

MAR 22 2002

SOUTH PLAINFIELD
FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
2484 PLAINFIELD AVE
PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080
SOUTH PLAINFIELD AVE
PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 5, NO. 29

50 CENTS

MARCH 22, 2002



Pictured left to right are Councilman Ray Petronko, Mayor Dan Gallagher, Sue Mishka, Loretta Conroy, Owen Kelly, Filomena Viola, Joe Zekas and Harry Popik.

Resident Gives \$10K to Senior Center

Long-time resident and business owner Harry Popik found a big way to give something back to his community. On Monday Popik presented a \$10,000 check for the new Senior Center under construction on the corner of Lake and Maple Avenues.

Popik is the owner of Nischwitz & Co. on Front St., which sells fuel

oil, pet, wildlife and numerous garden supplies. Nischwitz was established in 1925 and is still going strong. Popik explained it was his way of showing his appreciation to the South Plainfield community.

On hand to accept the money were members of the seniors, Joe Zekas, Sue Mishka, Owen Kelly, Filomena

Viola and Loretta Conroy.

The senior center construction costs have been donated by builder Jack Morris and at no cost to the town.

The donation will be used for purchasing furniture, fixtures and equipment in the building.

Completion is expected sometime in June.

Aiello Named Vision 2001 Art Auction Honorary Chairman

Vision 2001 has announced this year's Honorary Chairman for the annual auction will be long time resident, Philip Aiello, Sr. The art auction will be held on Friday, April 19 at the South Plainfield High School.

Vision 2001 Education Foundation supports South Plainfield's students by seeking ways to encourage them and provide new opportunities and challenges. The annual auction offers art in all media by a variety of artists and is a unique way to purchase works of art and at the same time help a wor-

thy cause.

This year's choice for honorary chairman, Aiello has been an active member in many organization in South Plainfield and earned numerous awards. He was a postal worker for 32 years, before retiring. Phil is a 27-year member of the South Plainfield Jr.

Baseball Club, as coach, serving on committees and administrative posi-



Philip Aiello Sr.

tions. He was appointed a Life Member in 1992 and the baseball club's building at the complex is named after him. Phil, a 1963 SPHS graduate, lives in South Plainfield, is married and has two sons. Last year he was inducted into the 2001

South Plainfield High School Hall of Fame Candidate. His picture is has been placed on the Wall of Fame at the entrance of the school, along with the other candidates.

Vision 2001 is a non-profit organization created to seek financial support from the business community for scholarship and other motivational programs for South Plainfield students. Founded in 1991, the fifteen member group is comprised of nine business leaders, five educators and one PTA/PTSO representative.

Among the Vision 2001 projects are the Gold Card program at the high school, Tiger Gold at the middle school, endowment funds for scholarships and co-operative work opportunities for high school students.

Preview begins at 6 p.m. and the auction starts at 7 p.m. Admission is \$5. Refreshments will be served and a door prize will be awarded. Major credit cards are accepted for purchases.

Police Called to Break Up Two Fights

Fight at VFW Lead to Arrests

Late Sunday night, the South Plainfield Police were called to the VFW on 155 Front St. on a report of a large fight. When police arrived, the fight had already been broken up and several people reportedly had already left the area.

Police units searched the area and

located the victim identified as Meera V. Khan, age 18, from Queens, NY. Kahn had been attending a relative's birthday party at the VFW and a verbal confrontation developed into a physical altercation. The reason for the fight is unknown. The victim had

Continued on page 11

Disturbance at Polish Home Brings Out 35 Police Officers

Last Saturday night several people who were attending a private dance at the Polish Home on New Market Ave. started to argue and a fight soon followed. The argument spilled out into the parking lot of the Polish Home and turned into a disturbance.

The South Plainfield Police Department, as well as police from three other municipalities responded in large numbers to the parking lot to defused the incident before it got out of control.

Approximately 35 officers from

South Plainfield, Plainfield, Piscataway and Edison Police Departments arrived to quell the numerous fights and disburse the crowd which numbered approximately 200 people. No arrests were made.

Some of the participants received minor injuries as a result of the fights, however all refused medical attention from rescue squad personnel called to the scene.

The Polioish Home parking lot was cleared of all people by about 1:30 a.m.

Diegnan Opens Legislative Office



Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan with his Chief of Staff Addie Levine.

Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan of the 18th District will officially open his legislative office at 908 Oak Tree Ave., Unit P, in South Plainfield on Sunday, March 24 with an open house from 2 to 5 p.m. Assembly Speaker Albio Series will be among state, county, and local officials attending the opening.

The office is located in the office complex next to the Fleet Bank Branch, across from the A&P Shopping Center on Oak Tree Ave.

"One of the main reasons I chose this location," Assemblyman Diegnan said, "is that it is at the intersection of South Plainfield, Edison, and Metuchen, which are three of the towns in the 18th district. It's important to me to remain in close contact with the district's constituents. This is just one of the ways I'll try to do this."

Assemblyman Diegnan is vice chair of the Judiciary Committee and serves on the Commerce and Economic Development Committee, the Education Committee and the Joint Committee on Public Schools.

His offices are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday and evening and weekend hours are also available to help meet and serve the needs of the district's residents.

The office number is (908) 757-1677; the fax is (908) 757-6841 and the e-mail address is AsmDiegnan@njleg.org.

Addie Levine, Assemblyman Diegnan's Chief of Staff, can also be reached at the above numbers and address.



Johnny the Clown poses with his assistant, Jonathan Grennier, after entertaining the children at Creative Kids Academy. See page 8

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, March 18 Thursday, March 21
Monday, April 1 Thursday, April 4
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 board

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641
March 26, Apr. 8, Apr. 23, May 14, May 28, June 1, June 25

zoning board of adjustment

Meets first, third and fifth Tuesday of the month
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641
April 2, April 16, May 7, May 21

taxpayers advisory group

The Taxpayers Advisory Group (TAG) meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at Borough Hall at 2480 Plainfield Ave. at 7 p.m.

siteplace sub-committee

The fourth Thursday of the month as follows:
March 28, April 25

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
Apr. 2, May 7, June 4, Sept. 3, Oct. 1, Nov. 12 and Dec. 3

environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday)
Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-561-8280
Apr. 10, and May 8

board of education meetings

Grant School Gymnasium on Cromwell Place unless otherwise noted
Committee of the Whole meets Tuesdays, Apr. 2 at 7 p.m.
Regular Board Mtg., held on Tuesdays, Apr. 9 at 8 p.m.
Curriculum/Technology/Student Activities Committee, Wednesday, March 6 and March 27

business advisory group

Meets once a month (first Wednesday)
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 5 p.m. • Questions? 908-757-8100

trafficsafety advisory commission

Meetings, held at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room, Borough Hall
March 27, April 24, May 22, June 26, July 24,
(Aug. no meeting), Sept. 25, Oct. 23, Nov. 27 and Dec. 18

IN MY OPINION

Letter to the Editor:

My name is Tim Morgan and I am a candidate for the South Plainfield Board of Education. My wife Ann and I have lived on Lafayette Place for the past 17 years. Our two children are both enrolled in the South Plainfield school system. Tim Jr. is a senior and Kathleen is a freshmen at the high school. I have been employed as a licensed funeral director with the Flynn and Son Funeral Home in Fords and Perth Amboy for the past 27 years. I am a member of Our Lady of Czestochowa Church, where I serve as an Usher and Eucharistic Minister. I have also worked on the finance committee at the feast of St. Anthony for the past six years and many other capacities at the feast for many years before that. I am an active member of the South Plainfield Parent's Ponytail Softball Assn., a member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment for the past two years and previously served on the Land Management Committee in the Boro.

Over the past thirteen years I have been very active in my children's education both in the classroom and outside at the various sporting activities that they have participated in. I have been to every "Back to School Night" since kindergarten and have personally met every one of the teachers that my children have had. I have also taken the time to meet with and get to know each of the administrators at the different schools that they have attended. I was fortunate to be a chaperone for the Roosevelt School fifth grade trip to Stokes States Forest twice and for the eighth grade trip to Washington, D.C. four years ago. I enjoyed these opportunities tremendously.

During the Summer and Fall of 2000, I was a member of the architecture committee created to obtain citizen input and recommendations as to how to deal with the two failed bond referendums. There were many nights and many hours of discussion and debate, all centering on what was best for the education of our children. When all was said and done our proposal was submitted to the board and accepted in its entirety. This proposal was some \$3.2 million less than the original referendum and gave our children all the facilities, equipment and technology that they would need to succeed today, tomorrow and well into the future. Was all this time and effort worth it? You bet it was! It proved to me that what we were working so hard for was what was right for the children and the taxpayers. This summer we will begin to see the fruits of our labors as the work on each of the schools and the building of the new Roosevelt School begins.

I believe in keeping the lines of communication open, by listening to what the citizens, teachers and administrators have to say. I did so on the architecture committee, where all sides were represented and I think the results were fantastic. I am proud of the work we did because we did it for the best reason, our children, which are our community's most valuable asset.

I am asking for the opportunity to represent you and our children on the Board of Education for the next three years by voting line 1 on April 16. Thank you.
TIM MORGAN

To the Editor:

I was disturbed by recent letters to the editor regarding the departure of Roosevelt School's principal.

My children do not attend Roosevelt School, so I have no firsthand knowledge of recent events there. It troubles me that apparently anyone can use this newspaper as a forum to make unsubstantiated allegations. It

seems unfair to print unsupported accusations, when the writer chooses to remain anonymous. I hate to see this newspaper used as a forum for creating and spreading rumors.

**SINCERELY,
LIZ HARRINGTON**

Editor's Note: There are various reasons why people who submit letters to editor wish to remain anonymous. Some feel their children will be affected and some may fear for their jobs. We honor those writers' request to remain unnamed. However, we do not publish any letters that we receive unsigned. We feel that is the only way some residents can, and will, express their opinions.

To the Editor:

The sudden resignation of the Business Administrator/Chief Financial Officer raises numerous questions to which the South Plainfield taxpayers are entitled to answers from their elected officials.

According to a newspaper article (*Home News Tribune* 3/13/02), DeRosa left because, "I did not have the time to do two jobs at the same time." Since he was being paid over \$101,000 by the Borough, one wonders how much time he devoted to his Borough responsibilities and how much time he devoted to his outside interests. Did the taxpayers get their money's worth? How long was this going on? What did the mayor and council know about his outside activities and when did they know it?

In the first place why did they ever hire DeRosa, since he did not have the State Certification required to hold the position of Chief Financial Officer and once hired made no effort to become certified? Were his qualifications limited to the fact that he is a loyal democrat as evidenced by his statement, "I will support the democrats in South Plainfield in any way I can support them?" (*Home News Tribune* 3/13/02).

If DeRosa's abrupt departure was amicable, why were the locks changed on the door to his office? Why was he escorted out of Borough Hall? The all Democratic Mayor and Council owe the taxpayers a full explanation. They also have the opportunity and obligation to hire a full time professional State Certified Chief Financial Officer

whose loyalty is to the taxpayers, not to the local Democrat Party.

