

AUG 11 2000

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South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 3, NO. 49

50 CENTS

AUGUST 11, 2000

Special Public Meeting

A special public meeting has been called by Mayor Gallagher for the entire Governing Body on Monday, Aug. 14, 2000 at 8:00 p.m. in Borough Hall to swear in new members of the Zoning

Volunteer Committees Take First Steps

The volunteers on the four committees formed last week met to plan their strategy and elect chairmen. These committees have been given the task of making recommendations to the school board on what directions we will be taking in regards to the future.

The four committees formed are architecture, curriculum, technology and public relations. Members of the board of education and representatives from Prisco & Edwards, the architecture firm hired by the board, were on hand to supply information.

All of the committees will meet weekly through September and make recommendations to the board. The board has said that they will use these recommendations for a third referendum scheduled in December. With residents participating in the planning, the board feels the next referendum will receive the voters' approval. Voters have already rejected two school bond referendums this year.

Every Thursday night the committees will report on how their progressing. Keeping the public informed during each step is very important to the board. The *Observer* will be publishing the committees reports each week to keep the public informed.

If anyone would still like to join a committee, they are welcome to attend Thursday nights meeting and volunteer. The meetings start at 7 p.m. and are held at Grant School.



Photo by Carol Keck

THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD 14 & UNDER ALL-STARS WON THE TRI-COUNTY LEAGUE Playoffs last week with a 15-5 win over Hazlet. Pictured in the front row, (left to right) are Melissa Scotto, Meaghan Schweers, Marissa Judd, Amanda Rastelli; second row: Chiara Tomei, Darleen Marin, Ashley Bishop, Amanda Fugate, Jenna Smith, Jessa Jones; third row: coaches Ken Rastelli, Kevin Schweers, Gary Jones, Head Coach Bob Keck and coaches Joe Scotto and Debbie Tomei. Missing from this picture are Jaime Gaughan, Shade' Coleman. (See pictures and story on page 6.)

Internet Friendship Leads to Man's Arrest

On June 23, the South Plainfield Police Department received information that man had engaged in sexual impropriety with a female under the age whom he had befriended over the Internet.

The defendant, after numerous conversations with the victim over the Internet, was able to gain her trust and on June 22 he traveled to the victim's home in South Plainfield, where the incident took place.

Last Thursday, Ata Rehman, age 25, who lives in Far Rockaway Queens, NY, was arrested by South Plainfield Police Detective James Darby and Middlesex Co. Prosecutors Office Investigator Todd Gerba. Rehman was charged with third degree endangering the welfare of a child. The defendant was arrested as he voluntarily surrendered at the prosecutors office.

Conviction for a crime of this type carries a term of 3-5 years in prison and a fine. Rehman was released on his own recognisance. If he fails to meet or fulfill any stipulations of his release, he will be required to post \$20,000, with no 10% option.

Cindy Brinks Chooses 'Mrs. Mom' Over Being Mrs. New Jersey or Mrs. America

By Patricia Abbott

Mrs. Middlesex County, South Plainfield's own Cindy Brinks left town a few weeks ago nervous but confident. She went to the Mrs. New Jersey-America pageant with a goal in mind—to win. Yet when the evening ended and she found herself wearing the crown of Mrs. New Jersey-America, no one was more surprised than her.

She arrived at the pageant on Thursday and spent the next two days preparing, with an orientation, mock

interviews and dance rehearsals. Fourteen contestants competed, representing various counties, as well as town representatives. Cindy spent some time with some of the other contestants getting to know them. "I met a great group of ladies. New Jersey sure is lucky to have all these special women in their state!" she said.

Pageant day began early. Every event in the pageant was done alphabetically and 'Brinks' is at the top of the alphabet. Being first can be nerve-racking, but Cindy used it to her advantage. "It helped me a bit because I wasn't able to see how much better or worse someone was than me. It allowed me to focus on just myself."

The all important interviews with the judges began at 11 a.m. on Saturday morning. Contestants each spoke to six judges for seven minutes. Cindy noted, "All of the judges were extremely nice and made me feel at ease." After the interviews Cindy was able to relax for a few hours before beginning preparations for the big event. Her words best describe the evening, "At 8 p.m. with calm nerves, I left my room to start the hardest night of my life. I am not the type of person who is always center stage, so it took a lot of will power on my part



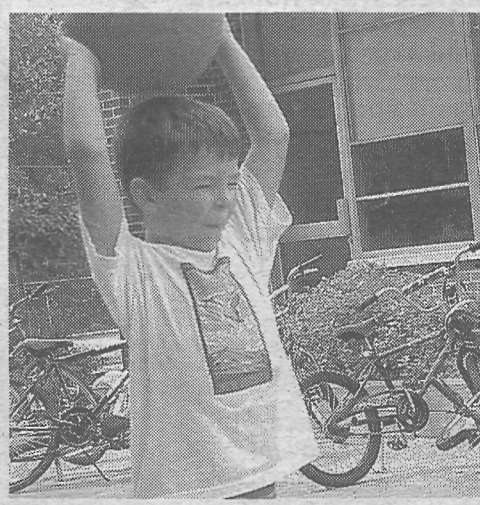
Cindy Brinks and her daughter, Taylor.

to get this far. At 8 p.m., it was show time. It was a little shocking at first being onstage because I had never been in stage lighting before. I was surprised at how bright it was!" The evening flowed from the big dance number to the various competitions.

