceive, notice, come to know by seeing // 5. to comment, to note attentively

It's what we do.

Advertise in the only newspaper for South Plainfield.

South Plainfield  
Observer  
Your #1 Source for South Plainfield News

Call 908-668-0010 for rates



# Sports

## SPHS Bowling

BY RALPH FECH

### Matt Boley (708) and Vicki Boley (598) Qualify for GMC Finals

More than 300 bowlers filed into Carolier Lanes for the GMC Individual Tournament Qualifying Round, each with their own distinct motivation, but all the same goal of becoming the 2003-04 champion. The ultimate winners will be decided Wednesday (Jan. 14) as the top 20 boys and girls will again bowl three games before the top five cumulative scorers will enter a step-ladder final. Congratulations to Matt Boley and

Vicki Boley as the brother and sister duo were the only Tigers who qualified in the highly competitive event. Matt rolled games of 214-256-238 for a sparkling 708 set, his second 700 set in two days.

Vicki stroked games of 211-214-173 for a 598 set. Matt is currently in second place while Vicki sits in the sixth place position. The cut of scores were 614 for the boys and 523 for the girls.

### Lady Tigers Wallop Franklin But Bow to Woodbridge

SPHS	859	797	837	—2494
Woodbridge	898	953	899	—2750

The Girls' Bowling Team rolled their highest series of the season but fell short in a loss to powerhouse Woodbridge.

Vicki Boley stroked games of 221-

233 for a 619 total to pace the Lady Tigers.

Fine efforts were turned in by teammates Kim Gaub 201—518 and Angelique Rualo 183—483 set.

SPHS	784	829	735	—2348
Franklin	657	677	694	—2028

The Lady Tigers thumped Franklin by over 300 pins and coasted to a 4-0 shutout victory as they improved their record to 11-5. Vicki Boley 217,

Beverly Jamieson 188 and Kim Gaub 181 led a solid team effort. Shannen Rivers chipped in with a 142, while Lindsay Hunsicker added a 148 game.

### Tiger Bowlers (3033), Matt Boley (726) Not Enough Against Woodbridge

SPHS	1021	953	1059	—3033
Woodbridge	1040	1114	950	—3104

The Tigers and Woodbridge sent the pins flying in an old-fashioned shootout, but the Barons held off the rallying Tigers, averting a tie.

Matt Boley stroked games of 257-

200-269 for an eye-popping 726 set. Teammate Nick Grego cranked out games of 210-210-221 for a solid 631 set.

Shawn Ferguson added a 576 set.

SPHS	966	989	923	—2878
Franklin	871	1042	1021	—2934

Despite Matt Boley's 277 high game and 695 high set, the boys' bowling team ran into a hot-shooting Franklin team and were dealt a 3-1 loss.

Nick Grego chipped in with a 221 game and a 600 pin effort. Teammates George Kleinknecht's 209—563 set and Vin Genova's 191—545 rounded out the scoring.

## Girls' Varsity Basketball Preview

By Tim Morgan

Last year, the South Plainfield High School Girls' Varsity Basketball Team placed second in the White Division and posted a respectable 13-10 record. So far this year, they're first in the Division with a record of 6-1. Twenty-year Head Coach Willard Schulte said the season is "going great" so far.

The Lady Tigers have a solid team this year and a legitimate chance at capturing the title, but it certainly will not come easy for them. "Every team we play, there's going to be a close game," said Schulte. All of the top teams in the Division are tightly competitive, so the team who plays the best and makes the fewest mistakes most consistently will come out on top.

Schulte has confidence in his girls though. "We're going to face teams that are bigger than us. We need to step up and get better and I think we are [doing so]," he said. "We're winning close games and we're competitive."

Five of the Lady Tigers' losses last year were by three points or less. So far they are winning those kinds of games. Another big difference in this season from last year is that their scoring is more balanced. "We can play a full court game better," said Schulte.

Though it's too early in the season to start listing accomplishments, the girls have done two notable things so far. They soundly beat Carteret, one of the toughest teams in the county, and they took second in the Hightstown Holiday Tournament. They lost a close game to Perth Amboy and will be eager to avenge that loss the next time they face them when the White Division title hangs in the balance.

The Lady Tigers' foremost goal is winning the White Division and Schulte feels that it is a very feasible goal. Aside from that though, they

will be looking to make the Final Four in the GMC Tournament again and hopefully the finals this year. They are also looking to qualify for the State Tournament, which they should and if they do, they want to do better than last year, when they lost a heartbreaker to number two seed Homdel by two points in the opening round. The Lady Tigers are in the first section of North Jersey Group III, which is one of New Jersey's toughest sections. Schulte wants to achieve a better team shooting percentage and limit opponent scoring in order to carry out these goals.

"The team plays with a lot of heart and a lot of confidence," said Schulte. "They (the girls) play to win. They believe in themselves, and that means a lot," he added.

One thing Schulte attributes to the success of the girls is the experience they build outside of the regular season. He said many of them play in spring and summer leagues as well as AAU Basketball.

During practice, the Lady Tigers work on their offenses and defenses particular to their competition, as well as their special plays and perform a number of drills in conjunction with game conditioning. "It's a

full two hours and it's got to be," said Schulte.

Schulte feels that basketball, like other sports, applies to other areas of life, because of the strategy, emotions, competition and pressure that athletes have to face and take control of. "When you're able to deal with adversity of the court, it helps you deal with other things in life," he said.

There are 13 girls on the team. The starters are senior Jessa Jones at forward and as a guard and seniors Johanna Hedler and Ngozi Okparaekke also as forwards and juniors Danielle Arndt, who is currently averaging four three-pointers per game and Coral Willis as guards. The other Varsity players are seniors Shade Coleman, Danny-Jo Dimaria and Chiara Tomei; juniors Erica Blaszk and Rachel Perez; and freshman Asia Hollis, who Schulte calls a good rebounder. Jessica Miller may return from a knee operation later this month. Jessa, Johanna and Ngozi are the team captains. Taryn Decker is the Junior Varsity Coach and John Greco is the Freshmen Coach.



Tim Morgan, Jr.

## Ponytail Softball Registration Underway

The 2004 Ponytail Softball Registration is underway and will continue until March 5.

Registration is open to all South Plainfield resident girls, ages 8-13 as of Oct. 1, 2003. All games are played

at Pitt Street Park.