And while they are at it; they should also get a full-time state Certified Tax Collector. Paying the Woodbridge Tax Collector \$20,000 a year for spending a few hours a week in South Plainfield is a disservice to South Plainfield taxpayers. This is the kind of mess you get when one party has complete control of your government.

JAKE CATALDO

To Whom It May Concern:

To all those parents who mouthed out in defense of their beloved principal; I have lived in South Plainfield 22 years. I have respected our school system and their decisions. We have some of the finest teachers on our staff. To even think that teachers and/or the teacher's union has the power to discard a principal is naive and ridiculous.

Without even knowing what happened, I realize that the right decision had to have been made. If the board acted wrongfully, would Dr. Hangge have handed in his resignation without a fight? He too belongs to a union.

You elect your board members and have to trust their decisions, along with their the decision about the superintendent. They are here for the well-being and safety of the children. I fully support their decision. Think before you mouth off!

NAME WITHHELD

Residents of South Plainfield,

My office has been getting many calls inquiring about the Property Tax Reimbursement Application deadline. For your information, the dead-

Continued on page 10

Submit Letters to the Editor:

South Plainfield Observer
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. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of the publisher.

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:
www.spobserver.com

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

The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

NANCY GRENNIER
Publisher/Editor

WAYNE GRENNIER
Associate Publisher

SUSAN KANEPS
Art Director/Associate Editor

PATRICIA ABBOTT
Staff Writer/Photographer

CAROL GRENNIER
Editorial Assistant

JENEVIEVE DELOS SANTOS
KATHY ALMANZAR
Production Assistants

BOBBY HUNTER
Sports Writer

KENNETH MORGAN
Correspondent

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 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 at (908) 668-8819 or e-mail us at spobserver.com or ggnan@aol.com or nrgrennie@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 at our website at spobserver.com or faxed to 908-668-8819. Letters should not exceed 400 words. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. It is the editor's discretion to limit the number of letters submitted by one individual on the same subject. The opinions expressed in "Letters" do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Observer. Letters must be submitted with name and phone number, even if they request their name be omitted when published.

Aiello Chiropractic Center, P.C.

Your Hometown Source for Health & Wellness

2201 South Clinton Avenue, Suite H
South Plainfield, NJ 07080-1471

On the corner of New Market and South Clinton

755-2289



Lions Palm Sunday Breakfast

Sponsored by the South Plainfield Lions Club
Helping the Visually & Hearing Impaired Since 1947....

When: Palm Sunday, March 24, 2002

Where: South Plainfield High School Cafeteria

Time: 8:00 am to 12:00 noon

Ticket Price: \$5.00

Tickets may be purchased at the door or through a Lions member.
For information, please call 755-2289.



Sacred Heart Plans Silent Auction of Lithograph



Attention baseball memorabilia aficionados! A silent auction will be conducted for a 3'x2' (approximate size) original, signed, numbered, custom framed lithograph by James Fiorentino entitled "Life of a Legend."

This color lithograph depicts the different stages in the life of the great Yankee Mickey Mantle, from his youth in Sand Lot to his years with the New York Yankees. The lithograph's actual value is approximately \$800.

James Fiorentino is a local artist. He is the youngest artist to ever had his

worked displayed in the National Baseball Hall of Fame and the youngest artist to become a member of the prestigious New York Society of Illustrators. James is one of the greatest sports illustrators in the country today. He recently completed the cover for Ted Williams Souvenir Book. The lithograph has been gifted to the parish by a generous donor for the purpose of fundraising.

The opening bid for his work is set at \$400. Sealed bids may be mailed or delivered to the Parish Center. The highest bid received will be announced at Mass each weekend. The final date that bids will be accepted is Monday April 8. If duplicate highest bids are received by April 8, only those bidders will be invited to continue bidding on Sunday, April 14 after the 11:30 Mass in the school cafeteria. The lithograph will go to the highest bidder at that time.

James Fiorentino's "Life of a Legend" will be on display at the Parish Center. Bids must contain bidder's name, address, telephone, number and dollar amount.

Everyone is invited to come for refreshments, watch the final bidding and meet the artist on Sunday, April 14.

Second Annual Fundraiser for Autism Awareness

April is Autism Awareness Month and Jo-Ann's Dance Studio (featuring Le Centre Dance Ensemble) and Feigley's School of Gymnastics (featuring the Bridgette's Gymnastic team) are preparing to dance and tumble to raise funds for The New Jersey Center for Outreach and Service for the Autism Community (COSAC). This is the second annual fundraiser for this charity. Last year 300 people were educated about Autism while they enjoyed "The Art of Dance and Gymnastics." Over \$3,000 was raised for this worthy cause.

This year's program, called "Dance, Hop, Jump and Tumble," is hoping to raise \$4,000. Le Centre, the elite dance company of Jo-Ann's Dance Studio, will be performing new numbers choreographed exclusively for this benefit. Under the direction of Tara Faulkner-Catalina, Le Centre performed last May at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJ PAC) in Newark as one of the featured dance groups in their dance series entitled Dance Jam. They have won several dance competitions, and can be seen

Continued on page 8

Recycling Center Closed Good Friday

The South Plainfield Recycling Center on Kenneth Ave. will be closed

on Friday, March 29, for Good Friday. It will be open instead on Thursday, March 28, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Recycling Center and the Yard Waste Site will be open as usual on Saturday, March 30, from 8 to 3.

The regular schedule at the Recycling Center is: Tuesdays 12 noon to 7 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The regular Yard Waste Site schedule is: Tuesdays 12 noon to 7 p.m. and Saturdays 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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

Fall Kindergarten Enrollment

Kindergarten Enrollment in the South Plainfield School District for the 2002/2003 school year will be held during the week of May 13-16 at each neighborhood elementary school.

Please call the Enrollment Center at 908-754-4620 (ext. 223) for exact date and time for your school area.



Pictured on the right taking a break with other workers at "Ground Zero" is Robert Matticola.

Local Resident Volunteers at Ground Zero

Robert Matticola, a resident of South Plainfield, lost his job in NYC as a result of the terrorist attack of 9-11. He still cannot get back into the studio to broadcast the financial news on their website at JAG.FN.

Since October, Robert has volun-

teered with the Salvation Army's Emergency Disaster Services. He brings in the much needed supplies to the firemen, police and emergency workers at "Ground Zero."

Robert is also helping the rescue workers sift through the rubble for

bodies or body parts at the bottom of the pit. He puts in about 60-70 hours a week to keep things flowing at a steady pace. Robert receives no wages for his work, but says he enjoys knowing that every little bit of his labor helps.

Environmental Commission Seeks Members

The South Plainfield Environmental Commission (E.C.) is looking for environmentally concerned residents to serve on the commission. The E.C. is an advisory body that provides input to the local government and administers various environmental programs. Currently, the E.C. has standing committees on public education, community programs (Clean Communities), land use, Environmental Resources Inventory, forestry, the Highland Avenue Woods Environmental Education Reserve, historical sites preservation and pollution.

The committees on pollution, land use and forestry are especially in need of active members. The E.C. has been instrumental in identifying and advocating for cleanup of contaminated sites. The E.C. has been taking the lead in trying to develop plans for better water resources management. South Plainfield needs citizens to participate in the State's new Watershed Management Planning process and bring the Borough's interests to the table. And, we have just received a grant from the State to develop a Community Forestry Management Plan to protect our tree resources. In the absence of a Shade Tree Commission, leadership in developing and implementing the plan will fall on the Environmental Comm.

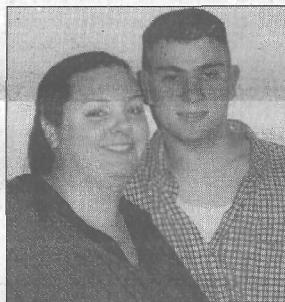
Although a background in these areas would be helpful, residents who have no formal training should not hesitate to get involved. In fact, one of the functions of the Environmental Commission is to educate itself on various environmental topics so it can pass new information along to the governing body and the community at large.

The E.C. meets at 8 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. Meetings are open to the public and residents are welcome to attend. Or send a resume or statement of interest to: Larry Randolph, Chairman, South Plainfield Environmental Commission, 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080. No environmental credentials are necessary, only a desire to improve the environmental quality of life in South Plainfield.

Call the Borough's Environmental Specialist, Alice Tempel, at (908) 226-7621, for more information.

southplainfieldpeople Milestones

Kelly Boyle and Eric Maxfield Engaged



Kelly Boyle and Eric T. Maxfield

Mr. Francis X. Boyle of South Plainfield announced the engagement of his daughter Kelly J. Boyle of South Plainfield to Eric T. Maxfield of South Plainfield (son of Mr. Thomas Maxfield of Ora Valley, Ariz. and Mrs. Joanne Maxfield of South Plainfield).

Kelly Boyle, a graduate of South Plainfield High School, is now attending Middlesex County College.

Eric graduated from East Brunswick Vo-Tech and presently works at the A&P in South Plainfield.

The wedding date is Spring 2006.

'Twilight Stroll For Life' Planned

The first annual "Twilight Stroll for Life", a fundraising event to benefit children with cancer and blood disorders, will be held on Sunday, April 14. This event is sponsored by Century 21 Moretti Realty and part of the Open Your Heart to Children Battling Cancer Foundation.

You can help share in their determination by supporting this first annual "Stroll for Life."

Registration begins at 6 p.m. at the Spring Lake Park Gazebo in South Plainfield. You can race, walk or take a leisurely stroll with your family, friends or your pet.

Begin now to get your pledges and bring them with your sponsor sheet

the day of the Walk. Ask family, friends, neighbors, business associates, just about anyone you come in contact with. Don't be afraid to ask! Many businesses offer a Matching Gifts Program, in which they match contributions made by their employees. Tell your sponsors to check with their company to see if they have this program. All checks are to be made to "Open Your Heart-Twilight Stroll."

Registration is \$12 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under.

There is no rain date. The walk will go on as planned, rain or shine. Please dress accordingly.

For an entry form, sponsor sheet or more information, call 755-5300.



Twin City Pharmacy

755-7696

1708 Park Ave., South Plainfield (Next to ACME)

COMPLETE LINE OF

VITAMINS & MINERAL SUPPLEMENTS

Featuring Solgar and Hudson

Today's modern pharmacy with old fashioned values

- Free Delivery
- We Accept Most Major Medical Plans
- Hospice Care & Home Healthcare Needs
- Diabetic Counseling & Supplies
- Direct Medicare billing for medical goods and equipment.
- Hallmark Cards and Gifts

Best Source For Flu Supplies

Easter Bunny Arrives

Saturday, March 30 10:00am

BRING YOUR CAMERA!

ORDER YOUR ITALIAN BREAD, PIES, COOKIE TRAYS NOW!

PRIZES

EASTER BREADS

QUALITY CATERING

"Best Potato Salad on Earth!"