When the five finalists were announced, the last name called was 'Cindy Brinks'. She explained "The slate was wiped clean and the competition between the five finalists started all over again. This time I was last to participate instead of first." After an onstage question for each of

the five finalists, the runners up were called. Cindy recalls, "...the fifth, fourth, third and second runners up were announced and Crystal Jennings and I were standing there holding hands. They announced the first runner up as Crystal Jennings and I stood there in shock and started to cry. I couldn't believe that I had won. I was flooded with pictures, flowers and best of all my family and children. It was an amazing experience that I will never forget — I was Mrs. New Jersey! Me, Cindy Brinks from South

Continued on page 5



Enjoying
 Summer
 Fun in
 South
 Plainfield
 Look for
 Summer
 Rec Pictures
 in Next
 Weeks
 Observer

mark your calendars

Log on to southplainfieldnj.com for the latest meeting agenda

council

Meets twice a month
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-754-9000

AGENDA MEETING PUBLIC MEETING

Monday, August 14 Thursday, August 17
Monday, September 11 Monday, September 18
Monday, September 25 Thursday, September 28
Tuesday, October 10 Thursday, October 12
Monday, October 23 Thursday, October 26

All meetings of the Governing Body are held in accordance with New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq) in the Council Chambers at 2480 Plainfield Avenue.

planning

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641
August 22, September 12, September 26, October 10 (No Meeting),
October 24, November 14, November 28, December 12, December 26

zoning

Meets first, third and fifth Tuesday of the month
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641
August 15, August 29, September 5,
September 19, October 3, October 17, October 31,
November 8 (Thursday), November 21, December 5, December 19

siteplace

The fourth Thursday of the month as follows:
August 24, September 28,
October 26, November (No Meeting), December (No Meeting)

recycling

Meets Thursday, once a month
Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-561-8280
August 24, September 28, October 26,
November (to be announced), December 28

recreation

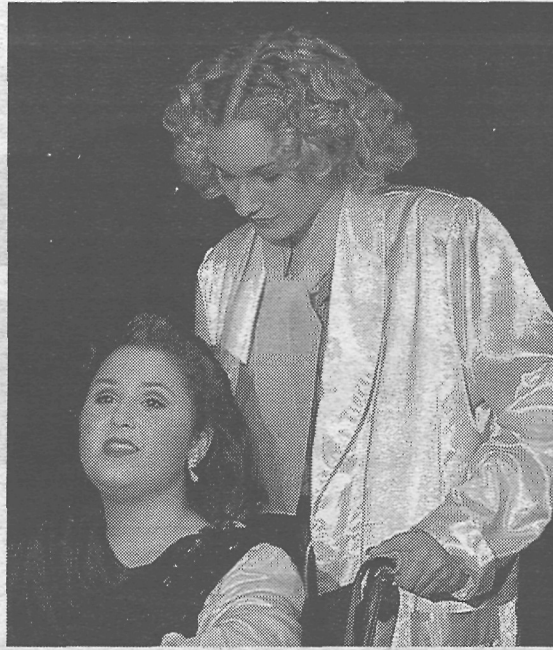
Meets once a month
PAL Building, Maple Ave. 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7716
Tues. September 12, Mon. October 2, Mon. November 6, Mon. December 4

environmental

Meets once a month
Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-561-8280
September 13, October 2, Mon. November 6, Mon. December 4

board of education meetings

Board Conference Room at Administration Building, on Cromwell Place
Committee of the Whole, Aug. 22, 8 p.m.; Regular Board Mtg. 8 p.m., August 29, 8 p.m.
Committee of the Whole, Sept. 12, 8 p.m.; Regular Board Mtg. 8 p.m., Sept. 19, 8 p.m.



Pictured are scenes from last week's Summer Drams Workshop production of 42nd Street. The play ran three evenings and one afternoon and attendance was great.

In My Opinion Letters

Dear Readers:

On Thursday, August 3, 2000, at approximately 6 p.m., my son was involved in an automobile accident at the corner of Church Street and Lakeview Avenue in South Plainfield. He was stopped at the stop sign on Church Street waiting to turn onto Lakeview Avenue and was hit in the front left bumper by a large, dark-colored sedan making a right turn from Lakeview Avenue onto Church Street, which then drove away.

Unfortunately, my son was unable to get the license plate number from the vehicle and rather than chase after the vehicle, he went to the police station to report the accident, where he was given a form to fill out. He noticed that at least two cars were following the vehicle at the time, saw the accident happen and may have noted the license plate state and number.

If you are one of those drivers, I would appreciate it if you would notify the South Plainfield Police Department, Traffic Safety Bureau, at 755-0700. You can remain anonymous and only need to give them the incident number, #19456, with the information you can provide.

I'm only concerned with getting compensated for the damages to my vehicle. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

SINCERELY,
PATRICK DONNELLY

To the Editor,

I just returned from seeing the Summer Drama Workshop's 20th production, *42nd Street*. This was most definitely the best production from SDW to date.

It's wonderful to know that the students in South Plainfield can spend the summer doing something productive and not just sitting in front of computer in a chat room or hanging around. More than 85 kids performed in the cast this year.

Anyone who attended the play could tell that loads of work went into this production. These kids worked hard learning the songs and the tap dancing, along with their lines. The staff should also be congratulated for the endless hours they have spent working with the kids. The kids and adults who worked behind the scenes with sets, lights, sound and costumes also put in many hours.

The music, the dancing, the costumes, and the sets were all done

exceptionally well.

Let's all hope that SDW continues for the next 20 years, so all of the children in South Plainfield will be able to experience theater in some form while growing up.

SINCERELY,
MARY LOCKE

Submit Letters to the Editor:
South Plainfield Observer,
Editorial Dept.,
1110 Hamilton Blvd.
Suite 1B
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

Letters may be submitted by email at our website at spobserver.com or faxed to 908-668-8819. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. We reserve the right to limit the number of letters submitted by one individual on the same subject we will publish.

Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the *Observer*.

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

Web page at <http://www.spobserver.com>
For subscriptions, advertising or information, call (908) 668-0010.

The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

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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 South Plainfield Observer:

1. Type (double spaced) the article you wish published.
2. Mail, fax or drop it at: Editorial Department
South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or drop it in the box at Mohn's Flowers on Plainfield Ave. or Twice Is Nice, Front St. or fax us at (908) 668-8819 or e-mail us on our web page at spobserver.com or ggnan@aol.com or ngrennie@ix.netcom.com. Include your name, address, telephone number.

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southplainfieldpeople Milestones



Larry Randolph Honored by DAR

Larry Randolph was honored recently with the DAR Community Service Award. Randolph was nominated by Ruth Janiszak who heads the local Daughters of the Revolutionary War (DAR) group for his help in locating and identifying the Civil War graves in South Plainfield. With his help and knowledge the DAR was able to place new stones at the gravesites. Dedications were held last year. According to Ruth Janiszak, "Larry was one of the unsung heroes last year, who has documented the history of South Plainfield."