The fee is \$35 per participant and there are no refunds. A birth certificate is required to register, as well as a proof of residency. You may register at the PAL Building, Maple Ave.

## Woman's Auxiliary Announces Little Miss Baseball Finalists

The finalists for Little Miss Baseball 2004 are Samantha Pattison, Jessica Dicindio, Taylor Ferguson and Zoe Strong. Voting boxes with pictures are located at Ciccio's, Sa's Liquors, Corner Deli and both Quick Cheks. Voting is cast by the "penny-a-vote" system. The boxes will be collected and counted on April 1.

The winner will be announced at the Opening Day ceremonies on April 3 at the baseball complex and will receive a \$25 mall certificate from the Women's Auxiliary.

So, go on out and cast your vote for Little Miss Baseball 2004. If you have any questions, please call Stacy Lake at (908) 757-9531.

Please support our advertisers  
—tell them you saw their ad  
in the Observer!

# Dining Out!

WHERE TO EAT IN AND AROUND SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
Why Cook? Enjoy one of these South Plainfield restaurants everyday.

**P70 99**  
VIETNAMESE RESTAURANT  
Golden Acres Shopping Center  
Park Ave. & Oak Tree Ave.  
Tuesday-Thurs. 11-9, Fri 11-10,  
Sat. 10-10, Sun 10-9  
CLOSED MONDAYS  
**10% off** with this ad  
Try a New Taste  
this Holiday Season

**Charlie's**  
ICE CREAMFACTORY  
ORDER  
YOUR HOLIDAY  
CAKES NOW!  
Golden Acres Shopping Ctr.  
3600 Park Ave. So. Plainfield  
(908) 769-0016  
Charlie's Ice Cream Factory

**Quiznos Sub**  
MMMM...TOASTY!  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080  
(908) 226-5559  
Located at Golden Acres Shopping Center at  
intersection of Park Ave. and Oak Tree Road  
where the old Bradlees was by Hong Kong  
Supermarket & Shopper's World  
Come in and see for yourself why...  
Oven Toasted Tastes Better!!!

Advertise in the South Plainfield Observer Dining Guide. Choose from a one column (\$180) or two column (\$360) ad that runs for 10 weeks. We will design a custom ad for your business. Also included is a one-time feature with write up & photo.

For more  
information,  
call 908-668-0010.



# Sports

## Wrestling News By Bob Hunter

### Middle School Wrestlers Win Three

The Middle School wrestling team won three big matches over the weekend defeating Randolph 54-29 in the toughest match of the day. They also defeated Warren Hills 68-12 and Newton newcomers to the league 82-10.

In other Middle School news, Patrick Hunter 90, wrestled for Team New Jersey at the prestigious Mason Dixon Duals held this past weekend in Owens Mills Maryland. Team NJ

top wrestlers competed in qualifying trials held at Princeton University. Eighteen spots were wrestled off. Wrestlers who finished in the top three in their weight classes from last year's state tournament were invited to try out. New Jersey defeated Virginia and Maryland had a tough match with Pennsylvania, dropping a 46-25 decision. Hunter was two and one for the tournament.

### Recreation Wrestlers Win Four More

The Recreation wrestling team continued their winning ways, defeating four Central Jersey Midget Wrestling League opponents in a quad match.

The Tigers defeated Voorhees 49-21 in the opener. The Tigers dropped the first two matches and trailed 9-0 when Kyle Brady 57, got the Tigers rolling with a major decision over Tom Yarnell 11-0. Joe Jakubik 60, also won a big match by major decision 8-0 over Tom Riley bringing the Tigers within one. Tyler Hunt 63, put the Tigers in the lead for good with a tech fall 16-0 over Scott Zeigler. Troy Heilmann 67, pinned Steve Papa at 0:35. Jeff Conroy 73, won by major decision over Tom Zeigler 10-0. Ryan Sacco 77, followed with another major decision 14-0 over Brian Bonavito. Nick Heilmann 80, won with a fall a 1:14 over B.

Brenston. Corey Hay 85 and Ryan Billich 90, both won by major decision 9-0. John Wylam 95, won by tech fall 15-0 over T. Baker. Mike Wagner 102, closed the scoring with a 2-0 decision over Ralph Dagostino. Also wrestling were Ryan Walsh, Bobby Kolvites, Richie Szeliga, Seth Yokum and Alex Lundy hwt.

In the Flemington match, the Tigers dominated winning 63-21. Winning matches for the Tigers were Anthony Ashnault 53, Kyle Brady 57, 14-1; Joe Jakubik 60, Tyler Hunt 63, Troy Heilmann 67, Rich Szeliga 70, Ryan Sacco 77, Nick Heilmann, Corey Hay 85, John Wylam 95, Mike Wagner 102 and Seth Yokum.

In the Plainfield match, the Tigers continued to roll with a 80-12 victory and defeated Bridgewater 68-14.

### Tigers Continue To Dominate

The South Plainfield High School Wrestling Team, now ranked fourth in the state, had a big win over our neighbors from North Edison, defeating J.P. Stevens 44-20 at a packed house. The match started at 112 with Billy Ashnault giving the Tigers the early lead when he won a big decision 5-0 over Rob Landicho. Viet Vo, wrestled at 119 and did a good job against state place winner Jeff Zannetti in a losing effort. Mike Jakubik 125, won a 7-6 decision over Yeuczen Poppv. Sam Martin 130, who's off to a good, start won by 9-3 decision over Hamilton Cook. Nick Dorey 135, went head-to-head with Anthony Howard and prevailed winning by 7-3 decision. Pete DeAndrea 140, really put the pressure on J.P. when he pinned Will Mische at 2:32. At 152, Senior Captain Guy Severini controlled his match, winning by major 8-0 decision over Anthony Mafflucci. Joe DeBiase 171, kept the pressure on as he pinned Kevin

Haigh at 5:51. Kevin Crilley 189 then won by major decision 12-4 over Tom Wilkinson. J.P. Stevens then forfeited to Ryan Elliott at heavyweight and Jimmy Conroy at 103, to end the match. This is always a good match, because the kids all know each other from wrestling together at the SPWC during the year. Stevens head coach Steve Giordano a state champion for South Plainfield High School, has done a great job with his team. Stevens has no feeder program, but Giordano continues to produce a tough and physical team.

