

MAY 16 2003

Ponytail All-Star Games will be held

2484 PLAINFIELD AVE SOUTH PLAINFIELD NJ 07080-3531

See page 8 for details.

S PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY 2484 PLAINFIELD AVENUE S PLAINFIELD NJ 07080

South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 6, NO. 37

50 CENTS

MAY 16, 2003



South Plainfield moms receive... flowers thanks... courtesy of... and Fancy Foods... and the "Road Patrol." See page 5.

New Hours Set for Compactor Coupon Pickup

Effective June 2, the municipal clerk's office will be issuing compactor coupons and yard waste stickers to residents on Tuesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. only. In order to accommodate those residents who can not pick up their coupons during normal business

hours, the clerk's office will remain open from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. on the first and third Mondays prior to council meetings except during July and August. During those months, the clerk's office will be open on July 14 and August 11 from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.



South Plainfield Police, both retired and active, Borough officials and guests were on hand Monday morning to kick off Police Week. Ceremonies honoring South Plainfield police officers who have died were held behind Borough Hall. See story and photos on page 12.

Road Rage Leads to Arrest

by Jane Dornick

An Elizabeth man was arrested following a road rage incident which occurred on May 5 at the intersection of Durham Ave. and Hadley Rd.

Erick Gonzalez, 24, was traveling south on Durham Ave. when he and Jorge Gomez-Morales, 29, of Perth Amboy, were trying to merge into the section that turns into one lane. Both

vehicles pulled over and an argument ensued.

Gonzalez exited his vehicle with a metal rod and Gomez-Morales emerged with two other male passengers. The three men began to wrestle with Gonzalez and, in self-defense, Gomez-Morales grabbed the rod striking Gonzalez twice in the head and ripping his shirt off along with a gold chain.

Gomez-Morales's van left the scene and entered Rt. 287, traveling south, and subsequently filed a police report in Perth Amboy. The three men were met there by South Plainfield Police, who then arrested Gonzalez for possession of a weapon and possession of a weapon for unlawful purposes.

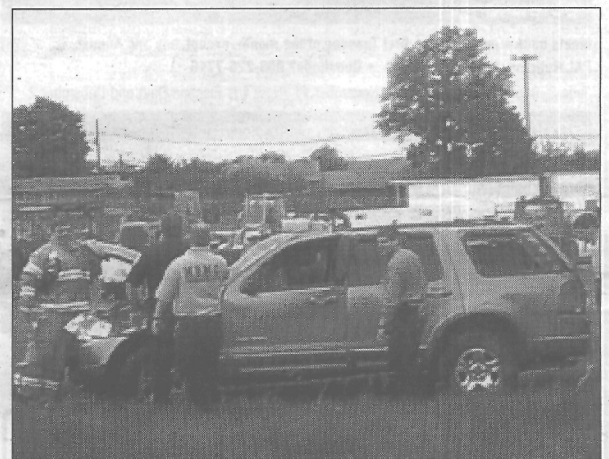
Gonzalez was treated at the scene by the South Plainfield Rescue Squad for minor lacerations.

Motorist Ejected from Vehicle

About 1 p.m. on Tuesday, 35-year-old Oleg Skwirchak of East Brunswick was traveling north on Rt. 287 when his Ford Explorer veered off the Durham Ave. exit ramp. The SUV flipped over several times, ejecting the driver out the driver's side window and landing close to 100 feet away, behind a McKinley St. construction company.

Skwirchak was taken to Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick and treated for a punctured lung and broken wrist, where he remains in serious, but stable condition.

The driver, who said he fell asleep, was not wearing a seat belt at the time of the crash. He was charged with careless driving and failure to wear a seat belt.



An accident on Rt. 287 results in the driver's lung being punctured.

SPHS Gymnast To Compete At Nationals

Kim Dziomba, a senior at South Plainfield High School, thought she had competed in her last high school gymnastics meet way back in November at the NJSIAA State Gymnastics Championships. Dziomba had an extremely successful high school gymnastics career. Earning MVP honors in all four years, winning Conference Championships and Sectional Championships, qualifying for the State Championships for three consecutive years and earning All-Conference, All-Area and All-State honors were more than satisfying. But like many good things, it had to come to an end. Until now.

In mid April, SPHS Athletic Director Mike Bugegy received a fax informing him of Dziomba's selection to New Jersey's All Star High School Gymnastics Team which will represent our state at the 16th Annual National High School All Star Gymnastics Championships in Las Vegas, Nevada. High School Coach Lori Chabrak quickly gathered information and details about the competition. With only days to make a decision, Kim, her parents and coach decided it was a well-deserved honor and an excellent opportunity. They accepted the invitation.

and Katie Adams of Immaculata HS.

Still in competitive shape, training at Rebound Gymnastics, Dziomba has managed to extend her high school gymnastics career. She is both anxious and excited about the competition which will be held at the Las Vegas Sports Center May 21-23. The generosity of South Plainfield residents and local businesses has helped with most

of Kim's travel related expenses. A special "thank you" goes to Creative Kids Academy, Laurie and Victor Kurilew, B&C Deli, Sal's Spirit Shoppe and its patrons, Bradco Supply Corp. of Linden, patrons of Sherban's Diner, patrons of Giakas Cleaners and patrons of The Corner Deli. Best wishes to Kim Dziomba and Team New Jersey! Look for competition results in June!



South Plainfield senior citizens dance the night away at the center's "senior prom." The event is the brainchild of Kristen Coffey of Girl Scout Troop 117, who organized the event for a service project for her Girl Scout Gold Award. For story and photos, see page 6.

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, May 19	Thursday, May 22
Monday, June 2	Thursday, June 5
Monday, June 16	Thursday, June 19

All meetings of the Governing Body are held in accordance with New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (NUSA 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
May 27, June 10, June 24

zoning board of adjustment

Meets second and fourth Thursday of the month
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641
May 29, June 12, June 26, July 10, July 24, Aug. 14, Aug. 28, Sept. 11, Sept. 25, Oct. 16, Oct. 30, November 6, Nov. 20, Dec. 4, Dec. 18.

board of education meetings

Grant School Gymnasium on Cromwell Place unless otherwise noted
Committee of the Whole meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m.: May 13, June 10, August 12, Sept. 9
Regular Board Meeting held Tuesdays at 8 p.m.: May 20, June 17, July 15, August 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

site plan sub-committee

Meets once a month on the third Tuesday of the month, 8 p.m.
May 20, June 17, July 15, Aug. 19, Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, Dec. 16.

recreation commission

Meets once a month on the first Tuesday of the month, except July and August
PAL Building, Maple Ave. 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7716
June 3, September 2, October 7, November 11 (Nov. 4 is Election Day) and December 2.

environmental commission

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

business advisory group

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

traffic safety advisory commission

Meetings, held at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room, Borough Hall



Seated (left to right) are Maryellen Grabarz, Minnie Desch, Liza, Michele Cerami, Councilman Dennis Cerami; standing (left to right) are Lions Allan Brewer-Region Chairman (VG Nominee), Hank Grabarz, South Plainfield Lions Club President Bob Desch, Emma Latonio, South Plainfield Fil-Am Lions Club President Bert Latonio, Joe Bocklage-CC/PDG, Dorothy Bocklage-CS/PP, and Council President James Vokral.

Fil-Am Lions Club Inducts Officers/Members

By Erlinda A. Franco

The Lions Club International with 1.4 million members in 180 countries, created a new charter in South Plainfield last November. The officers and members were inducted and accepted their charter at ceremonies in March.

The elected officers are: President Bert V. Latonio, P.E., IPRC; First Vice President Remigio Diaz, CPA, PP; Second Vice President Dr. Josephine Montana; Third Vice President Rubelita Maramba; Secretary Dr. Mostiolo Garcia; Treasurer Tonette Pagdonsolan,

RN; Tail Twister Rebecca Robak, RN; Lion Tamer Emma H. Latonio, RN; Membership Director Roseller Lapitan; One year Directors Linda Mayo, FDM(JC) and Gilbert Delacruz and Two Year Directors David Aguinaldo and Josie Paunte, RN.

Charter members were inducted by Lion Joseph T. Bocklage, PDG Multiple District 16 - Council Chairman, while the elected officers were installed by Lion John Dutkowski, District 16-D Governor, who also presented the charter which was accepted by the Charter President Lion Bert V. Latonio,

PE, IPRC. They are united in a single cause: helping those less fortunate. Lions have been recognized throughout the world for their service to the blind and visually impaired. They have established the majority of eye banks worldwide, funded groundbreaking research on leading causes of blindness, organized eyeglass recycling efforts and helped hundreds of thousands of visually impaired people develop the skills to live productive lives.

Charter members are the following: Rosario Agbanlog, RN, David Aguinaldo, Bernardo Aquino, Rose Aquino, Ernesto Arana, Estela Bacarro, Lebe Besa, Al Cadenilla, Nancy Cadenilla, Celso Carbonell, Corazon Castillo, RN, Glenn Castillo, Gilbert Delacruz, Robert Denosta, Teresa Denosta, RN, Maribel Diaz, RN, Remigio Diaz, Lolita Garcia, RN, Dr. Mostiolo Garcia, Rio Guerrero, ESQ, Ludi de Asis Hughes, Andy Kehr, Kate Kehr, Roseller Lapitan, Pat Lapitan, RN, Bert V. Latonio, PE, IPRC, Emma Latonio, RN, Belinda Lontoc, Butch Lontoc, Noli Garcia-Luna, RN, Robert Luna, Ruben Malamug, Armand Malino, MacArthur Maramba, Rubelita Maramba, Linda Mayo, Dr. Josephine Montana, Tonette Pagdonsolan, RN, Jerry Pagdonsolan, Jeffrey Parrenas, Carmen Patefia, Josie Paunte, RN, Cherry Perez, RN, Carla Plaza, RN, Rebecca Robak, RN, Renato Rosales, Lucito Salapare, Marilou Sotelo, Robert Sotelo, Erwin Talavera, Myra Talavera, Rosalie Vilar, RN, CHCP and Dr. Edmundo Vitug.

IN YOUR OPINION

Dear Editor,

Words can not express how thankful the South Plainfield Special Olympics Track & Field Team is towards the Elks of South Plainfield Lodge #2298.

Their organization has always strongly supported and helped special education in South Plainfield. No other organization has ever given their time, hard work and donations like the South Plainfield Lodge #2298.

This year their generosity was overwhelming with the beautiful sweat shirts that the Elks provided for the So. Plainfield Special Olympics Track & Field Team. Their hard work and money to provide us with the sweat shirts was greatly appreciated.

The Elks of South Plainfield Lodge #2298 sweatshirts made our team feel like such winners that on May 3, South Plainfield did indeed win 73 medals at the Middlesex/Union County Area 5 competition held in Carteret. In all, we won 46 gold, 20 silver, six bronze and 14 place ribbons.

**SINCERELY,
KATHRYN BOYLE AND THE ENTIRE
SO. PLAINFIELD SPECIAL
OLYMPICS TRACK & FIELD TEAM**

grades. By the beginning of the 2002-2003 school year, all existing schools had been upgraded with enough power and the equipment necessary to bring enhanced computer technology into our classrooms.

This September, as a result of our community's support for our schools, we will open a 10-room addition at Grant School and a new school to replace the aging Roosevelt. At that time all the elementary schools will become grades K-4 and Grant Central will become fifth and sixth grades. The students will benefit by the extra space that becomes available at all the elementary schools. During this time, we also interviewed for and hired a new Superintendent, twice. I believe that Dr. Rosado was the best of either of those searches and look forward to his guidance for a positive change that will benefit our school district. Dr. Rosado has my full confidence that our children will benefit from his leadership.

I am very grateful for having been elected and given the opportunity to serve our community. Thank you.
TOM DELANEY

CORRECTION
Last week in the page 3 article, "VFW Officers Holds Installation of Officers," we incorrectly identified South Plainfield VFW Chaplain Michael Panca. We apologize for the error.

South Plainfield Observer
The South Plainfield Observer is published every Friday

G&G Graphics, Inc.
1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
(908) 668-0010 • FAX (908) 668-8819

NANCY GRENNIER
Publisher/Editor
Web page: www.sobserver.com
For subscriptions, advertising or information, call (908) 668-0010.

The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

WAYNE GRENNIER
Associate Publisher

SUSAN KANEPS
Art Director/Associate Editor

PATRICIA ABBOTT
Staff Writer/Photographer

CAROL GRENNIER
Editorial Assistant

CATHLEEN FODOR
Production Assistant

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 the South Plainfield Observer:

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters may be submitted by mail to South Plainfield Observer, Editorial Dept., 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, by email: ggnan@aol.com or fax 908-668-8819. Letters should not exceed 400 words. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. It is the editor's discretion to limit the number of letters submitted by one individual on the same subject. The opinions expressed in "Letters" do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Observer. Letters must be submitted with name and phone number, even if the writers request their name be omitted when published.

