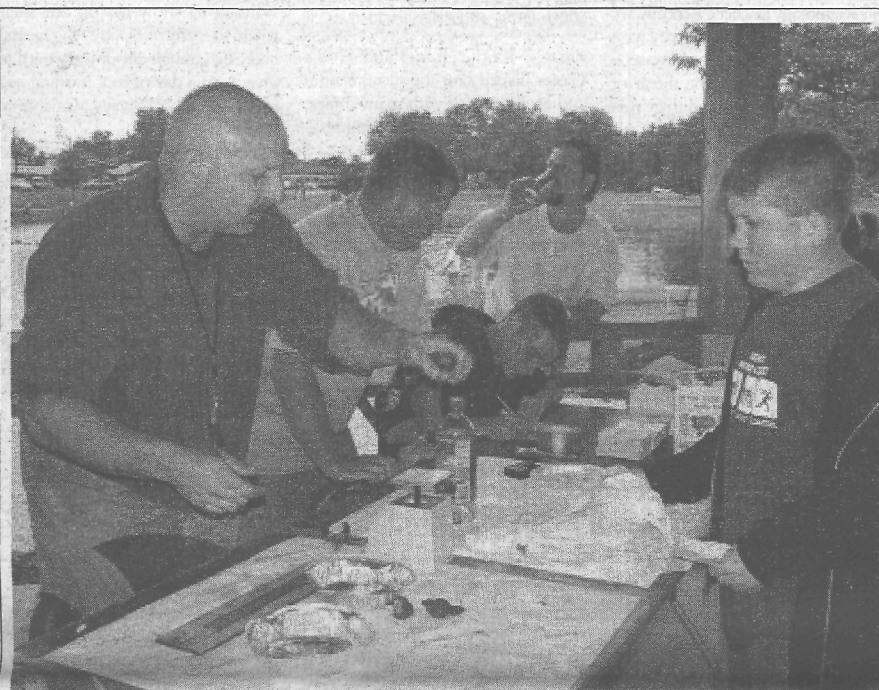


South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 5, NO. 43

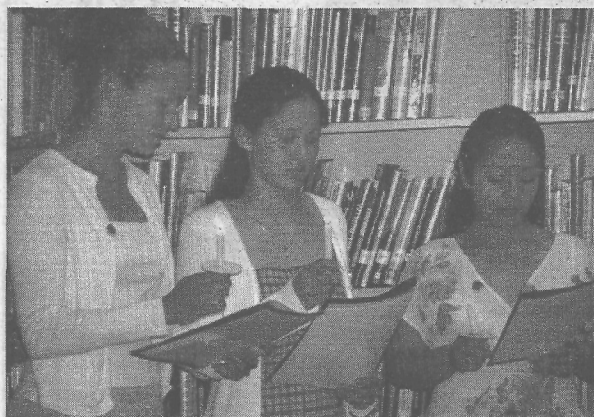
50 CENTS

JUNE 21, 2002

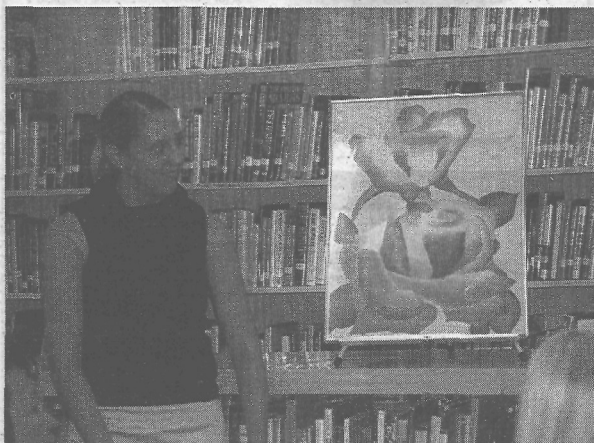


Volunteers spent last Saturday morning recording the fish that were caught in Spring Lake Park during the annual Fishing Derby, sponsored by the South Plainfield High School SAFTE Fishing Club and the Recreation Department. See page 2 for more photos.

World Languages, Art Students Inducted into Honor Society



Inductees of the French Honor Society are Shelly Graziano, Jacqueline Arango and Priscilla Quevedo.



Senior Amy Leso displays her artwork.

The Department of World Languages and the Arts held solemn ceremonies recently to induct their newest members of their honor society.

Artwork by six very talented high school students was on display in the library. Each student took a few minutes to explain their own work. The selected art students were Amy Leso, Sarah Miele, Eva Rodriguez, Martin Seiz, Michelle Sossa and Victoria Zappi.

La Société Honoraire de Français was founded by the American Association of Teachers of French for students of French in American second-

Continued on page 16

Teachers Ask Board to Honor Arbitrators Latest Ruling

In a lawsuit which has been making its way through the courts for more than seven years, an arbitrators ruling released on May 23, was the topic of discussion at Tuesday night's Board of Education meeting.

The case centers around 22 teachers who charged they were lied to when they signed their contract to work in the South Plainfield school system. The Board's position was and has been that they signed a contract and should honor it.

In 1997 an Appellate Court ruled that the teachers did indeed deserve compensation. The Board appealed the ruling all the way to the Supreme Court, which refused to hear the case. An arbitrator was then assigned to find out if the school district could afford to pay the amount owed without hurting the education of the students.

The May 23 ruling stated the district did have enough resources and suggested payments be made over a period of three years. The amount of the settlement awarded to the teachers is \$721,114.

The board has reportedly met in closed session and voted to return to the court once again. Board members would not discuss the contents of that meeting, saying the case is still in litigation.

This latest decision brought the teachers out to Tuesday's meeting to express their displeasure on the Board's action.

Mike English, who was one of the teachers in the litigation, was the first to speak. He gave a short chronology of the continuing litigation and questioned the reasoning of fighting the decision. English claims no one has disputed the facts and asked the board to start treating the 22 educators with the respect that is due to them.

English also charged that thus far the legal costs the Board has incurred so far total \$175,036.25. He added, "The only person who will walk away with hundreds of thousands of dollars

in this case, is man who is advising you to continue it! Do you not find something wrong with that?"

English pleaded with the board to side with the teachers and pay them what is owed. When finished, he received a standing ovation from the crowd. Other teachers also spoke, all saying essentially the same thing. Board members did not comment on any of the speakers, since the case was still in litigation.

Board to Install Fiber Optic Cable Between District Schools

The Board of Education voted to award a contract with New Jersey Business Systems, Inc. to lay fiber optic cable between all of the schools, passing Borough Hall and the fire Department building. The vote is contingent on the approval of the Board of Education's lawyer. Board member Sue Peck raised several legal questions which needed to be addressed by the Board's attorneys.

The total cost of the contract is \$449,702. The fiber optic cable will enable the schools to be networked together by way of their phone system and computers.

At Monday's agenda meeting, Mayor Dan Gallagher said he had received a letter about the planned vote by the Board of Education, but was not advised was unaware of any of the specifics in the plan.

The bid includes an amount of \$16,500 to run the fiber optic cable in front of Borough Hall and the fire department. Board of Education Business Administrator Edward Izbicki said that a meeting is planned in the near future with Mayor Gallagher to advise him and the council what running the fiber optic cable will mean to the Borough.

Police Report Bike Thefts Up

During the past two weeks there have been more than 14 bicycle thefts in South Plainfield. Last week, local police reported five bikes from three different locations were stolen.

No specific areas of town have been targeted; bikes have been stolen from locations throughout the borough. Victims report that their bicycles have been removed from sheds, yards, garages, porches and schools. The thieves have not discriminated in the type or make of bikes they have been targeting. They've taken everything from mountain to BMX style bicycles.

The police department has submitted a few suggestions to help curb future thefts:

- Contact the South Plainfield Police Traffic Safety Bureau at (908) 226-7678 and arrange to have your bicycle registered and the serial number recorded. This allows for the bicycle to be entered into the NCIC computer if it is stolen, and also helps in getting the bike back to the owner if it is recovered.

- Do not leave your bike unattended in your driveway, on your front lawn, on the sidewalk, or anywhere else that makes it easy to take.

- Lock your bike using a quality cable lock.

- Report suspicious individuals in your neighborhood. Some thieves ride double on a bike. When they see an open garage or an unattended bike, the passenger jumps off and steals the bike.

The South Plainfield Police Department will be conducting the Annual Bicycle Rodeo on Saturday, Aug. 3, at the gazebo in Spring Lake Park from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Residents will be able to register their bikes there at this event. Watch the *Observer* for further information.

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
..... Thursday, June 20
Monday, July 8 Monday, July 15

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

planning board

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641

June 25, July 9, July 23, Aug. 13, Aug. 27, Sept. 10, Sept. 24, Oct. 8, Oct. 22, Nov. 12, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, Dec. 24 (no meeting)

zoning board of adjustment

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

June 27, July 18, July 25, Aug. 15, Aug. 29, Sept. 12, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, Oct. 17, Nov. 14, Nov. 21, Dec. 5, Dec. 19

taxpayers advisory group

The Taxpayers Advisory Group (TAG) meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave. at 7 p.m. Questions? 908-668-0538

siteplace sub-committee

Meets once a month on the third Tuesday of the month, 8 p.m.
July 16, Aug. 20, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19

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

Sept. 3, Oct. 1, Nov. 12 and Dec. 3

environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday except August)
Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7621

July 10, Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov. 13, Dec. 11

board of education meetings

Grant School Gymnasium on Cromwell Place unless otherwise noted

Committee of the Whole meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m.- July (no meeting), Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12, Dec. 10, Jan. 14, 2003, Feb. 11, March 11, April 1.
Regular Board Mtg., held Tuesdays, at 8 p.m.- July (no meeting), Aug. 20, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, Dec. 17, Jan. 21, 2003, Feb. 18, March 18, April 8.

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
June 26, July 24, (Aug. no meeting), Sept. 25, Oct. 23, Nov. 27, Dec. 18

Local Anglers Compete in Fishing Derby



A little help from friends,

On June 15, our annual Fishing Derby was held at Spring Lake Park. The Derby is run each year by Mike LoConte and myself or both Industrial Technology teachers. Recently, we have combined our Club Derby with a recreation event and we have seen much success. Despite the threat of rain, many youngsters and their parents came out to try their luck at angling.

Over 150 fish were caught including bass, catfish, carp, sunfish and blue gill. Mr. LoConte does months of preparation for this Derby, including scheduling, writing letters for donations and simply planning the event.

We were very concerned this year that not enough help would be available to run of the Derby efficiently. But just days before, two young ladies came to us and asked if they could help this year. Somewhat to our surprise, as mostly boys are the likely can-

Congratulations to this years winners: Kyle Dorr, Mark Wagner, Brian Murtagh, Patrick Millard, Taylor Bullard, Cortney Carvey, Matthew Celantano, Kenneth Quin and Erica Bullard.

didates, Kaitlin Tomei and Hollie Gaster helped save the show. Kaitlin and Hollie helped with many duties, including registration and picture taking.