The Tigers also defeated Piscataway 56-12 and defeated Monroe Twp. 58-6. In the Monroe match, the Tigers got a big win from freshmen Bryan Hunt 103, who won his first varsity match by decision 8-5 over Alfred Rotundo. Another big win came at 189 when Frank Demarest won a 5-2 decision over John Urbanowicz.

## Swimming

### St. Joe's Swim Team Wins Meet

On Jan. 10, Saint Joseph High School swim team captured the Pirates Invitational Meet for the third year in a row with a score of 328 1/2 points. Second place went to Westfield High School with a score of 202. For twenty five years the Pirates Invitational Meet has been held at West Windsor-Plainsboro High School. Records were broken by the Saint Joe's swimmers at this silver anniversary meet.

South Plainfield residents Calvin John Smiley and Philip Luzny are members of the team. Calvin John placed fifth in the 50 yard freestyle and fourth in the 100 yard freestyle. Smiley along with teammates Eric Swenson, Mike MacDonald and Bobby Savulich placed first in the 200 yard freestyle

relay. Smiley, Stefan Rosales, Brian Gartner, and Swenson tied the meet record for 200 medley relay with a time of 1:40.15 Philip, as a freshman, qualified for the finals and placed fifth in the 100 butterfly.

Edison resident Bobby Savulich broke two individual records - the 200 yard freestyle and the 500 yard freestyle. The 500 yard freestyle record had been held since 1985. Scotch Plains resident Eric Swenson also broke the 100 yard breaststroke record.

St. Joseph High School swim team is coached by Steve Whittington, a teacher at the school, as well as a record holder for the school in backstroke. Assistant Coach is Matt Severino, an alumni and teacher in the New Brunswick school system.

By Lee Flanagan

## JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES

Our last registration dates for the 2004 baseball season are this week, Jan. 15, 16, and 17 at the SPJBC Complex.

This will absolutely be your last chance to register for the 2004 season. Registration fee is now \$95.

The next Coaches' Clinic is scheduled for Tuesday night, Jan. 20. This is free to all parents, coaches and players. The clinic will start at 7:30 pm.

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 card and must have completed the Rutgers Certification Program. If you have an interest to manage or coach a team in the spring season of 2004, this serves as a reminder that you MUST complete the Rutgers Certification Program. For more information about this course, please contact the Recreation Department.

Our next endeavor is the Pancake Breakfast that is scheduled for February. Further details will follow on this project.

Anyone interested in sponsoring a sign at the baseball club please call Bill Cochrane at 908-561-6574 or the SPJBC at 908-754-2090.

It is a New Year and "A NEW BEGINNING"



## NJFOA Needs Officials

Candidates are needed by the New Jersey Football Official's Association to officiate high school football games, operate game clocks and hold down equipment. You must be over 18 years old. Games are played on Monday and Friday afternoons; Fri-

day nights and Saturday. Free training Classes start on June 2 from 7 to 9 p.m. (Wednesdays). Registration deadline is March 15.

Contact: Thomas Paulikas (732) 446-8794 [njfoa@aol.com](mailto:njfoa@aol.com) or [www.njfoa-raritan.org](http://www.njfoa-raritan.org).

**If you are a high school student who attends many sporting events, and would like to write for the Observer, call 908-668-0010.**

## Find Your Way.

Follow the ups and downs of the borough in the Observer, an independent newspaper for the residents and businesses of South Plainfield exclusively.

Send a check or money order for \$25/one year (out-of-town-\$30) to: South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, or call 908-668-0010 to pay by credit card.

**We now accept VISA and Mastercard**

☒ I would like home delivery of the Observer.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP  PHONE

CREDIT CARD NO. (MC OR VS)  EXP. DATE

### FAST APPROVALS...GREAT RATES...PERSONALIZED SERVICE

We Specialize in No Cost Refinancing

Free Pre-Qualifications

Purchases • Refinance • Debt Consolidation

Past Credit Problems Understood

No Income Verification Loans

Borrow up to 125% of Value • Loans

Mixed Use and Commercial Properties



Mike Dixon  
President

Se Habla Espanol

**908-822-0090**



## Obituaries

### Christina D'Andrade, 86

Christina D'Andrade died Thursday, Jan. 8 at Robert Wood Johnson Hospital in New Brunswick.

Born in Guyana, Mrs. D'Andrade came to the United States in 1984 and had resided in South Plainfield since that time. She was a homemaker.

Surviving are her husband, John; a daughter, Yvonne Romascindo of South Plainfield and a son, Neville Ramdeen of Coral Springs, Fla.

Also surviving are six grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

### Ruth Ann Dostal Seniakevgh, 39

Ruth Ann Dostal Seniakevgh of Fords died on Saturday, Jan. 10 at her home.

Ruth was born in Irvington and was a former resident of Woodbridge before moving to Fords five years ago. Ruth was a stock clerk at the former Bradlees in Woodbridge.

She was predeceased by her sister, Joy Ellen Dostal Toms, who died in 1998.

She is survived by her son, David Seniakevgh, Jr. of Fords; her parents, Barbara and Charles Paul of Colonia; two sisters, Patricia and her husband, Jeffrey Ditmars of South Plainfield and Laura and her husband, Steven Wiese of

Colonia; her former husband, David Seniakevgh, Sr.; her former father- and mother-in-law, John Seniakevgh and his wife, Janice; her former brother-in-law, Anthony and his wife, Shelly Seniakevgh, all of Woodbridge. Also surviving are many nieces and nephews.

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

### Carmela E. (Niglio) DeNardo, 94

Carmela E. (Niglio) DeNardo died on Sunday, Jan. 11 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Newark, she had resided in Irvington before settling in North Plainfield, where she had resided for more than 20 years.

Carmela had been employed as an inspector for Cheese Borough-Ponds of Hillside, retiring in 1979. Previously, she worked as an assembler at Lionel Trains in Hillside.

A communicant of St. Joseph's RC Church in North Plainfield, she was also a member of the North Plainfield Senior Citizens.

