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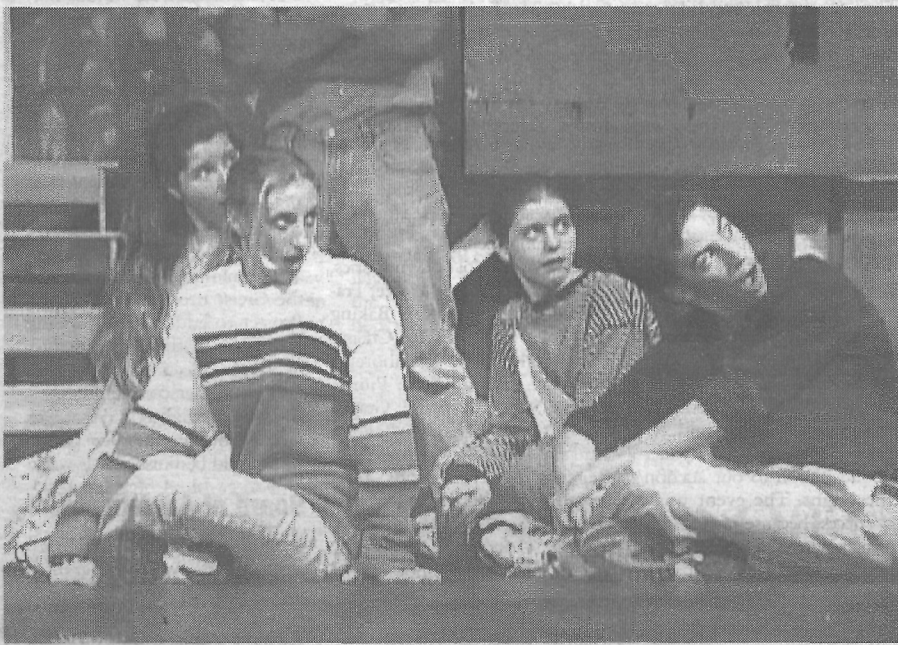
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# South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 1, NO. 17

50 CENTS

MAY 7, 1998



GODSPELL opens at South Plainfield High School. See page 9 for story and additional photos.

## Resident Requests New Election

Recent Board of Education elections may be over but the dust is far from settled.

South Plainfield resident Bill Hogan would like to see a new election take place. Approximately 600 residents did not receive their sample ballots. Hogan stated that sources informed him of the error. In addition to this he did not receive his ballot until the day after the election. Hogan said his concern is not with the candidates but with the budget. He said, "I want to save money for this

town." He strongly believes that the budget would have been defeated if more people had been aware of the election.

A new election would have to be ordered by a Superior Court Judge. This is unlikely unless enough complaints are registered. "I can't fight alone," said Hogan, "I need people to step forward and write to Matthew Vaughn and voice their opinions." Vaughn is the Administrator for the County Board of Elections.

The ballots did not reach many

residents on time due to an error in labeling. South Plainfield Post Office stated they are not at fault. Had the ballots been labeled correctly, they would have been received in time for the election.

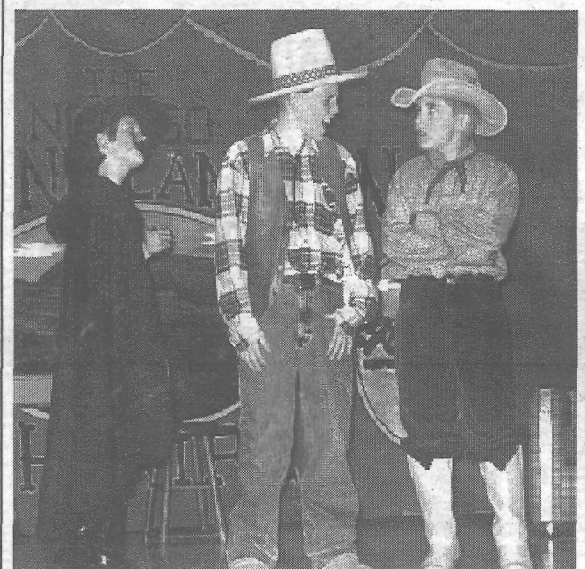
## Local Actress to Appear in *Beauty & Beast*