I also received a phone call the night before from Jeff Dietzold. Jeff reminded me luckily of our conversation months ago about wanting to help with the Derby. I happily took him up on the offer. As we began setting up, another friend arrived with his son and offered his assistance as well. Dave Eichler, another town resident, graciously worked with all of us to make this derby a success.

Students, Jim Picket, Kevin Murtaugh, Dave Eichler and Nick

Doell were on hand, as usual, to make a day of possible confusion run like clockwork.

At a time in our society when so much seems to be in turmoil, it's rewarding to know that in our small town, so many of us have "Big hearts" and care enough about our youth to give them a day of fun, learning and experiences not always available to ourselves.

I extend my thanks to all these folks and to the parents of the youngsters for caring so much and helping to make an impact on the youth of our fine town. It's a perfect example of how educators, students, parents and citizens of our community come together in a time of need.

Thanks to Mike English for his support and to all the students, residents and parents who made this event a rewarding experience for all.

See you next year (or sooner),
RICH D'URSO

IN MY OPINION

Dear South Plainfield Residents,

I want to thank all the residents who voted to make me their candidate for mayor in the recent Republican primary. From the time the party asked me to run, I began chatting with folks around town and asking them their concerns. Boy did I get an earful!

Several themes emerged. The first was the town's building deluge. Most people do not oppose a growing South Plainfield. They do, however, oppose adding thousands of garden apartments, condos and townhouses at what feels like record pace. The town simply lacks the infrastructure to handle this explosion. The result: traffic congestion, jam-packed schools and soaring taxes.

The consensus is that we need to slow things down — not grind to a stop, but slow things down. We also need to reassess. Is our present zoning scheme serving us well, or do we need to cut back on the number and density of the new developments we allow?

Crime was another concern. It shocked me to learn that South Plainfield has the fourth-highest crime rate out of the county's 25 towns - higher than all our county neighbors. Crime prevention must be a priority. As a former police officer I know that we have top-notch people on our force. But we need to give these people the resources they need to do their jobs.

Taxes were a third concern. People asked me why their tax bills keep growing even though Democrats tell them each fall that taxes are not going up. I won't label the Democrats liars, but let's just say that they are telling a

gigantic fib. Between 1993 (when they took control) and 2001, taxes shot up almost 80%. In fact, last year the Mayor and Council tacked on a million — yes, a million — dollars to the budget.

I hope that this fall's campaign will be a discussion about your concerns. We have two choices, we can continue to stick our heads in the sand, or we

can tackle these problems for the first time in years. My running mates, Marge Reedy and Geoff Champion, think we should do what so many of you say we should do — get to work on these problems. I agree. I hope you do too.

**SINCERELY,
JAKE CATALDO, REPUBLICAN
CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR**

South Plainfield Observer

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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in 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 ngrennie@ix.netcom.com. Include your name, address, telephone number.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters may be submitted by mail to South Plainfield Observer, Editorial Dept., 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, by email 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.

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Welcome to South Plainfield—Lee and Pat Cosma recently moved into the Senior Residence on Morris Ave. They are from Queens, NY.

From the South Plainfield Library
Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

There's a lot of stuff going on here at South Plainfield Library, and here's the word on just some of it.

Starting with our children's programs, there's still time to sign up for the kick-off program for this year's Summer Reading Club. It's a sing-along program featuring Mr. Kurt; it starts Monday evening at 6:30. Monday is also the first day you can register for the Summer Reading Club. The Club is open to children of all ages. While you have to wait until July 1 to check-in books, you may start reading them right away (and the more you read, the better!). More details on the Club are listed in the booklets participants receive upon registering. Beyond Summer Reading, we've got the usual roster of *Storytime* programs. They're for children ages three and older; no pre-registration is needed. The programs are held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. If you have any questions, call us at (908) 754-7885 and ask for Miss Linda.

In conjunction with our Summer Reading Program, we're offering Summer Reading T-Shirts. They cost \$8 each and are available in all sizes. You may place your order at the Circulation Desk; a deposit of \$4 is payable upon ordering. Be advised, though: no refunds or exchanges will be offered, so make absolutely certain that you're ordering the proper size. For reference, we have samples of each size visible on the display wall. The shirts are exclusively available here at the Library; don't bother searching for them at the mall.

Our next Job Information class is called, "Interviewing 101." The class is scheduled for Wednesday evening at 7:30. There's no charge involved, but pre-registration is required. For

more information about Job Information or Computer Instructional classes, please call us and ask for Allan or Marcia.

Saturday will be the last day of availability for this month's batch of Circuit videos. Titles this month include *Don't Say a Word*, *Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back*, *Boys Don't Cry*, *Beethoven's 4th* and on DVD, *Pollock*. Videos and DVDs may be borrowed, four at a time, for two days. We're also between groups on the CD Circuit. New CD titles will be available in July.

In both of our display cabinets, we're exhibiting a variety of glassware. Included are hand-blown glass items made by participants of the Wheaton Village Outreach Program from Millville, NJ, and several glass paperweights created by South Plainfield resident Jane Luehman. More information on these items and the Outreach Program are available via brochures in the display area. These items will be here throughout June.

Recently, we added a number of new Books on Cassette to our collection. All of the new additions are unabridged versions. New titles include *Body of Lies* by Iris Johansen, *Catch as Cat Can* by Rita Mae and Sneaky Pie Brown, *Three Weeks in Paris* by Barbara Taylor Bradford, *Up Country* by Nelson DeMille, and *Basket Case* by Carl Hiasen. Books on Cassette may be borrowed, four at a time, for two weeks.

In order to make room for the new additions, we've had to weed out a number of older titles from our collection. These discarded audiobooks are now available in the Friends of the Library sale area. A variety of genres, including romance, mystery and adventure, are available for \$1 per title. Get them while supplies last.

That's all we have space for today. See you next Friday for more.

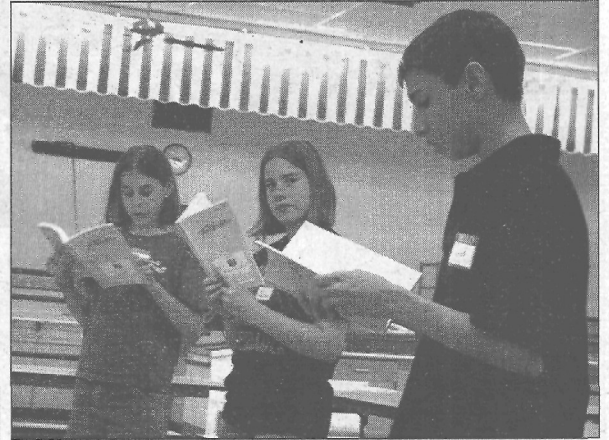
Borough Notes

Council Notes

- Sue Mischka has been hired as the full-time senior citizen coordinator beginning on June 1.
- Jason Grieb and Robert Cusick, Jr. were hired as part-time recycling groundkeepers starting on June 3.
- Cornerstone Architectural Group were awarded the contract to design the renovations to the downtown senior citizen building, which will be used by the Emergency Management, Code Enforcement and Affordable Housing departments. A \$11,800 fee will be paid from the Middlesex County Downtown Business District Improvement Fund Grant.

Board of Adjustment

- Estes Express Lines, located on Hollywood Ave., requested a use variance to create a bunk room for their truck drivers. Their request was denied by the board.
- Doulas and Lisa Tjong, located on Kenyon Ave., were granted variances for a porch, a first floor deck and a first and second floor addition.
- Grace McGinnis was granted a rear yard set back to erect a deck at her Audubon Ave. residence.
- Arch Personal Care Products, located at 85 Tyler Place, was granted a temporary use permit to utilize a classroom trailer in the rear of their property.
- Robert and Dianne Martucci of Yurgel Dr., were granted a use variance for a new addition to be used as a mother/daughter apartment.
- Raymond and Helen Majewski of South Plainfield Ave., were granted permission to erect a front porch.
- Dominick Cirilli of Pomponio Ave. was approved to build a patio enclosure and a wood deck.
- Wendell Born of Ritter Ave. was granted variances to build a second floor addition and a front porch.



Summer Drama Workshop's Production of *Footloose* is Cast

Story & Photo by Patricia Abbott

Footloose, the 2002 production of South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop (SDW), has been successfully cast after three days of auditions. Approximately 100 students turned out to audition and sign up for crew

and band. The cast will be publicly announced after the first rehearsal.

Performance dates are Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Aug. 1, 2 and 3 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Aug. 4, at 2 p.m.

For more information about South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop call (908) 561-5255.

Ferguson Announces \$5.6M Head Start Grant for Middlesex

Rep. Mike Ferguson, R-N.J. announced Monday that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services approved a \$5.6 million Head Start grant for the Middlesex County Economic Development Corporation to services for children with disabilities and their parents.

Specifically, the corporation will use the grant to provide year-round part-day Head Start services for children with disabilities. Program participants are provided health, nutritional, educational, social and other services. As in this case, the guarantees many also provide parents with training and education to foster their understanding of and involvement in the development of their children. Head Start, begun in 1965, is a federal program for children from low-income families. The Head Start program is operated by

local nonprofit organizations, such as Middlesex County Economic Development Opportunity Corporation, in almost every county in the country. Most children in Head Start are between the ages of three and five years old. Services are also available to infants and toddlers in selected sites.

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Over the Top Around Town

AARP Chapter #4144 to Meet

June 21

AARP Chapter #4144 will meet at the Willows on Washington Ave. in Green Brook on June 21 at noon. Installation of new officers will be held. This will be the last meeting until September.

In September, 2002, Chapter meetings will resume at a new meeting place, the newly constructed senior building on the corner of Lake and Maple avenues.

Knights of Columbus "All American Day"

June 22

The First Annual South Plainfield Knights of Columbus "All American Day" will be on Saturday June 22, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Hamilton Blvd.

The Knights will be honoring the flag and the United States of America. Tentative events include raising the Colors. There will be representatives from the city and state in uniform.

Also there will be a disposal of non-usable American Flags. Hot dogs, hamburgers, lemonade and desserts will be served for a price of \$3 a person and \$5 a family.

Call Pat Bonaventura for more details at (908) 755-6203.

Retirement Dinner for OLC Pastor J. Skwara

June 23

A testimonial retirement dinner will be held in honor of Father John

M. Skwara, pastor of Our Lady of Czestochowa Church, who will retire (as of June 1) on Sunday, June 23, at The Pines Manor in Edison, at 2 p.m.

Father John has been administering the parish for the past 30 years.

The special committee for the occasion is headed by Frank Mikorski, Ed Kubala and Carolyn Yankoski.

A remembrance/good wishes booklet is also planned.

For information, call Carolyn at (908) 755-2516 or drop by the Rectory Office, Monday through Thursday from 2 to 4 p.m.

Music Booster Mtg.

July 10

The next scheduled Music Booster meeting will be held on July 10 starting at 7 p.m. in the band room. All parents are encouraged to attend. We will be discussing band camp and Labor Day.

Seniors Tour of New York Harbor

July 11

Seniors are invited on a tour of New York Harbor, Ellis Island and Lady Liberty on "The Lady." There will be a buffet lunch. Departure will take place at the PAL, 9 a.m. on Thursday, July 11. Tickets are \$40. Call (908) 226-7713 or visit the PAL.