OPEN EASTER 8-12

"Quality Food For The Everyday Hero"

HOMETOWN HEROS

340 Hamilton Boulevard

908-755-HERO (4376)

Open 6AM

Events Around Town

Easter Egg Hunt At the PAL

March 23

South Plainfield Recreation invites all children ages one to 10 to their annual East Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 23.

The Easter bunny arrives at 12:45 p.m. and the hunt begins at 1 behind the PAL building on Maple Ave. Please have children bring their own baskets to collect the eggs.

For more information call the PAL (908) 226-7713.

Prayer Vigil for Peace at Wesley Methodist

March 23

Let us all come together as a community of faith to pray for peace on Saturday, Mar. 23, at Wesley United Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave. We invite everyone to join us on this special day of prayer—an opportunity to pray for our country, our leaders and our servicemen and women. Doors will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please join us.

Alice in Wonderland, A Magic Show

March 23

The South Plainfield Girl Scout Community of Washington Rock Girl Scout Council and The South Plainfield Recreation Department will be presenting "Alice in Wonderland," a magic show by Westcraft, Inc. along with snacks with the bunny.

The show takes place at the South Plainfield Middle School on Saturday, Mar. 23. Doors open at 9:30 a.m., show time begins at 10 a.m.

Tickets purchased in advance are \$5 and \$7 at the door. Pictures will be

taken with the bunny! Limited seating is available.

For ticket information call, Carrie George at (908) 755-8429 or Connie Palmer at (908) 755-3850.

Lions to Host Annual Gourmet Breakfast

March 24

The South Plainfield Lions Club will hold the Annual Gourmet Breakfast at SPHS cafeteria on Sunday, Mar. 24 from 8 a.m. to noon.

This breakfast is known for its many gourmet items, which include french toast, pancakes and made-to-order omelettes, all dished up by members of the South Plainfield Lions Club.

The South Plainfield Lions Club is known for helping the visually and hearing impaired.

The cost of the breakfast is only \$5 and it's a great way to start the day on Palm Sunday. Tickets may be purchased at the door. For information call (908) 755-2289. See you there!

PAL Sponsoring Trip To See Oklahoma!

March 28

The PAL of South Plainfield is sponsoring a trip to see *Oklahoma!* on Broadway on Saturday, Mar. 28. Bus leaves the PAL at 4 p.m. There will be plenty of time for dinner before the play. Orchestra ticket price is \$90 per person. Tickets can be purchased at the PAL.

Rescue Squad Flower Sale

March 29-30

The South Plainfield Rescue Squad will hold their 13th Annual Flower Sale. Potted plants, hanging baskets and much more will be available at this yearly

fundraiser. The sale takes place at the Rescue Squad building Friday and Saturday, Mar. 29-30 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Fashion Show at GFWC Meeting

April 4

The GFWC Suburban Woman's Club will host a Fashion Show and guest speaker at their meeting to be held April 4 at 2 pm at the American Legion Hall on Oak Tree Road.

Guest speaker will be Sue Dreyfus of Highland park and her topic is entitled "Clothes to You".

Meetings are open to all women interested in joining the woman's club or in finding out more about the activities sponsored by the club.

Dance/Gymnastics To Benefit Autism

April 6

Jo-Ann's Dance Studio and Feigley's School of Gymnastics, 4475 So. Clinton Ave., will hold a program celebrating the art of dance and gymnastics for the benefit of autism awareness on Saturday, Apr. 6, from 7-8:30 p.m.

Some of the area's top dancers and gymnasts will perform to raise funds for the COSAC, the NJ Center for Outreach and Services for the Autism Community, Inc. The only admission charge will be a donation and tickets are available in advance or at the door.

For information call Jo-Ann's Dance Studio at (908) 561-5094.

Rainbow Academy Open House

April 6

The new Rainbow Academy Child Care Center located at 2177 Oak Tree

Rd. in Edison will hold an Open House on Saturday, Apr. 6, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. They are now registering for Summer Camp and Fall 2002. For directions and information visit their website at www.rainbow-academy.com.

Everyone who registers will receive one free month of ParentWatch, an internet viewing service. For a demo of their video services, visit their website at www.parentwatch.com.

John E. Riley Plans Pasta Dinner

April 12

John E. Riley School, located at 100 Morris Ave., will be hosting a Pasta Dinner on Friday, April 12, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Doors will open at 4:30 p.m. for senior citizens only.

Dinner includes pasta, sauce, meatballs, salad, bread, beverage, dessert and coffee/tea. The cost is \$6 per person, \$5 for senior citizens and children under ten. Proceeds will benefit the 2001-2002 Stokes Trip.

GFWC Holding Annual Garage Sale

April 13

The GFWC Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield will hold its Garage Sale Fundraiser at 115 West Elmwood Dr. on April 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The club is community service oriented and raises funds throughout the year for various projects, including a scholarship for a South Plainfield high school senior, holiday baskets for families and supports various borough activities.

Vision 2001 Presents Annual Art Auction

April 19

This year's annual Vision 2001 Education Foundation Art Auction will be held on Friday, Apr. 19 at South Plainfield High School.

Admission is \$10 per person. \$5 will be returned as a gift certificate to be redeemed at the Apr. 19 art auction only.

Preview time is 6:30 p.m. and the auction begins at 7:30 p.m. There will be hors d'oeuvres, coffee, cake and door prizes.

For tickets, call (908) 561-3951.

— Out of Town —

Female Version of The Odd Couple

March 22-24

The Odd Couple runs through Sunday at The Edward A. Chandler Theatre at People Care Center, 120 Funderme Ave., Bridgewater.

The show runs Mar. 22-23 at 8 p.m. and Mar. 24 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for seniors and children. For info, call 732-356-1497, ext. 8.

Hampton Ensemble Performs Musical Mosaic

March 24

Where can music lovers hear jazz, classical, flamenco, show tunes, ragtime, Latin rhythms and popular standards by composers such as Chopin, Joplin, Brubeck and Gershwin all in one concert? Such a mosaic of musical styles is exactly what will be presented

at Kennedy Library in Piscataway on Sunday, March 24 at 2:30 p.m. and what's more, this eclectic concert is free.

A quarter of talented professional musicians, Mike Kucsak's Hampton Ensemble, has put together an exciting program sure to please all music lovers. The featured performers will be Mike Kucsak on guitar, performing flamenco and classical numbers, Gary Mazzaroppi on base, Russ Moy on drums and Dave Wilson on keyboard and saxophone.

The free concert is sponsored by the Piscataway Cultural Arts Advisory Commission. The Kennedy Library is located at 500 Hoos Lane in Piscataway. For further information call 732-563-4117.

CHATS To Meet

March 25

Adoption Support, CHATS (Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support), will meet from 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. on Monday, March 25 at Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church, 170 Watchung Ave. in North Plainfield. Open Sharing of Adoption-related stories and light refreshments.

Call Alyce at (732) 227-0607 or <http://community.nj.com/cc/chats> for information.

Terra Nova Garden Club Meeting

March 27

The March monthly meeting of the Terra Nova Club will be held on Wednesday March 27 at 7 p.m. at the North Edison Library, 777 Grove Ave. in Edison.

"A Day To Remember" at Alliance Bible Church

March 28-29-30

A Day To Remember...A Passion Play, will be performed at Alliance Bible Church in Warren, on Mar. 28, 29 and 30 at 7 p.m. There will be a matinee show on Saturday, Mar. 30 at 3 p.m. Conclusion show will be on Easter Sunday, Mar. 31 at 8:30 and 11:15 a.m. Tickets for all performances are free and can be obtained by calling the church office at (732) 469-1425. No tickets required for Easter performance. Seating is limited.

For additional information or directions visit our website at www.alliancebiblechurch.com or contact the church office at (732) 469-1425.

New Jersey Stamp & Postcard Spring Fair

March 29-30

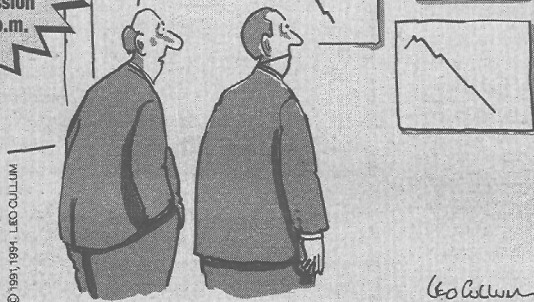
The 2002 version of the New Jersey Stamp & Postcard Spring Fair will be held at the Edison Ramada Plaza Hotel on Friday and Saturday, March 29 and 30. The site is located at 3050 Woodbridge Ave., in the Raritan Center area, just west of Route I-287, with easy access from NJ Turnpike exit 10 as well as from the Garden State Parkway and Routes 1 and 9. Show hours will be 10 to 5 each day.

Attending collectors will be treated to dealers from around the region with stocks containing a great variety of stamps, postcards, covers, souvenir cards, lots, collections, etc. Admissions will be free to the public. There is also ample free parking.

Information can be obtained by calling (732) 247-1093.

Reserve Your Space Now!

Deadline for ad submission is Mon., March 25, 5 p.m.

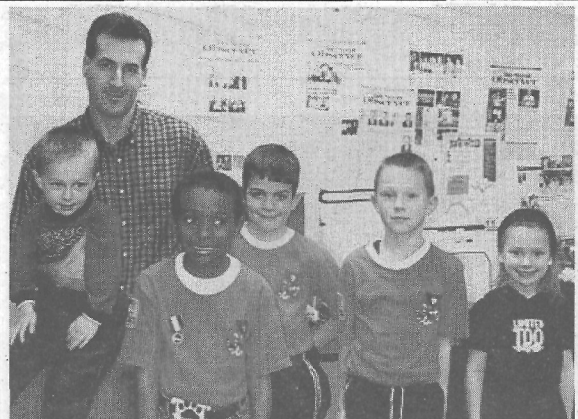


Is your business headed in the right direction? Turn it around now!

Reach every household in South Plainfield in the March 29 issue of the Observer!

Don't miss this opportunity to reach 21,000+ people in the March 29 issue of the South Plainfield Observer which will be mailed to every household (7,700 homes) in South Plainfield! Deadline for ad submission is Monday, March 25, 5 p.m.

Call 908-668-0010 to place your ad!



Tiger Scouts from Pack 205 Den 6 at Roosevelt School paid a visit last week to the *Observer* office to learn how our newspaper is published. Pictured are Eric Brinks, Justin Glover, Cory Harrell, Nick Brinks and Taylor Brinks with leader Randy Brinks.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Here's the latest news from the South Plainfield Library.

The Library will be closed on Sunday in observance of Palm Sunday, and on Friday, March 29, in observance of Good Friday.