South Plainfield resident Patricia Abbott has been performing with the New Jersey Renaissance

Kingdom's Storybook performers for five years. She is the storyteller for the Fairytale Mime

Troupe and has written several of the scripts. She will appear with the troupe in a special one day show at Sampson G. Smith School on Amwell Rd. in Franklin Township, Somerset. The troupe will present *Beauty and the Beast* as the main production and two special mime interpretations of *Cinderella* and *Sleeping Beauty*. They have appeared at Trump Castle performing for Donald Trump's birthday party, also at Great Adventure, Warner Brothers and the Alexandria Balloon Festival. The troupe can be seen at the 10th anniversary celebration of the NJ Renaissance Kingdom. The event runs from May 23 to June 28 on weekends.

The show, which includes *Beauty and the Beast* and two mime performances, will be presented twice on Saturday, May 9 at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$5. For group sales and reservations please call 732-356-1497 extension #1.

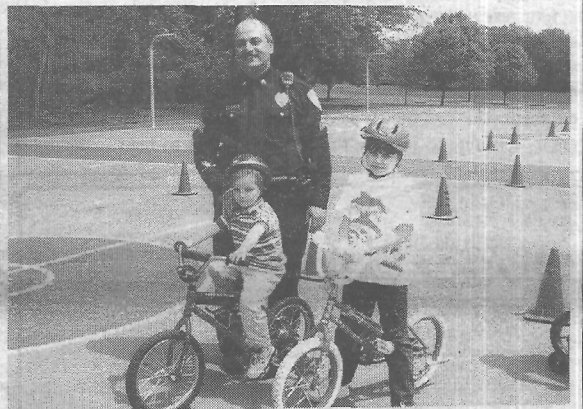


Middle School students perform "Paper Bag Bandit" last week. Story and additional photos on page 9.

## Bicycle Rodeo Has Huge Turnout

The Annual Bike Rodeo held last Saturday at Spring Lake Park sponsored by the South Plainfield Police had the largest turnout ever. A record number of bicycles were registered. Young and old alike brought their bikes and registered their name, serial number and make of bike. Each bike was then tagged and if needed a helmet

was given to anyone who did not have one. Everyone also received a ticket good for a hot dog and soda at the refreshment stand and invited to ride a special course set up at the park. Next issue we will have more about this very successful rodeo and Police Officer William Frink, who originated the idea and created the program.



South Plainfield Police Sergeant at Bike Rally with his children, Eric and Jackie.

## Board of Education Reorganizes

Board Budget. A recount had been taken that morning and the results had not changed. Dr. Nicholas Celso, III Board Attorney then administered the oath of office to Steve Bohn, Marjorie Reedy and Dawn Jeffreys.

Marjorie Reedy was elected to serve as president and Myra Stillman was re-elected as vice president. Frank Mikorski was appointed a Delegate to the New Jersey School Boards Association and Steve Bohn was appointed as an Alternate Delegate.

Each board member took turns congratulating the winning candidates and expressing their thanks to the residents for passing the school budget. Carol Byrne, who

lost the election by only six votes was also recognized for her many years of dedication and leadership while serving on the Board.

Mrs. Bryne also spoke to the Board and congratulated the three newly elected board members and wished them the best of luck saying she hoped the board would continue to work together as a team.

Loretta Cooper asked about the mix up of some 600 sample ballots, which the Post Office failed to deliver until after the election.

William Hogan, Republican candidate for Borough Council has also said he did not receive his ballot. See related story on this page.



Members of the 1998 Board of Education sitting from left to right are, Dawn Jeffreys, Marjorie Reedy, Myra Stillman and Pat DeSantis. Standing left to right are Steven Bohn, Kenneth LaFreniere, Barry Fidler, Frank Mikorski and Doris Haley.



WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?? Pictured left is Marjorie Reedy, President of the Board of Education and on the right is Myra Stillman, Vice President of the Board of Education. Last issue we incorrectly identified a picture of Myra Stillman, saying it was Marjorie Reedy. We apologize for the error.

# In my OPINION

To the Editor;

I want to take this opportunity to thank the citizens of South Plainfield for affording me the privilege of serving on the Board of Education for the past three years. It was a gratifying experience.