To the Editor,

When the current Board of Education was installed, my three-year term on the board expired. It was a difficult decision not to seek another term, but I felt at this point in my life that I could not devote the necessary time that an effective board member should. I have enjoyed working with my fellow board members on the many decisions that came before us. I am proud of the contributions that I made during my term and would gladly serve again in the future when circumstances permit.

The past three years have been busy for our school system. Please allow me to touch on some of the highlights. First, we reopened Grant School as a means to reduce the overcrowding in the Middle School. This has made a positive difference for our students. It allowed the sixth grade to come together and get to know each other without the pressure from the upper



Overcome Erectile Dysfunction

1 in 4 Men treated for Diabetes can experience ED

We invite you to learn about treatment options. Please call us at the Erectile Dysfunction Institute. Speak to a nurse and schedule an appointment today.

Restore what you've lost.

Don't wait.
Call an EDi nurse.
1-866-282-2126



EDi funded in part by a grant from American Medical Systems



Wendy's, located in the Golden Acres Shopping Center on Oak Tree Rd. held their grand opening ribbon cutting ceremony on Monday. Pictured are Owner/Franchisee Skip Rawson, Councilmen Jim Vokral and Ray Petronko, Mayor Dan Gallagher, Councilman Ed Kubala, Manager Bob Hahn and Councilman Charles Butrico. Not pictured are Co-manager Robin Eisenhuth, Assistant Manager Melvin Watson and Crew Chief Justin Van Pelt.

Catalyst to Perform at United Methodist Church

Catalyst, a women's trio, will be performing their program "Seasons of the Soul" on Thursday, May 22 at 7 p.m. at Wesley United Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave. Through music and the spoken word, Catalyst engages people in exploring new directions and expressions of faith in a changing world. Consisting of Beth Williams (soprano), Erica Moon (second soprano), and Margaret Maat (alto), Catalyst performs popular contemporary music including original compositions. Each song is woven into a story line that celebrates the love of God, encourages growth and fosters the community spirit. The unique style and versatility of these accomplished musicians combines to create an exciting and inspirational performance you

won't want to miss.

Catalyst has sung in churches all over the state of New Jersey, including Baptist, Methodist, Congregational UCC, Presbyterian, Reformed and Catholic churches. They performed at the Memorial Service for the town of Cranford following the September 11 attack and are celebrating the release of their first recording, Hands of Grace, a compilation of original music.

Prior to joining Catalyst, Beth Williams performed lead roles in several community theatre productions, including Maria in *The Sound of Music*, Zitel in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Queen Agravain in *Once Upon a Mattress* and Katisha in *The Mikado*. She has also sung in various church and community choral groups. A resident of Little

Falls, Beth has studied voice with Michael Richardoni at Turtle Bay Music School in Manhattan.

In addition to playing the piano and keyboard, Margaret Maat is an accomplished composer. Margaret uses her training in theology and church history to create story lines for the Catalyst concerts that enlighten and inspire audiences. Margaret lives in Westfield.

Erica Moon majored in vocal performance at Glassboro State College and performed in many productions there including *The Mikado* and *Beggar's Opera*. She has appeared in several operas, both behind and in front of the curtain, with such companies as the Hollybush Festival and the Greater Miami Opera Company. Erica is the group's vocal director.

UNICO Plans June 16 Golf Outing

Plainfields' UNICO Chapter invites all ladies and men to join them at their Sixth Annual Plainfields' UNICO Golf Outing on June 16 at the Beaver Brook Golf Club, located on Rt. 31, County Club Rd. in Clinton.

Registration is 12 noon to 12:45, shotgun start is at 1 p.m. A buffet dinner will be held at 6 p.m. with awards presented at 7 p.m.

Awards will be given for longest drive, most honest golfer, closest to p.m. (all par three's), low net and low gross.

Early bird registration is \$125, if received before May 1 and afterwards

\$135.

Corporate gold sponsorship includes round of golf for four, locker storage, buffet dinner, sign and recognition and tournament golf shirts. Cost is \$900.

Corporate silver includes round of golf for two, locker storage and buffet for \$400.

Individual Hole Sponsorship available for \$125 or \$100.

To register make checks payable to the Plainfields' UNICO and mail to P.O. Box A, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

UNICO is a nationwide service organization where membership is comprised of American men and women of Italian extraction or married spouse of Italian extraction, of good character

and reputation. They are united together in a national chain, working jointly on national projects and separately on local community activities.

UNICO grants scholarships, recognizes outstanding individuals, participates in underprivileged and handicapped children's work, charities, community and civic activities, mental health programs and promotes good fellowship among members.

UNICO is always looking for members to join the Plainfields' Chapter of UNICO, which holds its meetings in South Plainfield. If you are interested in joining or have any questions about UNICO, please contact Frank Licato, Sr., at (908) 757-5500 or Renato Biribin at (908) 561-9898.

Summer Drama to Hold Auditions

The South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop will hold auditions for this year's show "Crazy for You" on June 2, 3 and 4 at the South Plainfield Middle School.

The program is open to all students attending school in South Plainfield and have completed sixth grade

through one year out of high school. Scripts to review are available at the South Plainfield Library, at the High School, and at the Middle School.

For more information, contact us at our website www.spsdw.com, or by phone at (908) 561-5255.

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

Flanagan's Restaurant & Pub
2501 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield (908) 757-1818
Catering On & Off Premises

Sun.-Wed. 4:30-6:30 p.m.
1 Child FREE
w/ each adult entree purchase
With Coupon. Must be 12 & under. Limited children's menu.

Mon.-Fri. 11:30-2:30
SANDWICH & BEVERAGE \$4.99
LUNCHEON ENTREE & BEVERAGE \$6.99

From the South Plainfield Library Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Once again, here's the latest news from the South Plainfield Library:

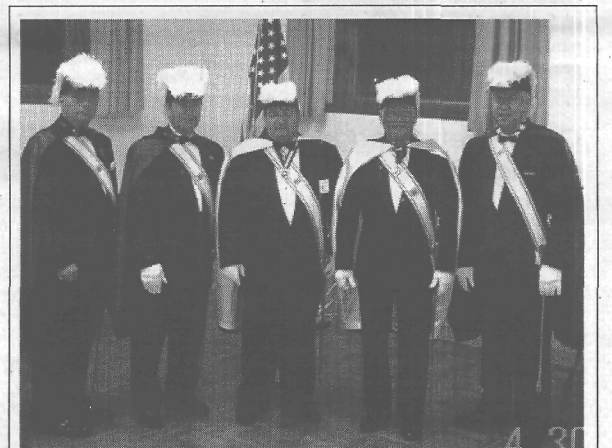
We'll be following our usual schedule of children's Storytime programs next week. These programs are for children ages three and over; no pre-registration is required. Each program lasts about an hour and features stories and a craft activity. The programs are held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. We've also got this month's Kidcraft program coming up. It's scheduled for Friday afternoon at 4 p.m. This program is for children ages six and over, or children who can use scissors. The Library will provide all craft materials. We ask that children pre-register for this program, so we can know how many to expect. If you'd like more information, please call (908) 754-7855 and ask for Miss Linda.

There's still time for you to donate items for the big semi-annual Book and Bake Sale on Saturday, May 31. As previously noted, we're looking for hardcover and paperback books (both adult and children's titles), audiocassettes, CDs, videos, and DVDs. Any donations should be in brand new or very good condition; donations in poor condition will not be accepted. If you're planning on donating a large number of items, please call ahead so we can make room for the items. We're also looking for volunteers to help out during the Sale, and for those who want to donate baked goods. You can sign up for both tasks at the Circulation Desk. If you'd like further details, please give us a call.

We have a new display in place this month. It's a selection of dolls from the collection of South Plainfield kids Jennifer and Katelyn Wolak. They've been collecting them for about seven years, and the selection includes Barbie, Asian and porcelain dolls. The display will be here throughout the month.

Recently, we've had a bit of a problem with a couple of the local video outlets. Not with competition, but with confusion. Some of our less attentive patrons have returned our A/V items to said video places, or returned their rented videos to us. This causes difficulties because we simply don't have the time or the staff to drive around to a nearby Blockbuster or Hollywood Video to trade our stuff for theirs. When something like this happens, we'll attempt to contact the video outlet or, if possible, the patron in question so they can remedy the situation at their convenience. (It should be noted that the video places don't always extend this same courtesy.) However, the best way to avoid this sort of hassle, as well as the accompanying overdue fines, is to be extra careful when you have videos from them and us. Make sure that you return the proper items to their proper places; our items are clearly marked on the cases and videos themselves. We've brought this to your attention before, but it certainly bears repeating. And, as always, thanks for your cooperation on this matter.

That's about all for this week. Feel free to pass along your comments and questions. See you next Friday.



On April 30 the Honor Guard for the Bishop Charles P. Greco Assembly #2147 of the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus provided escort services for Bishop Hughes for the Confirmation class of Our Lady of Czestochowa church in South Plainfield. Shown in the photo (left to right) are Sir Knights Tony Moskal, Jim Vokral, Grand Knight/Faithful Navigator Pat Bonaventura, Sal Wood and Joe Muglia.

BULLY PROOF YOUR CHILD THIS SUMMER

Concentration
Discipline
Confidence
Respect

American Martial Arts

Obstacle Course
Tae Kwon Do
Nunchucks
Sparring Class

Total Fun!
All Ages!

Summer Camp
SPACE IS LIMITED!
908-561-4100

902 Oak Tree Road
next to Fleet Bank
South Plainfield

Events

VFW Plans Stuffed Cabbage Dinner

May 16

The VFW will be holding a stuffed cabbage dinner on Friday, May 16 from 5 to 8 p.m. VFW Memorial Post #6763 is located at 155 Front St.

For more information, call (908) 668-9751 after 3 p.m. daily and after 12 noon on weekends.

Friends of The Woods Sponsoring Family Fun Friday

May 16

The Friends of the Woods are sponsoring a "Family Fun Friday" environmental program on Friday, May 16.

Hazel England, a naturalist with Somerset County's Lord Stirling Environmental Center, promises a fun, hands-on program that the whole family will enjoy. Games and activities are the order of the evening. The program begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Senior Citizens Center at the intersection of Maple and Lakeview avenues. A \$1 donation is suggested per child.

Pre-register by calling Dorothy Miele at (908) 754-3073.

Riley Cub Scouts Plan Car Wash

May 17

John E. Riley Cub Scout Pack 224 will be holding a car wash at the South Plainfield Middle School parking lot on Saturday, May 17 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Rain date is May 31. Cost is \$5 per car. For information, call Bill Hartman at (908) 755-4349.

Columbiettes Indoor Garage Sale

May 17

The South Plainfield Columbiettes will hold an indoor garage sale on Saturday, May 17 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 334 Hamilton Blvd. New and used items will be available for sale at greatly reduced prices. Proceeds from the sale will benefit the Multiple Sclerosis Walkathon, the Columbiette State Memorial Fund and other charities.

Breakfast and lunch items will be available and baked goods and beverages will be sold throughout the day.

Rita's Hook and Ladder Weekend

May 17

Rita's Italian Water Ice on Park Ave. will hold a Hook and Ladder weekend to help raise money for the Fire Fighters Memorial. The South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department will celebrate their 100th Anniversary in May 2007 and the memorial, which will be erected on Plainfield Ave. across from the fire house, will honor all the members who have volunteered their services to South Plainfield.

The event takes place on Saturday and Sunday May 17 from 12-4 p.m. A firetruck will be on the grounds for kids to explore. There will be balloons, tattoos, Rita's mascot and more. Stop by and support the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department.

What's happening in MAY

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
EVENTS Adult Crafts 9:30-11:30 Yoga 10:30-11:30am Ceramics 12pm-1:30pm AARP Meeting - 12pm	Bingo 10:30-2 PM Lunch Available Ladies's Social Group 10am-12pm	Exercise & Walking Club 8:45-9:45am Movie Time 11:30am AARP Crafts 1pm	Shopping at Pathmark 9am Practical Crafting 10-11am Line Dancing 10-11:30 Pool Match vs. Perth Amboy	Bingo 10am-2pm Pizza Lunch 11:30am
19	20	21	22	23

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

AARP #4144 Meeting

May 19

AARP Chapter #4144 of South Plainfield will meet on Monday, May 19 at the Senior Center in South Plainfield located at 90 Maple Ave., at 12:30 p.m. William (Buzz) Hundley, a Somerville Historian, will talk about the New Jersey Rt. 27 Underground Railroad. Also, a representative from Tripple Nickles of WWII will speak about the first Black Para Trooper. This will be informative and interesting.