Looking at our children's programs, you can still register for the Kidcraft program this afternoon. It's for children ages six and over and will be held at 4 p.m. All craft materials are provided by the Library. Also, we'll return to our normal schedule of children's Storytime programs next week. (We expect Miss Linda to have returned from her pilgrimage to Graceland by then.) Each program is for children ages three and over; no pre-registration is required. The programs are held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. Each program lasts about an hour and features stories and a craft activity. If you'd like more details, please give us a call at (908) 754-7885.

We're still offering classes on job searching and basic computer usage. The classes for March have been filled, but there's still space available in the April classes. Please call to reserve your spot.

The latest group of titles from the CD Circuit is now available. Artists in this group include the Rolling Stones, Paul Robeson, Shania Twain, Gordon Lightfoot and the Dave Brubeck Quartet. CDs may be borrowed, four at a time, for two weeks.

The Girl Scouts Need Your Help!

South Plainfield Girl Scout Troop #214 needs your help. The girls are all Middle School eighth graders.

Six girls from Troop #214 will be baking 250 dozen homemade cookies and will be shipping them to our service men and women in the Persian Gulf. The girl scouts are looking for monetary donations to help purchase the perishable items, such as eggs, butter and margarine, as well as the cost of shipping and handling.

All donations can be sent to their leader Gina Zarra, 1500 Park Ave., South Plainfield. The checks should be made payable to the South Plainfield Girl Scouts Community (SPGSC).

These girls have met all the requirements that are required by Girl Scouts of the USA. Their project goes beyond the Girl Scout Community and also helps others in some form of service. What better way to bring a touch of home to those who are protecting our homeland.

33rd Annual Music and Arts Festival

The South Plainfield Public Schools' Fine Arts Department will hold its 33rd Annual All District and Festival on Friday, March 22 at the South Plainfield High School, starting at 7 p.m. The festival will feature music performed by instrumental and vocal ensembles as well as displays of art work by the many talented art students from each of the town's schools.

The music program will feature performances by the Elementary String Ensemble under the Chorus directed by Joanne Gursky, Barbara Habeeb, Glenn Parisi, Sharon Perez and John Zazzali and the Elementary District Band under the direction of Tobie Baldwin, Kristen LeVine and Joan Stasio. These young musicians will be followed by the Middle School Orchestra directed by Mrs. Tedeschi.

The Gems, an all-girl chorus from our middle school, under the direction of Tessa Bell and the Middle-School Festival Chorus under the direction of Mimi Swenson will then perform followed by the Middle School Concert Band and Middle School Jazz Band lead by Andrew Weiss.

Tracy Murray will direct the High School Chorus. The concert will continue with performances by the High School Stage Band and the High School Concert Band under the direction of Mark Tweed. The concert will conclude with a grand finale performed by all of the vocal groups and several instrumental ensembles.

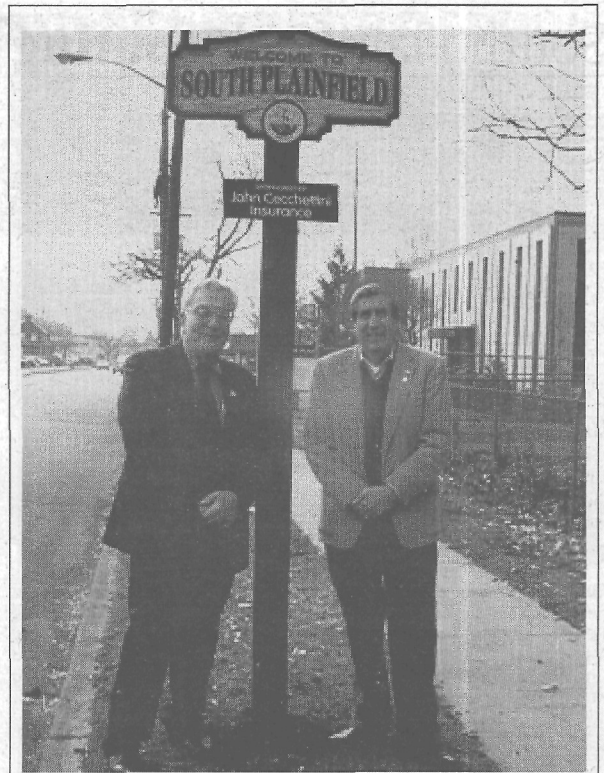
The art display will be a delightful combination of styles and techniques. All grade levels will be represented so you may see the artistic development and interests of students both young and older. The works on display are one in oils, acrylic, pen and ink, watercolor, temperas, markers and crayons.

Denise Timinski, high school art teacher; Diane Kardos, Middle School art teacher; Barbara Harris, Mary Ellen Kopf and Glenda Posey, elementary art teachers thank all their students who have made the display possible for the festival.

The festival is open to the public. Tickets may be purchased at the door during the evening of the festival for \$2 per person. Everyone is cordially invited to attend and enjoy this delightful once a year event.

Last Chance!

Reserve space in the March 29 issue. Reach 7,700+ homes locally. CALL 908-668-0010.



New Welcome Signs Going Up

Drivers entering and leaving South Plainfield will be greeted with new signs that being installed at several entrances and exits of town. The signs are sponsored by various South Plainfield Businesses, through a program run by the South Plainfield Business Association. Pictured above are Emil Leporino with John Cecchetti, who donated the welcome sign just placed on Park Ave. Also starting to appear around town are flags which were recently purchased by the Business Association. If you would like to sponsor a sign of welcome or goodbye, call Emil Leporino at (908) 756-8038.

Pilgrim Covenant Kids Celebrate Dr. Seuss' Birthday

The Kindergarten class of Pilgrim Covenant Learning Center celebrated Dr. Seuss's Birthday and the "Read Across American" campaign by writing their own book: "The Eye Book," modeled after Dr. Seuss's "The Foot Book." After writing their book the children then read it to the three year old class. Each child was then able to take a copy of the book home with

them. The rest of the children also celebrated the occasion with green eggs and ham prepared by their parents and teachers. Besides reading Dr. Seuss' books all week long, the children are participating in the Pizza Hut Book It Beginners Program, during the months of March and April.

All About Arts & Crafts

"BUNCHI'S"
Custom Gifts, Home Decor & Painting
179 Front St., South Plainfield, NJ
(Off Oak Tree Rd., So. Plainfield Ave. & Maple Ave.)

(908) 755-4049

Arts & Crafts

Classes

Continuously Forming

SIGN UP NOW!

General Crafts

One Stroke

Craft-A-Doll

Yuck to Yippee

3D Art

Drawings

Expressive Art

& MUCH MORE!

NEW! Open 7 Days A Week!
Mon-Sat: 9am - 7pm
Sun: 11am - 4pm

& Parties!

For Children (6+) & Adults.
Birthdays and Much More!

COUPON
Book your Party and receive a \$10 Gift Certificate for "Bunchi's" Store.
Offer Expires 3-30-02

Handpainted Home Accessories, Bed Spread, Slip Covers (Chairs & Sofa), Custom Wedding Accessories, Handmade Candles & Soaps, Candy Gifts, Personalized Books, Russ Bears, Seasonal & Everyday Gifts for Everyone!

We accept all major credit cards and personal checks (w/ID)



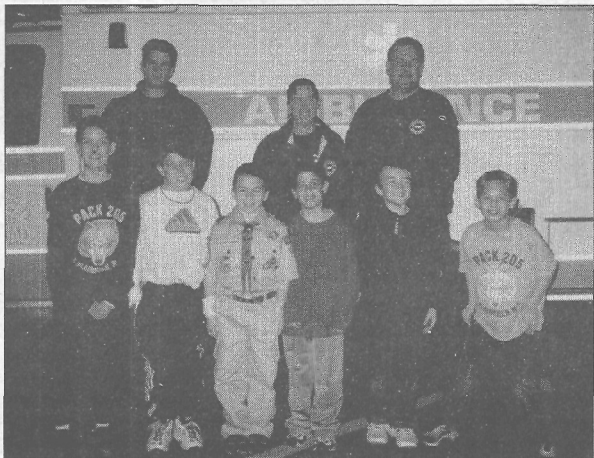
On the Road to Recovery?
We Can Help Get You There.

Lynne Glasser-Sward P.T.

908-668-1951

Physical Therapy Center
of South Plainfield & Woodbridge
1110 Hamilton Blvd. • South Plainfield

South Plainfield Scouting



Cub Scout Pack 205, Den 7 from Roosevelt School recently earned their Readyman badge at the March 6 den meeting held at the South Plainfield Rescue Squad. Pictured bottom left to right are scouts Tommy Loalbo, David Stogoski, Philip Longo, Robert Pasternak, Lee Stranzenback and Christopher Gualano. Pictured top left to right are squad members Greg Kuhn, Jill Tener and Ron Sward.

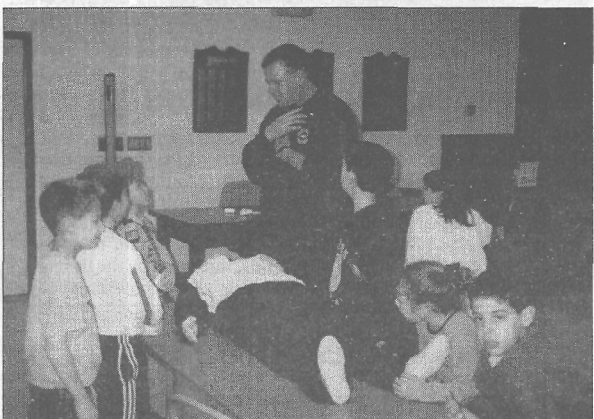
Pack 205 Earns Readyman Badge

Cub scouts from Roosevelt School's Pack 205 Den 7 (pictured left), recently held their March 6 meeting at the South Plainfield Rescue Squad. The scouts were working toward earning their readyman badge.

Ron Sward, Captain of the rescue squad, instructed the scouts on what to do in various medical emergencies such as stopping a wound from bleeding and how to relieve a victim from choking. The boys were also given the opportunity to see the inside of the different ambulances and the squads equipment is used to save lives, including the Jaws of Life.



Pictured from front to back are: Kevin Belanger, Anthony Quadrel, Brandon Pauls, Tommy Riccardi, and Brian McCarthy. Helping the Tiger Cubs are Tony Simms and Justin Pauls.



Cub Scouts from Roosevelt School's Pack 205, Den 7 learn how to stop a victim from choking under the direction of squad captain, Ron Sward.

Cub Scout Pack 324 Tiger Activities

The Tiger Cubs of Pack #324 from Kennedy School (pictured right) have been busy lately. On Feb. 20, their Tiger Cub Pinewood Derby was held. The boys all made and painted their cars (of course with the help of their dads) and raced them in fun competition.

Also, on March 8, the Tiger Cubs paid a visit to the South Plainfield Fire Department to earn their "Where I Live" achievement. Firemen Mike and Doug were kind enough to give the boys a tour. They were shown the fire trucks and emergency equipment, but the best part for the boys was seeing where the firemen get to relax and "hang out."