Abates Announce Birth of a Daughter

Joe and Lisa Abate of South Plainfield proudly announce the birth of their daughter, **Mary Katherine Abate**, who was born on July 31 at 9:17 p.m. in Somerset Hospital. Mary Katherine weighed in at 7 pounds 6 ounces and was 19 inches long.

Also welcoming her at home are sisters Elizabeth and Melissa. The maternal grandparents are Kathy and Tom Barretta of South Plainfield. Her paternal grandparents Jean and Joe Abate of Somerville.

Burkes Announce Birth of a Daughter

Jerry and Kim Burke of South Plainfield proudly announce the birth of their third daughter, **Olivia Rose Burke**, who was born on July 7, weighing 5 pounds and 17¼ long.

Olivia's sisters are Victoria, 7 and Alexandra, 5. Her maternal grandparents are Heather Conti of Port St. Lucie, Fla and Chris Conti of New Brunswick. Her fraternal grandparents are Jerry and Joan Burke of North Plainfield.

Stacey Ackerman Graduates from Misericordia

Stacey Elizabeth Ackerman, daughter of Robert and Margaret Ackerman has graduated from College Misericordia in Dallas, Pa. Stacey received a bachelor's degree in health science and a master's degree in occupational therapy, cum laude.

Keystone Community Renews Adoption of Front Street

Santa Vallikappil, director of vocational services at Keystone Community Residence on Front St., has signed an agreement with the Clean Business Association to renew Keystone's adoption of Front Street. The agreement is good for the next year and can be renewed again if both parties continue to be satisfied with the arrangement. This is Keystone's third renewal since 1997.

As many as nine residents and two staff members plan to work once a week, picking up litter, sweeping side-

walks and pulling weeds from the curb. The adoption supports the downtown business community's efforts to revitalize the area with improved amenities and community involvement.

In addition to this Adopt-A-Spot, Keystone's litter crew also visits the Borough parks during the summer to clean up debris.

For more information about the Adopt-A-Spot program, contact the Clean Communities Coordinator at (908) 226 - 7621.

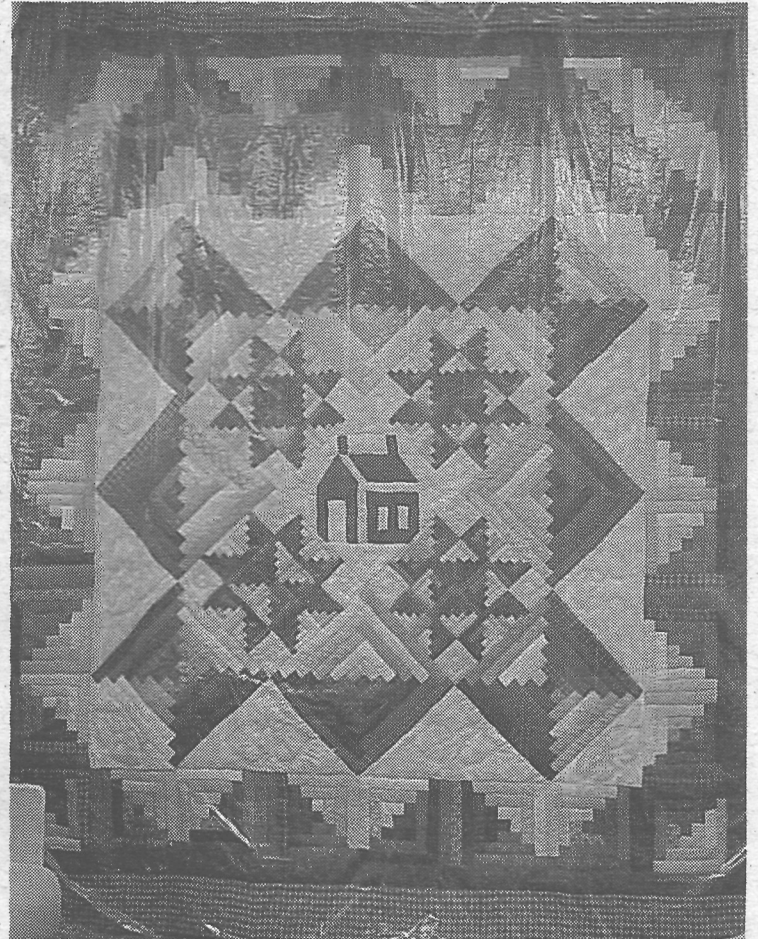
B.A. Frank Derosa Meets TAG

Last week members of the Taxpayers Advisory Group (TAG) met the new Borough Administrator, Frank Derosa. Although not many attended the meeting, TAG members were pleased with many of the ideas Derosa plans to implement in the future.

Along with his job as borough administrator Derosa was also named chief financial officer. Derosa was previously the former administrator in Edison. He has been on the job for only about a month.

By combining the two jobs, the council felt that, not only would they be saving money by combining the two jobs, but they would have a better handle on exactly where the borough departments stand, whether they are staying within the guidelines of their budgets and their revenues. This should eliminate getting to the end of the year and finding out a department has exceeded its budget or not received the expected revenues.

Derosa plans to submit a financial report to the mayor and members council regularly indicating where each department stands financially.



The Historical Society quilt, which will be raffled off at the Labor Day Parade, is now on display at the South Plainfield Library. The quilt is valued at \$800, second place prize is two tickets for a brunch cruise on the Cornucopia Princess. Raffle tickets are being sold now and can be purchased from any member of the Historical Society or by calling Bill Tuthill at 756-9654.

Police Warn Parents on Dangers on the Internet

Recently, the South Plainfield Police Department has experienced an increase in the number of Internet related crimes. While many of these cases are unsolvable or there is an insufficient probable cause to charge the someone with the crime, we feel it is important to alert the public, especially the younger people who utilize the Internet extensively, of the dangers of communicating with and/or supplying information to strangers or people they "meet" via the Internet.

Internet technology, while bringing a wealth of information to

everyone's fingertips, has also provided an easy and anonymous method for a person who preys on the vulnerable to become closer to anyone who uses the Internet. Predators can become "friends" of unsuspecting Internet users. These predators gain the trust of innocent people and when the time is right, they take advantage of them, whether by obtaining financial information for the purposes of defrauding them (credit card numbers, checking account numbers, etc.) or by arranging for meetings for the purpose of sexual gratification.