Republication Club Meeting

May 21

The regular monthly meeting of the South Plainfield Republican Organization will be held Wednesday, May 21, at 8 p.m. at the American Legion building on Oak Tree Ave. All are invited to meet council candidates Marge Reedy and Ray Rusnak and discuss any topics that may concern the residents of South Plainfield.

Senior Center Offers Trip to Lancaster, Pa.

May 29 & 30

The So. Plainfield Senior Center will be offering an overnight trip to Lancaster, Pa. on May 29 and 30. The bus trip includes transportation, one night's hotel accommodations at the Hawthorn Inn, tickets to a performance of "Daniel" at the Sight and Sound Theatre, shopping at Kitchen Kettle Village and Rockvale Square outlets, dinner on Thursday, breakfast on Friday, hotel tax and service. The cost is \$159 per person based on double occupancy. For reservations, please stop by the Senior Center at 90 Maple Avenue. The trip is open to the public.

Afternoon Music at Senior Center

June 8

Are you in the mood for an afternoon of music? If so, come join us at the Senior Center on June 8 for Musicale! This performance will feature local musicians including Paul DiDario, Gerard Pleasant, Eric Seiz, David

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

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

Senior Center EVENTS

Michalewsky, Judith A. Hannah, Al Ganun and the SPSHS String Orchestra. The performance is open to the public (not just seniors!) and will run from 2-4 p.m. The Senior Center is located at 90 Maple Ave.

"River Dance" at Performing Arts Center

June 12

The South Plainfield Senior Center is offering a trip to the NJ Performing Arts Center on Thursday, June 12 for a matinee performance of RiverDance. A limited number of seats are still available at \$45 per person including transportation. Call the center to reserve your seat at (908) 756-4135.

Annual Fishing Derby at Spring Lake

June 14

On June 14, the South Plainfield Recreation Department and Fishing Club of SPSHS will partner with the NJ Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Fish and Wildlife to run a Children's Fishing Derby at Spring Lake Park.

The derby will be held from 9 a.m. to noon and free to all children. A parent or other adult must accompany children. Children should bring their own bait and fishing equipment. For more information, call (908) 226-7714.

The Children's Fishing Derby program is part of the division's Take Me Fishing program. The derby program has been offered for more than 12 years to encourage family oriented recreation in urban and suburban areas. For more information about fishing, see the division's website: www.njfishandwildlife.com

Baseball Club Plans Trip to See Trenton Thunder

June 13

The South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club is planning a trip to see the Trenton Thunder play the Norwich Navigators on Friday, June 13. Game starts at 7 p.m. Cost is \$7.

The baseball complex will be closed that night, so everyone can attend.

Checks should be made payable to SPJBS and mailed Attn: Lee Flanagan at 1801 Plainfield Ave. South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

For more information or questions call Lee Flanagan at (908) 561-6348.

— Out of Town —

Middlesex WOW's Plan Dance

May 16

Middlesex East WOWs Carteret Chapter will hold a dance for widows and widowers on Friday, May 16 at St. Demetrius Community Center, 681-691 Roosevelt Ave., Carteret. Admission \$8. Live music and refreshments. 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. For more information, call 732-969-1123 or 908-757-0515.

Connected Hearts Adoption Meeting

May 17

ADOPTION SUPPORT CHATS (Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support), will meet 10 to 12 a.m. on Saturday, May 17, at Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church, 170 Watchung Ave. in North Plainfield. "Adoption in the Schools," presented by Kathryn Creedy, Executive Director of Celebrate Adoption, Inc., is meant especially for teachers of K-5; light refreshments. Check our Web site at <http://community.nj.com/cc/chts> or call Alyce at (732) 227-0607 for information.

Woodbridge WOWS Plan Dance

May 18

The Woodbridge Area Widows or Widowers (WOWS) will hold a Dance/Social on Sunday, May 18, from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. at Elk's Hall on 665 Rahway Ave. in Woodbridge. Cost is \$8 and includes a live band and refreshments.

Monmouth Symphony Orchestra Presents Concert

May 18

The Monmouth Symphony Orchestra will present a concert on May 18 at 3 p.m. in the Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank. Steven A. Gosewisch will conduct the Canzonas for Antiphonal Brass Choirs by Gabrieli, the Holbert Suite by Grieg, and the Symphony No. 2 by Randall Thompson. Reserved seat tickets are \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors (age 60 and over), and \$5 for college students. School-age children accompanied by an adult may obtain

free tickets. Please call the theatre box office at (732) 842-9000.

Composed around 1600, the Canzonas for Antiphonal Brass Choirs display Giovanni Gabrieli's spectacular Venetian Renaissance antiphonal style, with the "competing" brass ensembles echoing joyously back and forth across the hall.

For more information about the Monmouth Symphony Orchestra, please visit their Web site at www.monmouthsymphony.com or call (732) 842-9000.

United Jersey Blues Network Events

May 23

The New Jersey Blues will be celebrating the 2003 "Year of the Blues" as designated by Congressional decree and also the talents of New Jersey's amazing blues men and women.

The event takes place on Friday, May 23 at 9 p.m. at Crossroads, 78 North Ave. in Garwood. Door cover is \$8. For information call (908) 232-5666

4-H Yard Sale

May 31-June 1

Looking for some good spring bargains? The 4-H Teen Council will be holding a yard sale on Saturday, May 31 and Sunday, June 1, at the 4-H Center on Cranbury Rd. in East Brunswick. The sale begins at 9 a.m. Proceeds from the sale will support the 2003 4-H Project GIFT (a holiday charitable event for families with limited income). So come on out for great bargains and a great cause.

4-H programs are open to all youth, grades 4-13, regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status.

For information on becoming a member or volunteer call (732) 745-4097.

Edison Arts Society Opening Reception

June 1

The Edison Arts Society will be holding an opening/reception of its second state wide juried Art Gallery exhibit "I've Been There" on Sunday June 1 from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Sheraton Edison Hotel at Raritan Center. "I've Been There" features 29 pieces of art and photography by 20 visual artists, including work by local artists Frank Gubernat of Colonia; Christiane Silla and Ray Skibinski of Edison; Kashifa Sohail of Iselin; Bill Giacalone and Myra Slava Stojko of Highland Park; and Paula Araya, Harold Laton, Sandy Mezinis and Trustees Nella Zadra of Metuchen.

The Gallery of the Edison Arts Society is a joint venture between the five-year old Edison Arts Society and its corporate partner, the Sheraton Edison Hotel at Raritan Center.

The "I've Been There Exhibit" will be on display from June through September, 2003. The Gallery opening/reception, which is free and open to the public, features refreshments provided by the Hotel, and delightful music by harpist Mary Lebus of Tinton Falls.

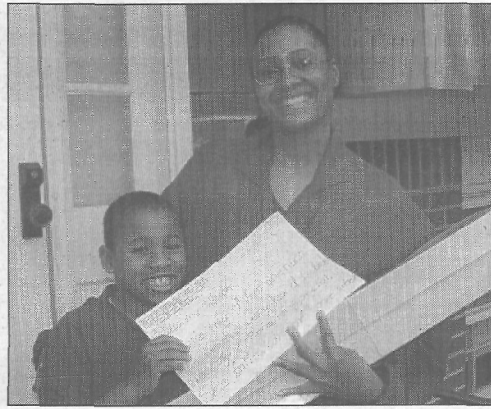
For information, call Nina Hand, Executive Director at the Edison Arts Society at (908) 753-2787, or Linda LaStella, Gallery Director, (732) 906-4137.

Any questions on this release please call Nina Hand at (908) 753-2787.

Send Us Your Events:

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

Student Essay Contest Winners Give Moms a Reason to Smile



Why My Mother is Special to Me

"My mother is special to me because she is a single parent and has been for the past 14 years, raising me by herself. My mother makes me feel that if I were ever in trouble, I would always have someone to talk to. Even though it is hard for my mother working a full time job and trying to take care of me, she does better than most parents together do. My mother seems more like a friend to me than a family member and I think that is special. After rough days at work my mother is still willing to hear my problems out. In a way I think just having a mother around is a blessing in disguise because I get more love and support from one parent than most children get from two. I wouldn't even want to change lives with anyone because I'm just happy with mine."

- Michael Ciccirelli -

As they do every Mother's Day, Mohn's Flowers and Fancy Foods brought huge smiles and a few tears to twelve mothers last Saturday, when they delivered roses to the winners of their annual Mother's Day essay contest.

Elementary school children were asked to write either an essay or a poem about their moms and submit them to their teachers. Each elementary school chose three winners and then gave the winning names to Mohn's Flowers, who delivered a dozen roses, along with the student's winning essay, to each mom. This year four of the five elementary schools submitted winners. Roosevelt School did not participate. Winning essays were written by students from first through seventh grades. All 12 winning moms were visited last Saturday by Bill Cochrane, co-owner of Mohn's, who personally presented them with the roses, courtesy of Mohn's Flowers.

"My Mom has a heart as big as an elephant stampede!"

As we have in past years, the *Observer* had the privilege of riding along with what we call the "Rose Patrol." This is one of the most heartwarming stories we cover each year. The joy and love we see in the eyes of the moms, along with the delight of the students who wrote the winning essays, tells the whole story at each and every stop the Rose Patrol makes.

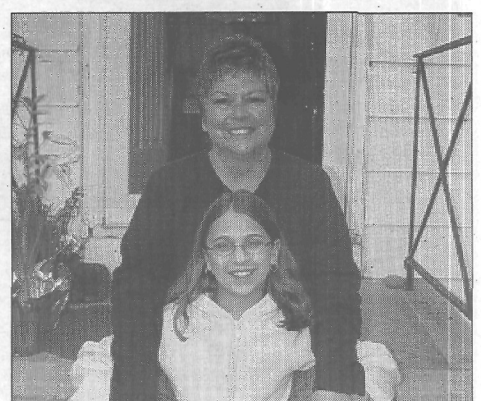
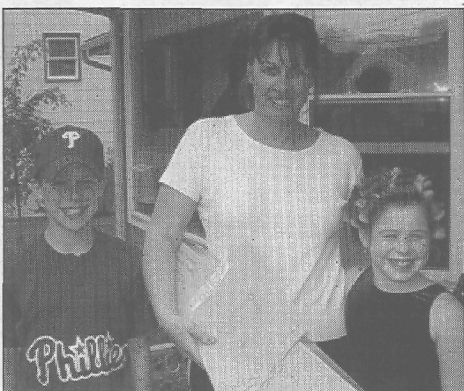
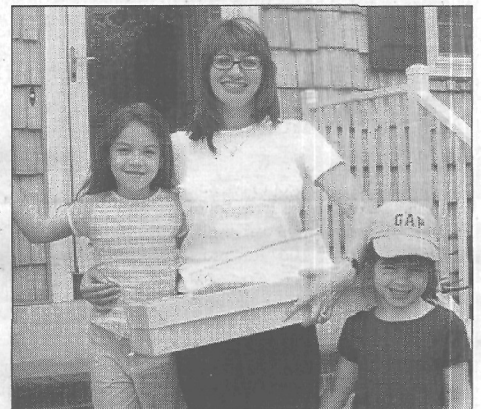
Every essay conveys the love each child has for their moms. They expressed themselves in many ways, some in essay form, some poems and a few had flowers and drawings. But the one point of each essay is the same, a love of their mothers. We can think of no finer gift a mother can receive than these essays.

Each year Mohn's co-owner Georgeann DiGrazi is brought to tears as she reads the winning essays and poems. She says she is relieved that she doesn't have to pick the winning essays. DiGrazi and Cochrane donate their time and the roses for this special Mother's Day tribute each year and they deserve recognition for sponsoring this annual contest. Mother's Day is one of the busiest days at Mohn's Flowers.

Winning essays and poems were written by Alexis Cargill, David Landy, Brianne and Nicholas Ross, Emily Lubuch, Casey Butrico, Ryan Flanagan, Malcom Keith, Megan Cerini, Angela DeSantis, Jillian Gulotta, Michael Ciccirelli and Julian Soete.

Pictured clockwise from the top left are Julian and Debra Soete, Malcom and Velma Keith; Jilleanne and Debra Gulotta; Megan and Kim Cerini; Emily, Diana and Aaron Lubuch; Angela and Pat DeSantis; Alexis and Mary Cargill; Brianne, Nicholas and Debbie Ross; and Suzanne Ciccirelli.

Not pictured are David Landy and her mom Patricia and Casey Butrico and her mom Diana.



Lowest Prices
Highest Quality
Large Assortment

Fresh!