Her husband, Vincent, died in 1975.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Paula and Paul Abruzzese of South Plainfield; a son and daughter-in-law, Joseph and Mary Abruzzese of Toms River; four grandchildren, Joseph and Michael DeNardo, Christina Rosikiewicz and Thomas Abruzzese and six great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

## LEGAL NOTICES

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX

#### ORDINANCE No. 1642

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

**Ordinance #1642 entitled: A ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$109,500 FOR THE ACQUISITION OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD** was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, January 16 and that a public hearing be held on Monday, February 2, 2004 at 8:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

#### ORDINANCE NO. 1642

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$109,500 FOR THE ACQUISITION OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AS LISTED BELOW FOR THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY as follows:

Section 1. That there is hereby authorized pursuant to applicable statutes of the State of New Jersey, as a general improvement, the following improvements in the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, New Jersey:

#### Compactors - DPW \$46,000.00

Roof - DPW Building	\$17,499.00
Vehicle - Office on Aging	\$23,001.00
Backup Generator - Fire	\$23,000.00
TOTAL	\$109,500.00

Section 2. That the improvements described in Section 1 hereof shall be authorized as general capital improvements for the Borough of South Plainfield in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey.

Section 3. It is hereby determined and declared by this Mayor and Borough Council as follows:

A. That the maximum estimated amount of money to be raised from all sources for the purposes stated in Section 1, hereof, is \$109,500.00.

B. That the cost for said projects shall be financed from appropriations in the Capital Improvement Fund, of which said funds are available for said purposes.

C. The estimated useful life of said

improvements is hereby determined to be five (5) years.

Section 4. That the total amount of the appropriation to be expended for:

Architectural and inspection costs, legal costs, advertisement of ordinance and other expenses as provided in Section 48:2-20 of the Revised Statutes, is not to exceed \$5,000.00.

Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect after final passage and publication in accordance with the law.

ATTEST:  
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$91.00 January 16, 2004

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY

#### ORDINANCE No. 1644

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

**Ordinance #1644 entitled: A ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #1500 PROHIBITING LEFT HAND TURNS AT CERTAIN LOCATIONS WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD** was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, January 16 and that a public hearing be held on Monday, February 2, 2004 at 8:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

#### ORDINANCE NO. 1644

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #1500 PROHIBITING LEFT HAND TURNS AT CERTAIN LOCATIONS WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED** by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield that no person shall be permitted to make a left hand turn at the following location listed:

Exiting from the Golden Acres Shopping Center Proceeding in the easterly direction onto Park Avenue and proceeding northerly on Park Avenue.

Penalty for violation of said ordinance shall be provided by New Jersey Statute.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon publication and adoption in accordance with the law and adoption of a concurring resolution from the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

ATTEST:  
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$55.50 January 16, 2004

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

#### LEGAL NOTICE

##### NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received by the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey on

### Call Us & Plan Ahead

### Hillside Cemetery

### Scotch Plains

908.756.1729

non-profit, non-sectarian  
www.hillsidecemetery.com

### JANUARY 29, 2004 at \*\*\* 10:00AM \*\*\*

prevailing time in the Council Chambers of the municipal building 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey at which time and place bids will be opened and read in public for:

#### FORD ESCAPE XLS - FWD

Specifications and other bid information may be obtained at the Municipal Clerk's office in the municipal building at the above address during regular business hours 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Only bidders who have picked up specifications will be allowed to submit bids. All bids must be submitted on the Proposal Forms furnished by the Borough. A bid bond in the form of a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond payable to the **BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD** in the amount equal to 10% of the highest bid amount, including alternates, if any, but not to exceed \$20,000 and a duly executed Consent of Surety. Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c.127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27 et seq.), the New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act, N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.25, Employment on Public Works N.J.S.A. 10:2. EOE, ADA.

ATTEST:  
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$40.25 January 16, 2004

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

#### LEGAL NOTICE

##### NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received by the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey on **JANUARY 28, 2004 at \*\*\* 10:00AM \*\*\*** prevailing time in the Council Chambers of the municipal building 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey at which time and place bids will be opened and read in public for:

#### LIGHTING PROJECT - MULTIPLE ATHLETIC FIELDS

Specifications and other bid information may be obtained at the Municipal Clerk's office in the municipal building at the above address during regular business hours 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Only bidders who have picked up specifications will be allowed to submit bids. All bids must be submitted on the Proposal Forms furnished by the Borough. A bid bond in the form of a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond payable to the **BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD** in the amount equal to 10% of the highest bid amount, including alternates, if any, but not to exceed \$20,000 and a duly executed Consent of Surety. Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c.127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27 et seq.), the New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act, N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.25, Employment on Public Works N.J.S.A. 10:2. EOE, ADA.

ATTEST:  
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$40.25 January 16, 2004

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

#### LEGAL NOTICE

##### NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received by the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey on **JANUARY 27, 2004 AT \*\*\* 10:00AM \*\*\*** prevailing time in the Council Chambers of the municipal building 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey at which time and place bids will be opened and read in public for:

#### CONSTRUCTION OF HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE REAR ENTRANCE TO MUNICIPAL BUILDING

Specifications and other bid information may be obtained at the Municipal Clerk's office in the municipal building at the above address during regular business hours 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Only bidders who have picked up specifications will be allowed to submit bids. All bids must be submitted on the Proposal Forms furnished by the Borough. A bid bond in the form of a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond payable to the **BOROUGH OF SOUTH**

**PLAINFIELD** in the amount equal to 10% of the highest bid amount, including alternates, if any, but not to exceed \$20,000 and a duly executed Consent of Surety. Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L. 1975, c.127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27 et seq.), the New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act, N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.25, Employment on Public Works N.J.S.A. 10:2. EOE, ADA.

ATTEST:  
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$42.00 January 16, 2004

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY

#### ORDINANCE NO. 1645

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

**Ordinance #1645 entitled: A ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 67 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ENTITLED: "ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES"** was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, January 16 and that a public hearing be held on Monday, February 2, 2004 at 8:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

#### ORDINANCE NO. 1645

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 67 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ENTITLED: "ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES" FOR THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Be it ordained by the Governing Body of the Borough of South Plainfield, that:

the Code of the Borough of South Plainfield, specifically Chapter 67, entitled: "Alcoholic Beverages" be amended as follows:

Article 67-2. License Fees  
License fees shall be amended as follows:

Plenary Retail Consumption License	\$1,848.00
Plenary Retail Distribution License	\$1,238.00
Club License	\$150.00

All other provisions of this chapter shall remain in effect.

This ordinance shall take effect upon final adoption and publication according to law.