Piano Recital at St. Stephen's Church

July 12

A benefit piano recital by Rev. Richard A. Mathisen, will be held at St. Stephen Lutheran Church, located on

Park Ave., on Friday, July 12 at 7 p.m.

Rev. Mathisen's recitals have been enjoyed by all listeners, even those who are not usually fans of classical music. He studied piano with Klaus Goetze of Cambridge and Jan Gorbaty of Forest Hills.

Rev. Mathisen is the former pastor of St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Dunellen and is now Interim Pastor at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Levittown, Pa.

For further information, contact St. Stephen Lutheran Church at (908) 757-4474.

All proceeds will go to benefit the "Stand With Africa" campaign of the Lutheran Church to stop AIDS and alleviate hunger. The suggested donation is \$7. Refreshments will be served.

SPHS Tigers To Host Eighth Golf Open

August 7

The South Plainfield Golf Association has announced plans to hold this year's South Plainfield Open on Wednesday, Aug. 7, at Bunker Hill Golf Course. This is the eighth annual golf tournament held for the benefit of the SPHS Golf Team.

The entry fee of \$85 includes greens fee, golf cart, prizes, food and beverages. Check-in is at 7 a.m., during which a continental breakfast will be served. A dinner and awards ceremony will follow, with food and beverages available throughout the tournament.

Play will begin with a short-gun start at 8 a.m. Prizes will be awarded for both men and women, including low gross, low net, low team score, longest drive, closest to the pin and a special hole-in-one prize.

Corporate sponsorships are encouraged. All proceeds go to support the activities of the high school golf team and the SPGA's college scholarship program. A Platinum sponsorship includes entry fees for one foursome. Gold, Silver, Bronze, Hospitality and Beverage sponsorships are also available.

Registration deadline is July 21. For information, call Ken Martin (908) 769-4305 or Dick DeAndrea (908) 755-1700, or register on-line and find out about the corporate sponsor programs at www.spga.org.

Wesley Methodist Bible School

August 12-16

Wesley United Methodist Church, located on Plainfield Ave. announced

Send Your Events to:

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

Don't Miss Another Issue!

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they will hold a Vacation Bible School entitled, "God's Great Gallery."

Register now for the program which takes place Aug. 12 through 16 each evening from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. There will be plenty of music, crafts, games and fun. Call the church office at (908) 757-2838 and register early!

SPHS Class of 1969 Reunion Planned

August 31

South Plainfield High School Class of 1969 will be reunited on August 31 at the Willows Restaurant, 1013 N. Washington Ave. in Green Brook.

For more information, call Jody Buccellato at (404) 847-0960 or Elizabeth Don at (732) 942-5170.

Bus Trip Planned by Wesley Methodist Church

September 7

Wesley United Methodist Church of South Plainfield is running a bus trip to Sight and Sound Theatre in Lancaster, Pa. to see the new stage production of *Daniel, A Don, A Dream and A Deliverer* on Saturday, Sept. 7.

The bus will leave Wesley Church at 9 a.m. Tickets are for the 1 p.m. performance and include dinner at the Good and Plenty Restaurant in Lancaster. There are a limited amount of tickets available, so reserve your seat now. The cost is \$85 per person. For more information, call Paula Kowalski at (908) 668-7845.

— Out of Town —

Historic Home Tour In Plainfield

June 22

The American Red Cross, Tri-County Chapter will be holding a historic home tour entitled "Historic Homes of the Plainfield's" on Saturday, June 22. The tour begins at 12 noon and ends at 4 p.m.

This year's tour consists of seven beautiful homes and a guided tour of the magnificent Crescent Ave. Presbyterian Church in the historic Plain-

fields. The original construction of the homes date from the heyday of the Victorian era to the Colonial Revival era of the early 1900's.

The tour starts at two locations, 38 Myrtle Ave. in North Plainfield and 556 Belvidere Ave. in Plainfield. Tickets may be purchased the day of the tour at either starting location or may be purchased at Renas' Diner in Plainfield now.

Tickets are \$15 per person and the proceeds will benefit the Tri-County Red Cross and its services in the 22 towns in Union, Middlesex and Somerset Counties. If you have any questions or for ticket information, please call (908) 756-6414.

Adoption Support CHATS Meeting

June 24

Adoption Support CHATS (Connected Heard Adoption Triad Support), will meet 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. on Monday, June 24, at Watchung Ave. Presbyterian Church, 170 Watchung Ave. in North Plainfield. Open sharing of adoption-related stories and light refreshments. If you have nothing to share, come to support others with your insights and experiences.

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

Happy Belated Birthday Lory Alcaro



Happy Birthday OMA D'Vries! from Chandler



RAINBOW ACADEMY

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Where Your Child's Creative Growth & Development are the Treasures at the end of the Rainbow Experience!

Half-Day Preschool & Extended-Day Child Care Learning Programs.
Infants from 6 weeks to 10 years • 7:00am-6:30pm

- Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum
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Summer Camp!
June 24 - Aug. 29 • 7am-6:30pm
A summer of fun awaits! We offer a safe, secure and affordable camp. Every day is a new adventure of computers, games, field trips, special events, arts & crafts, sports & more! Ages 3-10 yrs.

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(908) 769-3224
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Limited Space Available for Summer & September Enrollment!

RALLY FOR RILEY!

SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT AND BONE MARROW DRIVE

COME OUT AND ENTER INTO A NATIONAL REGISTRY TO HELP BENEFIT *RILEY HUBNER*

A NINE YEAR OLD SOUTH PLAINFIELD RESIDENT WITH LEUKEMIA

* A \$79.00 DONATION IS REQUESTED FOR LAB COSTS BUT NOT REQUIRED*

WHEN: SATURDAY, JULY 20TH
9 AM - 3 PM

WHERE: THE SO. PLFD HIGH SCHOOL BALL FIELDS
200 LAKE ST. SO. PLAINFIELD, NJ
BLOOD DRIVE IN THE CAFETERIA
RAINDATE: SUNDAY JULY 21ST @ 9 AM

****PLEASE REGISTER BY JULY 16****
Teams can register at the PAL on Maple Ave. (908) 226-7714 or by contacting Det. Gary Casio at 908-226-7663 or Bill Ashnault at Twin City Pharmacy (908) 755-7696 (day), (908) 296-3067 (eve)

ANY AND ALL DONATIONS WILL HELP DEFRAY MEDICAL COSTS

Make all checks payable to: South Plainfield PAL Rally for Riley Fund

Share Your Good News
with the Community!
Send your milestones to the Observer at
1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080
or email: ggnan@aol.com



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MEDICAL SUPPLIES, INC.**

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So. Plainfield, NJ 07080

Linda Evans (908) 757-7733
(908) 757-7561



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Adults and children

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North Edison, NJ
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Class of 2002 Graduates!**

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Let us help you plan a perfect
personalized birthday party
especially for your child

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Graduation
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Your Table Decorations
& Favors



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of personalized South
Plainfield items

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Mike Dixon
President



Licensed Mortgage Broker - NJ Dept. of Banking

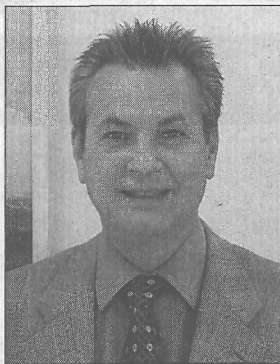
Se Habla Espanol

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2325 Plainfield Ave. Suite 2E South Plainfield, NJ

**southplainfieldpeople
Milestones**

Kauchak is Promoted At Unity Bank



John Kauchak

Anthony J. Ferraro, President, Unity Bank, has announced the promotion of John J. Kauchak to First Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer and Assistant to the President.

Mr. Kauchak brings more than 30 years experience in the banking industry to his new position. He has broad-based expertise in retail banking, including operations, branch establishment and administration, data pro-

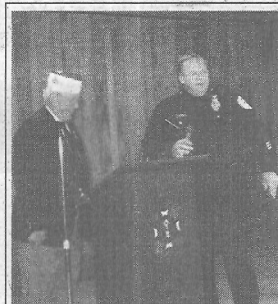
cessing, sales, mortgages and customer relations.

Immediately prior to joining Unity Bank in 1996, Kauchak worked for the Resolution Trust Corporation (RTC), the agency created by Congress to sell failed Thrifts. For his cost-cutting accomplishments at that agency, he was twice commended with Special Achievement Awards. Kauchak has also held various positions at the former First Fidelity Bank of New Jersey and at City Federal Savings and Loan.

His new position will encompass most areas of banking as Unity Bank strives to continue their earnings growth in conjunction with a high level of service to new and existing customers.

Kauchak, who resides in North Plainfield, serves as a Trustee of the Middlesex County College.

For additional information about Unity Bank, please call (800) 618-BANK or visit their website at www.unitybank.com.



The VFW Post #6773 recently announced their 2002 Policeman of the Year Award, which went to South Plainfield Police Officer Alen LaMonda.

**Goetz Receives
Education Award**

Linda Goetz, an administrative assistant and second grade teacher at Sacred Heart School, was among the honorees at the Diocese of Metuchen's 13th Annual Celebration of Excellence.

Held on May 7 at the Pines Manor, the celebration recognized the gifts and talents of those who work tirelessly for the schools in the Diocese.

"All who serve in our Catholic



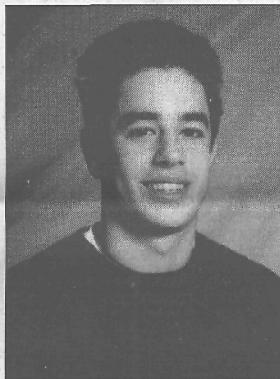
Linda Goetz

schools put their heart and soul into their work so we can achieve excellence in education. We appreciate all they do and are happy to have an opportunity to recognize their efforts on behalf of our children," noted The Most Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski, Bishop of Metuchen.

Sister Marie Cornelia Ramirez, principal of Sacred Heart, called Mrs. Goetz an outstanding teacher. "She is a team member who is always supportive of the goals and values of our school," Sister said.

A resident of South Plainfield, Mrs. Goetz received her bachelor's and master's degrees from Richmond College of the City University of New York in Staten Island. Her M.A. is in elementary education.

Leonidas Stellakis Graduates #2 in Class



Leonidas Stellakis

On June 2 Leonidas (Lee) J. Stellakis, son of Eileen and John Stellakis, graduated second in his class with a 4.55 grade point average. Lee graduated from The Delbarton School, an exemplary all-boy's school in Morristown. During the graduation ceremony, Lee was recognized for his superior work in the areas of math and physics.

Lee has been named an Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar, an AP Scholar with Distinction and the recipient of the Rensselaer Polytech-

nic Mathematics and Science Award, which is awarded to the strongest math and science high school students in the country.

In addition to being on the Headmasters List for Highest Honors throughout high school, Lee was a member of Model United Nations, Harvard University and John Hopkins University Conferences and a member of the Green Wave Stock Exchange Club. He coordinated the schools Blood Drive and was involved with Campus Ministries by serving as a Religious Retreat Team Leader.