Fruit • Fish • Dairy
Vegetables • Salad Bar
Sushi • Baked Goods
Deli • Cut Flowers



908-769-4144

OPEN

M-S 8-8

Sun 8-7

FREE Minimum purchase \$10
Extra Large Eggs or
5lbs. baking potatoes

\$3 Off

Purchases Over \$30
PRODUCE ONLY

Graduation Catering

SPECIALS

• 3 to 6 Foot Subs • Hot Catering
• Sandwich Platters • Sloppy Joe Finger Sandwich Trays
• Homemade Salads • Cold Cut Platters

GREAT FOOD • GREAT SERVICE • GREAT PRICES

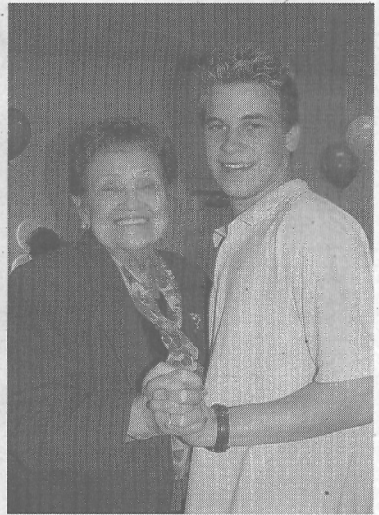
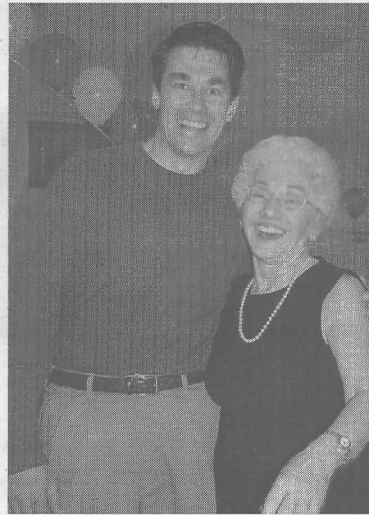
BUY ONE
6" HERO
GET 2ND 6" HERO
Valid thru
5/23/03
.99¢

"Quality Food For The Everyday Hero"
HOMETOWN HEROS
340 Hamilton Blvd. So. Plainfield
(By the DARE Building)
908-755-HERO(4376)
OPEN 7 DAYS

GREAT FARMERS MARKET

1620 Park Avenue (formerly Acme) South Plainfield

Fax Us Your Milestones! 908-668-8819



Scout's Idea Gives Seniors a Night at the Prom

by Patricia Abbott

It's prom season and high school youth everywhere are preparing for the big evening, or have recently attended the memorable formal dance. While reminiscing their own special night years ago, moms tearfully snap photos and dads offer last minute advice as they send their nearly grown babies off to THE prom. South Plainfield's senior citizens are among those with recent prom memories thanks to Girl Scout Kristin Coffey of Troop 117. While searching for a service project for her Girl Scout Gold Award, Kristin hit upon the

idea of a prom for senior citizens.

With the help of Joann Graf, director of the Senior Citizens Center, and members of her troop, Kristin spent several months organizing the May 2 event. "The whole purpose of the dance is to bring the seniors back to their younger years," said Kristin, who contacted numerous area businesses seeking donations. Only Parly City on Stelton Rd. responded with an offer of supplies. The creative teenager made centerpieces and decorations. The afternoon of the dance Kristin and members of her troop, Jennifer Vasquez, Ellen Bradley, Amanda Prybella and their leader Nancy Regan, spent two

hours turning the meeting room into an elegant ballroom. They created eye-catching purple and white balloon arches, set the tables and saw to little details such as a throne fit for a king and queen.

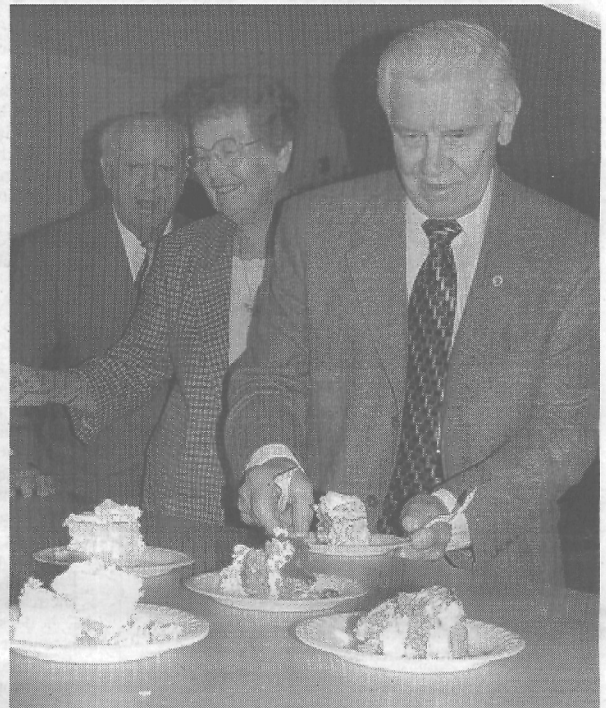
A grinning Teddy Malecki was pronounced Prom King and a smiling, teary-eyed Grace Tibaldi took the throne seat as Prom Queen. The royal couple enjoyed a brief dance before the floor was once again filled with revelers.

Joann stepped in to provide the final touches, a delicious dinner by Spisso's Catering and a band, The Associates. She was also responsible for arranging to have members of the SPSHS Student Leadership Facilitators club on hand as dance partners. Advisor Mary Ellen Martko and approximately 15 students were on hand to share the evening with the senior citizens: Brittany DeNitzio, Guy Severini, Katie Scialabba, Marissa Judd, Brian Acrin, Tim Keller, Shade Coleman, Sandra Hmaya, Jennifer Silhanck, Jon Buggy, Margaret Lay, Ervin Williams, Chris Dickerson, Greg Publik and Billy Merkle.

The guests, whose incredible energy deceived their age, spent a good portion of the night on the dance floor. There was no need to teach them the "Electric Slide," yet there were moments when the youngsters struggled to keep up with the seniors. Over 130 senior citizens attended the event. Early in the evening Mayor Dan Gallagher stopped by to speak to the group. Also on hand were Councilmen Dennis Cerami, Charlie Butrico and Ray Petronko.

The prom for senior citizens fulfilled a requirement of leadership hours for Kristin's Senior Girl Scout Challenge, a fifteen-hour service project that benefits the community. Referring to her troop, her mom Karen Coffey, leader and the Vasquez family, Kristin said, "I wouldn't have been able to pull it off without them! I also wouldn't have been able to do it without Joann Graf, she was a huge help and her ideas made the party what it was!"

Joann had a few words to share about the wonderful evening. "This dinner dance was a first for the Senior Center, and from the tremendous response we received from our seniors, it was the first of many to come. The evening was a great success and I want to offer thanks to all those involved. I am very grateful to Kristen Coffey and Girl Scout Troop 117 for all their hard work. They were the catalyst to the event and did a beautiful job. I am also very grateful to the South Plainfield High School students for their help in making the evening really fun for our seniors. They were great dance partners. And a special thanks to Spisso's Catering for a fabulous dinner and all their work running the kitchen all evening."



Bunchi's
All About Arts & Crafts

- ☑ ONE-STROKE PAINTING PROGRAM.
A complete program that actually teaches this technique & more
- ☑ DECORATIVE PAINTING PROGRAM for EVERYONE.
A must for folk and tole painting lovers.
- ☑ YOUNG ARTIST PAINTING PROGRAM.
The best introductory painting program with cool, fun projects!
- ☑ LOTS OF NEW PAINTING PROJECTS for everyone and any occasion!
- ☑ KIDS' DRAWING & CRAFT Classes.

The Best CRAFT BIRTHDAY PARTIES!
No Comparison!
Guarantee Fun!
Great Projects!
Please inquire about troops, chapters, fund-raisers & in-home parties.

175 Front Street
(908) 755-4049

WORK Summer SHOP
For Kids & Teens

www.bunchis.com

One FREE lesson of One-Stroke Painting. Call to schedule!
Valid until June 30, w/coupon only.
FREE Starting kit w/any program registration.
Valid until June 30, w/coupon only.
FREE Balloons w/any Birthday Party booking.
Valid until June 30, w/coupon only.

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

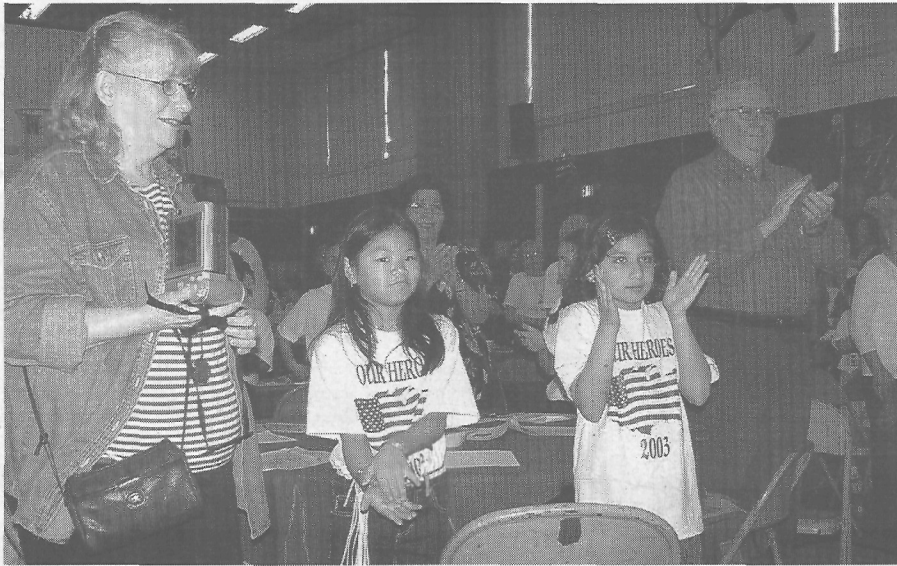
We Specialize in No Cost Refinancing
Free Pre-Qualifications
Purchases • Refinance • Debt Consolidation
Past Credit Problems Understood
No Income Verification Loans
Borrow up to 125% of Value • Loans
Mixed Use and Commercial Properties

Colony Mortgage
Mike Dixon
President

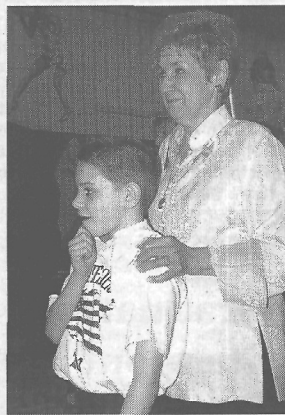
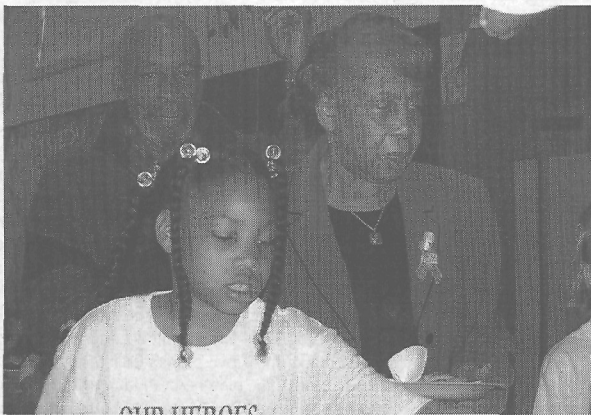
APPROVED

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

Licensed Mortgage Broker - NJ Dept. of Banking



Kennedy School Kids Celebrate Grandparents



By Patricia Abbott

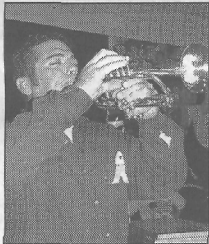
On April 16 Kennedy Elementary School celebrated their annual Third Grade Class Grandparents' Day with a busy morning of food, fun and photos. The special day honoring grandparents is a Kennedy School tradition that goes back many years. Guests and children totaled 180.

In keeping with a patriotic theme, the children and parent volunteers wore colorful tee shirts and the room was ablaze with red, white and blue. The morning included a breakfast buffet, games, prizes and Polaroid photos with their grandparents. The veterans among the guests were honored with a display listing their names, branch of service, dates

served, what war they served in, and any honors or decorations they received.

After breakfast grandparents visited classrooms and had the opportunity to meet the children's teachers. Music teacher Barbara Habeeb ended the morning with a concert steeped in Americana and patriotism. Standing proud in their red, white and blue outfits the students sang Lee Greenwood's powerful song, "I'm Proud to Be an American." The touching tribute brought forth many tears from grandparents, moms and dads, teachers and faculty.