To everyone who took the time to vote on April 21, I also say thank you.

Because I fee a duty to you all, I will continue to volunteer my time in any way appropriate to South Plainfield and its school district.

The successful candidates, Marge Reedy, Steve Bohn and Dawn Jefferys, receive my congratulations and hopes that they will have a productive term in office. They serve at a crossroads in the district and will be called upon to make decisions that will impact greatly on the future of the school and the Borough.

SINCERELY,  
CAROL M. BRYNE.

To the Editor,

Franklin School's second annual Auction/Raffle Night a was a great success! On behalf of the children of Franklin School, our PTA and Auction Committee, I wish to thank you for your generous contribution to our auction/Raffle Night. The event was a great success because of your support and kindness! Franklin School is indeed fortunate to be a part of a community where education and the growth of children are so highly regarded.

The proceeds of this Auction will benefit our children through our many after school club programs, cultural arts events, class trips and special projects. These most worthwhile endeavors would not be possible without the support of people like you. Your generosity in contributing to our event was overwhelming!

We want to thank the following business for their help in the auction: FDR Holiday Ltd., The Gift Garden, CQI Carpet, Inc., C.K.L. Pest Control, Cookies, Bagels & Bakery, East Brunswick Community, Theatre Playhouse 22, John W. Ferranto, Jr. DDS/DMD, Global VIP Travel, Land of Make Believe Family Paradise, Lucent Technologies, Maaco, McDonalds, Brandt Mozo, DDS, NJ Symphony Orchestra, Play and Learn, Preferred Steam Cleaning, Debbie Pryor Interiors, Ricochet Health & Racquet Club,

Spring Lake Florist & Garden Center, About Faces, Access, AJV Auto Mall, Applebee's Neighbor Grill & Bar, Bazookas, BBJ Inc., BC Tire Service Inc., BJ's Wholesale Club and Blockbuster Video.

Boston Market, Bradlees, Bruno's Pizza Factory, The Brush Shop, Butri Co. Builders, Cahoots, Caldor's, Caldwell Tire Company, Hyatt Regency Princeton — Catch a Rising Star, Christmas Around the World, Cheryl Newman, Circle Players Community Theatre, Columbia Savings Bank, Conlux/Sherwin-Williams, Colour Me Kids, The Country Home Collection, Elaaine Albertocki, Crafted with Love, The Crayola Factory, Creative Works, CVS Pharmacy, D.E. Jones, Decorage, Dick's Dock Restaurant, Patrick J. Diegnan, Jr., Lawyer, Easy Street, Edward's, Entenmann's, Esposito's Barber Shop and Fairway Golf & Learning Center.

Feigley's School of Gymnastics, Flanagan's, Food to Pleeze, Fragrance Plus, Freihofer's Baking Co., Inc., Friendly's Ice Cream, Fun Jungle, G & W Laboratories, Inc., Garden State Pump, George Street Playhouse, Graphics N'More, Haisch's Bakery, Hall's Warehouse Corp., Hyatt Regency, Imperial Foods, Inc., Inman Sports Club, John Roberts-A Salon, JoAnn's Dance Studio, Joseph A. Krawiec, Architect, Kristin's Hallmark Shop, Lakeview Karate for Kids, Liberty Science Center, The Little Store, Macy's, McCarter Theatre, Medieval Times, Million Dollar Video & Games, Ming's Castle Chinese Restaurant, Mohn's Flowers & Fancy Foods, Moore's Stone & Garden and Moto Photo.

Nutro Laboratories, Inc., Gustavo Outerial, Pampered Chef, Partylite, Pathmark Stores, Inc., Pepperidge Farms, Pepsi-Cola, Pinto Brothers, Plainfield Animal Hospital, Polish National Home, Regal Theatre, Rutgers University - Louis Brown Athletic Center, Sandy Spector Caterer, Shadowbrook, Shawnee Mountain Ski Area, Sherban's Diner, Shiatsu Massage, Susan Coffado, Shopper's World, Somerset School of Massage Therapy, South Plainfield Education Association, Space Farms Zoo & Museum, Spirit Cruises, Sportworld, Spotlight on Dance, State Theatre, Wendy's, United Skates of America, Inc., Valley National Bank and Yogurt Express.