The "Power of YOUth Pledge" Campaign

4-H youth presented Bridgeland and Wofford with a large check representing more than 1.3 million hours committed thus far by 100,000 youth and adults to the "Power of YOUth Pledge" Campaign, a volunteerism drive aimed at improving communities nationwide. The individual commitments were made to address a variety of community needs including:

- Helping a younger person (17,641 pledges totaling 282,221 hours);
- Improving my community (14,096 pledges totaling 187,748 hours);
- Helping an older person (16,723 pledges totaling 178,826 hours);
- Mentoring and tutoring (8,496 pledges totaling 137,905 hours);
- Building respect and tolerance (10,165 pledges totaling 136,954 hours);
- Improving the environment (12,110 pledges totaling 119,333 hours).

Bridgeland described the "Power of YOUth Pledge" Campaign as "an engine of humanity that can change our country and the world" and "a great gift to America."

Girl Scout Cookie Sales

If you missed the regular cookie sale, it is not too late to still get Girl Scout Cookies. Cookie Booth Sales will be held by South Plainfield Girl Scouts at the following locations:

On Saturday, March 23 at David's Stationary on Sampton Ave. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Bagel Pantry on Plainfield Ave. from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; First Union on Plainfield Ave. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Drug Fair on South Plainfield Ave. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

On Saturday, March 30 at Bagel Pantry on Plainfield Ave. from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

On Saturday, April 6 at Quik Check on Sampton Ave. from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Drug Fair on South Plainfield Ave., 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Come in for a great selection of **Easter Baskets & Decorations**

Call for information on Craft Birthday Parties & Ceramic Classes

Place your balloon orders for communion & confirmation early

Custom Creations & Gifts, Inc.

"Unique Gifts for Any Occasion"

24 South Plainfield Ave., 908-755-5060

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

Colony Mortgage
Licensed Mortgage Broker - NJ Dept. of Banking

Se Habla Espanol

908-822-0090

2325 Plainfield Ave. Suite 2E South Plainfield, NJ

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

Cafe Everest Diner

Open Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner - Open 6 AM

908-755-2811

2002 Park Ave. South Plainfield
Fax 908-755-5735

Present this AD and save \$1 off any purchase over \$5

OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA

Roman Catholic Church

807 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield
Tel. (908) 756-1333 Fax: (908) 756-4501

Fr. John invites you to worship with him this Easter

Holy Week Schedule

March 23-24 Palm Sunday Weekend—Palms distributed at the 5:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday, Mar. 23 and at the 8 and 11 am Masses on Mar. 24.

Wed., Mar. 27 Mass at 7 p.m. Confession before & after Mass

Thurs., Mar. 28 7 p.m. Mass, church open until 10 p.m.

Fri., Mar. 29 3 p.m. Traditional Good Friday Services
7 p.m. Stations of the Cross

Sat., Mar 30 Blessing of the Food: 10 & 11 a.m.
1 & 2 p.m. in church hall

Sat., Mar. 30 7 p.m. — Easter Vigil Services

Sun., Mar. 31 8 a.m. Easter Day Sunrise Mass
11 a.m. Easter Day High Mass

Fri., March 15 Mary's Way of the Cross & Benediction
Come and hear Mary tell her story and express her feelings.

Fri., March 22 Journey of Decision, Stations of the Cross and Benediction. Come and hear the live testimonies of those who took part at the original stations of the Cross: Pilate, Barabbas, Herod, Mary (Mother of Jesus), Simon of Cyrene, Veronica, Caiaphas, Woman in the Crowd, Roman Centurion, Unrepentant Criminal, Good Thief, Mary Magdalene, Salome and Nicodemus.

First Americans Cultural Art Program at Franklin School

By Patricia Abbott

A table in the Franklin School library held a vast array of Native American artifacts hundreds of years old. Ancient tools, simplistic yet sturdy, along with weapons, clothing, ceremonial implements, toys filled the long table. A buffalo skin was draped across another table and there were

even 'buffalo chips.' The students, from grades three through five were surprised to be told to "touch it, smell it!" The opportunity to touch the museum pieces was part of the cultural arts program, Wintercount: The First Americans, brought to the school by the PTA.

The program is presented by Les

Genser who is a descendant of the Oglala Sioux tribe. The program opens with a detailed discussion of the tipi; materials, construction, and the versatility of the portable housing. The children learn about all facets of tribal life such as etiquette, customs, the importance of family, the politics of tribal groups and more.

The children discovered the many English words that came from American Indian languages; moose, raccoon, skunk, pecan, parka, toboggan, blizzard, tomato and many more. The word "okay" was probably derived from the Chactaw word "ok" meaning "it is so" or "agreement." They learned that Indian languages have no words for 'hour' or 'minute' and few have a word for 'goodbye'.

Genser is a student of American Indian history and has taught Indian craft, lore and dance for many years as well as performing with prominent Indian dance groups. He has traveled extensively through reservations in the Dakotas, Montana and Wyoming doing ethnological studies with tribal elders, hereditary chiefs and traditional holy men and women.

The program was adapted to suit each grade level. The objectives of the program were to remove stereo types and increase the student's appreciation of American Indian societies and help preserve a slowly vanishing culture. It provides another perspective on American history.

The program was presented by Young Audiences of New Jersey, a state chapter of Young Audiences Inc. The nonprofit organization provides multicultural arts-in-education programs presented by professional artists that include music, dance, theatre, story and song.



Experience with **NASCAR** The Home Depot.

Don't Miss... Family Day at Home Depot
Sunday, April 7 • 10am-4pm

- Kids' Workshop
- Face Painting
- South Plainfield Fire Truck
- Vendor Demos
- NASCAR Merchandise



EVENT:
The Home Depot Show Car
at the
South Plainfield Home Depot
Sunday, April 7 • 10am-4pm

• Rubbermaid Shed Assembly Demos • Resin Furniture Truckload Sale, And More!!!!!!

Johnny the Clown's Visit Brings a Smile to Creative Kids Academy

The Children at Creative Kids Academy, both young and old alike, enjoyed a visit of last week from Johnny the Clown. Johnny chose several of the children to help in his show, they put on costumes and held his props. Laughter could be heard not just from the kids, but the teachers as well. As the picture below shows, even the kids playing outside during his visit wanted to see the show and tried to looking through the window.



Second Annual Fundraiser for Autism Awareness

Continued from page 3

this June 15 at the State Theater in New Brunswick where they perform their annual recital. Feigley's Bridgette's Gymnastic team is a competition squad that has won many local, state and national titles.

Autism is a misunderstood disorder that affects two to five out of every 10,000 children. It has no racial, ethnic or social boundaries. It usually affects boys more than girls, and appears before the age of three. It is not a disease or a form of mental retardation. There is no single defined list of symptoms, and it is therefore

referred to as a Spectrum Disorder, which means that there can be any combination of symptoms. There is no known cause or cure for autism, but treatment is available and can be effective. Autistic children may seem to remove themselves from everyday activities. This is due to the fact that what would be a normal reaction to sight, sound, smell or even touch can cause a sensory overload triggering an explosive response. They often will repeat themselves in words or actions, which is a source of comfort to them.

COSAC is a non-profit agency that provides information and advo-

cacy, services, family and professional education, and consultation. They encourage responsible basic and applied research that would lead to a lessening of the effects and potential prevention of autism. COSAC is dedicated to ensuring that all people with autism receive appropriate services to reach their maximum growth potential and enhancing the overall awareness of autism in the general public.

Due in part to the efforts of last year's performance and other work with COSAC, Tara Faulkner-Catalina, the director of Le Centre, has been named "COSAC Autism Awareness Ambassador Of The Year" and will be recognized at a dinner and award presentation in May.

This year's benefit performance will be held on April 6 at Feigley's School of Gymnastics, located at 4475 South Clinton Ave. at 7 to 8:30 p.m. Admission is a donation to COSAC.

The recommended donation is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children over five years old. Tickets are available in advance or at the door. There will be refreshments and prizes for the children.

Donations are gladly accepted. If you cannot attend and would like to make a donation, please call Jo-Ann's Dance Studio at 908-564-5094 for more details.

Don't Miss Out!

Advertise in the March 29 issue and reach 7,700 homes in South Plainfield.

CALL 908-668-0010.



Cultural Arts Presents Three Divas in Concert

The South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission will present the program "Three Divas in Concert" at the Wesley Methodist Church Hall, located on Plainfield Ave., on Sunday, March 24 at 4 p.m.

The program will feature some of the best loved melodies from opera and Broadway by some of the most famous European and American composers.

The program will be preformed by three highly trained and talented professional singers from New Jersey, Florence Lazzeri, Margaret Southwell and Marilyn Spesak. Accompanying on piano will be Victoria Griswold,

an internationally known pianist who has recorded with the prestigious London Philharmonic Orchestra. Ms. Griswold is the proprietor of the well-known Plainfield Music Store on North Ave. near the Plainfield train station.

Among the numbers to be performed will be the famous aria *One Fine Day* from the opera *Madam Butterfly*, a lovely *Merry Widow* medley and selections from that perennial *The Sound of Music*.

Music lovers are cordially invited to an evening of exceptionally beautiful music. Admission is free due to funding by the Borough of South Plainfield.

Summer Drama Workshop Offering College Scholarship

Applications are now available for the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop Scholarship.

The South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop's scholarship program is entering it's fourth year. The first SDW Scholarship recipients were Patty Reach and Kristin Pfeifer in 1999. In 2000 Lauren Perry was awarded the scholarship and in 2001 Emma Fulton and Eric Ambielli.

Applicants must prepare an essay of no more than 1,500 words covering the following topics: how you have supported the Summer Drama Workshop; participation, fundraising,

recruiting etc.; what life lessons you've gained and where theatre arts fit into your life in the present and future. A letter of reference from an adult (not a parent) is required, documenting your participation. Applicants must be a graduating senior who has participated in the theatre program either on stage or behind the scenes.

Applications are available at the SPHS guidance office or by visiting www.spsdw.com and downloading from the site. The completed applications must be returned by Mar. 30.

Where you are always treated like one of the family

Carousel

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

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

Sacred Heart Church

149 SOUTH PLAINFIELD AVE. • SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NJ

Holy Week Schedule 2002

■ Palm Sunday - Mar. 24 ■

Saturday Vigil 5 p.m.; Sunday 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.
(Solemn Procession and Blessing at 9:30 a.m. Mass)

■ Monday of Holy Week - Mar. 25 ■

7:30 p.m. - Chrim Mass (St. Francis of Assist Cathedral)

■ Tuesday of Holy Week - Mar. 26 ■

7:30 p.m. - Parish Lenten Penance Service

■ Holy Thursday - Mar. 28 ■

7:30 p.m. - Mass of the Lord's Supper
Eucharistic Procession and Adoration
11:30 p.m. - Closing Night Prayer

■ Good Friday - Mar. 29 ■

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
3:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Lord's Passion and Death
7:30 p.m. - "The Way of the Cross"

■ Holy Saturday - Mar. 30 ■

9:00 a.m. - Morning Prayer
12:00 p.m. - Blessing of Easter Food
8:00 p.m. - The Solemn Easter Vigil

■ Easter Sunday - Mar. 31 ■

Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord
8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.