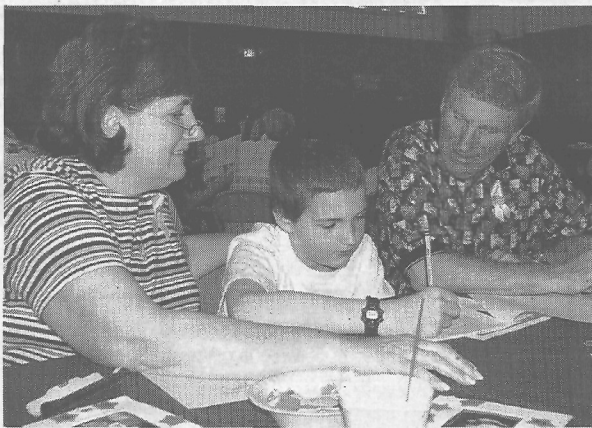
Highlight of the day was a special appearance by Trumpeter Jim O'Reilly who has become something of a New Jersey legend. Approached by Ken-



Trumpeter Jim O'Reilly

nedy parent and friend Patti McLaughlin, Jim agreed to perform. He jumped started the Kennedy School Grandparent's Day by playing the "Star Spangled Banner." For those few brief minutes every hand covered a heart or was stilled in a salute, and every eye was riveted to the front of the room where Jim stood pouring his heart out with his trumpet. Jim accepts charitable donations and all proceeds go to 9/11 victims and their families. His website is www.BlowThatHorn.com

It was O'Reilly's simple heartfelt need to express his belief in this country that catapulted him to fame. Every evening for six months after the 9/11 attack he brought his trumpet to his front lawn and played "The Star Spangled Banner" in memory of those who perished in the tragedy. Jim is founder and president of Blow That Horn Inc., a not-for-profit organization he founded following the September disaster. He has performed at many local, state and federal functions. He had the privilege of playing the National Anthem at a fundraiser attended by President George W. Bush in June of 2002.



southplainfieldpeople Milestones

Anna Marie Balich Competes for Miss Pre-Teen Monmouth/Trenton Title

Anna Marie Balich of Edison was recently selected to participate in Nationals' 2003 Miss Pre-Teen Monmouth/Trenton pageant competition taking place on May 25. Anna learned of her acceptance into this year's competition when National, Inc. announced their selections. Anna submitted an application and took part in an interview session that was conducted by Patty Neidert, this year's Monmouth/Trenton Pageant Coordinator.

If Anna were to win the title of Miss Pre-Teen Monmouth/Trenton, she would represent Monmouth/Trenton and the surrounding communities at the Cities Of America National Competition that will take place in Orlando, Florida. Over \$60,000 in prizes and awards will be presented at the National Competition while each winner enjoys this expense paid trip of five nights and six days in Orlando, Florida.

Anna will be competing for her share of over \$20,000 in scholarships, prizes and specialty gifts that will be distributed to contestants. Anna will be competing in the Miss Pre-Teen division, one of three divisions that will have young ladies between the ages of 10 and 19 competing in modeling routines which include casual wear and formal wear. Most important, Anna will display her personality and interviewing skills while interviewing with this year's Monmouth/Trenton judging panel. Personality is the number one aspect that each contestant is judged on during all phases of competition.

There is no cost to Anna for participating in the pageant competition. Community businesses, organizations, and private individuals will assist her in participating in this year's competition by becoming her official sponsor. Through sponsorship, each contestant receives all the necessary training, rehearsals, and financial support which will allow Anna to become a very confident and well-prepared contestant in this year's Monmouth/Trenton Pageant.

Any business, organization, or private individual who may be interested in becoming a sponsor to Anna may contact her pageant coordinator, Patty Neidert at 1-800-569-2487.

AARP Thanks Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan for Vote to Protect Seniors from Fraud

AARP members recognized Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan for the vote in favor of legislation aimed at protecting consumers from the unscrupulous practice of predatory lending. AARP supports the anti-predatory lending bill (A75/S198) which received broad, bipartisan support in the New Jersey Legislature. On March 13, the Assembly approved the bill, and on March 20, the Senate provided the needed concurrence. Governor McGreevey signed the bill into law, hereby protecting seniors and other consumers from unscrupulous predatory lenders.

New Jersey between 1994 and 2000. "Seniors are disproportionately targeted by predatory lenders," said AARP State President Marilyn Askin.

This law will protect New Jersey from the most heinous predatory mortgage lending practices that can financially devastate unsuspecting consumers. Predatory lending practices have increased in the subprime lending market in New Jersey. According to the NJ Institute for Social Justice, foreclosures filings have risen dramatically, increasing 25% in

AARP has been advocating for the adoption of this legislation for more than a year. Thousands of seniors have come to Trenton to lobby legislators. In addition, AARP has generated thousands of calls to legislators in support of the legislation.

"New Jersey has passed the strongest consumer protection legislation in the nation. We recognize and appreciate Assemblyman Diegnan's vote for the predatory lending legislation," said Askin.

If you are a high school student, have an interest in newspapers and web page design, we are looking for you.

Call the Observer at 908-668-0010 for info.

Let them know you think they're.....

Congratulate your graduate with a personalized ad in the Observer.

Starting with the May 23 issue, we will publish your personal congratulations in a 3 1/2" ad for only \$25. Include a photo (if you wish) and a personalized message for your graduate!

The
BEST
Of
The BEST

Questions?
Call 908-668-0010.
Mail, email, or drop off your copy & photo:
1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080; email: ggnan@aol.com.

GOLDEN OLDIES **SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2003**
CONCERT **8 PM.**
OPENING ACT - **COMIC MIKE MORSE**
starring 1960's Recording Group
THE VOGUES "Five O'Clock World"
"My Special Angel"
"Turn Around, Look At Me"
SPHS Auditorium-200 Lake St, So. Plainfield
Sponsored by South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department

TICKETS ONLY \$15
Tickets Available at the Door-Kids 13 & under Free

Sports



Sacred Heart Track Results

The Sacred Heart School Spring Track Team from South Plainfield competed in the 2003 Central Jersey Catholic Track Conference Relay Championships on Saturday, May 10, at Cranford High Memorial Track in Cranford. Fifty-eight Sacred Heart runners grouped into teams of four placed in 17 out of 20 events against nine other schools. The Sacred Heart Team took seven firsts, three seconds, four thirds three fourths, three fifths and four sixth places, winning 28 gold, 12 silver, 40 bronze medals and 16 honorary pins. The runners set four new conference records. Congratulations to ALL runners!!! Proud medal/pin winners are:

Event	Pl.	Relay Team	Time
Girls K,1,2 4x100	6	J. Jenkin, M. Matthis, R. Bach, N. Dupiche	1:32.6
Boys K,1,2 4x100	4	T. Davisson, A. Wright J. Cendana, M. Ciandella	1:19.5
Girls 3,4,5 4x100	1	J. Aguinaldo, A. Muglia, S. Counts, G. Pinto	1:07.8
Boys 3,4,5 4x100	2	Z. Sikanowicz, A. Jenkin, A. Muglia, M. McHugh	1:07.1
Girls 6,7,8 4x100	1	C. Avery, C. Murry, Q. Ihsaan, A. Presley	56.98
Girls 6,7,8 4x100	4	N. Dupiche, T. Smith, M. McHugh, A. Whitefleet	1:03.6
Girls 6,7,8 4x100	5	O. Gerlitz, J. Dougherty, A. Iavarne, K. Whitaker	1:04.0
Boys 6,7,8 4x100	3	J. Abel, E. Paley, A. Pelle, D. Kaczowski	58.11
Girls 3,4,5 4x200	3	J. Aguinaldo, A. Muglia, S. Counts, G. Pinto	2:27.8
Boys 3,4,5 4x200	1	Z. Sikanowicz, A. Muglia, A. Eke, M. McHugh	2:22.0
Boys 3,4,5 4x200	6	C. Murry, R. Lapitan, K. Whitaker, J. Dingle	2:36.6
Girls 6,7,8 4x200	1	Q. Ihsaan, K. Whitaker, C. Murry, A. Presley	1:58.2 <i>New Rec</i>
Girls 6,7,8 4x200	4	N. Dupiche, O. Gerlitz, T. Smith, C. Avery	2:14.7
Boys 6,7,8 4x200	3	A. Pelle, E. Paley, K. Williams, D. Kaczowski	2:03.0
Boys 6,7,8 4x200	6	J. Abel, D. Avery, J. D'Addario, J. Abney	2:09.8
Girls 3,4,5 4x400	5	B. Eke, M. Smith, K. Moctezuma, A. Fee	6:18.4
Girls 6,7,8 4x400	1	K. Whitaker, C. Murry, M. McHugh, A. Presley	4:50.6 <i>New Rec</i>
Girls 6,7,8 4x400	2	N. Dupiche, O. Gerlitz, A. Iavarne, A. Whitefleet	5:34.3
Boys 6,7,8 4x400	5	J. Abel, R. Hohner, K. Williams, J. Abney	5:05.1
Girls 3,4,5 Sprint Med.	3	G. Pinto, S. Counts, J. Aguinaldo, A. Muglia	5:57.9
Girls 3,4,5 Sprint Medley	6	S. Johnson, A. Fee, K. Moctezuma, M. Smith	6:49.9
Boys 3,4,5 Sprint Medley	1	Z. Sikanowicz, A. Eke, M. McHugh, A. Muglia	5:27.1 <i>New Rec</i>
Girls 6,7,8 Distance Medley	2	M. McHugh, A. Whitefleet, T. Smith, J. Dougherty	12:31.3
Boys 6,7,8 Shot Put	1	A. Pelle, D. Kaczowski	61'11.5" <i>New Rec</i>

THE PONYTAIL SOFTBALL LADY TIGERS are coached by Steven Senz. The players are Rachel Senz, Ashleigh Gaspari, Lauren Fry, Rebecca Dacchille, Brooke DeNizio, Kim Arki, Kristen Partesi, Amber Berkowitz, Paige Berkowitz, Victoria Plasse, Ashley Alvarado, Kayla Quadrel and Carly Reuter.

SPHS Graduates Standout in Softball

South Plainfield High School graduates Brienne Morrison, Kelly Ritchey, Kerri Howells and Heather Roth helped the College of St. Elizabeth softball team to its best record in school history at 14-3.

Morrison, a senior left fielder, co-captain and four year starter, batted .400 and her solid defense helped hold opposing teams to an average of two runs per game.

Ritchey, a freshman shortstop, scored a record 26 runs and was named Co-MVP, Rookie of the Year and first team for the W.I.A.C. Conference.

Howells, a junior catcher and Co-Captain, led the team with a .425 batting average and was named first team all conference for the third consecutive season.

Roth, a junior outfielder/first baseman, batted .325 and was a major contributor on both the defensive and offensive end for a team that set a school record for most wins in a season.

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



Ponytail Softball Batters Box

By Sharon Miller

Ponytail Recreation Softball—All-Star Sunday

The recreation All-Star Sunday girl's softball games will be held at 1 p.m. on May 18 at the Pitt Street Park Complex. Coaches will be selecting players from their recreation teams to participate in these games. The girls selected will then be divided into two teams for each level A, B and C. The games will run for nine innings or 2½ hours, whichever comes first. Please join us on Sunday, May 18 for these exciting games.

WE EXTEND A SINCERE THANK YOU to all players, parents and Parents' Association members who participated in our tag day annual fundraiser. A special thank you also goes out to all of the citizens and businesses of South Plainfield who generously contributed to the Ponytail Softball organization during this fundraising event. You have all greatly shared in making this fundraiser a success.

C League—Games Extended

The players in C League will have their season extended until Tuesday, June 10. Recreation Director, Mike English, will be providing the coaches with more details regarding this extension.

All Star Sunday

The recreation All-Star Sunday girl's softball games will be held at 1 p.m. on May 18 at the Pitt Street Park Complex. They will run for nine innings or 2½ hours, whichever comes first. The A League American Team will be comprised of six players each from the Lady Bobcats, Lady Knights and three players each from the Lady Hawks. The National Team will be made up of six players each from the Lady Cougars, Lady Tigers and three players from the Lady Hawks. The B and C American League teams will be comprised of five players each from the Lady Bobcats, Lady Cougars and Lady Hawks. The National League team will be made up of five players each from the Lady Tigers, Lady Knights and Lady Lions. The players should report to the fields at 12:30 p.m. Please join us on Sunday, May 18 for these exciting softball games.

College Scholarships—May 22

The Parents' Ponytail Association is sponsoring three \$500 college scholarships. Applications are currently being accepted and can be obtained from the South Plainfield High School guidance office. The filing deadline is May 22. Please refer to the application form or the separate scholarship article appearing in this week's *Observer* for further details.

Ponytail Softball Association Meeting—May 27

The South Plainfield Parents' Association will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, May 27 at 8 p.m. in the South Plainfield Middle School library. If you are interested in becoming a member and being involved in Ponytail softball, please join us on May 27. New members are always welcomed. Please note time change to 8 p.m.