We are encouraging parents to discuss these dangers with their children, monitor their Internet activities and encourage their children not to blindly engage in conversations with strangers on the Internet or to meet with strangers they have "met" on the Internet. Furthermore, we encourage all Internet users to use caution with the type of information you reveal to strangers on the Internet.

Anyone who believes they have been the victim of a computer related crime is encouraged to report it to their local police department.



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Around Town

Polish Home Golf Outing

August 13
 The Polish National Home's **Eighth Annual Golf Outing** is set for August 13. For more information call the bar at (908) 668-9442. The Polish Home will also hold their **Annual Family Picnic** on Sept. 16 (raindate Sept. 17). For more info, call (908) 668-9442.

Sunshine Vacation Bible School

August 14-18
 South Plainfield is holding their annual Sunshine Vacation Bible School from August 14-18. Those children 5 years through fifth grade are welcome. The school includes a special "Mothers and Others" group. For details, call Lesley (732) 287-4529.

Ninth Annual NJ State PBA Golf Tournament

August 28
 The South Plainfield P.B.A. Local #100 will be holding their **Ninth Annual Golf Tournament** on Monday, Aug. 28. Shotgun starts at 12 p.m. at the Gamblers Ridge Golf Course, Burlington Rd., Cream Ridge. One low price of \$85 includes all green fees, golfcart, lunch at the turn, a chance to win one of numerous prizes including a television and an awards banquet (following the tournament and featuring a buffet barbecue). The tournament will also offer prizes for longest drive, closest to the pin, low score and more. To register, call Kevin at (732) 294-8530, Matthew at (908) 561-6937 or Brad at (908) 412-8328.

Rec Trips to Broadway Musicals

August 31 & December 17
 The Recreation Department is sponsoring two trips to Broadway musicals.
 • *Jesus Christ Superstar*, Thursday, Aug. 31, 8 p.m. performance. Bus leaves PAL at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$70 per person.
 • *A Christmas Carol*, Sunday, Dec. 17, 2 p.m. performance. Bus leaves PAL at 10:30 a.m. Tickets are \$66 per person. Purchase at the PAL, 8:30-4:30 p.m. First come, first serve. 226-7713.

Trip to Three Bakers Dinner Theater

August 27
 The Caring and Sharing Group of Sacred Heart Church is sponsoring a trip to Three Bakers Dinner Theater to see *The King and I*. The trip is scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 27. Bus will leave from the

South Plainfield Borough Hall parking lot at 9 a.m. and will return at approximately 7 p.m. The cost is \$50 per person and includes bus, dinner, show and driver gratuity. For information and reservations, call Lydia at (908) 755-1596.

Attention All South Plainfield Alumni!

September 3 • 7 p.m.
 The Class of 1985 is inviting all South Plainfield Alumni to a Family Fun Day, on Sunday, Sept. 3, held at Forest Lodge in Warren. The day includes all-you-can-eat barbecue type foods, desserts, beverages and four hours of beer on tap. The use of the inground pool facilities, softball, volleyball, horseshoes and picnic games for adults and children will also be provided. The cost to attend is \$40 per adult and \$10 per child. Send your check with number of adults and children to 1985 Reunion Committee, 143 Lafayette Place, South Plainfield.

For questions, contact Lisa Banauch at (732) 836-9235 or Wesley Spear at wspear@bns.nec.com. Questions will be answered through www.toymgr@gowebway.com.

Tenth Annual 5K Labor Day Run and Family Fitness Walk

September 4 • 9:15 a.m.
 South Plainfield Alliance for Substance Awareness and Ricochet Health and Racquet Club will host the Tenth Annual 5K Labor Day Run and 1.5 Mile Family Fitness Walk on Monday, Sept. 4 starting at 9:15 a.m. The race will begin and end at Veterans Park. The entry fee for the 5K Run is \$10, if received by August 28; \$12 on the day of the run. Entry fee for the Fitness Walk is \$5 for individual or family. For information or an entry form call Bill Beegle at (908)754-4620.

VFW Post #6763 to Host Annual Picnic

September 9
 Memorial Post #6763 VFW will hold their annual picnic, at the Post grounds, located at 155 Front St., on Saturday, Sept. 9, from 12 noon until 5 p.m. There will be live music, door prizes and plenty of food and beverages, with a menu consisting of hamburgers, hot dogs, kielbas with sauerkraut, chicken, sausage and peppers, corn on the cob, potato salad, baked beans, watermelon and beverages. Clams will be available for an additional fee. Entertainment for children will be featured as well, including a moon walk and a clown. Admission tickets can be purchased in advance, with children up

to 5 years old free, 6 years to 12, \$5; 13 and older, \$10. Admission paid at the gate will be children 6 to 12 years \$6, all others are \$12. For more information, phone (908) 668-9751 daily after 3 p.m., and weekends after 12 noon.

Italian American Club Will Hold Member's Picnic

September 9
 The Italian American Club of South Plainfield will be holding its member's picnic on Saturday, Sept. 9, starting at 1 p.m. Hamburgers, hot dogs, corn, clams, free tap beer and more will be served. Members with paid-up dues will be free of charge. Guests of members, which include wife and immediate children, will be \$5 each. Non-members will be \$15 each. Please call the club at (908) 668-0865 to let us know if you will attend, or stop down at the club to get your free ticket.

Republican Organization Will Hold Annual Fashion Show and Brunch

September 10
 The South Plainfield Republican Organization will be holding their Seventh Annual Fashion Show and Brunch on Sunday, Sept. 10 at the Metuchen Country Club from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Fashions will be presented by B.J.'s Dressing Room in Scotch Plains and The Answer in Menlo Park. Tickets may be reserved by calling Maryellen at (908) 755-4014 or Linda at (908) 756-6519. Tickets are \$35 per person. Ticket deadline is September 2.

Visit Lake George

September 13-15
 The Recreation Department is sponsoring a trip to Lake George for 3 days/2 nights. Bus transportation, deluxe hotels, four meals, boat cruise, shopping, Sept. 13-15. The cost is \$245 per person. Only 40 tickets are available. Purchase tickets at the PAL on Maple Ave.