Sports

SOCCER

Blaze KO's Clark

Knockouts

The South Plainfield Blaze U-13 girls traveling soccer team opened their season with a decisive win sending Clark Knockouts to the canvas. A 2-nil win with overcast skies and a relentless cold wind set the stage for a tough day of soccer.

Protecting the net and notching her first shutout of this young spring season was our keeper Becky Keller. Fullbacks Ashleigh Gaspari, Tiffany Smith and Kim Marin did a great job pushing attacks wide. While sweeper Jackie Miller and stopper Dorian Bishop completely shut down the middle.

With commanding performances from our outside halfbacks Ashley Little, Lauren Fry, and center mid-

fielders Jenna DeLillo, Jennifer Copeland and Elizabeth Flannery our middle was solid. Good effort by right striker Katie Hardy kept the defense off guard.

The first of two scores happened in the 27th minute when center midfielder Jennifer Copeland nailed a beautiful breakaway in the left corner of the goal. Then late in the second half center midfielder Jenna DeLillo sent a beautiful crossing feed to left striker Megan Boyle who found the back of the net. That score in the 72nd secured a bittersweet win against a team Blaze has clearly struggled with in the past. Excellent team effort girls keep up the good work!

Visit the South Plainfield Soccer club at www.soplfdsoccerclub.com

Submitted by Coach Hardy

Comets Extinguish Metuchen Fire

South Plainfield Comets (Girls U-12) Soccer team began their season on March 17 at Riley Field with a 5-0 shut out of the Metuchen Fire.

In the first half of the game the girls came out fighting with full determination, which allowed them to advance ahead by three goals, two scored by Victoria Plasse and one by Chelsea Moubarak.

The Comets worked cooperatively together through out the game allowing very few scoring chances for the Metuchen Fire. The second half was played as aggressively as the first achieving two more goals from Clare Kelly. We would like to congratulate the girls on their win and wish them an exciting and fun season. Keep up the good work.

Typhoons Win Opener

The South Plainfield Boys U-12 Typhoons opened their spring season with a solid 2-0 shutout over South Brunswick.

Grey Coppi picked up where he left off last season as he turned away several shots to lead the defensive effort for the Typhoons. Defender's J.R. Licato, Chris Pennisi, Matt Helgesen, Zach Olim and Keith Heckel played superbly throughout the contest as they kept South Brunswick from mounting any sustained pressure.

On the offensive end, Brendan O'Shea scored both of the South Plainfield goals off of assists from Jonathan Marcoux. Excellent play by Brandon Ullom, Dan Pompilio, Steven Guevara and John Polizzano

helped break down the defense as well as maintaining control of the ball throughout. In addition, Polizzano made a great lead pass to Marcoux that helped set up the second goal for O'Shea while Ullom, Polizzano and Marcoux each had near misses for scores. Pompilio and Guevara continuously kept the ball from leaving the zone and started many breaks toward the goal for the Typhoons with solid ball-handling and well-placed passes.

As South Plainfield played without two boys due to illness, they were able to defeat a team that finished a point ahead of them in last year's standings.

Next Sunday they will attempt to beat last season's champs, Perth Amboy on their home field.

WRESTLING

By Bob Hunter

Conroy Captures 2nd Consecutive State Title

Jimmy Conroy an Intermediate 85 pound Middle School wrestler won his second consecutive NJ Kids State Tournament championship. As the number one seed in the tournament, Conroy faced Taylor Riccio of Watchung in the opening round and won by fall at 0:53.

In the quarterfinal round, Conroy

pinned Keith Swanson of Waldwick at 0:33. Conroy then faced Matt Morganstein of Pascack Hills in the semi-final round, pinning him at 1:54.

In the finals, Paul Wilson of Walkkill Valley challenged Conroy, but Conroy controlled the tempo of the match, before scoring the fall at 2:54 of the second period.

Conroy ended the season with a 53-1 record and won eight individual tournament titles throughout the year, including the League Tournament Championship where he won the Outstanding Wrestler Award.

Jimmy will wrestle for the high school next season in the 103 pound weight class.

Middle School Wrestlers Place in Tournament

South Plainfield Middle School wrestlers had a good weekend at the NJ Kids State Wrestling Tournament at Lakewood High School. The junior division wrestled on Saturday and the intermediate division wrestled on Sunday. In the junior division Mike Jakubik (95) had a great tournament reaching the finals after winning his first three matches. He lost by decision to Scott Winston of Edison 8-0 for second place. Opie Muse (132) who won his pre-preliminary match but lost in the preliminary round. Opie then won his next three watches to reach the consolation finals before falling to Mike Bruke of Haddonfield 4-2 for fourth place.

Mark Wagner (105) wrestled seven matches on the day and finished in sixth place.

Also placing in the junior division were Robert Gentile (65) 7th/8th, Billy Ashnault (80) 7th/8th and Rocco Petriello (Hwt) 7th/8th. Also qualifying and winning two matches

on the day were Patrick Hunter (75) and Nick Dorey (90).

In the intermediate division Kevin Crilley (170) reached the finals by winning three matches. In the semi-final round Crilley pinned number one seed Zach Yavee of Tweksbury at 3:53 to reach the finals. In the finals Crilley lost by decision 4-0 to Kyle Childress of Toms River for second place. Also

placing were Bryan Hunt (85) 7th/8th and Sam Martin (107). Also qualifying and winning two matches on the day was Anthony Niemczyk (100). Congratulations to all the wrestlers on a job well done! The state tournament continues this weekend at Union High School for the Bantams and the Middlets and Freshmen Intermediates.

Metuchen Novice Tournament Winners

It was another busy weekend for South Plainfield novice wrestlers who competed in the Metuchen Novice Tournament. Seventeen wrestlers competed and won ten overall medals. Winning titles were Scott Whalen Bantam 52. He won all three matches.

Middlets winning titles were Rich Szeligna 60, pinned in the finals and Eric Neimeyer 95, won his title by fall. Second place went to Bobby Kolvites

Pee Wee 43, Kevin Smith Midget 71, Bill Whitefeet 71, Mike Dandola (Hwt.).

Third place went to Corey Stasenko Bantam 52. Fourth place went to Taylor Born Pee Wee 59 and Andrew Staynings Midget 90. Winning matches but not placing was Robert Benwell, John DiDolce, Cody Cifrodelli, Inan Sikel, Mike Atchachunas, Andrew Sanchez and Vincent DuPont

By Kevin Lykes

juniorbaseballclubnotes

MAJOR WORK DETAILS IN PROGRESS AT SPJBC BASEBALL COMPLEX—Opening day is only one month away. Again this Saturday, March 23 at 7:30 a.m. and every Saturday during the month of March, we will be out at the complex doing major work detail. We will be putting up windscreens, painting, hanging sponsor signs and getting the complex ready for the season in general. It would be very much appreciated if anyone who has gas powered weed whacking equipment or wheel barrows would bring them along. We can use all the help we can get during these upcoming Saturdays. If you can spare some time, stop down, all volunteers are welcome.

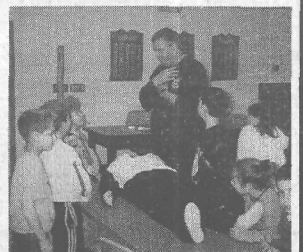
Booster weekend, (canning), is set for Thursday thru Saturday, April 4, 5, 6. Any volunteers should contact Al Lisewski at (908) 753-5745. Coaches will be notified of their team's assigned time slot shortly. Generally SEA goes out on Thursday, SFB Friday or later on Saturday, and SFC Saturday morning and early afternoon. Free hot dogs and soda will be served to all participants upon their return.

Opening day—Opening day is Saturday, April 13, will begin with our annual parade from Borough Hall to the SPJBC complex at 10 a.m. Followed by a brief opening day ceremony, the first pitch is thrown. Also, Little Miss Baseball 2002, will be crowned.

Small Fry coaches—Don't forget about the annual team banner contest sponsored by the Ladies' Auxiliary.



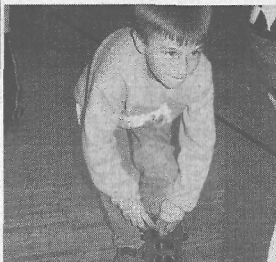
There's a lot going on...



...in South Plainfield!



Subscribe to the Observer.



South Plainfield Observer
908-668-0010



Send a check or money order for \$25/one year (out-of-town-\$30) payable to: South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080. Or order your subscription via email at nancyg@spobserver.com and send your check to the above address.

✓ Please send me home delivery of the Observer.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

Obituaries

Stella (Gima) Lewis, 76

Stella (Gima) Lewis died on Thursday, March 14 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield, following a brief illness.

Born in Mahoney City, Pa., she lived in Roselle Park for many years until she married. She moved to Plainfield 56 years ago.

Stella was a long time member of St. Mary's RC Church in Plainfield.

She was predeceased by her sisters Irene Carey and Mary Starinsky and by her brothers John Gima and Michael Gima.

Surviving are her husband of 56 years, Vincent T. Lewis; two daughters, Lynn Lewis of Philadelphia, Pa., and Donna Rossi and her husband, John, of Basking Ridge; three sisters, Anna Pellegrino of South Plainfield, Sue Mazzeo of Cranford and Helen Megies of Roselle Park; four grandchildren, David and Renee Rossi and Matthew and Jennifer Snyder and by three great grandchildren, Justina, Malcolm and Jocelyn Zuckerman.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Lillian Gilbert Fisher, 89

Lillian Gilbert Fisher of North Plainfield, died on Sunday, Mar. 10 at Medemerger in Green Brook.

She was born in Kent England and came to the United States in 1920, settling in Mountainside. She was a former resident of Watchung before moving to North Plainfield

35 years ago.

Mrs. Fisher used to work at the former Art Color in Dunellen in the production department.

In her younger days Lillian was very athletic and loved swimming, boating and skiing. She loved horseback riding and competed in equestrian events throughout the area.

She was predeceased by her husband, William B. Fisher, who died in 1963.

She is survived by her son, William A. and his wife Joy Cotignola Fisher of Piscataway; a step-daughter Hilda Edna Edwards of Pasadena Md. and two grandsons, William J. and Christopher A. Fisher.

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

Vincent N. Raiello, 66

Vincent N. Raiello of South Plainfield died on Monday, March 11 in his home.

Born in Plainfield, he moved to South Plainfield 40 years ago.

Mr. Raiello was employed by the Watchung Board of Education, working in the maintenance department at Watchung Regional High School for 18 years, before retiring in 2000. Previously he was employed by Tenneco of Piscataway for eight years, working in the Research & Development Department. He had also been employed by the former National Gypsum of Millington.

Vincent was a member of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield and had a special love for his family and his home. He will be dearly missed by many.

His brother, Anthony Raiello has predeceased him.