Play-Off Tournaments—May 29

The A and B leagues will begin their play-off double elimination tournaments on May 29. The A League's final game will be played on June 10. The B League's final game will be held on June 11.

Pool Party—June 6

The Ponytail Parents' Association will be sponsoring an end of season pool party. This event is open to all Recreation Ponytail softball players so please join us on Friday, June 6 at the South Plainfield Community pool. Additional info will be provided in upcoming publications of the Batter's Box.

All-Star Tag Day—June 7

All-Star Tag Day will take place on Saturday, June 7. It is a mandatory requirement that every All-Star player participate in two tag days. This tagging requirement can be fulfilled by participating in any two of the four tag days. If an All-Star player is unable to tag on June 7, they will be permitted to tag during any two of the three recreation tag days (please see your coach to arrange this). Players will meet at the snack stand at the Pitt Street Park Complex to receive their tagging location.

The Verdin clock, centerpiece for the proposed Memorial Park, will feature a faceplate around each dial face to read "South Plainfield."

Buy Some Time...

Memorial park will honor local veterans, police and rescue squad members

Your donation will help fund the nearly \$100,000 cost of the project.

- Donate \$150 to \$499 and receive a functional miniature replica of the "town clock." Each miniature clock will have a nameplate inscribed with the words "Monument Park of South Plainfield - Contributor" affixed to the base.
- Donate \$500 and select a functional miniature replica of the "town clock" or a functional miniature "town clock" being transported on a tractor-trailer truck. In addition, your name will be inscribed on a brass plaque which will be permanently affixed to the base of the actual clock. Space will be reserved on a first come, first serve basis.

For information, call
 Police Chief Robert K. Merker at (908) 226-7677 or OEM
 Coordinator Michael Zushma at (908) 753-3775.
 Or send your tax deductible donation to:
 Monument Park, P.O. Box 496, South Plainfield, NJ 07080

GRAND OPENING

CAPT. WONKA
Fish n' Chips

Open Daily
 ENGLISH & SOUTHERN STYLE
 FISH, CHIPS & MORE...

Try our new
 Seafood Wraps

SEAFOOD WRAPS Exp. 5/30/03
Buy One, Get One 1/2 OFF

(908) 222-2025 10% Senior Citizen Discount
 Mon-Wed-Mention this ad

1912 Park Ave. • South Plainfield
 Next to China Buffet

Sports



ATA Black Belt Academy

ATA Academy Announces Black Belt Testing Results

It was another proud and exciting night for Tiffany Lewis and the ATA Black Belt Academy of South Plainfield. On April 25, the Academy held its Black Belt Testing. Both students and spectators alike were treated to a spectacular night of forms, sparring and weapons demonstrations, as well as a variety of board breaks performed by the students as part of their Black Belt testing. All aspects of the testing were overseen by the Sixth Degree Black Belt Master Thomas Gurcin.

Congratulations to the following students: Mid-Term for 3rd Degree Black Belt: John Carigma (14).

Mid-Term for 2nd Degree Black Belt: Luis Dimacje (19), Billy Ritchey (13), Stanley Stellakis (12), Danielle Schaaf (10), Kayla Gilman (12), Michael Krusinowski (10), Wajdi Kanj (16) and JW Cicolella (10).

Testing for 1st Degree Black Belt: Samantha Granski (14), Nick Jankoski (12), Fred Boosmann (adult), Milan Taylor (9) and Corey Stasenko (8).

Testing for 1st Degree Black Belt Recommended: Johnny DiDolce (7), Thomas Zazzara (11), Jena Cianfrocca (8), Philip Zazzara (15), Samantha Crane (14), Wael Kanj (13), Amy Hayes (12) and AJ Celentano (7).

SOCCER



Sonics Extinguish Meteors

On Mother's Day, the South Plainfield U-10 traveling soccer team took on the Montclair Meteors. Prior to the start of the game, the players honored their moms by presenting each of them with a corsage. The Sonics opened the scoring on a goal by Danny Hunt, off a nice corner kick by Shaun Alers. Shortly thereafter, Shaun Alers had a beautiful break away which he buried in the Montclair goal to put the Sonics up 2-0. In the last minute of the second quarter, the Meteors managed to score to make it South Plainfield 2 - Montclair 1 at the half.

The second half kick-off found Danny Hunt dribbling through three defenders. Hunt and Steve Lanza had a nice give and go which resulted in a first time shot by Hunt. It rocked past the Meteors goal keeper to make it Sonics 3 - Montclair 1. Dana Hunt talked the next two goals for the Sonics. The first one was off a nice square pass from Steve Lanza. The second goal was a free kick just outside the penalty box that sailed past the Montclair goal keepers to put the Sonics up 5-1 at the end of the third quarter.

Fourth quarter action saw Montclair mount several attacks with only one resulting in a goal. This ended the scoring for the game with the final score Sonics 5 - Meteors 2. Between the pipes for South Plainfield were Nick Thypp, Nick Ross and Will Mott. Sonics defensive line consisted of Shaun Alers, Luke Goitandia, Danny Sticco and Nick Ross. The attackers for team were Dana Hunt, Steve Lanza, Nick Okosko and Mike Dispenziere and the midfielders were Charlie Huber, Danny Hunt, Ryan Billich and Dana Hunt. A great team effort makes the Sonics record 4-1-1.



Philip Veinott signs a letter of intent. Standing (L-R): Anthony Rosa, president of Global Sports Recruiting Agency, Philip's father and mother George and Maureen, and Greg Machos Owner of GMC Hoops.

SPHS Signs Letter of Intent With California Univ. of PA

by Patricia Abbott

Global Sports Recruiting Agency, the official recruiting company of the NJSIAA (NJ State Interscholastic Athletic Association) and DAANJ (Directors of Athletics Association NJ) recently announced SPHS senior Philip Veinott's decision to attend California University of Pennsylvania. Maureen and George Veinott proudly watched as their son Philip signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball at the university, an NCAA Division II school. Veinott plans to study sports management while attending California. Commerce Bank on Plainfield Ave. graciously offered their conference room for the event. On hand for the signing were Anthony Rosa, president of Global Sports Recruiting Agency, Greg Machos, owner of GMC Hoops and Carlos A. Martins, manager of the South Plainfield branch of Commerce Bank.

Rosa said, "Philip has done a lot of growing up the past two seasons, and I couldn't be happier for such a great kid, special parents and an exceptional

high school basketball program. I met the Veinotts last year when they enrolled their son with our application. We produced a video for them, and within weeks they immediately began searching for schools and sending their tapes to several NCAA D-II and D-III colleges. All of their time and effort has paid off."

Troy Ciccone, vice president of Operations at Global Sports Recruiting Agency added, "It's always great when an athlete receives interest from a college coach. It makes it even all the more special and exciting when the athlete is not in the starting lineup of their high school team. I applaud the efforts of the Veinotts for creating a recruiting campaign for their son and hope more parents will get motivated to aggressively pursue opportunities that may exist at the college level."

Veinott began playing basketball when he was in fourth grade at Sacred Heart School. He continued to play throughout high school and has played on several AAU teams. He earned a reputation for excellence while playing City Ball in Newark.



It was a beautiful night for golf, but there must have been gremlins in the air haunting the West Nine golf course as scores soared in the South Plainfield Golf League.

Several league members had their highest rounds in years, and one golfer had the misfortune of hacking his way to a 10 on the easy 241-yard, par 4 fourth hole.

Defending champions Sport & Social lost their second match in a row, this time to Plainfield Animal Hospital, 13-7. Mark Chicevar led PAH with a 38 and helped his team gain sole possession of first place in the American Division.

Mike Dube's solid round of 37 sparked the Elks to a 14-6 win over

Witty's. Danny Griffin fired a 367 in a losing cause for Masters as they were overwhelmed by Pornovets, 16-4. Marty Van DeVaarst was low man for Pornovets with 38.

In National Division action, Fred Kirchofer and Ed Banach both had 37's to lead Aiello Chiropractic to a 11-9 win over Patri Construction.

Twin City and KC's Korner met to determine first-place honors and their exciting match ended in a 10-10 tie so both teams remain deadlocked. Jerry Minlionica led the way for Twin City with a 39.

Hank's Hackers, playing with one man short, got fine performances from the rest of the team and came up with a 13-7 win over VFW.

juniorbaseballclubnotes

C League Game Summaries (8 & 9 year olds)

Phillies vs. A's—Phillies-Cory Harrell went one for two at the plate and played a very strong defense, while his teammate Tyler Hunt went two for three with the bat and had an excellent couple of innings behind the plate.

Pirates Vs. Tigers—Pirates-Jeffrey Pellegrino pitched two strong innings with two strike outs. On defense Jacob Rotella had a putout at first base while Tyler Lewis scored a big run for the Pirates. Tigers-Luke Giammarino had a clean base hit and teammate Dylan Dorey went three for four with four big RBIs.

Phillies vs. Indians—Phillies- John McDonough made a great play at second base and Cory Harrell pitched a very good inning. Indians- Joey Cornelius and Austin Jenkin each pitched one strong inning.

Dodgers vs. A's—Dodgers-Sam Steingart played smart baseball on the base paths and scored on a single while his teammate Joshua Coupe had a solid single. A's- The entire team continues to show improvement with each game.

Red Sox vs. Dodgers—Dodgers- Tyler Clinedinst pitched two solid innings while his teammate Sam Steingart drove in two big runs.

Pirates vs. Cardinals—Pirates-Joshua Rochotte smacked out a base hit and teammate Jacob Rotella had a good inning behind the plate. Cardinals- Troy Heilmann had a clean base hit, Stephen Petriello had a long double and Chris Kukuch pitched two scoreless innings.

Small Fry A Highlights: Yankees vs. Cardinals- Joey Mennuti stole home and had two hits to lead the Yankees. The Cardinals' Kyle Quail had a good game.

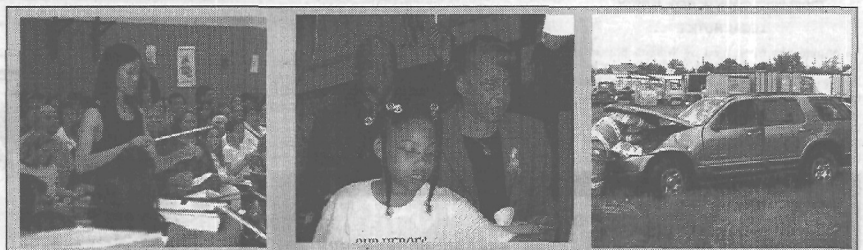
Dodgers vs. Athletics- Nick Heilmann pitched three innings, striking out nine Athletics. For the Athletics, Chris Lesniak had a good game.

Small Fry B Highlights: Indians vs. Red Sox-For the Indians, Brandon Downes hit a grand slam and Jeff Praul went four for four. Gerry Pinto had a good game for the Red Sox.

Yankees vs. Giants-For the Yankees, Richie Szeliga went three for three and the Giants' Corey Hay had three hits and drove in the winning run with a double. Mike Wagner pitched four great innings, striking out seven Yankee batters.

Pirates vs. Yankees-Jonathon Ditmars reached base three times, including two base hits for the Pirates. Richie Szeliga pitched three super innings, holding the Pirates scoreless. Richie Szeliga also had two hits and made some great fielding plays for the Yankees. The Yankees' Kristopher Baker and Christopher Marrone each banded a double and drove in two runs a piece.

Don't Miss Another Issue of the South Plainfield Observer!!



There's so much going on in South Plainfield! Don't miss any of it! Enjoy the Observer every week mailed to your home.

Subscribe Today!

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 ggnan@aol.com and send your check to the above address.

I would like home delivery of the Observer.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SOIL REMEDIATION AT THE VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK AND PARK IMPROVEMENT BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Notice to Bidders hereby is given that Bids are invited and will be received as set forth below:

- 1. OWNER: BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
2. WORK TITLE: SOIL REMEDIATION AT THE VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK AND PARK IMPROVEMENT
3. WORK SITE: Veterans Memorial Park
4. ENGINEER: PMK Group

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be received by the Mayor and City Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, Middlesex County, New Jersey for the Remediation of Contaminated Soil and Park Improvement at The Veterans Memorial Park and opened and read in public at the Borough Clerk's Office, on June 4, 2003 at 11 a.m., prevailing time.

The prospective contractor shall be responsible for performing soil remediation and park restoration in accordance with the approved Site Investigation Report/ Interim Remedial Action Workplan (SIR/IRAW), dated October 18, 2002, and applicable NJDEP regulations.