Cruise Planned on the Cornucopia Princess!

September 17
 The South Plainfield Historical Society will be sponsoring their Second Annual Brunch Cruise on the Cornucopia Princess. Sailing takes place on Sunday, Sept. 17 at 12 noon out of the Perth Amboy Smith Street Dock. Boarding begins at 11 a.m. and cruise returns at 2:30 p.m. A buffet-lunch will be served with a large selection of items, such as broiled salmon, a carving station with roast beef and chicken, cooked to order—while you watch—omelets, shrimp, a variety of salads, fruits, pastries, coffee, tea and a cash bar. For tickets or more information, call Bill Tuthill at 756-9876; Arlene Anthony at 753-7852 or Dot Rotola at 753-2519. The cost is \$49, tax and gratuities are included. Mail your check or money order to the South Plainfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 11, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Events In Surrounding Towns

Singles Events
August 15 & 17
 "Single Professionals" After Work Socials are scheduled for the following dates:
 • Tuesday, Aug. 15 at Panera's, 143 East Broad Street, Westfield, 6:30-

10 p.m.
 • Thursday, Aug. 17 at The Inn at Mount Bethel, 6:30-10 p.m.
 The cost for each event is \$10 and includes refreshments. Contact (908) 232-8827 or www.thatskismet.com.

First Baptist Church of New Market Adult/Youth Vacation Bible School

August 13 thru 18
 An adult and youth vacation bible school will be held at the First Baptist Church of New Market, located at 450 New Market Rd., Piscataway. The bible school, *God's Great Get Together*, is for youths two years through eighth grade and runs Sunday, Aug. 13 through Friday, Aug. 18, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Various adult classes will be held each night for teens and adults. All are free. To register call 732-968-6290.

Craft Festival Planned, Crafters Wanted

October 14 • 10 a.m.
 Crafters are wanted for the 15th Annual Autumn Craft Festival at Hillsborough Presbyterian Church located on Rt. 206 and Homestead Road in Belle Mead. The festival takes place on Saturday, Oct. 14 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. For info, call Nancy (908) 369-7910 or Kathy (908) 371-1941.

CHATS Group to Meet

August 28
 CHATS (Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support), will meet 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 28, at Watchung Avenue Presbyte-

rian Church, 170 Watchung Ave. in North Plainfield.
 "Both Sides Now" Mary Gilroy will share, first as a birthmother who found and reclaimed her teenage son and then as an adoptive mother, discussing how her experiences affect her parenting. Open sharing of adoption-related stories and light refreshments. Call Alyce at (732) 227-0607 or http://community.nj.com/cc/chats for information.

Tourette Syndrome Family Support Group To hold meetings

September 12 and November 14
 The Tourette Syndrome Association-Middlesex/Union County Family Support Group Meetings will be held at JFK Medical Center's Neuroscience Institute in Edison, from 7-9 p.m., on Sept. 12, and Nov. 14. The speaker for the Sept. 12 meeting is Adam Pearlman, a physician with extensive expertise in conventional and complementary medicine. He will present an overview of both and its application for Tourettes patients.

The scheduled speaker for the Nov. 14 meeting will be Adam Bloom, a psychologist who specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of tourette syndrome and related disorders.

For more information, contact Debbie after 6 p.m. at (732) 283-1439 or www.tsan.com

Submit your Events for Around Town: Mail or drop off stories and photos: South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield, NJ 07080. Fax (908)668-8819; email GGNAN@aol.com.

Sacred Heart Church

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South Plainfield, NJ

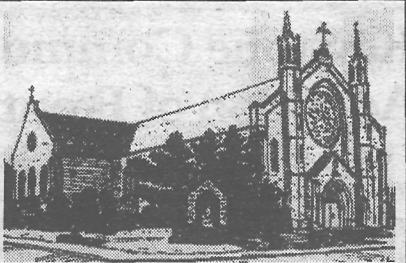
Very Rev. Michael A. McGuire, Pastor

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Evening Mass 5:45 p.m.
 Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:15 a.m.
 Weekdays 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.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 11 a.m. - 12 noon, 5:15 - 5:45 p.m.
 and after 5:45 p.m. Vigil Mass



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From the South Plainfield Library
Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

It's Friday again, so here's the weekly news from the South Plainfield Library:

First of all, we've got a number of children's programs coming up. Our weekly children's video will be shown this morning at 11. (Don't bother calling 777-FILM; Miss Linda doesn't announce the titles until show time.) Our Monday Kidcraft program, for children ages six and over, is set for 6:30 p.m. Please sign up in advance for this program. We'll only be holding two of our usual Storytime programs: the Tuesday program at 10:30 a.m. and the Thursday program at 1:15 p.m. Those programs are for children ages three and over; no pre-registration is required. The Wednesday Storytime has been replaced next week with the closing program for our Summer Reading Program. Starting at 6:30, it'll feature the presentation of awards and the return of Mr. Kurt's Silly Songs. This program is mainly for children ages 2-8; we'd like you to register in advance so we know how many to expect. Wednesday morning will feature our Game Gang program at 11, and Thursday night at 7:00 is time for the next part of our live reading of the best seller *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*. If you have any questions about these programs, please check with Children's Librarian Linda Hansen.

We've now got two new displays in place. For the rest of the month, our display will feature the quilt that will be raffled off on Labor Day by the South Plainfield Historical Society. (See the posting alongside it for details on purchasing tickets.) That same area also features several of our books about quilting. And, our display cabinet features an assortment of WWF and WCW action figures from Miss Linda's collection. (Remember, they're *action figures*, not dolls.) They'll also be on display until the end of the month.

Here's a reminder: At one time or another, you may notice something from our collection that doesn't quite work. A printer might have a paper jam, a video might be tangled up, a book might have a broken binding, etc. If you notice something like this, please don't try to fix the problem yourself. We appreciate the thought, but it causes problems. Let us know and we'll take care of it; that, among other duties, is what they pay us for, anyway.