ATTEST:  
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$54.25 January 16, 2004

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY

January 9, 2004

Public Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the South Plainfield Board of Adjustment at its meeting, held on January 8, 2004.

A. Case #89-02/S - K-Land Corporation; Block 254; Lots 30, 30.01 & 31; Oak Tree Rd. The applicant's request to dismiss this case without prejudice was hereby GRANTED.

B. Case #55-03 - Colorful Story Books; Block 390; Lot 5.04; 2 Hollywood Ct. The applicant's request to dismiss this case without prejudice was hereby GRANTED.

C. Case #59-03 - Clara Moore Anderson; Block 191; Edgar Ave. The applicant's request for a variance to construct a new two story single family home, measuring 23.67 ft. by 40 ft. with a maximum height of 24 ft. was hereby GRANTED.

D. Case #74-03 - Steven Tekel - Block 60; Lot 17; 1908 Oxford Ave. The applicant's request for a lot over coverage variance of 252 sq. ft. as well as a use variance to create a second dwelling unit for an addition of 16 ft. by 44 ft. was hereby GRANTED with voluntary conditions.

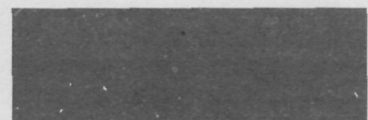
E. Case #77-03 - Our Lady of Czestochowa; Block 334; Lots 1, 2, 3 & 4; 120 Kosciusko Ave. The applicant's request to place a one story

double trailer measuring 23.5 ft. in width by 50 ft. in depth with an 18 ft. front yard setback from Kosciusko Ave. for a period of three years from the date of memorialization was hereby GRANTED.

F. Case #83-03 - Timothy McGovern; Block 85; Lot 4; 2532 Audubon Ave. The applicant's request to construct a second story addition with a 28 ft. front yard setback for the two ft. cantilever was hereby GRANTED.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary Beth Khidre

\$52.50 January 16, 2004



### AUTO REPAIR/MAINTENANCE

**C&R Auto**  
Mon-Fri 8-5  
Bill & Tom

**Complete Foreign & Domestic**  
Auto & Truck Repair • Tune Ups  
Oil Changes • Shocks & Suspension  
Air Conditioning • Exhaust Systems  
Brakes & Front End

235 Hamilton Blvd. South Plainfield  
**908-754-8313**  
Fleet Service

### HAIR & NAIL SALON

**Matrix**  
Hair & Nails  
908.755.9040

Manicure~Pedicure~Acrylics  
Tips~Fill in~Airbrushing  
Nail Art~Wraps~Waxing

**\$2 Off**  
Any Hair/Nail Service  
Exp. 1/30/04 New Customers Only

NOW OPEN  
SUNDAYS 11-5  
MON-FRI 9:30-8  
SATURDAY 8:30-7

154 MAPLE AVE., SO. PLAINFIELD

### MORTGAGES

**FAST APPROVALS...**  
**GREAT RATES...**  
**PERSONALIZED SERVICE...**

**Colony Mortgage**  
Mike Dixon, President  
Licensed Mortgage Broker - NJ Dept. of Banking

**908-822-0090**  
2325 Plainfield Ave. Suite 2E  
South Plainfield, NJ

### REAL ESTATE

**Di Francesco**  
Realty, Inc.

**GMAC**  
Real Estate

**"Long Time Resident of South Plainfield"**  
Bringing in Buyers from Various Counties!  
Member of 2 Multiple Listing Systems!

**Lori Tangorra**  
Realtor-Associate  
Tangohome2day@aol.com  
265 South Ave., Fanwood, NJ 07023  
**(908) 889-0200, Ext. 206**



# McCriskin

## HOME FOR FUNERALS

2425 PLAINFIELD AVENUE  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080  
FAX (908) 561-6744

RICHARD W. McCRISKIN, Pres., Mgr.  
NJ License No.3147

### BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY

#### ORDINANCE No. 1643

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

**Ordinance #1643 entitled: A ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING DAILY RATES FOR THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD COMMUNITY POOL FOR NONRESIDENTS** was adopted on first reading and advertised in The Observer on Friday, January 16 and that a public hearing be held on Monday, February 2, 2004 at 8:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

#### ORDINANCE NO. 1643

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING DAILY RATES FOR USE OF THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD COMMUNITY POOL BY NONRESIDENTS.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of South Plainfield that the following rates shall be established for use of the South Plainfield Community Pool by nonresidents:

Daily Admission Passes	Monday thru Friday	Weekends/Holidays
All ages before 5:00 p.m.	\$10.00	\$12.00
All ages after 5:00 p.m.	\$8.00	\$8.00

**FURTHER BE IT ORDAINED** that all other previously adopted fees pertaining to the South Plainfield Community Pool shall remain in effect.

ATTEST:  
Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$59.50 January 16, 2004



# Classifieds

Deadline to  
submit classified  
advertising is  
Monday, 5 pm  
908-668-0010

## HELP WANTED

Interviews now being  
accepted on a first  
come, first serve basis.  
**Growing company  
needs 20 people with  
a desire to earn**

**\$300-\$500 per week**

Expanding Middlesex distribu-  
tion center for a large 90-year-old  
electrical appliance company has  
openings in several depart-  
ments from display work to man-  
agement. Can do our work easily.  
No experience necessary as we  
will provide training that can lead  
to very secure positions with  
higher starting income.

**For personal interview call:**  
**(732) 738-7802**  
**Mon-Tues 9am-6pm**

## HELP WANTED

**P/T DRIVER FOR VAN-BOX TRUCKS.**  
Clean driving record, road knowledge  
req. Call Fred (908) 561-8900.

**LABORER-LOCAL CEMETERY.** P/T  
& full time positions. Must be 18 years  
of age or older and have valid NJ Drivers  
License. (908) 756-1729.

**AVON-BUY OR SELL. BE YOUR  
OWN BOSS.** Start up fee only \$10.  
Call (732) 248-3863 or (732) 522-2046.

## DAYCARE PROVIDER

**SO. PLFD. AREA-CARING & LOVING**  
registered day care provider. Full/P/T  
avail. Call Mrs. Carter (908) 494-0632.

## HOME FURNISHINGS FOR SALE

**DINING ROOM SET-CHERRY WITH**  
1 pc. hutch, table and chairs, new in  
boxes. Sell \$825. Can deliver. (732) 259-  
6690.