Contract Documents and Plans for the proposed work, prepared by PMK Group, Consulting & Environmental Engineers, 65 Jackson Drive, Cranford, New Jersey 07016, are on file in the Office of the Engineer and may be inspected by prospective bidders during business hours.

Bidders will be furnished with a copy of the contract documents and plans by the PMK Group upon proper notice and payment of a nonrefundable charge of seventy dollars (\$70) to defray the cost thereof.

Work is to be completed in ninety (90) calendar days, and is to consist of the following three (3) phases:

Phase I- Excavation of soil containing "tar-like" substance, staging, loading, transportation, disposal, and site restoration as specified in the project specifications.

Phase II- Site cleaning, limited excavation of asbestos containing tiles, staging, loading, disposal and site restoration as specified in the project specifications.

Phase III- Site clearing, grading and encapsulation of PCB contaminated soil as specified in the project specifications.

Proposals must be made on the Standard Proposal Forms in a manner designated in the contract documents, must be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the name and address of the bidder and the name of the work on the outside, addressed to the Borough of South Plainfield and must be accompanied by a Statement of Consent of Surety from a surety company holding a Certificate of Authorization to do business in the State of New Jersey and a bid guarantee for not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount bid except that the bid guarantee need not exceed \$20,000.00.

Contract Documents are available solely for the purpose of obtaining Bids and not to confer a license or grant for any other purpose.

A pre-bid meeting will be held at the Veterans Memorial Park on May 23, 2003 at 10 a.m.

Bidders are required to comply with the current requirements of P.L. 1975, c. 127 (Affirmative Action) and P.L. 1977, c.33 (Disclosure of Ownership).

The successful bidder shall be required to comply with the provisions of the New Jersey Prevailing Wage Act, Chapter 150 of the Laws of 1963, effective January 1, 1964.

The contract shall not be approved until a favorable eligibility determination has been made by the Borough of South Plainfield.

BY THE ORDER OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD.

ATTEST: Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk

\$153.00 May 16, 2003

LEGAL NOTICE

Alcohol Beverage Control

Take notice that application has been made to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board of the Borough of South Plainfield, located at 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080 to transfer to SHARDA VESHNO CORPORATION for premises located at 2991 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield, NJ 07080 transfer the liquor license number 1222-33-018-007 heretofore issued to ROMA FOOD ENTERPRISES, INC. for the premises located at 2991 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield, NJ 07080. The person who will hold the interest in this license is Pradeep Kwatra, residing at 180 Bergen Street, Somerset, NJ 08873 and Aika Patel, residing at 2 Seminole Ave., Rockaway, NJ 07860 and Kirish Patel, residing at 124 McKinley Place, Rockaway, NJ 07860. Objections should be made immediately in writing to Mr. Vincent Buttiglieri, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of South Plainfield.

Pradeep Kwatra holds 34% stock in the above corporation. Pradeep Kwatra resides at 160 Bergen Street, Somerset, NJ 08873. Aika Patel holds 33% stock in the above corporation and she resides at 2 Seminole Ave., Rockaway, NJ 07860. Kirish Patel holds 33% stock in the above corporation and resides at 124 McKinley Place, Rockaway, NJ 07860.

Sharda Veshno Corporation

\$47.50 May 16, 2003

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by William Stankan requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the construction of an addition. Proposed addition requires (2) bulk variance. Proposed addition lacks the required 30' front yard setback, 20.52' being proposed. Proposed addition also exceeds maximum lot coverage of 2500 sq. ft. by 2715 sq. ft. or 2.71%.

2771 being proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 220 Kosciusko Avenue on Block 345, Lot 22 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, June 12, 2003 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 May 16, 2003

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Lori Tangorra requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the construction of a 2 story addition. Proposed addition lacks the required 9' side yard setback, 5' being proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 306 May Avenue on Block 233, Lot 20 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, May 29, 2003 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 May 16, 2003

Log on to the Borough of South Plainfield's official web site at southplainfieldnj.com

Visit your community web site for the latest local news on

- Mayor and Council
Planning Board & Board of Adjustment Agendas
Police - Fire - Rescue Squad
Recreation
Youth Activities
Senior Corner
Professional & Business Directory
Community Bulletin Board
Civic Organizations
Election Results and more

Advertise your business and support South Plainfield's own web site

For rates or information email at: southplainfieldnj.com Or call 908-226-7656

Obituaries

Dorothy Berney, 72

Dorothy Berney died on Wednesday, May 7, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Plainfield, Dot resided in Plainfield for a few years prior to settling in South Plainfield where she has resided ever since.

A secretary for Elizabethtown Water Company in the Netherwood Section of Plainfield for 40 years, she retired at the age of 60.

After retiring, Dot attended

Rutgers University in New Brunswick and earned a degree in Political Science. As an active Democrat, she had been involved with the South Plainfield Democratic Party and volunteered her time campaigning for Governor McGreevey.

Dot has been an active member of the Trinity Reformed Church of North Plainfield since 1974. Being an Elder in the church, she was part of the Church Consistory and was also their clerk. She was also active with the Broek Circle Woman's Group

which assisted in fund raising and missions.

In addition to time with the church, Dot was recently elected president of the South Plainfield Woman's Club and had been currently serving on the library board in the Borough.

She is survived by several cousins and numerous friends.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the Trinity Reformed Church Endowment Fund.

Call Us & Plan Ahead Hillside Cemetery Scotch Plains 908.756.1729 non-profit, non-sectarian www.hillsidecemetery.com

Get More Bang For Your Buck! Advertise your business 10 times in the Observer for just \$150. Call 908-668-0010 for details.

McCriskin HOME FOR FUNERALS (908) 561-8000 2425 PLAINFIELD AVENUE South Plainfield, NJ 07080 RICHARD W. MCCRISKIN, Pres., Mgr. NJ License No.3147

Business & Professional Services

CARPET

My Way Carpet & Flooring Installation & Sales Residential/Commercial Hardwood/Laminate • Rugs Vinyl/Tile • Repairs 119 HAMILTON BLVD. SOUTH PLAINFIELD (908) 757-3470

COMPUTERS

MC Computer Associates Is Your Computer Sick? Let Our Computer Doctors Analyze And Prescribe A Cure For Your Ailing PC CUSTOM Systems Built For You Discounted Pricing PH 908 561-1539

ST Computers

Stan Wilkinson • New Computers/Upgrades • Hardware/Software Installations • In Home Service • Some Used Computers Available Serving South Plainfield for 2 Years Phone: 908-769-0709 Cell: 732-423-3504 Email: stcomputers@comcast.net

HALL RENTALS

Polish National Home Lunch Served Monday-Friday 11-2 Hall Available for All Occasions 312 New Market Rd. South Plainfield (908) 668-9442 (Bar) (908) 756-8410 (Hall)

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Hua Kang Health Center Massage, Acupressure, Reflexology Acupuncture • Chinese Herbs • Facial Licensed Chinese massage therapists and acupuncturists provide experienced Chinese-style services using traditional Chinese medicine methods. Effective in treatment of various pains, symptoms and body needs. Appointments/walk-ins welcome. Open 7 days/week, 9:30am-9pm Gift Certificates and Bonus Program available. We accept credit cards and health insurance. 126 Plainfield Ave. Edison • 732-572-5599 275 Rt. 18 South, East Brunswick • 732-967-1300 1763 Lincoln Highway (Rt. 27) Edison • 732-819-0058

MORTGAGES

FAST APPROVALS... GREAT RATES... PERSONALIZED SERVICE... Mike Dixon, President Mortgage 908-822-0090 2325 Plainfield Ave. Suite 2E South Plainfield, NJ

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

PAINTING

SHIVA inc. Painting 732-261-9272 Professional Interior • Exterior Residential • Commercial Fully Insured Call for a Free Estimate

REAL ESTATE

Century 21 Moretti Realty "Nobody knows South Plainfield like Joe Diegan." Business: (908) 755-5300 x 315 Evening: (908) 756-9123 Joseph Diegan REALTOR-ASSOCIATE & LICENSED SA. PLAINFIELD RESIDENT 225 Maple Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080

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

Di Francesco GMAC Realty, Inc. "Long Time Resident of South Plainfield" Bringing in Buyers from Various Counties! Member of 2 Multiple Listing Systems! Lori Tangorra Realtor-Associate 265 South Ave., Fanwood, NJ 07023 (908) 889-0200, Ext. 206

To place an ad, call 908-668-0010

Classifieds

To place an ad, call 908-668-0010

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

HELP WANTED

AVON-ONLY \$10 TO BEGIN YOUR own home based business in Avon. Call (732) 777-7832.

FOR SALE

FURNITURE SALE-CONTEMP. LV. rm. (1 couch, 2 lrg. loveseats), contemp. glass top cocktail tbl & end tbl, white-wash DR set. Inquiries call (908) 910-7317 or 561-0122.

2 PC. MATTRESS/BOX SET-QUEEN size pillow top. New w/warranty \$165. Can deliver. 732-259-6690

2 PC. MATTRESS SET-QUEEN Orthopedic plush, new in bags \$110. Can deliver. 732-259-6690.

3 PC MATTRESS/BOX SET-KING, New in plastic. Sell \$250. Can deliver. 732-259-6690.

5 PC. BEDROOM SET-BRAND NEW in box. List \$1299. Sell \$565. Call 732-259-6690.

7 PC. BEDROOM SET-PINE, NEW unopened. List \$3500. Sacrifice \$1150. Call 732-259-6690.

BOAT FOR SALE

STARCRAFT 14' V-HULL W/TRAILER, Front & rear trolling motors; 25 horsepower Evenrude motor and many extras. Asking \$2,500. Call (908) 753-5533.

DAY CARE IN YOUR HOME

LOVING MOTHER OF 2 WILL CARE for your child or children in her SP home. Call Rita 908-755-1312.

FREE TO GOOD HOME

MALE GOLDEN RETRIEVER-1 YEAR old; needs training, not house broken. Call (908) 753-0303.

SEEKING THOSE WITH MS

Local woman w/MS desires to contact other people w/MS for support. Call 756-9629.

SERVICES

SAVE UP TO 80% ON DENTAL. FOR a free brochure, call 908-405-5322 or enroll online @ www.deliveringonthe promise.com/jmazepa.

MORTGAGES

FAST APPROVALS, GREAT RATES personalized service, (908) 822-0090.



222 Lowden Ave.
(Off Plfd. Ave.)
Friday-Saturday, May 16 & 17
9 am - 3 pm
Miscellaneous Household Items

Advertise Your Garage Sale for \$15-Call 908-668-0010



228 Tremont Ave.
(Off Belmont Ave.)
Saturday, May 17
4 am - 4 pm
Furniture-Dinning Rm, Living Rm, Household Items and Lawn Equipment
Rain Date: May 18



1223 So. 9th St.
(Off Clinton Ave.)
Saturday, May 17
9 am - 4 pm
Lots of Stuff.... Furniture and Household Items

Business & Professional Services

CONTRACTORS DRIVEWAYS GUITAR LESSONS LANDSCAPING

BUILDER & GENERAL CONTRACTOR
NJ DCA LIC #019771
Since 1981
Lordina Builders
908-753-3850
ADDITIONS-KITCHENS - BATHROOMS-
Office Renovations
FREE ESTIMATES

SOLID ROCK
CONSTRUCTION & GENERAL CONTRACTING
908-754-5730
The Best Quality & Service Available
35 Years Experience
Site Work • Pipe • Paving • All Masonry • Commercial & Industrial Construction & Renovations

KLEEN SEAL
732-321-3699
Driveway Seal Coating
Don't just have your driveway sealed... have it **KLEEN SEALED!**
• Crack Filling • Hand Application • Prevents Water Penetration • Beautifies Paved Areas • Resists Gas & Oil Penetration
Free Estimates usually within 24hrs.