Surviving are his wife, Barbara Raiello; a daughter and son-in-law, Suzanne and Kenneth Purcell of South Plainfield; two sisters, Caroline Schuff and Molly Buldo and a brother, Joseph Raiello of South Plainfield. Also surviving is his grandson, Ryan Purcell.

Funeral services were held by the McCriskin Home for Funerals.

Beauty

Hillside Cemetery's gentle slopes are dotted with stately trees and evergreens. The serene landscape is meticulously attended and renowned for its care and upkeep. All lots are in fully developed areas and include perpetual care. Located on Woodland Avenue in Scotch Plains, a non-profit organization. 908.756.1729

Hillside Cemetery
www.hillsidecemetery.com



James W. Conroy
Funeral Home

Serving the Area Since 1949

"Because We Care"

- Forethought Funeral Planning
- N.J.D.A. Choices
- Complete Care Financing
- Serving All Faiths
- Cremation Services
- Pre Arrangement Specialists

ROBERT HUNTER JR.
Owner-Manager
License Number 3337
756-2800
2456 Plainfield Ave.,
South Plainfield
www.conroyfuneralhome.com

"Consult the Families We Serve"



McCriskin

HOME FOR FUNERALS

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

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

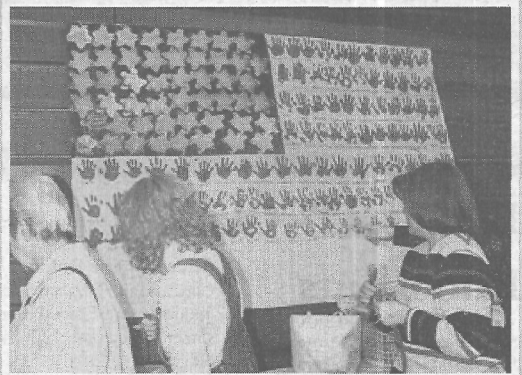
Franklin Auction/Raffle was a Sell Out

The Sixth Annual Franklin School Auction/Raffle Night was held last Saturday and it drew a sell-out crowd.

Baskets and gifts lined the walls of the high school gym, while 400 enthusiastic patrons stood in long lines to deposit their (hopefully) winning tickets into the buckets of their choice.

Winners for the evening were: the computer won by SPSHS alumni Joe Baita; winning the vacation trip, Kim Whitney; the Cape May Trip was won by Franklin School computer teacher Ellen Peterson.

The evening ended with the presentation of a bouquet of flowers to thank Pattie Groben for her years of work on the Franklin Auction.



Thank You

The Franklin School Sixth Annual Auction/Raffle Night held last Saturday, was a huge success. This year's theme was "America The Beautiful" and the South Plainfield High School gym was decorated in red, white and blue.

American flags made of each student's hand print draped the bleachers. We would like to thank South Plainfield merchants and the surrounding area businesses for their generous donations. Their positive responses were overwhelming at a time when there is so much uncertainty in the world. Please show appreciation by patronizing our local businesses.

Also, many thanks to the parents, staff and numerous volunteers without whom this event would not have come together so nicely.

PATTI GROBEN, MARY CARGILL, DEBRA KRAWIEC, AUCTION COMMITTEE



INMYOPINION

Continued from page 2

line for filing a PTR Application has been moved from Mar. 15, to May 1. PTR Applications are available at my legislative office.

In order to be eligible for the PTR program you must meet various requirements which are listed in the application booklet. If you are single, your total income can be as much as \$37,174 in 2000 and \$38,475 in 2001. If you are married, your total combined income can be as much as \$45,582 in 2000 and \$47,177 in 2001. Reimbursement checks should be sent out on or before July 15, 2002.

I hope you find this information useful and assure you that my staff is available to assist you during this tax season. As always, feel free to contact us should any other concerns arise at (732) 819-8141.

SENATOR BARBARA BUONO

To the Editor,

I am a Catholic and proud of it. I am also fed up with the media-bashing of my church because of some "sick" priests who have gone out of bounds of their vows.

I don't know why these problems made so many headlines where the Catholic Church is involved. No one can tell me that there are not any clergy of other denominations that are not doing the same kind of things.

I agree that anyone, clergy or not, should be prosecuted for molesting

children.

One thing that bothers me about some of the cases that have made the headlines, is that some of these "victims" went with the molester many times and only years later came out with their sad stories.

My point is, why didn't these people file a complaint right after the incident?

When I saw one or two of them recently on TV, I had a feeling that they were there (on the program) only to get their faces on national TV.

I think there is a statue of limitations that may give many of the offenders a loop-hole to avoid prosecution.

I ask that other people that share these feelings, sound off. Let us do what we can to keep this country from going any further down the drain.

WILLIAM TUTHILL

To the Editor,

After reading the editorials for the last two weeks regarding our Roosevelt School teachers, I decided to write.

I was born and raised in South Plainfield. I attended Roosevelt School, as did my father. Growing up we were known as the Southside and the kids from the other side of the tracks. Well today my two children attend the same school. I am proud that my children can experience the same school that I attended.

It's a few parents that keep giving Roosevelt School a bad reputation.

I can go to work in the morning knowing my children are with such a wonderful staff of teachers. I know that they are in a loving and safe environment.

Everyone has a right to their own opinion, but if you say such negative things why can't you sign your name? You have no credibility. The teachers are there not only for our children, but also for our PTA. They support every function that is run by our school. The teachers are there unloading and packing Market Day orders. They stay late; they come in early. They have lunch duty and they run clubs to name just a few of the extra things they do.

I could not ask for better teachers. So whoever wrote that the teachers should be fired is "wrong." You had no complaints about them prior to this? Why now? Our teachers have always taken our children's feelings into consideration. They are FOR our children!

Instead of bashing our teachers, they should be praised. "Thank You, Thank You, You Have Our Support." If you feel so negative about our teachers, there are other schools in the district, try one of them. It's time to keep moving forward and get rid of negativity. The PTA was not involved in Dr. Hangge leaving. We worked well with him and wish him well in his future endeavors.

LORI JANKOWSKI
PTA PRESIDENT

policereport

- On March 11 Tom Ventriglia, owner of Double T's on Hamilton Blvd. reported the theft of four dozen hard rolls from the rear of his store.
- On March 12 Fleet Bank on Oak Tree Rd. reported that someone had smashed one of the plastic tubes at the drive-up window.
- Alex Velazquez of Newark was arrested for driving a vehicle with stolen plates.
- On March 13 Don Barrie Realty of Linden reported that the window of a backhoe was smashed out which was located at a construction site at 117 Lexington Ave.
- N Vision located on Parker Ave. was shut down temporarily for various fire, building, health and environmental violations. The company repairs garbage trucks on the lot.
- On March 14 Keshannar Kimpson of Plainfield was arrested at CVS on Plainfield at for shoplifting \$63.21 worth of medication.
- An employee of Fiserve on

- Cragwood Ave. reported the theft of his car stereo from his locked vehicle in the parking lot. The battery cable had also been cut.
- A Lebanon, Pa. resident reported the theft of his 1996 Ford pick-up from the lot at the Ramada Inn.
- On Friday a Bergen St. resident reported that someone had entered his rear yard and punctured his above the ground pool and lining, causing the water to pour out.
- Julie DeRose of South Plainfield was arrested at KC's Korner on Oak Tree Ave. for unlawful possession of a weapon.
- On Sunday Zena Britto of Plainfield was arrested at Macy's for attempting to leave the store with \$180 worth of jewelry and shirts. Also arrested were Althea Sherry Villafana and Cindy Roberts, both of Plainfield, for attempting to leave with merchandise.
- A Woolworth Ave. resident reported the theft of a mountain

- bike from the his rear fenced in year.
- John Caballar of the Ramada Inn reported that a soda machine bill changer was pried open.
- On Monday Christopher Farrazzoli of Piscataway was arrested at K-Mart for attempting to shoplift \$445.79 worth of DVD's. Shaun Austin of New Brunswick was also arrested with him for shoplifting \$445.79 worth of DVD's.
- An 11th St. resident reported the theft of a battery charger and pot belly stove from her unlocked rear detached garage.

Legal Notices

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Robert Mergner requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the erection of a 12' x 16' wood shed, a 4' x 8' wood porch and a 957 s.f. wood deck. Proposed construction is an expansion of a non-conforming residential use in an M-3 zone. Also proposed deck lacks the required 30' side setback, 24' x 15' being proposed, and proposed porch lacks the required 30' side setback, 23' being proposed, and lacks the required 50' front setback, 35' being proposed and any other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 472, Lot 18 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, April 2, 2002 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

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

\$35.00 1T March 22, 2002

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Carmen Petrillo requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the erection of a 720 s.f. deck-level proposed addition lacks the required 30' front setback, 24.75' exits and any other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 407, 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 Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, April 16, 2002 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

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

\$35.00 1T March 22, 2002

Fight at VFW Lead to Arrests

Continued from page 1
several cuts on his face and back when the 4 or 5 suspects assaulted him. Witnesses at the scene said the victim was assaulted with a knife, bat and bottle. The victim was transported to Muhlenberg Hospital, where he was treated and released. It took 18 staples to close the lacerations on his back.

The suspects fled the area in a

Elks Lodge Looking For Vendors

The South Plainfield ELKS Lodge #2298, located at 1254 New Market Rd. is looking for vendors for their Craft Fair on May 4.

Tables are \$20 a piece! For additional information or reservations contact Anna at (732) 968-7238.

white Honda with New York plates. The vehicle was located on Church Street later by Officer Noonan, not far from the scene. The occupants were removed from the vehicle and arrested shortly after officers recovered an eight-inch kitchen steak knife and a folding knife from the vehicle.

The suspect is identified as Deepak Sinha, age 18, of Jamaica, NY. He was charged with aggravated assault, possession of a weapon for an unlawful purpose and released on \$20,000 bail. The other occupants of the vehicle were charged with hindering apprehension and held on \$5,000 bail. They were Eshward Viren, age 30 and Bassedo Govindan, age 21, both of Rochester, NY; Ramchand Somrah, age 21, of Jamaica Queens, Mottieram Singh, age 24, of Richmond Hills, NY and Ramdat Budhu, age 23, of Brooklyn.

Classifieds

Rates -- \$11 for 3 lines (min.)
\$1 ea. additional line

FOR SALE

HAMMOND ORGAN, MODEL A100 with bench. Two full keyboards, 25 pedals. Exc. condition. (908) 756-4929.

VACATION OFFER. Walker Family moving. Disney Vacation Package. Was \$599, asking \$199. 1-888-554-2749.

REMODELING/HOME IMPROV.

CUSTOM KITCHEN, BATHROOM remodeling, home improvements. Free estimates. 908-561-8395.

FLOOR SERVICES

WOOD FLOORS REFINISHED. Refinished, 1 yr. Fin. available, no interest. Free Est. & Application (908) 753-9638.