## BOROUGH NOTES

### Council Notes

- Mayor Gallagher has proclaimed May 11-15 Police Week.
- Several ordinances were introduced and will be open to a public hearing at the May 14 meeting. The first will regulate the issuance of licenses for the sale of motor vehicles and three different ordinances will deal with establishing procedures and regulations for zoning and construction of Affordable Housing; as required by the Borough's Fair Share Housing Plan.
- A land auction for various Borough owned property will be held on May 18.
- Awarded the contract for the construction of sidewalks on Chambers and Garibaldi Ave. to Cedar Concrete for \$39,952.70.
- Appointed John M. Butrico as a member of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department.
- A resolution was passed to urge the U.S. Congress to appropriate a minimum of \$12 million for the Green Brook Flood Control Project to address the flooding problems in the Green Brook Sub-Basin affecting South Plainfield and other communities.
- Vinnie Buttiglieri said that Oak Tree Avenue is ready for paving and should be finished this week.

### Board of Adjustments

- Cheryl and Shaun O'Brien from Morris Ave. were granted approval to erect a single-family split-level home.
- Harry Popik from Hamilton Blvd. Were granted approval for a three family dwelling with conditions.

### NOTICE

**SPECIAL MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL**  
Subject: Award of Contract  
Monday, May 11, 1998  
7:30 p.m. at 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield

### UPCOMING OBSERVER PUBLICATION DATES:

Issue Date	Copy Deadline
May 21 .....	May 14
June 4 .....	May 28

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### PUBLISHER'S NOTE

The past two weeks we have been scooting around town attending flea markets, plays, awards, and all kinds of events, all the while taking pictures and acquiring stories.

The results of our journey are showcased in this issue. If we haven't covered everything we possibly could this issue, it probably isn't humanly possible.

In the course of our travels around town, we have met many of our faithful readers and want to thank them for their encouragement. We love to hear the compliments you give us.

Our readers have been so positive with their comments. Now all we have to do is convince the advertisers that we need their support as well. Please tell our advertisers you saw their ad in the *Observer* and if you go into a store that does not advertise, tell them you wish they would. We need the support of advertisers to continue to provide the news you want to read.

### South Plainfield Observer

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### SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

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South Plainfield Observer, 530 Union Ave., Suite 3, Middlesex, NJ 08846 or drop it in the box at Mohn's Flowers on Plainfield Ave. or Twice Is Nice, Front St. or fax us at (732) 805-0815 or email us on the web page at sposserver.com. Include your name, address, telephone number.

To Submit Photographs:

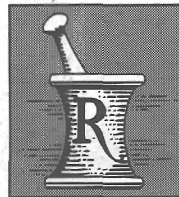
1. Make sure the photograph is sharp and bright.
2. Any size picture will do.
3. Black and white pictures are preferred.
4. Type the names of all the photographs, or accurately describe the action in the photograph. Do not write on back of photograph, except with non-reproducing pen or pencil.
5. All unsolicited photographs and stories sent to the *South Plainfield Observer* will be considered the property of the *South Plainfield Observer* and will not be returned, unless a self-addressed stamped envelope accompanies material.

## Borough Website Full of Information

South Plainfield's website ([southplainfieldnj.com](http://southplainfieldnj.com)) is up and running. In addition to Borough news, you can get news about the Borough activities, fire and recreation departments and more.

In addition both the Junior Baseball Club and the Ponytail Softball League can be accessed through the website. It can be used to get rosters, scores, standings and any other updates.

The Baseball Club web site is <http://members.aol.com/spjbc/spjbc.html> or you can go to the South Plainfield website; it has a direct link to it. The Ponytail results can be accessed through the South Plainfield web site by just clicking the Recreation button. The site is [www.southplainfieldnj.com](http://www.southplainfieldnj.com).