During Christmas break in his junior year, he traveled to the Appalachian Mountains in rural Kentucky to help bring food and clothing to some of the poorest people in our country. He also completed his requirements and became an Eagle Scout from local Troop #309 when he was a freshman.

Lee is active with the St. George Greek Orthodox Youth Group, where he served as the treasurer for the last two years. He enjoys Greek folk dancing and is an avid skier.

In September, Lee will attend as a scholar, the University of Notre Dame, in the top 10 percent of their freshmen class.

Jackson Gets Academic Achievement Award

Eric A. Jackson of South Plainfield received the Outstanding Academic Achievement Award by a sophomore in the College of Liberal Arts at Quinnipiac University on April 20.

The award is given to the sophomore student with the highest overall

grade point average in the College of Liberal Arts. Jackson, who has since finished his second year at Quinnipiac, has a double major in Journalism and Spanish.

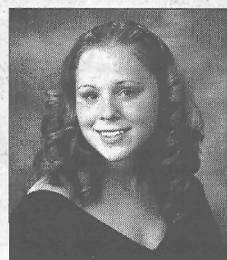
Jackson is spending his summer interning at WABC-TV in NYC.

2002 SPHS Graduate



Jason Jackson
Congratulations!
Aunt Pattie 'n Chris

**Pam Cianfrocca
Happy 18th Birthday!**



Congrats on your graduation!
We love you!
Ms. Pattie & 'brother' Chip

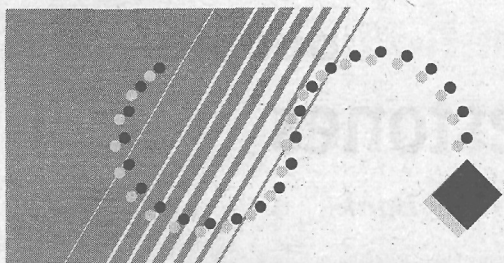
**Herzog, Backman
on Dean's List**

Jacquelyn Marie Herzog has made the Dean's List for her fall and Spring semester at Kean University.

Herzog, a sophomore, is majoring in Elementary Education and Science.

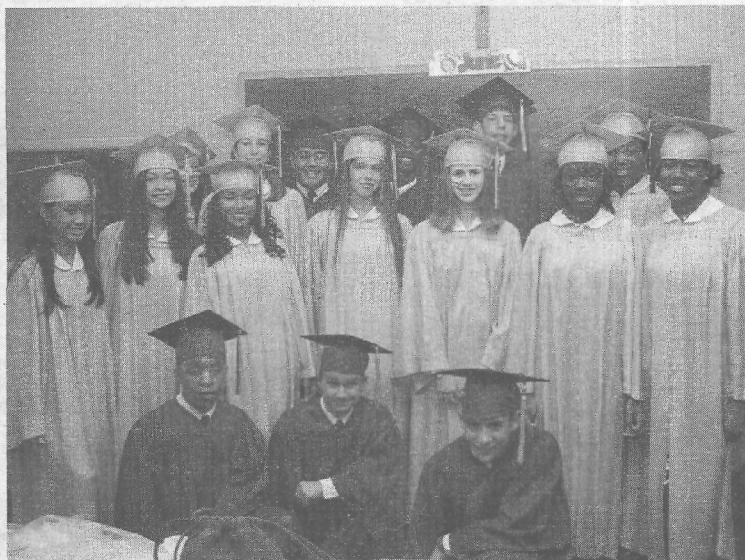
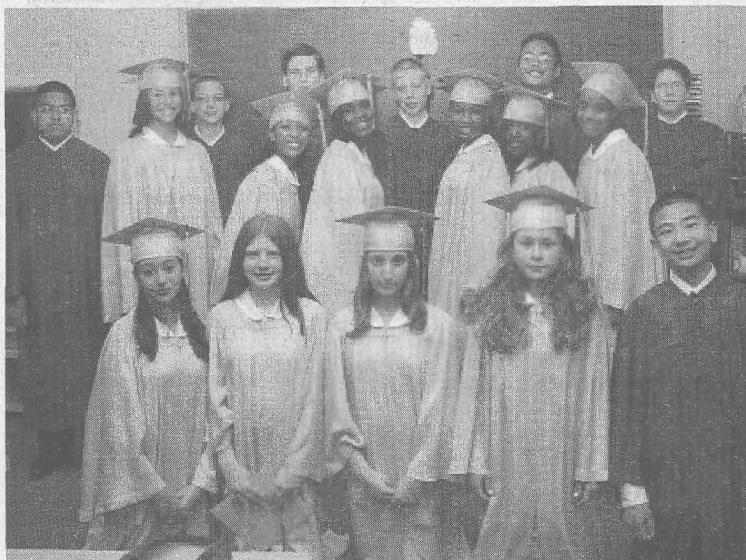
Anna Carola Backman has made the Dean's List for her fall and Spring semester at Kean University. Backman is majoring in Business Accounting. She is from Orrivken, Sweden and currently resides in South Plainfield.

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GRADUATION 2002

Sacred Heart School



33 Graduate from Sacred Heart School

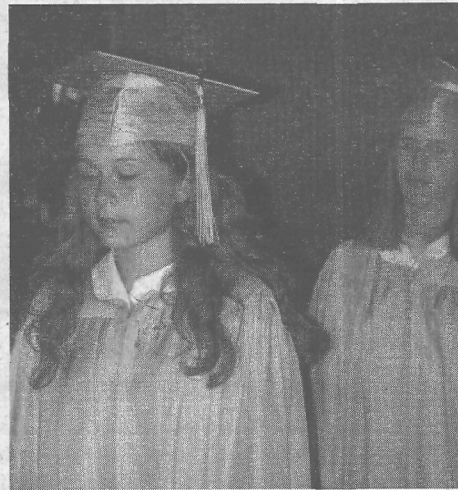
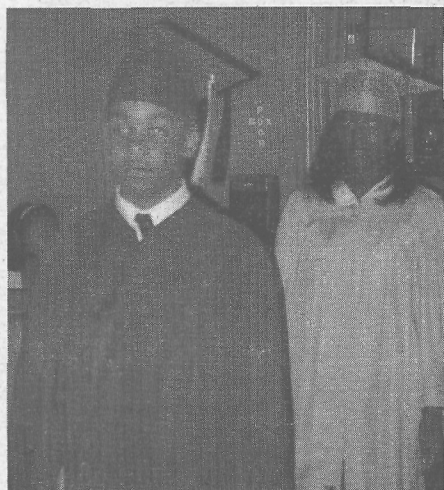
Last Friday evening in Sacred Heart Church, 33 eighth graders from Sacred Heart School received their diplomas from Rev. John Paul Alvarado, pastor of Sacred Heart Church. School Principal, Sister Maria Cornelia Ramirez, PVM, presented the graduates. Rev. John Primich, associate pastor of Sacred Heart

Church, did the reading of the gospel during the prayer service for graduation.

Eighth graders led the prayers. Kevin Murphy, music teacher, was the accompanist for two songs, *America the Beautiful* and *Forever Friends*, which were sung by the graduates following the ceremony.

Michelle Geene and Suzanne Langenbach, eighth grade homeroom teachers, and Religion Teachers Rev. John Primich and Sister Maria Josie Tanudtanud, were recognized for their dedication and service.

Kristin Anne Barko



Congratulations to the following graduates:

William Boturla, III
Philip Jon Campos
Joseph Jonathan Cem
Joseph N. Chmielewski
Michael Alan Clore
Robert Paul DiDario, Jr.
Robyn Michelle Douglass

Julia Katherine Dougherty
Melody Leann Feliciano
Richard Franklin Fitzpatrick
Juliet Martha Fryszyzyn
Haley Lauren Graham
Whitney Chavon Henderson
Roseller Mervynne Lapitan

Mya Nicole Lewis
Justin Charles Maiure
Keisha La Toya Mapp
Samantha Christina Moctezuma
Caitlin Rose Monroe
Cristina Monserrath Padilla
Marian Tram Pho

Jeffrey William Edward Pierek-Page
Genna Marie Pinto
Adam James Pruss
Diane Lee Romano
Brandon Alexander Simmons
Lauren Ashley Sprott

Alison Elizabeth Teal
Amirah Jaleesa Thompson
Stephen M. Vitello
Jamic Denise Williams
Shanell Andrea Worrell

Congratulations
You did it!

**GRADUATION
2002**

Applaud the successes of your children, loved ones and friends with a personalized 1 x 2 1/2" ad in the Observer!

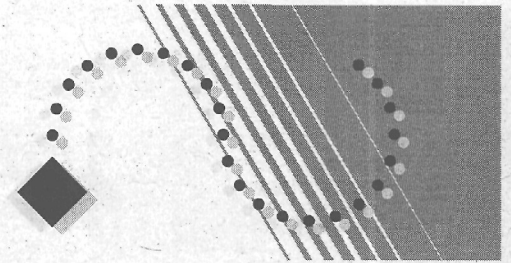
We will publish a photo of your graduate (K-College) along with your congratulatory wishes for \$20. Send your check or money order with graduate's name, photo and your message, along with your name, address & phone # to: South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080. Please indicate what week you would like your ad to run. If you have any questions, call 908-668-0010. (If you would like your photo returned, please include a self addressed stamped envelope.)

Nicole Scavone
SPHS Class of 2002



Congratulations Nicole!!
Love, Mom

MOVING UP 2002



Franklin School PROMOTIONS



Miss Amy Curcio's Fifth Grade Class.

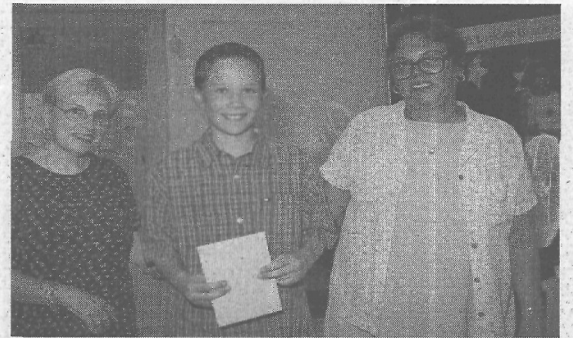


Mrs. Nancy Donahue's Fifth Grade Class.

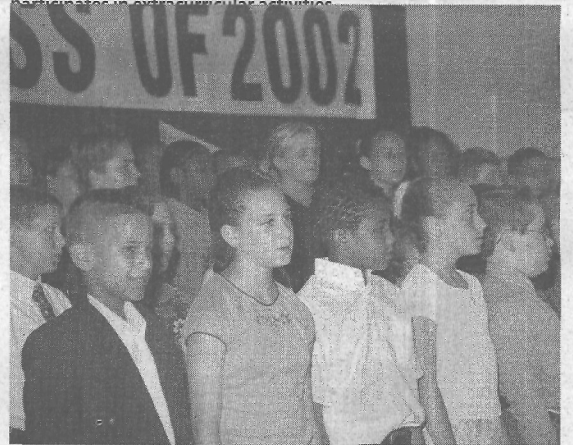


Mr. John Orfan's Fifth Grade Class.