**MATTRESS SET, FULL, NEW IN**  
plastic. \$100. (732) 259-6690.

## HOME FURNISHINGS FOR SALE

**MATTRESS AND BOX QUEEN DOU-**  
ble pillow top. New in bags \$149. Can  
deliver. (732) 259-6690.

**7 PC. BEDROOM SET-BED, CHEST**  
dresser & mirror and night stand. New  
in box. Value \$2600. Sell \$975. (732) 259-  
6690.

**BED-KING MATTRESS SET, NEW**  
in plastic. Sell \$225. (732) 259-6690.

**5 PC. BDR SET-NEW IN BOX. LIST**  
\$1299. Sacrifice \$565. (732) 259-6690.

**SOFA & LOVESEAT, \$575. QUEEN SZ.**  
sofabed & chair \$625. Coffee & end  
tables \$175. Club chair \$125. Oriental rug  
\$175. Green formica kitchen set-table &  
4 chairs \$475. (908) 222-8722 after 5 p.m.

**LAST CHANCE To Purchase**  
**Observer photos by Patricia Abbott**  
The following photo files will be deleted as of 1/31:  
SP Fire Dept. FD concerts, FD Circus, many school  
concerts and events, and many other files. For more  
detailed info or to see PROOF sheets please call (908)  
756-8011 or email Pattie at angelonly@aol.com

## HOUSE FOR SALE

So. Plainfield

### MAKE YOUR MOVE

This 12 rm Louisiana Colonial warrants  
your immediate attention. 3060 SF of  
living space w/a long list of appealing  
amenities. LR, DR, huge country  
kitchen, FR, Den plus full fin. bsmt, 5  
BR, 2½ baths, 2 car att. gar. SEC. cys, 2  
zone AC, 3 zone heat, new Trex deck,  
vinyl siding, fplc & much more.  
\$525,000.

**ERA VAN SYCKEL, WEAVER  
& LYTE REALTORS**  
**CALL 732-560-0200**

## FOR RENT - VACATION

**4 BDRMS, 3 FULL BATHS, BEACH**  
Haven West. Fully furnished, available  
now for winter/weekend rental. Prime  
weeks still available for summer. Built-  
in pool, 3 decks, on the water. Great  
for family and boaters. (800) 669-7917  
ex. 229, ask for Karen.

## FOR RENT - OFFICE SPACE

**2 FURNISHED OFFICES-LOWER**  
level, private bath, share kitchen & con-  
ference room. Great for accountant or  
lawyer. Wired for Internet. Great loca-  
tion & parking. Call Jeff at (908) 668-  
1200 or email [jeff.newman@newcodata.com](mailto:jeff.newman@newcodata.com)

## ENTERTAINMENT

### HAVING A PARTY?

Disc Jockey-So. Plainfield area only.  
Call Mike, (908) 757-6690

## HOUSEKEEPING

**FOR A HOUSE TO LOOK IT'S BEST**  
put Clean Solutions to the test! \$10/  
room. Call Terri (908) 222-1441.

## HOME IMPROVEMENT

### HANDYMAN

Basements, Renovations, Painting.  
**NO JOB TOO SMALL.**  
Reasonable Rates.  
Call Kevin (908) 756-8199

# Business & Professional Services

To advertise your business  
here, call 908-668-0010.

## CARPET/FLOORING

**Sam the Carpet Man**  
**MY WAY**  
**CARPET**  
**ALL TYPES OF FLOORING**  
119 Hamilton Blvd. South Plainfield  
CALL FOR FREE  
ESTIMATE  
**(908) 757-3470**

## AUTOBODY

**SULLIVAN'S**  
**AUTO BODY**  
BodyShop Lic. #02313A  
Hours: Mon-Fri 8am-5pm  
2210 Hamilton Blvd.  
South Plainfield  
New Jersey 07080  
**908-757-5100**  
Fax: 908-757-3105

## COMPUTERS

### ST Computers

Stan Wilkinson

- New Computers/Upgrades
- Hardware/Software Installations
- In Home Service
- Some Used Computers Available

Serving South Plainfield for 2 Years

Phone: 908-769-0709

Cell: 732-423-3504

Email: [stcomputers@comcast.net](mailto:stcomputers@comcast.net)

## CONTRACTORS

### BUILDER & GENERAL CONTRACTOR

NJ DCA LIC #019771

Since 1981

**Lordina Builders**  
**908-753-3850**

**ADDITIONS • KITCHENS  
BATHROOMS  
Office Renovations**

**FREE ESTIMATES**

## FURNITURE REPAIRS

### FURNITURE MEDIC

"the prescription for damaged furniture"

### Precision

### Furniture Repairs

### On-Site

Scratches • Gouges • Pet Damage  
Water Marks • Burns  
Structural Repairs • Broken Joints  
**Antique Restoration**  
Kitchen Cabinets Refinished  
And MUCH MORE!

**(908) 755-8440**

## HEALTH & WELLNESS



### Hua Kang Health Center

Massage, Acupressure, Reflexology  
Acupuncture • Chinese Herbs • Facial

Licensed Chinese massage therapists and acupuncturists provide experienced  
Chinese-style services using traditional Chinese medicine methods.  
Effective in treatment of various pains, symptoms and body needs.

Appointments/walk-ins welcome. Open 7 days/week, 9:30am-9pm  
Gift Certificates and Bonus Program available.  
We accept credit cards and health insurance.