Recently, there's been an upswing in the number of requests for foreign language books. By that, we mean books written in foreign languages, rather than language instructional items. At present, we don't have our own collection of such works. However, we are more than willing to obtain such titles via Inter-Library Loan. In the past, we've been able to order books in Spanish and some Asian languages, with

others also available. If your interested, stop by the Reference Desk and we'll see what we can do.

Lastly, we ask that you not loan your Library cards or bar-code numbers to other people. This can cause problems if they're misused, like if a minor who's not cleared for Internet access logs on with the number of someone who is. If problems occur, the cardholder will be held responsible. Let's all stay clear of that particular difficulty.

That'll do it for now. Thanks for reading. See you next Friday.

WE WANT YOUR NEWS!!

If you have news about South Plainfield people or events, send us a note or give us a call (908) 668-0010. We would like to include your story in the paper.

Cindy Brinks

Continued from page 1

Plainfield, a simple woman, wife, mom and friend, .. felt like a star!" After returning to South Plainfield she reflected on the pageant. "It was truly an experience in itself. I met a lot of wonderful and interesting ladies who made it even more special. In my eyes, we were all winners. It takes a lot of guts to even enter a contest like this and I applaud them all."

Cindy said that her phone rang endlessly with calls from excited friends and family. She then received a large packet explaining the next step—the trip to Hawaii to compete in the Mrs. America Pageant. The officials believed she had a good chance of winning.

The commitment for the Mrs. America was huge. This trip would be for fourteen days instead of the jam packed three days. Cindy and her husband Randy discussed her next move. She reached a decision that she felt was best for her family. The trip would take her away from her husband and three children for two weeks—add to that the few remaining weeks for prepara-

tion. It would take too much time away from what is most important to her—her family. She explained to the *Observer*, "I have decided to savor the win and end it at that." She added, "After working for over 14 years, I have started a new job—on June 29, I became a full-time stay-at-home mom for Nicholas, 5½, Taylor, 3 and Eric, 10 months. It's a job that I love immensely and have waited for over five-and-a-half years, since Nicholas was born.

I gained a lot of confidence and met a lot of wonderful people on the journey to winning Mrs. NJ. It took a lot for me to even get to this point and at this time in my life, I feel that is it best for me to remain with my feet planted on the ground in South Plainfield, New Jersey. The best job I have had in my life is being a loving wife to Randy and a mother to my children—it is the only job I want. I like being just 'Cindy Brinks' from South Plainfield. I can't wait to be involved in school, Brownies, soccer and other activities. It's just not the right time for me to compete further with the pageant. It is the right time for me just to be me, Mrs. MOM, not Mrs. America.



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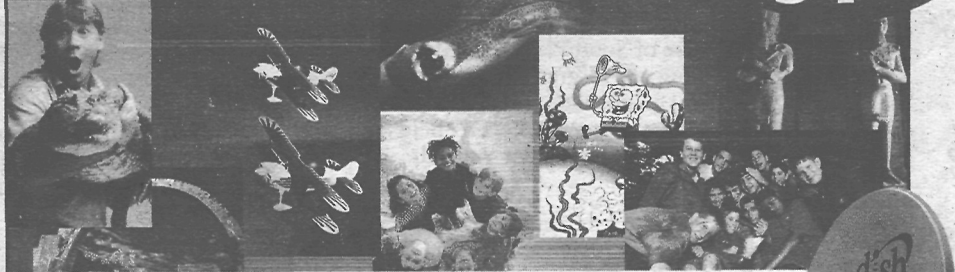
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PUBLIC NOTICES

**PLANNING BOARD
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE**

An appeal has been filed by Arbor Interiors, Inc. requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinances of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit: the following existing non-conformances to continue:

- 1) Minimum Lot Area—existing lot is 33,096.1 square feet (M-3 Zone requires 40,000)
- 2) Minimum Lot Width—existing width is 170.9 (M-3 Zone required 200 feet)
- 3) Minimum Lot Depth—existing depth is 174.19 feet (M-3 Zone required 200 feet)
- 4) Minimum Front Yard—existing front yard is 42.77 feet (M-3 Zone requires 50 feet)
- 5) Off-Street parking—proposed 21 spaces (M-3 Zone requires 35 spaces)

Applicant will further seek any other variances or relief as required by the board. Site Plan approval required, said property being located on Block 445 Lot 7 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, August 22, 2000, in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

The maps and documents pertaining to this appeal are available for public inspection in the Building Inspector's Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

By Arbor Interiors, Inc.
Frank Coppola

\$45.00

1T August 11, 2000

Offer ends 10/31/00. All prices, packages and programming subject to change without notice. Local and state sales taxes may apply. Programming is available for single-family dwellings located in the continental United States. All DISH Network programming, and any other services that are provided, are subject to the terms and conditions of the Residential Customer Agreement, which is available upon request. Local TV channels are offered only in specified areas and may be provided through an outdoor antenna or a local dish antenna. Off-air broadcast picture quality may vary based upon location. Local Broadcast Networks by satellite are only available to customers who reside in the specified local Designated Market Area (DMA). Distant Broadcast Networks packages by satellite are only available for private home viewing and in limited areas, in conjunction with a primary receiver, and are subject to a \$4.99 per month programming fee per receiver. All receivers must be connected to a phone line. The Digital Dynamite offers are available from 7/1/00 through 10/31/00, require a valid credit card with a 12-month commitment. The Digital 100 Plan includes 1 Model 3822/3922 (or equivalent satellite TV system), America's Top 100 CD programming and In-Home Service Plan. Customer must pay a \$99 Upfront Fee that includes installation and the first month's payment. Standard Professional Installation includes installation of one 20" dish antenna, hook-up of 1 receiver to 1 TV and equipment testing. Other installation restrictions apply and more complex installations may require an additional fee. Additional programming may be ordered at applicable rates. Offer includes 30-day satisfaction guarantee (\$99 Upfront Fee is non-refundable). After guarantee period, cancellation fees apply for early termination of services contract. Offer may not be combined with any other offers. Customer must return equipment at the end of one-year term or may continue on a month-to-month basis at the current monthly rate of your Digital Dynamite Plan. Failure to return all equipment upon termination of services will result in customer paying an equipment charge. See Digital Dynamite Terms and Conditions for details. Premium Movie 3 Free Months Offer for new residential customers who install and activate a DISH Network system and subscribe to America's Top 100 CD programming package between 8/1/00 and 10/31/00. There will be a \$5.00 Change of Service Fee for each programming downgrade. All service marks and trademarks belong to their respective owners.