GUITAR LESSONS
755-6882
• Acoustic • Electric • Finger Picking
Beginner Specialist Alternate Tuning

Silver Creek Landscaping
SOUTH PLAINFIELD
COMPLETE LAWN MAINTENANCE
• LANDSCAPE PLANTINGS
• HYDRO SEEDING & SOD
• MULCH / STONE / TOPSOIL
• RETAINING WALLS
• BRICK PAVERS - PATIOS & WALKS
• RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
- FREE ESTIMATES -
908-756-7272

LAWN MAINTENANCE

A-TECH Landscape Design
"From Concepts to Creation Your Complete Landscape Designer"
Lawn Maintenance \$35 includes fertilization
Mulch-Spring Cleanups
Topsoil-Landscaping
PAVERS -15% OFF
Sales Consultant: Jon Dean
(908) 769-9698 • Fax: (908) 668-4438

LAWN MAINTENANCE

LAWN MAINTENANCE
GRADUATE LAWN CARE
LANDSCAPE DESIGN
Fertilizing • Mulch • Top Soil
Stone • Aeration • Thatching
Commercial • Residential
Free Estimates (732) **548-0752**

MASONRY

LUIGI BOTTONE
MASONRY CONTRACTOR
"No Job Too Small"
All Concrete, Brick, Block, and Paver Work
Specializing in Steps, Sidewalk, Patios, Belgian Block Curbing, Driveways
(732) 558-4754

MASSAGE

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

PET SITTERS

Free Consultation
Professional Care when you can't be there-- in your home so your pet won't be alone!
BAILEY'S BUDDIES
Fully Insured petting services
www.baileysbuddies.com
Call Patty (908) 757-8855

PIZZA

Ciccio's Pizza
134 Maple Ave., South Plainfield
(Across From Firehouse)
BYOB Open 7 Days
(908) 753-4060
Phone Ahead For Fast Pick Up
Mon. & Thurs. 11am to 10pm
Fri&Sat 11am-11pm • Sunday 12pm-10pm
SUNDAY SPECIAL
2 medium pies \$9.95
Serving South Plainfield for Over 18 Years
FRIED ZEPS FRI & SAT
STEAKS • SUBS • DINNER

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

NuScape Property Maintenance
LAWN MAINTENANCE
Commercial • Industrial • Residential
Lawn Maintenance & Landscaping
Stone-Mulch-Topsoil
SPRING CLEANUPS
908-668-0093
GUARANTEED LOW PRICES

PRINTING/TYPESSETTING

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

ROOFING

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

SAT PREPARATION

THE S.A.T. COACH
• Math/Verbal Test Preparation
• SAT I Reasoning Test
AUTHOR:
• SAT I Test Accelerator
• ACT Mathematics
• New Jersey HSPT, EWT, ESPA
Ralph Fech
(908) 757-7362
Jeff Lubreski
(908) 561-7742

SALON

Let us put you in a new trendy look...
Specializing in Color, Foils, Haircuts, Wedding Parties
South Side Salon
Featuring:
Facials, Massage, Waxing & Nails
2201 South Clinton Ave.
South Plainfield 908-753-5115

SPIRITS

1645 Park Avenue, South Plainfield
791-9463
Sal's Spirit Shoppe
Cavit (1.5 liter) \$9.99 Mon.-Sat. 9am-1am
Pinot Grigio \$9.99
Estate Cellars White Zinfandel (750ml) \$3.49 Sundays 1am-7pm
(1.5 liter) \$5.49
Bring in this ad for 10% off on wines

Advertising Gets Results!
Join the ranks of satisfied customers that advertise in the *Observer*. Choose what's right for your business... Classified, Business & Professional Services section or display ads.
908-668-0010
Call for information on advertising.
South Plainfield Observer
Your #1 Source for South Plainfield News

police report

• On May 6 a Somerset resident reported that a debt card she had lost at Target in Bridgewater had been used at several stores in South Plainfield.

• On May 7 Carol Anne Greene, 53, of East Hanover was arrested at K-Mart for shoplifting an air conditioner, a box of Tide and a bottle of ice tea, worth \$415.08.

• Felipe Valverde, 31, of Montclair was arrested at the DMV for fraud. He had used a fake birth certificate to obtain a driver's license.

• Matthew Burr, 23, of Piscataway was arrested for conspiracy to commit theft. He is accused of driving a car which was used to commit several shoplifting thefts throughout South Plainfield. His bail was set at \$25,000.

• A Florence Pl. resident reported that three unlocked vehicles outside her home had been vandalized. Loose change, a CD case containing five or six CD's, a portable CD player, two packs of cigarettes and a pocketbook containing \$400 cash, a cell phone and credit card were taken.

• A Geary Dr. resident reported that

his front storm door had been kicked in. No entry was gained.

• On May 8 Wayne R. Whitsitt, 21, of South Plainfield was arrested for driving on a suspended license, reckless driving, obstruction and eluding after a motor vehicle stop in which he fled the scene and later turned himself in.

• An employee of Innovative Carton on Durham Ave. reported that his truck's stereo had been stolen and the rear speakers damaged. A key hole punch had been used to enter the drivers side door.

• On May 9 Anthony Joseph Tremaro, 35, of Monroe Twp. was arrested for theft by deception. He was the owner and driver of the roll off garbage truck involved in scamming Federal Metal & Alloys out of \$50,000.

• On May 10 Michael A. Crupi, 27, of Parlin was arrested for being under the influence of a controlled substance, driving while intoxicated, reckless driving and being uninsured at a motor vehicle accident.

• Brian S. Monihan, 25, of Califon was arrested for making terroristic threats after a fight at Sal's Spirit Shoppe on Park Ave.

• A Lexington Ave. resident reported that his vehicle's front and rear side passenger tires were punctured and a basketball net was removed.

• A Brennan Ct. resident reported that her sliding screen door and bedroom window screen had been slashed.

• An employee of KC's Korner on Oak Tree Ave. reported that her front fender was pushed in and kick marks were on the passenger side front door.

• On May 11 a Brenda Pl. resident reported that their car's windshield wipers had been damaged.

• A Zwolak Ct. resident reported that one tire from one vehicle and two from a second had been slashed.

• A Sims Pl. resident reported that their rear drivers side tire had been slashed.

• A Dumont Ave. resident reported that while traveling east on Walnut St., a large rock was thrown at their vehicle causing the window of the drivers side extended cab to be shattered and a large dent in the door frame.

• On May 12 a Lowden Ave. resident reported that 150 checks and some cash were missing from her home. No break-in was apparent.

Job Information Center Programs Scheduled for May/June

Looking for help locating a job, preparing a resume or need a computer to type it on? Then look no further than the South Plainfield Free Public Library.

The Library, located at 2484 Plainfield Ave. (adjacent to the Municipal Building), has planned the following programs for job seekers for May/June:

Interviewing 101—Saturday, May 17, 10:30 a.m. to Noon

Job Searching 101—Saturday, May 31, 10:30 a.m. to Noon

Job Searching on the Internet—Saturday, June 14, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

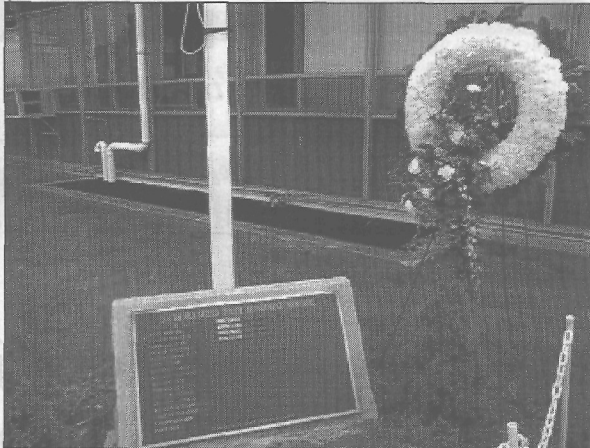
Resumes and Cover Letters for Beginners—Saturday, June 28, 10:30 a.m. to Noon

All programs are FREE. Space is limited and reservations are required.

For more information, please call the library's reference desk at (908) 754-7885.



Visitors at Mondays Memorial service salute the flag.



South Plainfield Police Officers memorial is located behind Borough Hall.

South Plainfield Police Officers Remembered At Ceremony

By Jane Dornick

To honor the South Plainfield Police Department, Mayor Dan Gallagher issued a proclamation naming May 12 through May 16 as "Police Week."

On Monday Chief Robert Merkle held a solemn ceremony outside Borough Hall honoring deceased members of the police department. The flag was raised and then lowered to half staff by Police Officers Dave Franchak and Joe Papa while *Taps* were played. A wreath was placed next to the engraved memorial stone by former Deputy Chief Tulio Capparelli and former Public Safety Commissioner Anthony Cotoia.

Chief Merkle remembered Police Officers Richard Conklyn and William Cady who were killed in the line of duty. Reverend Charles Mingle gave a blessing and read a poignant poem by a police officer in African. Councilman and Police Liaison Dennis Cerami spoke of his admiration for the men in blue. The ceremony ended with the playing of *Amazing Grace*.



Police Chaplain Rev. Charles Mingle speaks at ceremonies held in honor of deceased members of the South Plainfield

In attendance were Mayor Gallagher, Councilmen Ed Kubala, Charlie Butrico, Jim Vokral and Ray Petronko. Also attending were retired police officers Jake Cataldo, Mike Cumiskey, Det. Joseph Decarlo and a group of officers from the South Plainfield Police Department.

History Walk at Hillside Cemetery of Samptown

On Saturday, May 24 at 1 p.m., Larry Randolph, Soouth Plainfield Environmental Commission Chairman and unofficial town historian, will lead a history walk through Hillside Cemetery of Samptown, located on New Market Ave.

The cemetery is the burial site of war veterans from the American Revolution to Vietnam. Randolph will discuss the individuals buried here in the context of South Plainfield's history. Burials possibly began as early as the 1680s. The oldest legible headstone is that of Judge Benjamin Hull, born in 1693 and deceased in 1745. In 1792, the congregation now known as the First Baptist Church of South Plainfield built its first church on the premises.

Randolph, a veteran of the Vietnam War, is a descendant of one of the oldest families in the area. His extensive research has established him as an expert in local and regional history. He has been active in achieving recognition for South Plainfield's war veterans buried at Hillside.

The cemetery walk is co-sponsored by the Historical Society, Friends of the Woods and the South Plainfield Environmental Commission. The cemetery is located at the intersection of New Market and South Clinton avenues. Walk begins at 1 p.m.

Future Stars Family Fun Day

Future Stars and Sunshine preschoolers, along with their immediate families invite everyone to attend their annual Family Fun Day on Saturday, May 17 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the John E. Riley School playground.

Family Fun Day includes: rides, moon walk, animal petting zoo, South Plainfield Rescue Squad/Fire Department and Union Burn Center.

Food and refreshments will be available for a minimal charge. The event is free and all are welcome.

Hey Mom, I Miss My Observer!

Keep your kids close to home while they're away at college.

Even though your kids are away, they'll still know what's going on at home when you send them a student subscription to the Observer.

36 issues for \$18 September 5 through May 7

South Plainfield Observer
Your #1 Source for South Plainfield News
908-668-0010

Don't leave your kids out of the loop!

Please send a student subscription of the Observer to:

STUDENT NAME _____
COLLEGE _____
ADDRESS _____

YOUR NAME _____
TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

Send a check or money order for \$18 for 36 issues (September 5-May 14) to: South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL

1 Sacred Heart Drive, South Plainfield, NJ 07080
908-756-0633, ext. 32 or 33

Pre-K through Grade 8

Accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools

Curriculum provides students with a firm foundation in basic skills and integrates Catholic Christian philosophy to form the whole person.

PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- Daily prayer/Monthly liturgies
- Pre-K ages 3 (full-time & part-time)
- Pre-K ages 4 (full-time & part-time)
- Full-day Kindergarten
- Extended Care Program (2-6 p.m.)
- Hot Lunch Program
- Counseling Services
- Compensatory/Supplemental Svcs.
- Computer Education
- Physical Education
- Girls' Softball (grades 5-8)
- Cheerleading (grades K-8)
- Basketball (grades 3-8)
- Track (grades K-8)
- Cross Country (grades 4-8)
- Library
- Music Theory & Instrumental Music
- Children's Choir
- Art
- Foreign Language (Spanish)
- Chess Club
- DARE Program (grade 5).

Registration NOW through August 2003
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CALL:
School: 908-756-0633, ext. 32 or 33, Convent: 908-756-0631, Parish Center: 908-756-0633, ext. 30

Sister Maria Cornelia Ramirez, RVM, Principal • Rev. John P. Alvarado, Pastor

Celebrating fifty years of academic excellence, faithful witness to Christian morals and values, and spiritual formation in the Catholic tradition.
We can thankfully speak the holy name of Jesus Christ in this school, and do!

SACRED HEART SCHOOL REGISTRATION—Pre-K Ages 3, Pre-K Ages 4, Kindergarten, Grades one through six are still open. Requirements for registration include: health records, birth certificate, social security card, most recent report card, test results, and the recommendation from the Principal and homeroom teacher. Pre-K students must be three (3) years old on or before October 1, 2003. Kindergarten students must be five (5) years old on or before October 1. First graders must be six (6) years old on or before October 2003. Sacred Heart School admits students of any creed, race, sex and nationality or ethnic origin. For information please call us at 908-756-0633, ext. 32 or 33.

SNS ALUMNI/ALUMNAE SEARCH—Graduates of Sacred Heart School, please call and let us know your whereabouts. We are updating our records and would like to have you included. We appreciate any help from families of graduates living in the area who can help supply this information.

May 14
Happy 17th
Birthday
Christopher
Abbott!

Love, Mom,
Mema and Pam

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