1763 Lincoln Highway (Rt. 27) Edison • 732-819-0058  
126 Plainfield Ave. Edison • 732-572-5599  
275 Rt. 18 South, East Brunswick • 732-967-1300

**Treat yourself  
at our three  
locations.**  
Your satisfaction  
guaranteed.

## LANDSCAPING

### Lalaria Landscaping

### FALL YARD CLEANUP

Leslie Chambers

Telephone: (908) 917-1668

Fax: (908) 757-5175

- Fully Insured •
- Affordable and Reliable! •
- Snow Plowing**

## MASONRY

### Bravo CONSTRUCTION

### SPECIALIZING IN

- Brick • Block
- Concrete • Pavers
- Walkways • Additions

### ALL TYPES OF MASONRY

Over 30 Years Experience  
**908-753-0631**

## MASSAGE THERAPY

**CENTRAL JERSEY**  
Holistic Health Center and Spa  
• MASSAGE • REFLEXOLOGY  
• HYPNOSIS • REIKI  
• DOULA LABOR ASSISTANT  
Roxanne Cortese, CD, CHP, CMT  
2701 Park Ave. So. Plainfield, NJ 07080  
(908) 561-1511  
By Appointment Only  
GIFT CERTIFICATES AND GIFT BASKETS

## PAINTING/HOME IMPROVEMENT

**BULLSEYE**  
Services  
PAINTING, POWERWASHING &  
HOME IMPROVEMENT SERVICES  
20 Years Experience  
Fast & Reliable  
Low prices, free quotes, fully insured  
**CALL TODAY**  
**908-757-6640**

## PRINTING/TYPESSETTING

**Graphic Design**  
• Logos  
• Resumes  
• Menus  
**G&G Graphics**  
1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080  
**908-668-0010 • Fax: 908-668-8819**  
email: [ggnan@aol.com](mailto:ggnan@aol.com)

## ROOFING

**J.T. PENYAK**  
**ROOFING CO.**  
COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL  
RESIDENTIAL  
**908-753-4222**  
FAX 908-753-4763  
124 CAMDEN AVE.  
SO. PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080

## SNOW REMOVAL/SALT

Call **KLK Trucking** for:  
Sand/Salt Mixture, Bulk  
Rock Salt, Ice Control Sand  
Sanding • Salting • Snowplowing  
Pick up or Deliv., Mon. thru Sat  
**908-757-4434**  
265 Ryan Street  
South Plainfield

**Silver Creek**  
**Landscaping**  
SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
**SNOW REMOVAL**  
PLOWING - SALTING - ANTI-ICING  
BACKHOE SNOW LOADERS  
Office Buildings • Industrial Plants  
Retail Stores • Churches  
Apartment & Condo Complexes  
24 hour service - Fully Insured  
**908-756-7272**

## REAL ESTATE

**Century 21**  
Moretti Realty  
**“Nobody knows  
South Plainfield  
like Joe Diegnan.”**  
Business:  
(908) 755-5300 x 315  
Evening:  
(908) 756-9123  
Email: [DiegnanJ@moretti-realty.com](mailto:DiegnanJ@moretti-realty.com)  
**Joseph Diegnan** REALTOR-ASSOCIATE & LIFETIME SO. PLAINFIELD RESIDENT  
225 Maple Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080

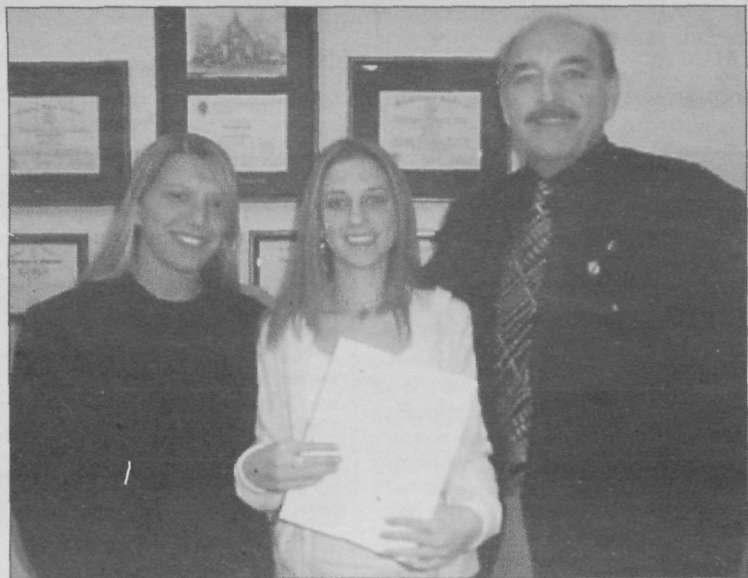
**Century 21**  
Main Street Realty Inc.  
**Robert Publik**  
Realtor-Associate  
Business:  
(732) 549-9000 x 358  
Evenings:  
(908) 755-2709  
E-Mail: [bobp@comcast.net](mailto:bobp@comcast.net)  
**Robert Publik**  
OFFICES IN N. EDISON, WOODBRIDGE, COLONIA  
2077 Oak Tree Road, Edison, NJ 08820

**Prudential**  
**Rose REALTORS®**  
Rose Marie Pelton  
REALTOR-ASSOCIATE  
South Plainfield Resident  
For Over 39 Years  
908-753-4450 X302  
Toll Free 800 370-2424  
Fax 908-753-0136  
[RosePelton@att.net](mailto:RosePelton@att.net)  
**Prudential Rose REALTORS®**  
659 Mountain Boulevard, Watchung, NJ 07069

**Advertise in the  
Observer**  
South Plainfield's official weekly news source  
For rates and information,  
call 908-668-0010



# The College Application Nightmare



This week's Junior Journalist, SPHS senior Elaine Alexander, is pictured here with school principal, Dr. Kenneth May and Bonnie Vigneri, English and Journalism teacher.

By Elaine Alexander

Applying to the right college is a stressful, time consuming and eye-opening process that simply must be done at this time of the year. Along with all the holiday hustle and bustle, most high school seniors are done with, or are busy completing, their applications to get them in on time. Most students never imagined that there was so much involved in the college application process. Juniors, consider this an early holiday present. This is the underclassman's guide to the college application process.

What do you want to be when you grow up? Ah, yes! That is a question that most of us have been asked since we entered kindergarten. Simple enough, but ask yourself if you really know what you want to do with yourself after high school. Be realistic with your career choices. Explore your options based on the fields that include your interests. If you enjoy science, then obviously you should not pursue a career in the toy industry! Many students think only about high salaries and do not consider what the occupation would consist of. Be practical! An excellent website that gives a surplus of information on almost every line of work out there is the Occupation Outlook Handbook (<http://www.bls.gov/oco/>). This includes the nature of the work, working conditions, employment, training and other qualifications and advancement, job outlook, earnings, related occupations and many other sources of additional information. Keep in mind that it is perfectly okay to not be one hundred percent sure of what you want to do; you can always apply to college with your major undeclared.