Obituaries

Zachary James Caruso, 2

Zachary James Caruso of South Plainfield, died suddenly on Thursday, August 3, at his home.

Zachary was born in St. Barnabas Hospital in Livingston and had resided in North Plainfield for six months before moving to South Plainfield.

He is survived by his parents, Gregory and Elizabeth (VanBuskirk) Caruso; three sisters, Julia, Amanda and Anna; two brothers, Gregory and Jonathan; his maternal grandparents, George and Esther VanBuskirk of Berkeley Heights; his paternal grandmother, Nancy Caruso of E. Hanover and his two maternal great grandmothers, Anna Garbelotto of Howell and Emma VanBuskirk of Brooklyn. Also surviving are numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to the Koinonia Academy, 1040 Plainfield Ave., Plainfield, NJ 07060.

John S. Kritzar, 86

John S. Kritzar of South Plainfield, died on Tuesday, Aug. 1 at the Integrated Health Care Center in Bound Brook.

He was born in Jersey City and was a former resident of North Plainfield before moving to South Plainfield 40 years ago.

He was a machine shop foreman for Howell Electric in Plainfield for forty years before retiring in 1978.

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

He was a member of the Tri-

County Senior Citizens and the Seniors Club of Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church in Middlesex. He loved woodworking and was an avid bowler, participating in many leagues throughout the area.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Mary J. Busko Kritzar; a daughter, Barbara J. Massor of Christfield Md.; a son, John P. Kritzar of Bridgewater; a brother, George Kritzar of Fostoria, Ohio; a sister, Mary Satterhwaite of Cranbury and eight grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

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

James M. Devine, 68

James M. Devine of South Plainfield died on Wednesday, Aug. 2 in his home.

Born in Newark, he has resided in South Plainfield since 1960.

He was employed as a shipping manager for Sherwin-Williams Company in Newark for 44 years before retiring in 1994.

Mr. Devine had served in the United States Air Force during the Korean Conflict and had served as a tail gunner on a B-29. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Post #6763 and the BPO Elks Lodge #2298, both of South Plainfield. He was also a member of Sacred Heart RC Church in South Plainfield.

His daughter, Jean Weidell, died in 1987.

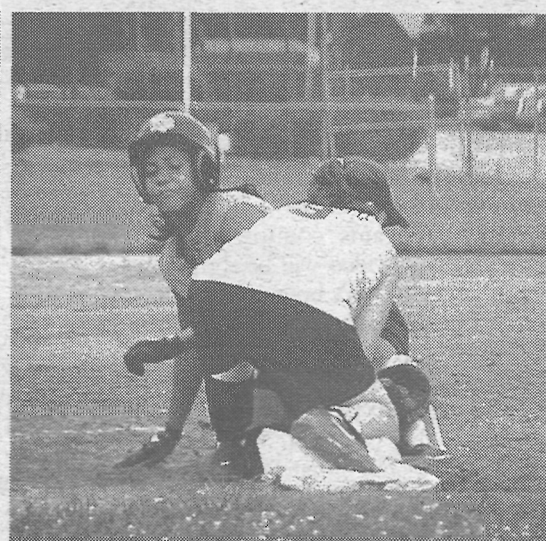
Surviving are his wife, Velma M. Devine; his daughters and son-in-laws, Valerie and Daniel Hall of Bethlehem, Pa., Patricia and Anthony Kapsak of Longwood Fla., a daughter Maxine Campbell of Ark.; two sons and daughter-in-laws, James P. and Mickie Devine of Roselle Park and Alvin and Carlene Campbell of Pa; his mother, Della Devine of South Plainfield; a sister and brother-in-law, Pauline and Kurt Beese of South Plainfield. Also surviving are 14 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

South Plainfield 14 & Under All-Stars



Jessa Jones beats the throw.



Marissa Judd safe at second.

Photos by Carol Keck

Results Week of July 31:

Tri-County League Playoffs:

Aug. 1- 1st Round:
South Plainfield 5-Watchung 2

Aug. 2- Semi-Final:
E.Brunswick 6-So. Plainfield 3

Woodbridge Tournament:

Aug. 5- Championship Game:

South Plainfield 15-Hazlet 5

South Plainfield took first place in the Woodbridge tournament with a 15-5 win over Hazlet. Meaghan Schweers led the attack

with three hits and three runs scored. Pitcher Melissa Scotto went all the way for the win and contributed two hits and also scored three runs.

South Plainfield finished the season with a record of 19-14, winning two tournaments and finishing second in another.

Summer Wrestling News

By Robert Hunter

The South Plainfield Wrestling Team continued their winning ways by posting a perfect 8-0 record in the Fifth Annual Central Jersey Summer Duals. Teams from Old Bridge, Perth Amboy, Colonia, North Plainfield, Holmdel and East Brunswick made up the National Division. The American Division consisted of South Plainfield, Howell, Bound Brook, South Brunswick, Edison and John F. Kennedy.

The Tiger's defeated Old Bridge 37-30 in a nail biting battle to claim their fifth straight title. The Tigers were lead by John Foscolo, Dave Fiore, Glenn Gross, Steven Johnston, Scott Doerr and Ryan Elliot.

In other wrestling news, South Plainfield faired well at the recent Old Bridge Wrestling Tournament. In

the Bantam division, Mike Wagner finished second in the 70 pound weight class. In the Midget division, Nick Pauls (57 pounds), Nick Valone (67 pounds) and Patrick Hunter (63 pounds) all finished in third place, while Mark Wagner (85 pounds) finished fourth. Jimmy Conroy (72 pounds) in the Junior Division also finished third. John Foscolo claimed the only Tiger title in the High School Division at 189

pounds. Incoming freshman Ryan Elliot finished second at heavy-weight.

In the NJ Freestyle Tournament, Patrick Hunter (63 pound-midget) won the state title by an 8-1 decision. Billy Ashnault finished third in the 70 pound midget division. In the Greco Tournament, Hunter finished fifth in the 75 pound weight class and Billy Ashnault (80 pound class) finished fourth.