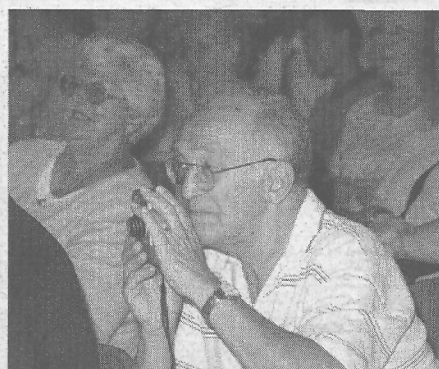
- Anthony Albunio
- Danny Allfiger
- Michelle Arancio
- Arielle Armand
- Steven Barlow
- Kyle Buck
- Douglas Bush
- Daren Campbell
- Rodolfo Caraballo
- Ashley Cardinale
- Matthew Carringer*
- Jannee Coleman
- Gina Curcio
- Taylor Curtis
- Ann Dang*
- Jessica Decker
- Rebecca Deffler*
- Andrew Dietzold
- Quynhn Doan*
- Christen Donnelly
- Osama Elarjoun
- Vincent Fazio
- Tina Foscolo
- Christopher Fulton*
- Jaime Giannakis
- Richard Guarraci
- Alba Hernandez
- Cindy Hernandez
- Caitlin Herriott*
- Robert Hoffman
- Darryl Howard
- Ayshia King
- Catherine Krawiec*
- William Lamastro
- Christopher Lesniak*
- Kenneth Luckey
- Michael Maiorino
- Alyssa McCreesh
- Gilbert McKimm
- Adea McKnight
- Codi Merritt
- Stanley Mitchell
- David Monroe
- John Neesan
- Brittany Norman
- Raquel Oades
- Nosavoen Ogevoen*
- Douglas Porzio
- Samantha Rebibmas
- Wilfredo Rosado
- Alyssa Rutowski*
- Kyle Schroeder
- Brittany Smith
- Rachel Smith*
- Andrew Staynings
- Spencer Stubbs
- Christine Snogans*
- Elizabeth Tran
- Brittany Tucci
- Alexander Vajda*
- Ryan Voelkel
- Nicole Walker
- Kaleigh White

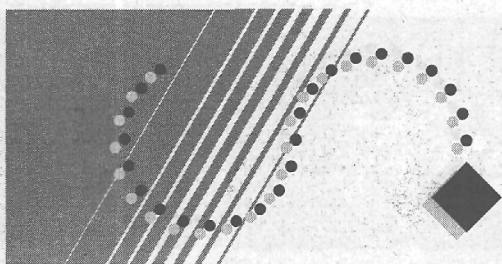


Christopher Lesniak (above) and Rebecca Deffler (below) were presented the Franklin School Annual Thomas Lenahan Award for 2002 by Mrs. Winston and Miss Mruz. The Thomas Lenahan Memorial Award is awarded to a student who demonstrates a positive attitude towards school, consistently shows effort in all academic areas, contributes in a positive manner to total school activities and participates in extra-curricular activities.



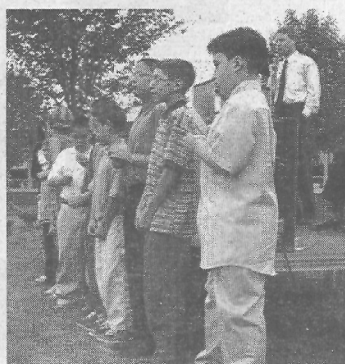
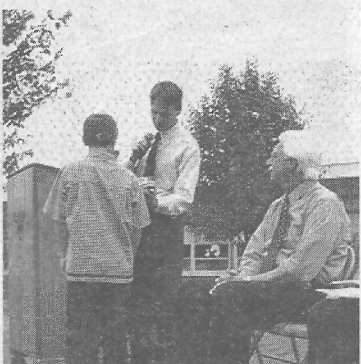
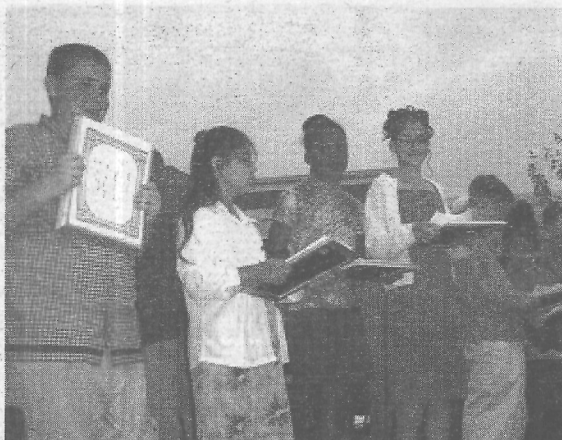
*President's Award





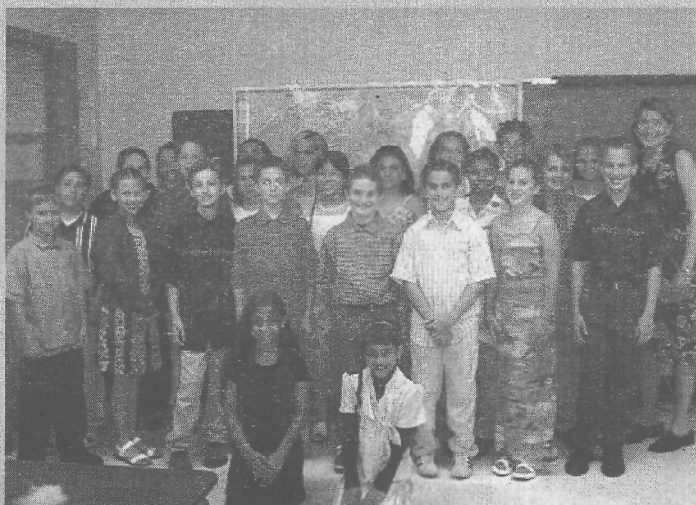
MOVING UP 2002

Kennedy School PROMOTIONS



- Noelle Aguilar
- Jorge Alvarez*
- Ishmeet Arora
- Danielle Atcachunas
- Katherine Baldassar*
- John Barry
- Lindsay Barton
- Francesca Bayak*
- Kenneth Breslau
- Barry Brown
- Kurt Carlson
- Steven Chen
- Christina Cornelius
- Jared Czech*
- Michael Dandola
- James DeLillo
- Michael Dezman*
- Jennifer Disch
- Jake Donohue
- Brian Erhardt
- Allan Garcia
- Cindy Garzon
- Jason Gray
- Richard Harzula*
- Terry Ho*
- Nicholas Jeglinski*
- Sara Johnson
- Alan Kasmer
- Matthew Kopchak*
- Joseph Lacerda
- Phong Lai
- Sheryl Lipuma*
- Anthony Louise*
- Kelly McCormack*
- Ian McGregor
- Joseph Mennuti*
- Lisa Migliore*
- Timothy Moskal*
- Jessica Murtagh*
- Russell Nash
- Joanna Nastarowicz
- Kirsten Nuber*
- Eric Nuber*
- Brittany Okoszko
- Kaitlyn Pangborn
- Dominic Papa*
- Danielle Phillips
- Annie Polanco
- Matthew Praul*
- Michael Pullen*
- Kyle Quail*
- Danicile Ranger
- Nicole Rann
- Johnathan Schurr
- Amber Scott
- Anciri Sheth
- Anthony Simms
- Michael Skeete
- Nicole Soisson
- Scott Suleski*
- Alyssa Sutherland
- Tiffany Tangorra
- Victoria Tran*
- Jeanne Ulaia
- Christine Usuriello
- Anthony Usuriello
- Andrea Vedutis
- Gina Viola
- Richard Walton
- Erik White*
- Robert Yulick

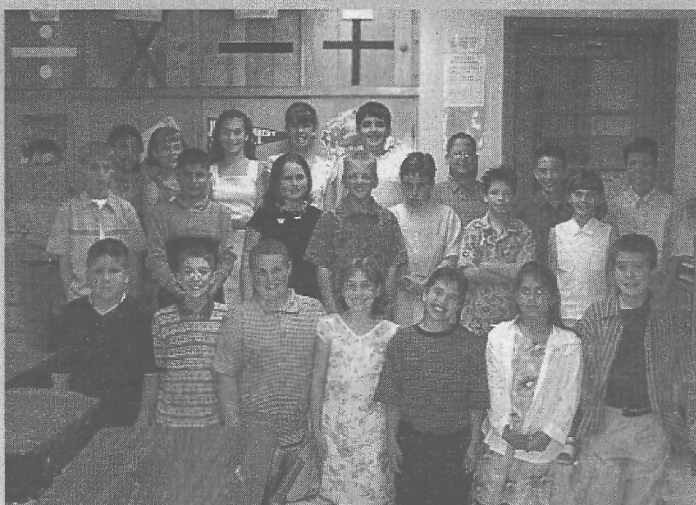
* President's Award



Miss Michelle O'Toole's Fifth Grade Class.

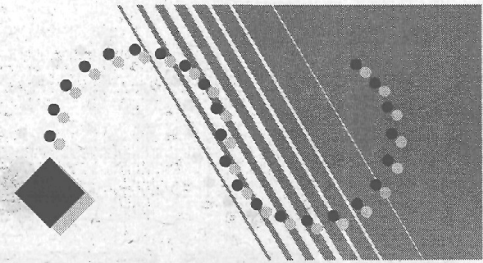


Mr. James Miller's Fifth Grade Class.



Mrs. Jill Patetta's Fifth Grade Class.

MOVING UP 2002



John E. Riley School PROMOTIONS



Mrs. Eleanor Gaffney's Fifth Grade Class.



Miss Lauren McGrath's Fifth Grade Class.