What type of college will you be most successful at? Knowing what colleges you would like to apply to is half the battle! Colleges vary according to size, area, student population and specialized fields. You need to decide where you can envision yourself being happiest and most successful in your studies. Do you want a tiny rural campus or is the enormous urban college more appealing? Also, not all colleges offer every course of study. For example, if you want to pursue a career in pharmacy, then your school options are quite limited because not every college offers a pharmacy program. Be specific in your search! The Princeton Review website (<http://www.princetonreview.com>) is an amazing college resource. You can enter all of your information and what you are looking for in a college and it provides numerous colleges that you are compatible with and actually tells you your chances of getting into each school. It is simply amazing!

Do you have a chance of getting in? The obvious truth is that getting into a good college is very competitive! A huge part of admissions is standardized test scores such as SATs and ACTs. Not all schools require both, but most require the basic SAT exam. After completing the test, the college takes your

best math and verbal scores and adds them to get a complete score. You can take them as many times as you would like, as long as you keep paying the fee; however, after discussing the matter with various college admission counselors, they prefer you take them no more than a maximum of three times. Reason being, if you could not get it right the first three times, then chances are your fourth is not going to be much better. After three times, some colleges actually do not take the best math and verbal, instead they average all of your scores together. If you feel you need more preparation for the test, seek help! The official College Board website (<http://www.collegeboard.com>) offers a free downloadable practice program and our very own high school offers SAT prep classes and out-of-school programs. Practice does help! Find out your ideal college's average SAT scores, grade point average, class rank and other important variables. Get a copy of your high school transcript (after you have completed your junior year) and review it. Knowing where you stand is very important in the application process. It is also a good idea to apply to more than one school to increase your chances of acceptance. It is better to be safe than sorry!

What have you done to start the application process? Most seniors say that applying to college was a rude awakening and most agree that if they knew how much was involved, then they would have started the process their junior year. Do not wait until September or later of your senior year to begin visiting colleges and collecting applications! The earlier you start, the less stressful the whole ordeal will be. You have to take the initiative to start looking and applying, because your guidance counselor will not do it for you. The summer before junior year is ideal for trips to colleges that interest you. While you are there, it is a great idea to talk to an admissions counselor, tour the campus and get an application. Another HUGE piece of advice is to take the time out to make a personal resume. On it include your education background, work experience, awards and recognitions you have received, any special skills you have, extra-curricular activities such as clubs and sports that you participate in, your community service and leadership achievements and anything else that would make you look like a great catch to the college! Letters of recommendation are also of great value. Ask about three teachers that teach your area of career interest if they would mind writing a letter of recommendation. Do not wait until last minute to ask, because it may take them a few weeks to complete it. Not all colleges require letters, but they are a small part of the icing on the cake!

Can I get some "free money?" College is extremely expensive! Why not help out mom and dad by applying for scholarships? Our guidance department has a list of scholarships offered. Fast Web (<http://www.fastweb.com>) also provides information on

thousands of scholarships out there. Take the money and run!

How do I begin the application? There is a lot involved! First of all, you have to decide whether to apply online (which most schools now prefer) or to apply on a paper application, and also whether to apply by the early admission deadline or by the regular deadline. Any way you choose, the whole process is very time consuming. You must provide all of your personal information and your legal guardians/parents. It sounds simple enough, but it is very frustrating to gather it all! Most college applications have a recommended personal statement, also known as the dreaded college essay. Although it may not be mandatory, DO IT! Colleges want to see that you make the effort and it is a great opportunity to stand out as an individual. These essays vary in subject and length, so it is vital that you get started immediately. Seek the help and critique of a guidance counselor and/or an English teacher. Their input is necessary to make your essay perfect! Once you have completed your application, paper or online, go directly to your guidance counselor. You need their help to put everything together, such as your transcript, official SAT scores (which also must be sent officially by College Board), resume, letters of recommen-

## Junior Journalist Corner



Elaine Alexander

The Observer and Hometown Heros is happy to announce the second winner of the Junior Journalist Program. Through the program, students are encouraged to submit their original poetry, articles, opinion pieces or essays. Entries should be given to teachers.

"The College Application Nightmare," by SPHS senior and Tiger Times graphic editor, Elaine Alexander, is an essay to guide students seeking college admission through the application nightmare. See her winning essay at left.

Winners receive a catered dinner from Hometown Heros and will be invited to an end-of-year dinner. Students who have not already entered are encouraged to submit their entries to their teachers. For more information on the contest, or for the name of your school contact, call the Observer at (908) 668-0010 or Hometown Heros at (908) 755-4376.

### Attention Students:

Win a catered dinner for your family from Hometown Heros through the Junior Journalist Contest!

Sponsored by Observer & Hometown Heros

dition, application, application fee and anything else that needs to be sent out.

And then what happens? After you have applied, you can breathe a little easier! Now you just have to wait for their answer! Keep your fingers crossed and continue to maintain good grades for the remainder of your senior year. Some colleges want your senior year grades and can deny you admittance

based on low achievement. Keep your spirits, along with your grade point average, as high as possible. Remember, the earlier you apply, the better chance of admission you have and the earlier you get your final answer!

Underclassman, now that you know the facts, what are you waiting for? Get out there and do what you have to do!



## Invest Wisely!

With Columbia's  
**NEW**  
Interest-Bearing  
**Investment**  
**Checking**

The Higher Your Balance, the More You Earn!

Balance	APY*
\$1 to \$9,999.99	.75%
\$10,000 to \$24,999.99	1.15%
\$25,000 to \$49,999.99	1.50%
\$50,000 and Above	2.00%

### Enjoy These Added Features:

FREE Personalized Checks

FREE Columbia CheckCard

FREE Online Banking

FREE Online Bill Payment

FREE PhoneLink<sup>sm</sup>  
24-Hour Banking Service

FREE Direct Deposit

Stop By The Office Below  
And Open Your Account Now!



620 Oak Tree Avenue & Case Drive • South Plainfield, NJ 07080

(908) 757-1055

[www.columbiabankonline.com](http://www.columbiabankonline.com)

Count on Columbia.

Member FDIC

The Annual Percentage Yields (APYs) shown are as of publication date and are subject to change without notice. The APYs may also change after the account is opened. The minimum balance to earn interest is \$1. \*Fees can reduce earnings on the account. If at any time the daily balance in the account is less than \$10,000, the account will be assessed a monthly charge of \$15. This product is not available to businesses and is only available at our offices in Central and South Jersey.