Ramos-Fiore-Foscolo Lead Tigers To Fourth Consecutive Title

Seniors-to-be Roberto Ramos, Dave Fiore and John Foscolo all went undefeated as the Tiger varsity team won their fourth consecutive Central Jersey Summer Duals Tournament.

Scott Doerr and Steven Johnston also went undefeated as the team went 8-0. The Tigers defeated Edison, JFK of Iselin, South Brunswick, Howell Township, Bound Brook and Perth Amboy to reach the semi-finals. In the semi's they

defeated Howell Township 56-188 to advance to the finals.

The Tigers met up with Old Bridge in the finals. The Tigers, who forfeited two weight classes, fell behind early and battled back to win on a pin from incoming freshman Ryan Elliot. Steve Johnston, Scott Doerr, Dave Fiore, Glenn Gross, Roberto Ramos and John Foscolo all had big wins as the Tigers won the last five matches to seal their victory 37-29.

Because We Care



by Robert Hunter

PASSING THOUGHTS

For many, the passing of a funeral procession is a sobering experience. Even though we may not be acquainted with the person leading the mass of friends and relatives, we know that we will someday share his or her fate. This realization can give rise to a flood of ideas and questions. Whether this leaves us changed for a moment, a lifetime, or not at all, is a much harder question to answer. In any case, the reflection should be welcomed. As the British writer Gerald Brenan once wrote, "When we attend the funerals of our friends we grieve for them, but when we go to those of other people it is chiefly our own deaths that we mourn for."

Once one has accepted the inevitability of one's death, one is free to explore the intriguing possibilities in planning a memorial and burial service. With what thoughts will one leave one's family and friends, what last words will be spoken on your behalf? For assistance in obtaining your end-of-life services, please call the JAMES W. CONROY FUNERAL HOME at 756-2800 to schedule a pre-planning consultation. We are located at 2456 Plainfield Ave. in South Plainfield. Complete care financing and cremation services available.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
RETURN OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE TO TONSAR, Inc.
FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AT
Delmore Ave.; Lots #2.12 and 2.13, Block #367

A public meeting has been scheduled by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield to hear objections, if any, to the release of a Performance Guarantee posted by TONSAR, Inc. for public improvements at Delmore Ave. known as Lots #2.12 and 2.13, in Block #367 listed on the official tax maps of the Borough of South Plainfield. Said public hearing will be held 8:00 PM Monday, September 11, 2000 in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

\$35.00 1T 8/11/00

PLANNING BOARD
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Fourth M.P.R.L. Realty Company requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit: Lots located in a R-10 zone which requires lots to be 100' x 100', we are requesting a variance for lots to be 87.5' wide by 100' deep. Also a variance is requested for minimum lot area for 8,750 square feet, required for R-10 is 10,000 square feet.

Said property being located on Block 362, (old Lot 6.01), new Lot 6.04 and 6.05 on the South Plainfield Tax Map. For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Planning Board will hold a public hearing on August 22, 2000, in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

The maps and documents pertaining to this appeal are available for public inspection in the Zoning Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, any weekday between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Albert Pecker, President

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Flo's Beginner/Intermediate Piano Students Perform at Recital

Flo's Piano Studio recently held a recital for her beginning/early intermediate students at the Watchung Arts Center in Watchung.

The program began with special guest concert pianist, David Walton, a 7½-year-old second grader at Knollwood Elementary School in Piscataway. David was awarded MVP at his first piano recital in June, 1999. He also sang a solo when just four-years-old in preschool and won the Preschool Honor Student Award. David is an honor student with straight A's the last two marking periods. He also plays third base and catcher and won a bronze medal for wrestling at the Piscataway Invitational Tournament. David played *Theme from the Trumpet Concerto in E flat* and *Haydn William Tell Overture*.

Performing at the recital were:

Kia Imani Presley played *Noah's Ark* and a medley, *Stepping Up & Down/Caterpillar Crawl*.

Cory Crum played *Indian Dance* and *Rockin' Rabbits*.

Kate DeSantis played *The Animal Band* and a medley, *Pop Goes the Weasel/Waltzing Elephants*.

Nicole Brennet Soisson played *Popcorn Party* and *Big Gray Kitty*.

Elijah Sherriffe played *The Animal Band* and *Little Indian Lance*.

Tricia Ann LaSasso played *Tap Dance* and a medley, *Pop Goes the Weasel/Waltzing Elephants*.

Alyssa Amelia Collier played *Golden Trumpets* and a medley, *Lavender Blue/Over the River & Through the Woods*.

Chelsea Brennan Soisson played *Ode To Joy* and *Love Somebody*.

Briana Verne' Evans played *Trapeze Artist* and a medley, *Yes, Jesus Loves Me/Pop Goes The Weasel*.

Shamal Sheniffee played *Fanfare* and *Happy Feet*.

Cassandra Lee Vazquez played *La Donna e Mobile* and a medley, *Santa's Sleigh/Bugle Call*.

Amanda Lyn Rebimbas played *The Blue Danube Waltz* and *Morning Has Broken*.

Samantha Leich Rebimbas played *Fur' Elise* and a medley, *Yes, Jesus Loves Me/This Little Light of Mine*.

Jagman Sheriiffee played *Minute in G* and *I Believe I Can Fly*.

Munirah Rea Bishop played *Dance of the Swans* (Theme from the Opera) and *Flintstones - Meet the Flintstones*.

Alexandra Isabel Milteer played *Ode To Joy* and *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*.



Tiger Day Camp Kids Show Off Their Talent

The kids in Tiger Day Camp performed a talent show last Friday to the delight of parents and guests. The show was directed by Kristen Linczyk. The children spent many hours with Miss Kristen, working very hard to perfect their songs, dances and gymnastics:



Aerobics/Body Toning Classes Offered at PAL.

South Plainfield residents, ages 18 and over are eligible to register for aerobics/body toning classes to be held on Monday, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. until 10 a.m. Classes begin Sept 11 and cost \$35. Instructor will be Maureen Noll, Certified Aerobics Instructor.

Register at the P.A.L. Fees must be paid at time of registration.

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