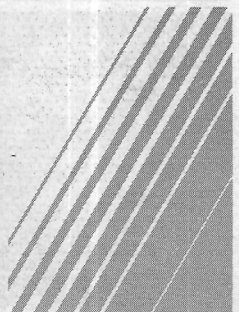
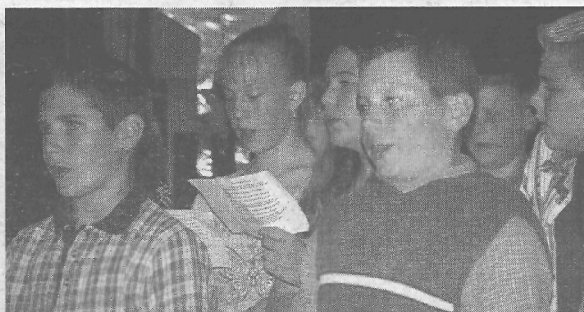
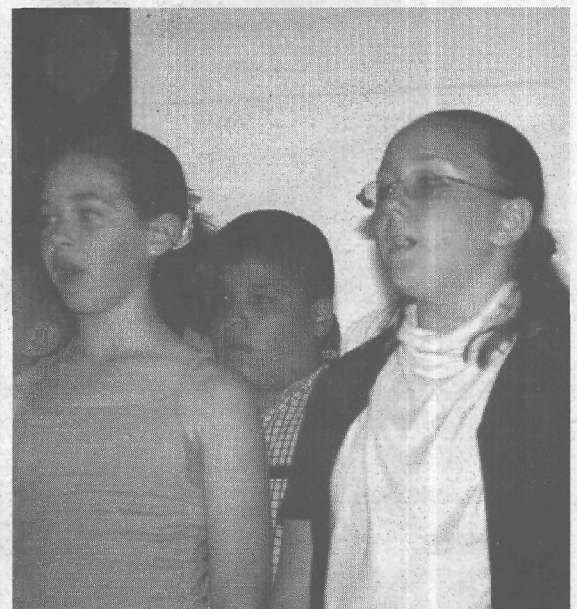
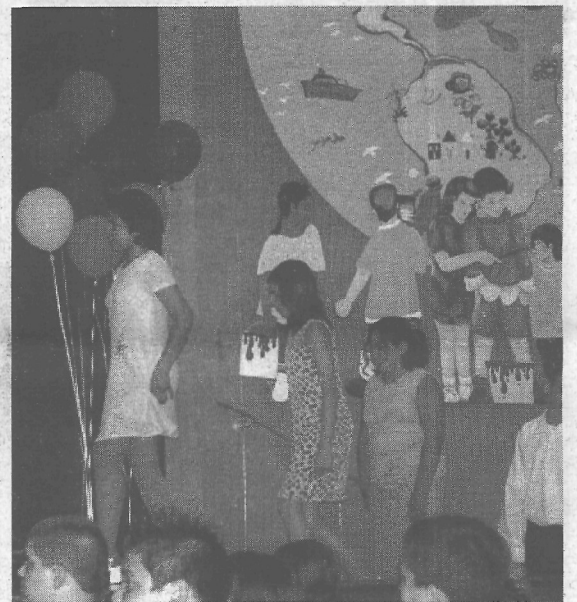
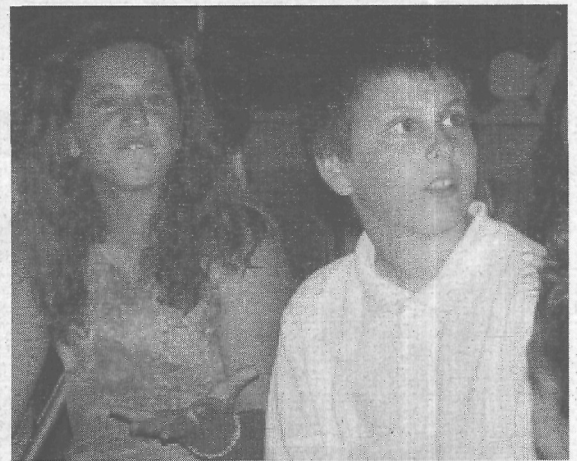
Mrs. Maria Sottiriou's Fifth Grade Class.

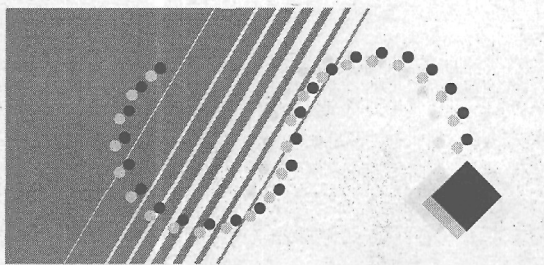
*President's Award † Improvement Awards

- Mrs. Gaffney
- Jonathan Addesa
- Thomas Barney
- Samantha Barthel
- Henry Carrillo
- Eliezer Cepeda
- Kyle Chandler-Sanchez
- Sean Coffey†
- Courtney Easterday*
- Ashley Galan*
- Keri Gould*
- Jennifer Gustafson
- Shane Howard
- Christopher Izzit†
- Shakera Jones
- Stephen Kelly*
- Colleen Mackenzie†
- Martha Mejia
- Timothy Oppel*
- Kimberly Pham
- Carly Reuter
- Patricia Robles
- Rhianna Ruzicki-DiPaulo
- Michelle Slovert†
- Salvador Soto
- Vincent Stark†

- Miss McGrath
- Christopher Ascencio
- Tarun Bhatnagar*
- Danielle Blackford
- Jacqueline Bosse†
- Michael Boyle*
- Michael Bumback†
- Allison Clawans*
- Jonathan Conroy
- Justin Ditmars†
- Michael Eustice
- Lindsay Fredericks*
- Mark Garcia
- Christopher Hartje
- Amanda Hunterdon
- Michelle Kobilis*
- Stephanie Milicia†
- Tramane Miller
- Alex Nieradka
- Mark Piltz
- Christopher Seesselberg*
- Rocco Severini
- Richard Sierzaga*
- David Valerio
- Stephen Wagner†
- Nicholas Whitney
- Jelissa Williams

- Mrs. Sottiriou
- Lee Aboosamara
- Michael Burton†
- Maxwell Butler*
- Danielle Butrico
- Lauren Diana*
- Steven Diaz†
- Luis Dubon
- Joseph Grenniert†
- Rinita Gulliani*
- Ashley Hawkins
- Ashley Kwasniewski-Knoff
- Stephanie Lanza†
- Darien Miller
- Cornelius Mootoo
- Kelly Nguyen
- Patrick Nolty†
- Matthew Ortiz
- Nicholas Pauls†
- Timothy Ratti*
- Theodore Skwiat
- Mark Sprenger
- Stevie Stark
- Nora Stasio*
- Kara Thomas*
- Nicholas Vallone*
- Paul Zushma†





MOVING UP 2002

Roosevelt School PROMOTIONS



Mrs. Allen
 Abraham Amini
 Vikash Budhan
 Audrey Cupo*
 Taylor Deskins*
 Stephanie DiCindio*
 Ralph Dimayuga*
 Gloria Esaw
 Renato Francia
 Wayne Francis
 Stephen Garry*
 Maricela Gonzalez*
 Nancy Grieb†
 Amy Hayes
 Antonette Hudak*
 Alexa Kunch*
 Carlos Loyo
 Klayton McDaniel
 Nicole Palchik*
 Priya Patel
 Jordan Petriello
 Joshua Rivera
 Saira Sheikh*
 Sagar Sindha*
 Nelson Soriano Jr.*
 Susan Tian



Mrs. Andrea Allen's Fifth Grade Class.



Ms. Decker & Mr. Hajduk
 Danielle Armistead
 Christian Barrientos*
 Cori Black*
 Gregory Burton*
 Ashley Capparelli*
 Christopher Fierro†
 Sara Frazzano
 Kelliann Friday*
 Eleena Gordon
 Chelsea Hunt*
 Tiffany Hunter
 Nicholas Jankoski*
 Garrett Kelly*
 A.J. (Alan) Kumie*
 Shawn Mack
 Daniel Maistickle*
 Emily Orlandini*
 Eric Pantaleoni*
 Rachel Pinto*
 Sandra Pleeter*
 Diego Portero*
 Heather Stoloff
 Katelyn Vaughn
 Steven Wiczorek*



Ellen Decker and Kevin Hajouk's Fifth Grade Class.

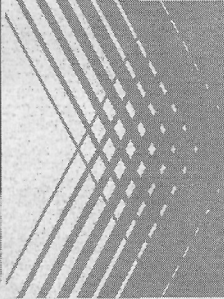
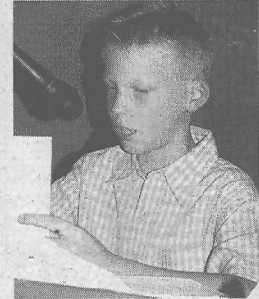
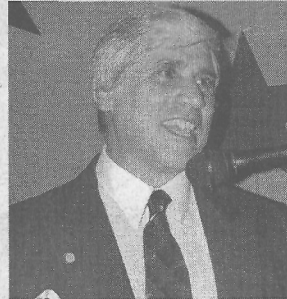
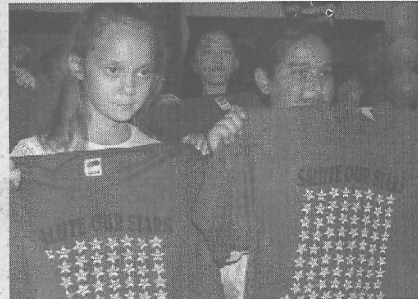
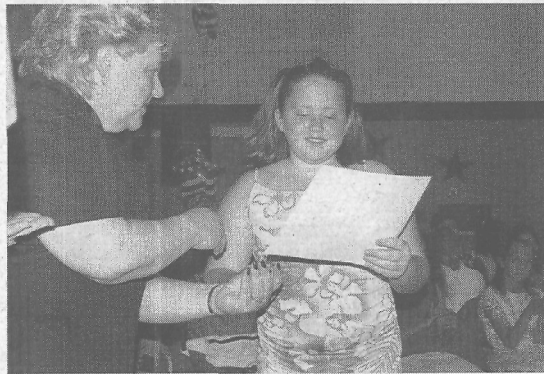


Miss McGrath
 Darnell Beverley*
 Suneet Chandler*
 Alex Cihanowyz*
 Jeannine DeAndrea*
 Ashleigh Gray*
 Jessica Handwerger*
 Cristopher Kedmenc*
 Jaclyn Kukuch*
 Jacqueline LaVerne*
 Nicholas Levendusky*
 Alberto Miranda*
 Rachel Moloughney*
 Lyndsey Murtagh*
 Brittany Musolino*
 Kevin Nolasco
 Shana Pascalli*
 Priya Patel*
 Dharti Patel
 Alison Refe
 Jessica Rosocha*
 Alexa Sambat*
 Jeric Santos*
 Steven Sharpe
 Justin Smith



Miss Sharon McGrath's Fifth Grade Class.

* President's Award (gold) † Achievement Award (silver)



2002

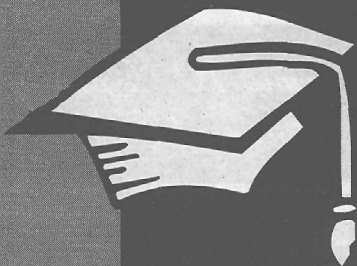


Congratulations to the South Plainfield graduates!

The South Plainfield *Observer* and the following businesses congratulate and support all the graduates and wish you all success in your future endeavors.

- High School
- Middle School
- Franklin Elementary
- John F. Kennedy
- John E. Riley
- Roosevelt Elementary
- Sacred Heart School
- Future Stars Preschool
- Adult School

And all South Plainfield College Graduates



Congratulations 2002 Graduates!

Mohn's Flowers & Fancy Foods
2325 Plainfield Avenue
(908) 561-2808

Congratulations Graduates!

John Cecchettini Insurance Agency and Holly Park Insurable Agency
1510 Park Avenue
(908) 755-3342

Congratulations 2002 Graduates!

THATCHER & LANZA
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
2416 Plainfield Avenue
(908) 753-6010

Congratulations 2002 Graduates!

BAGEL STOP
23 South Plainfield Avenue
(908) 753-4334

Congratulations 2002 Graduates!

PATRICK DIEGNAN
Attorney at Law
2443 Plainfield Avenue
(908) 753-7200

Congratulations 2002 Graduates!

UNITY BANK
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Congratulations 2002 Graduates!

ANIMAL HOUSE
Pet Grooming
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Congratulations 2002 Graduates!