CHILDCARE

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT LOOKING for after school/summer babysitting job. Call 908-561-6216 after 5:30. South Plainfield area.

HANDY TECHNICIAN

ODD JOBS-SPACKLE/PAINT-CALL Drew, 732-406-9438.

AUTO FOR SALE

94 DODGE SPORT MINIVAN—Loaded with options. Needs work on engine. Asking \$1,000. Call Renee at 732-786-1306.

GUITAR LESSONS

GUITAR LESSONS: ACOUSTIC, Electric, Beginner Specialists. 755-6882.

ROOFING

COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, Residential. 908-753-4222.

COMPUTER INSTRUCTION

ONE-ON-ONE PERSONALIZED instruction, your home or mine. 732-494-5826.

MORTGAGES

FAST, APPROVALS, GREAT rates, personalized service. 908-822-0090.

PLUMBING

PLUMBING/HEATING- HOT Water Heaters, Gas Conversions, Additions, Repairs. Free Estimates. 908-222-3444

CONTRACTORS

BUILDER, CONTRACTOR, ADDITIONS, Kitchens, Bathrooms, Office Renovations. 908-753-3850.

COMPUTER SERVICES

UPGRADES, HARDWARE/SOFTWARE installation, in-home services. Call 908-769-0709.

To place a classified ad, call 668-0010 by 5 p.m. Monday for Friday publication.

MOVING?

Let us know when you are moving and we'll be sure your South Plainfield Observer gets there. Clip this coupon and send in your change of address to:

South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Name _____

New Address _____

Old Street Address _____

Start subscription at new address as of what date? _____

Business & Professional

COMPUTERS

ST Computers

Stan Wilkinson

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

Phone: 908-769-0709

Cell: 732-423-3504

Email: st-computers@home.com

COMPUTER INSTRUCTION

RECEIVED A COMPUTER AS A GIFT? NEED HELP?
Personalized Computer Instruction

YOUR HOME OR OFFICE
MICROSOFT CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL

Call Martha
THE PATIENT ONE
732-494-5826

CONTRACTORS

BUILDER & GENERAL CONTRACTOR

NJ DCA LIC #019771
Since 1981

Lordina Builders
908-753-3850

ADDITIONS-KITCHENS - BATHROOMS - Office Renovations

FREE ESTIMATES

DENTIST

Dina G. Pascasio, D.M.D.
Oak Tree Dental, LLC

A practice of General & Cosmetic Dentistry.

Dina's goal is to provide quality dental care and to ensure continued good oral health. She looks forward to seeing you at

2177 Oak Tree Rd. Suite 101 • Edison
(908) 757-7500

LANDSCAPING

Silver Creek Landscaping
SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NJ

SPECIALIZING IN:
• LANDSCAPE DESIGN
• SHRUB & TREE PRUNING
• HYDRO SEEDING & SOD
• DETHATCHING & AERATION
• MULCH / STONE / TOPSOIL
• RAILROAD TIES
• BRICK PAVERS
COMPLETE LAWN MAINTENANCE • RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
- FREE ESTIMATES -
908-756-7272

MORTGAGES

FAST APPROVALS... GREAT RATES... PERSONALIZED SERVICE... APPROVAL

Mike Dixon, President
2325 Plainfield Ave. Suite 2E
South Plainfield, NJ
Se Habla Espanol

908-822-0090

MULCH/TOP SOIL/STONE

Call KLK Trucking for:

Top Soil, Mulch, Sand, Infield Mix, Decorative & Crushed Stone
Sanding • Salting • Snowplowing
Pick up or Deliv., Mon. thru Sat

908-757-4434

265 Ryan Street
South Plainfield

PLUMBING

MIKE OZERANSKY PLUMBING & HEATING

Hot Water Heaters Gas Conversions New Homes Additions & Repairs Free Estimates

908-222-3444

Fully Insured Bonded
N.J. State Lic. #6461

ROOFING

J.T. PENYAK ROOFING CO.

COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL RESIDENTIAL

908-753-4222

FAX 908-753-4763

124 CAMDEN AVE.
SO. PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080

PRINTING/TYPISETTING

- Invitations
- Brochures
- Resumes
- Flyers

G&G GRAPHICS

1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
908-668-0010 • Fax: 908-668-8819
email: ggnan@aol.com

Advertise your business for \$15 a week. Call 908-668-0010 for details.

Truck Crash on Thursday Causes Huge Traffic Jam

Last Thursday at approximately noon, a commercial vehicle was involved in a one-truck collision at the intersection of Metuchen Rd. and Belmont Ave.

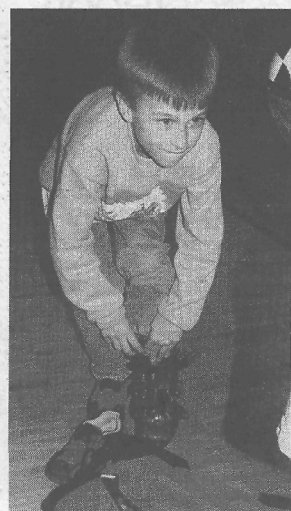
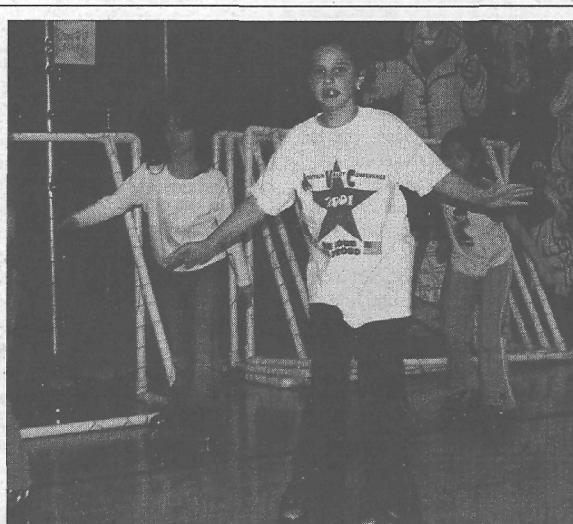
The vehicle was a 1995 International rack body truck owned by General Flange Co. of Huntington Valley Pa. The truck left the roadway and struck a guardrail, then a telephone pole, pinning the driver inside. The truck was loaded with steel pipe flanges.

The driver was identified as Edison Creorusk, a 49-year-old male from Philadelphia Pa., Creorusk had to be extricated by the South Plainfield Fire Dept. and Rescue Squad. He was treated at the scene by paramedics of

Mercy 6 at Muhlenberg Hospital. The victim was then transported from the accident scene to Roosevelt Elementary School, where his was airlifted by "Penn Star" helicopter and transported to Morristown Memorial Hospital for treatment of his injuries. The extent of his injuries are not known.

As a result of the accident, Metuchen Rd. and a portion of Belmont Ave. were closed to all traffic for approximately 90 minutes, causing a traffic jam that lasted for hours.

The cause of the accident has not been determined. Officer Vincent Campagna of the South Plainfield Police Traffic Safety Unit is investigating this collision.



Kennedy Kids Enjoy an Evening of Roller Skating

By Patricia Abbott

Kennedy students spent a fun-filled Friday evening at a roller skating party sponsored by the PTSO with non-stop action and sound. Parents busied themselves helping with skates and helmets, while PTSO volunteers manned the kitchen, offering pizza, snacks and drinks to hungry skaters.

Principal Al Czech kept a watchful eye from the center of the room as skaters, both accomplished and the wobbly beginners, circled the gym. Parents watched from the sidelines, kissing the occasional bruised knee or ego.



The children pictured with Miss Fanelli and the tour guide from left to right are: Bryan Permaul, Kevin Shallo, Arielle Armand, Meghan Murphy, Wilfredo Rosado, Edwin Molina, Tyler Whalen, Bryan Gonzalez, Richard DeLeon, Milton Chinchilla and Danny Alligier.

Students Visit Museum

Liza Fanelli, a student teacher at Franklin Elementary School in South Plainfield, recently organized a trip to the Miller-Cory House Museum in Westfield.

The house was originally built in 1740. A woman dressed in colonial clothes guided the children through the house. The trip gave the children the opportunity to learn about life in the time was that there was no run-

ning water. An outhouse was used as a bathroom and accommodated three people at a time. Children slept on cornhusk-filled mattresses with as many as six children sharing one bed. In addition, children worked for their family starting at a very young age.

The trip to the Miller-Cory House Museum was a wonderful learning experience for everyone.


Brush Fire Erupts on Coolidge Street

On Saturday March 9, the fire department responded to a report of a brush fire in the area of the Texas Eastern property on Coolidge St. When they arrived there was a small area of brush that was burning, but because of high winds and dry conditions the fire began to extend towards the occupied residences at the end of Woodbrook Rd.

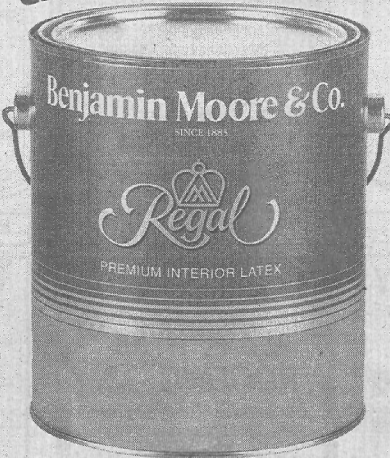
Mutual aid from surrounding areas was called to help control the fire. The fire department needed to establish a permanent water supply to extinguish the fire.

Agencies participating from South Plainfield were the fire department, police department, Office of Emergency Management, rescue squad and Public Works Department. Also the North Stelton and New Market Fire Departments (Piscataway), Plainfield

Fire Department, North Stelton Rescue Squad, Middlesex Co. Mutual Aid Coordinators, Edison Fire Department (Oak Tree station volunteers), Colonia Fire Department, North Brunswick Fire Department and New Jersey Forest Fire Service

 **Vail Paint - Hardware**
Corner of Front St. & South Plainfield Ave.

Make sure it's MOORE for the BEST Results...



MOORE PAINT PLEASE

Vail Paint & Hardware • 756-9950
YOUR LOCAL DEALER & SUPPLIER

Double T's
LUNCHEONETTE & DELI

Open Mon-Sat 6-3

Fresh Homemade Salads & Cold Cuts Sold By the Pound

Breakfast • Lunch Hot & Cold Sandwiches

-Eat In or Take Out- Free Delivery

409 Hamilton Blvd.
908-757-5855 • Fax 908-757-7735

Spread a little hoppiness

Hershey's Kisses™ Bunny Bouquet

A cuddly bunny sitting in a field of flowers, holding a plush replica of a Hershey's Kisses © chocolate— it's enough to bring out the kid in anyone. To send this delightful floral gift anywhere in the U.S. or Canada, just call or visit our shop.



Easter is Sunday, March 31

\$50⁰⁰ plus delivery & tax

Mohn's Flowers & Fancy Foods
2325 Plainfield Ave. South Plainfield
(908) 561-2808
www.mohnsflorist.com