The South Plainfield Observer
YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER
& G&G Graphics, Inc.
1110 Hamilton Boulevard
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Congratulations 2002 Graduates!

PRESTO PRINTING
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Congratulations 2002 Graduates!

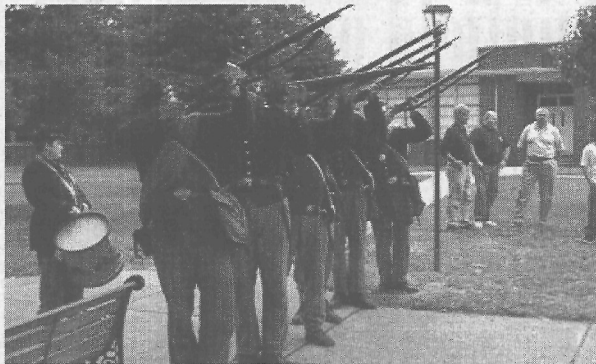
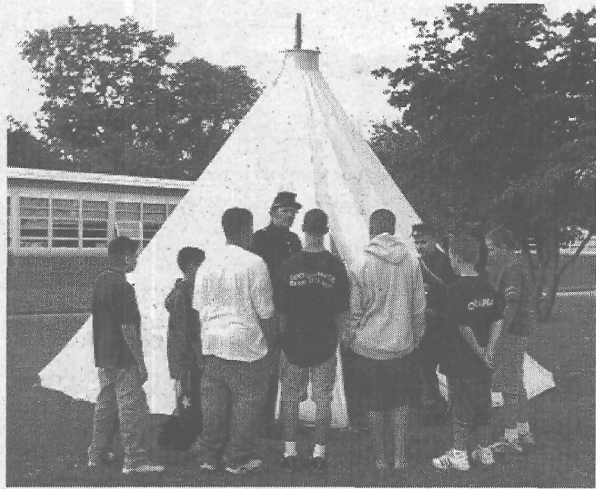
HERE'S THE SCOOP
3600 F. Park Avenue
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Congratulations 2002 Graduates!

Cancela Ins. Brokerage LLC
2350 Oxford Avenue
(908) 755-3342



Civil War Comes Alive at Middle School



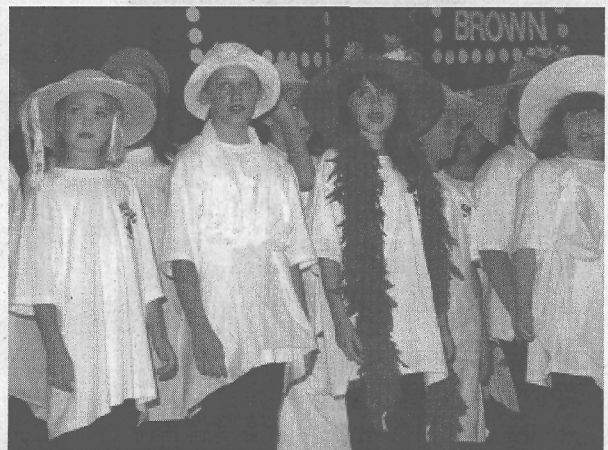
South Plainfield resident Tom Edridge led his 43rd New York Volunteer Infantry into the Middle School and set up a camp in the school's courtyard recently. Approximately six volunteers participated in this all-day event.

History class students, who recently studied the Civil War, were transported back in time for a visual experience of what it was like during that era of time.

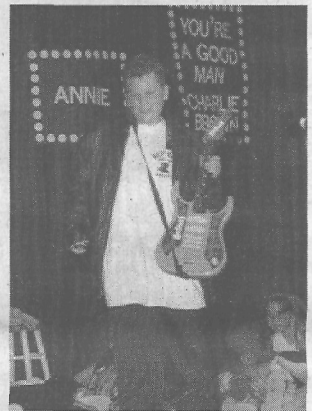
Union and Confederate soldiers, dressed in authentic reproduction uniforms, told the students stories of how and why the Civil War was fought, how it was won by the North and lost by the South. Tents were set up which housed the different types equipment used by the soldiers to survive outdoors. Students were allowed to view the equipment and ask questions.

The re-enactment was complete with rifles, which the members of the 43rd New York Voluntary Infantry actually fired as a demonstration.

Edridge heads up the group of volunteers who donate their time, displaying their wears and knowledge. They visit parades, weekend events and numerous schools throughout New Jersey, as well as several surrounding states.



"Riley Kids on Broadway 2002" was presented to a packed audience recently. The Riley students put on a star studded show, performing songs from several Broadway hits. The kids worked for months preparing the show, spending many hours a week rehearsing and perfecting their parts. Directors Joan Stasio, Debbie Boyle and Sharon Reuter deserve a big hand. The fact that they had such a large group of students to work with and each one knew where they were performing for each number was amazing. Great Job!



Obituaries

Cono A. Gonzalez, 72

Cono A. Gonzalez died on Saturday, June 16 at Lenox Hill Hospital in Manhattan.

Born in South Plainfield, Cono had been a life long resident of the borough and attended the local schools.

He served in the United States Air Force during the Korean Conflict as a sergeant. He was stationed in Korea and the Philippines, where he was awarded the Distinguished Services Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the Korean Services Medal with four Bronze Stars and the Army Occupation Medal.

Mr. Gonzalez had been the owner and the operator of his own barber shop since 1955. He opened his first shop on New Market Ave. in South Plainfield and later relocated to its present location on Oak Tree Rd. in 1965.

A member of the South Plainfield Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial

Post #6763 and American Legion Chaumont Post #243, Cono was the VFW's first Life Member. He was also a communicant of Sacred Heart RC Church in South Plainfield.

Surviving are his wife, Martha "Bee" (Gallagher) Gonzalez; two daughters, Donna Driscoll and Connie Ann (Judd) Gonzalez, both of South Plainfield; two sons, Cono, Jr. of South Plainfield and Phillip of Edison; a sister, Marcella Augusto of Edison and two brothers, Joseph of Va. and Frank of South Plainfield.

Also surviving are six grandchildren, Dennis and Cyndi Driscoll; Matthew, Peter and Marissa Judd and Nicholas Gonzalez and a great granddaughter, Amanda Driscoll, as well as several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

Amy Myzie of Piscataway, a daughter, Loraine and her husband, Richard Nusser of Piscataway; a sister, Mary Mazepa of South Plainfield and eight grandchildren.

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

Fay Levine, 82

Fay Levine died on Monday, June 17 in Mublenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in New Brunswick, Mrs. Levine resided in North Plainfield and Plainfield for many years before moving to South Plainfield in 1998.

Mrs. Levine was employed as a real estate agent for J.J. Schwartz Realty of Plainfield for 36 years retiring in 1989. She was a member of the United Orthodox Synagogue of Plainfield.

Her husband, Abe Levine, died in 1989.

Surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Robert and Addie Levine and Richard and JoAnne Levine, both of South Plainfield; a sister, Lillian Feldstein of Lacey Twp. Also surviving are four grandchildren, Judy, Michael, Debbie and Danny and two great grandchildren, Ben and Ally.

Funeral Service were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

Adele Batog Myzie, 83

Adele Batog Myzie of South Plainfield died on Tuesday, June 11 at the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick.

Adele was born in Plainfield and had resided in the South Plainfield area all of her life.

She was a member of the South Plainfield Polish National Home.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Edward Myzie, who died in 1980.

She is survived by two sons, Ronald and his wife, Janice Myzie of Saylorsburg, Pa., Edward and his wife,

Anna B. Bernatowicz, 95

Anna B. Bernatowicz died on Friday, June 14 at Lacey Nursing & Rehabilitation Center in Forked River.

Born in Newark, she had resided in Newark, Florida, Pt. Pleasant and Lakehurst before moving to Forked River in 1995.

Mrs. Bernatowicz was a homemaker.

She was predeceased by her husband, John Alto, who died in 1989; a nephew, Stanley Kluczek and a niece, Anne Kluczek.

Surviving are several nieces and nephews, many great nieces and nephews and great-great nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Denise Greco requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit a 852 s.f. deck and a 640 s.f. addition; proposed addition lacks the required 8' side setback, 5.8' proposed and deck and addition exceed lot coverage by 59 s.f. or .65%, and any other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 230, Lot 30 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, July 18, 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 June 21, 2002

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Patrick and Mary Miglia requesting minor subdivision approval to subdivide 25' off Lot 3 in Block 392 and add to Lot 4 in Block 392, creating two lots of 125' x 100', said property being located on Block 392, Lot 3 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

\$35.00 June 21, 2002

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, July 9, 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 June 21, 2002

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Jeffrey Bogden requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit using the existing dwelling for a mother/daughter residence, a use not permitted in the zone, and any other variances that may be required, said property being located on Block 14, Lot 2 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, July 18, 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 June 21, 2002

Consideration

It is far easier for the family if a family plot is arranged prior to need. The considerate staff at Hillside Cemetery will assist your selection. 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

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ATA Academy Sponsoring Garage Sale

ATA Karate Academy, located on Maple Ave. will sponsor a National Kidney Foundation Garage Sale on Saturday and Sunday June 29 and 30 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. The fundraiser will be held at Woodland Manor apartments located off Hamilton Blvd. and Montrose Ave. All proceeds will go to the National Kidney Foundation.

The event will be the second fundraiser sponsored by ATA director/owner Tiffany Lewis and her students and their friends and families. The first, a walkathon around Spring Lake Park was held in November and raised \$2,500. On May 5, Tiffany and her students participated in the Walk the Walk of New York and New Jersey, a two mile walkathon held at Point Pleasant Beach boardwalk. They raised \$650. Commerce Bank of South Plainfield also donated \$250 for tee shirts for the event.

The interest in supporting the National Kidney Foundation began when Tiffany learned that a young student would need a kidney transplant. The support from her staff, students and their families has made each fundraiser a success. Tiffany noted people have been very generous by donating items for the sale. She is confident the huge garage sale will provide a large donation to the National Kidney Foundation. For more information call 755-5440.

Classifieds

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

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2 P/T POSITIONS AT CHRISTIAN Learning Center. Immed. openings for Admin. Asst. & Bookkeeper. AA approx. 20-25 hrs/wk, yr. round. Contact w/parents by letter, phone & in-person as well as related filing and recordkeep.; Word & Excel a plus. Bkpr approx. 8-10 hrs/wk, yr round. Respon. inc. A/P, A/R, G/L & QuickBooks a plus. Fax resume w/cover letter stating prev. pos. & salary history to: 908-756-2151 or mail to Chris Tavaglione, 186 Oak Manor Pkwy, So Plfd, NJ 07080.

RECEPTIONIST/OFFICE CLERK Local Architectural firm seeking a receptionist w/general office skills, good telephone manners & working knowl. office based computer applications nec. Benefit package avail. Contact Cornerstone Architectural Group 908-753-7004, or forward resume with salary require. to 202 Hamilton Blvd., So. Plainfield, NJ 07080, Fax 908-753-0202, E-Mail: email@cornerstonead.com.

F/T OFFICE HELP. REAL ESTATE appraisal company in need of help. Call or fax resume. Tel. 908-757-9199, fax 908-757-4653.

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OZ Fest Tickets for July. (732) 545-3132.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

TAX SALE NOTICE
NOTICE OF SALE OF PROPERTY FOR NONPAYMENT OF TAXES,
ASSESSMENTS AND/OR OTHER MUNICIPAL LIENS

Public notice is hereby given that I, Richard Lorentzen, Collector of Taxes of the Borough of South Plainfield, in the County of Middlesex, will sell at public auction on, Thursday, June 27, 2002 at the South Plainfield Municipal Complex, Council Chambers, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey, at 10:00 am or at such later time and place to which said sale may then be adjourned, all of the several lots and parcels of land assessed to the respective persons whose names are set opposite each respective parcel as the owner thereof for the total amount of municipal liens chargeable against said lands respectively, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:5-1, et seq. as computed to the 27th day of June, 2002.

Take further notice that the hereinafter described lands will be sold for the amount of the municipal liens chargeable against each parcel of said land assessed as one parcel, together with interest and costs to the date of sale. Said lands will be sold at the lowest rate of interest bid, not to exceed 18%. Payment for said parcels shall be made prior to the conclusion of the sale in the form of cash, certified check or money order, or parcels will be resold. Separate checks are required for payment of property taxes and for sewer fees and partial payments will not be sufficient to remove these items from the sale. Properties for which there are no purchasers shall be struck off and sold to the Borough of South Plainfield at an interest rate of 18%.

At any time, before the day of the sale, I will accept payment of the amount due on any property with interest and costs. Payments must be in the form of cash, certified check or money order. Industrial Properties may be subject to the Spill Compensation and Control Act (N.J.S.A. 58:10-23.11 et seq.), the Water Pollution Control Act (N.J.S.A. 58:10A-1 et seq.), and the Industrial Site Recovery Act (N.J.S.A. 13:1k-6 et seq.). In addition, the municipality is precluded from issuing a tax sale certificate to any prospective purchaser who is or may be in any way connected to the prior owner or operator of the site. The lands to be sold are described in accordance with the last tax duplicate as follows:

TAX SALE LIST

Table with columns: Block Lot Qual, Owner Name, Amount. Contains multiple columns of property listings with owner names and amounts.

T - Property Taxes S - Sewer
W - Water U - Water/Sewer Utility
A - Special Assessments E - Electric
M - Miscellaneous Charges

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At any time, before the day of the sale, I will accept payment of the amount due on any property with interest and costs. Payments must be in the form of cash, certified check or money order.

TAX SALE LIST

Table with columns: Block Lot Qual, Owner Name, Amount. Lists property details for blocks 200-273.

Table with columns: Block Lot Qual, Owner Name, Amount. Lists property details for blocks 273-393.

Table with columns: Block Lot Qual, Owner Name, Amount. Lists property details for blocks 395-552.

T - Property Taxes S - Sewer
W - Water U - Water/Sewer Utility
A - Special Assessments E - Electric
M - Miscellaneous Charges



Pictured left to right are Ariel Avalos, Joseph Smalley, Mike Conrad, Andy Falocco, Dave Allara, Steve Sobel and Rick Kim.

2002 Boys Tennis Team Has a Great Year

By Caitly Foder
From the SPHS Tiger Times

If you want to see a sport that requires a lot of skills, time and dedication, be sure to check out the South Plainfield High School Boys' Tennis Team! If you haven't attended a match this year, be sure to check them out next year. The team is really good and they have some outstanding players!

This year the team consisted of seniors Andy Falocco, C.J. Headley, Eric Kim, Michael Tudor; juniors Ariel Avalos, Michael Conrad, Martin Diamant, Ellergy Pagala, Chirag Patel, Joseph Smalley, Steven Sobel; sophomores David Allara, Thomas

Campanella, Nicholas Doell, Jordan Lynch, Earl Marcelo, Chris Nguyen, Harsh Patel, Ravi Patel, Danny Sierzega, Alex Tierney, Adam Toth, Mina Youssef; and freshman Huan Ngyuen. The tennis team was coached by Natalie Zeno. This was her first year coaching.

Some of our key players this year were Andy Falocco and Mike Conrad, who came in first in the GMC All White Division. "They were consistent and always came through," stated coach Zeno.

Senior Eric Kim was also a key player this season, ending the season with a 12-2 record. Kim placed first in the GMS White Division.

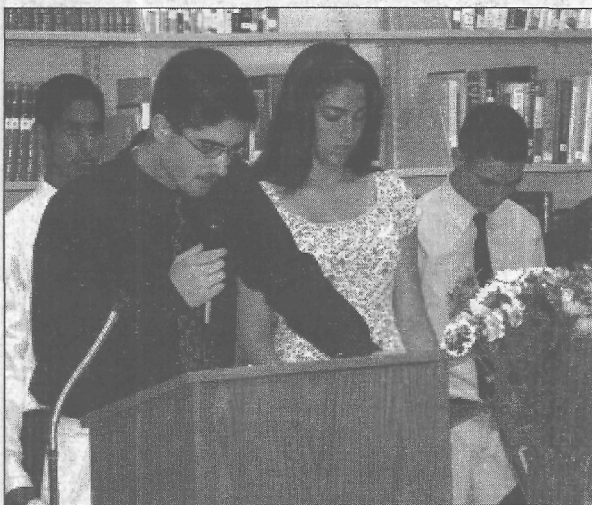
Dave Allara and Steve Sobel re-

ceived honorable mention in the GMC White Division.

The team's record as a whole was 12-3. All of the guys played really well the year. "The potential was there," stated Coach Zeno. "They played above the beyond my expectations." The team was young this year, consisting mostly of sophomores and juniors. Not only were the players young, but this was also Coach Zeno's first year teaching and adjustments had to be made by everyone in setting new rules and expectations for season.

All in all, the guys did a great job this season. They came out with an excellent record and we are all looking forward to seeing what they can do for next year. Great job guys!

Honor Society Inducts World Language, Art Students



Continued from page 1
ary schools. The South Plainfield chapter has been active since 1980. The Society demands a high level of

scholarship and achievement in French studies and seeks to promote interest and enthusiasm in the study of Francophone culture and civiliza-

tion. Officers are Scott Doerr, president and Danielle Skoba, secretary.

The 2002 inductees of the French Society were: Alain Amazan, Jacqueline Arango, Meghan Elsmann, Kristen Fredericks, Priscilla Quevedo, Elyane Russell, Shelly Graziano and Denise Vita. Officers are Jeffrey McKnight, president and Denis DeMeglio, secretary.

The Spanish Honor Society

La Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica was founded by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese in 1953 for students of North American high schools. The original chapter at South Plainfield was founded by Doris Cerwin in 1960. This honorary society demands a high level of scholarship in Spanish studies and entitles members to apply for study and travel scholarships. They may also contribute original works of art, prose and poetry to the official publication, *Albricias*.

The 2002 Spanish Society Inductees were: Kathy Almanzar, Heather Barrett, Victoria Boley, Christine DeMatos, Christopher Horn, Tara Israel, Kyle Kazimir, Pauline Lee, Charlyn Magat, Sejal Mehta, Daniel Melick, Sherin Navasca, Walberta Orellana, Anuj Patel, Chirag Patel, Cynthia Prybella, Michael Salerno, Daniel Sierzega, Matthew Santone, Allison Stoloff and Michelle Tapia.

policereport

• On Tuesday morning, Police Officer Wendell Born stopped a 2001 Mitsubishi Montero with Georgia dealer plates. After investigating further, Officer Born and Detective Gary Cassio determined that the motor vehicle, which was valued at \$27,000 was reported stolen from a dealership in Atlanta, Ga. A search of the vehicle also resulted in the seizure of a zip-lock bag of marijuana. The driver, Keegan B. Belle, 22, of 1112 W. 6 St. in Plainfield was arrested at the scene and charged with possession of a stolen motor vehicle and possession of marijuana under 50 grams. Belle is currently housed at the County Jail awaiting bail.

• Sometime Tuesday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 1:15 p.m., a resident from Park St. reported that his blue Yamaha Rafter 660R Quad valued at \$7,000 was stolen from his locked garage. There are no suspects at this time.

• Early Tuesday morning, Federal Pipe & Steel, located on New Market Ave., was burglarized. The unknown suspects stole a red 1,200 pound "Power 8" welding machine from the shop area. The suspects used a bolt cutter to cut the chain that secured the machine which was valued at \$2,800. There are no suspects at this time.

• On June 11 Clement Elkanaa Lee, 58 of Brooklyn, was arrested for receiving stolen property. He was stopped for driving a stolen van.

• A Coppola Dr. resident reported that eggs had been thrown at her 1999 Lexus. This was the fourth time in a month.

• A security guard at Odd Job on Helen St. reported the theft of two Polaroid Pro Photo Max CD's valued at \$139.98 by an employee.

• A Hamilton Blvd. resident reported the theft of her bike from her backyard.

• On June 12 an Oxford Ave. resident reported the theft of his bike from a storage shed in his backyard.

• CVS on Oak Tree Rd. reported the theft of three CD payers, 12 razors and 16 boxes of razor blades valued at \$373.

• On June 13 Adam C. Ogara, 28 of Edison, was arrested for possession of a controlled substance, obtaining a prescription by fraud and possession of a stolen prescription pad. He had been obtaining prescriptions under an assumed name.

• A Leeds Dr. youth was stopped on Plainfield Ave. by a man in a car, who was wearing a clown mask, as two other accomplices parked nearby. The victim was asked to give him all his money. He was then punched in the eye and grabbed by his neck, pulling him from his bike. A struggle ensued and the victim was stabbed in the back with an unknown object. Cars passing by began to stop and the suspect fled to the parked car and took off with his accomplices.

• On Saturday Louis G. Cohen, 19 of Scotch Plains, was arrested at Sal's Spirit Shoppe for forgery and other related offenses.

• A Clifford St. resident reported that when she returned to the vehicle, which was parked at CVS on Plainfield Ave., the driver side front and passenger doors were scratched.

Bone Marrow Drive Planned For Riley Hubner

A Rally for Riley Softball Tournament and Bone Marrow Drive is planned to aid Riley Hubner, a nine-year-old South Plainfield resident with Leukemia.

The event takes place on Saturday, July 20 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the So. Plfd. high school ball field on Lake Ave. The raindate is Sunday, July 21.

The blood drive will be held in the high school cafeteria. Residents are asked to come out and enter into a National Bone Marrow registry and help Riley Hubner. A \$79 donation is requested for lab costs, but not required.

Softball teams can register at the PAL or by contacting Det. Garry Cassio at (908) 226-7663 or Bill Ashnault at (908) 755-7695.

FRIDAY NITE SPECIAL
3 Hour—One Stroke Project
7:00 P.m.

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Ponytail Softball Meeting

The South Plainfield Ponytail Softball Parents' Association will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, June 25 at 8:15 p.m. in the South Plainfield Middle School library. If you are interested in becoming a member and getting involved in girl's Ponytail softball, please join us on June 25 New members are always welcomed. Please note time change to 8:15 p.m.

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