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# South Plainfield Gears Up for Response '98' Drill

By Patricia Abbott

"Make Believe" can be serious business, even a lesson in saving lives. Just ask Mike Zushma, who heads South Plainfield's O.E.M., Office of Emergency Management and those who took part in the April 22 Response "98" emergency drill. The Federal Emergency Management Agency requires municipalities to stage one drill each year. Normally done on a small scale, this year's drill involved much of the east coast with seven states and parts of Canada participating. While the drill is staged, the knowledge and chance to work through a potential disaster is valuable to all involved. Team work and timing are critical.

The Response "98" scenario was a dangerous hurricane named "Janet", working its way up the coast. The hurricane "hit" South Plainfield on "Labor Day weekend," a busy holiday time with few people prepared for an emergency. The purpose of the drill is to help coordinate the activities of local and county government as well as police, fire, rescue and many other groups in the event of an emergency. Among the emergency operations involved were flood stage monitoring, evacuation, shelter management, health department, public works, public information and damage assessment. The areas included in the exercise were New Market including all side streets between Pitt Street and South Clinton Avenue, South Clinton Extension, Fred Allen Drive, Schilacci Lane, Metuchen Avenue by Belmont Avenue and East Fairview Avenue.

Under the direction of Mike Zushma, twelve people manned the

Emergency Operations Center housed in the Rescue Squad building. In an actual emergency the EOC would be the base from which volunteers would work alongside law enforcement, rescue and other groups. Sergeant Michael Grennier, who assisted with the drill, said that two shelters were set up; Roosevelt School and the Middle School. Several classes of students were involved in the drill. The team of about twenty people were evaluated and the objectives in the drill were multifaceted. Emergency Operations Center personnel had to be assembled, residents had to be alerted to dangers, evacuations organized, a plan created for keeping roads clear for emergency vehicles, securing evacuated areas, and more.

Sergeant Grennier pointed out how vital communications are in a serious emergency. He is part of a volunteer group of ham radio operators called RACES — Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service, who played an important part in the drill, providing communications when up to 75% of the power was "down" throughout town. RACES members who participated in the drill are: Bill Carlson, Michael Grennier, Wayne Grennier, Cindy Carlson and South Plainfield RACES President, Ron Hepburn.

RACES member Bill Carlson described how via radio their job is not only to relay messages to a rescue crew and others but to keep track of those coming into the shelters, alerting people of the whereabouts of relatives, as well as monitoring medical conditions of any in need. By keeping close track of incoming evacuees, much-needed volunteers such as physicians and nurses may be located.

Some of the "events" that occurred during the drill were; flooding on most local roads with major flooding in low lying areas, up to 75% of power and phone lines down, serious flooding to homes, and large portions of shopping centers collapsing. Ongoing work and conditions drill participants had to deal with consisted of blocked roadways too flooded for police/rescue vehicles to pass, residents in need of rescue, medical and emergency personal requesting transportation, rescue of trapped survivors from collapsed buildings, burglaries, and an onslaught of residents seeking family members.

The South Plainfield O.E.M. received a very positive evaluation from the County Office of Emergency Management saying the team was well prepared for the event of an actual emergency.



Response '98' Drill team (top) command center located at the Rescue Squad. Bill Carlson and his daughter, Cindy (left) at the Middle School coordinate the evacuations. Mike Zushma (right), head of the Office of Emergency Management.

## Mayors Race Off to a Turbulent Start

This year's mayoral race is barely underway and already is off to a turbulent start. Republican candidate Jake Cataldo, life long resident of South Plainfield as well as a retired South Plainfield police officer, has been in attendance at every recent Borough Council meeting asking questions during

the public portion. At the April 23 council meeting Cataldo was asking questions. The mayor cut him off saying he was not going to run the mayoral race during the council meetings. He asked Jake, as a courtesy to those present, to sit down and let other people speak and he would

answer any and all questions he had after the meeting. Cataldo objected by saying he had a right to vocalize his concerns with questions and comments to the mayor and council.

Cataldo had asked about a change in the health plan that he as a retired officer participates in. Not pleased with the changes, he pointed out a potential problem with the new insurance carrier. His second question was in reference to the council's position on a fire house for the south side of town. Jake said that these ques-

tions were answered to his satisfaction. He then asked about the rumor of construction of a Walgreens department store on Park Avenue and Oak Tree Road. He said that if in fact one was to be built, the council would be aware of it. These were the remarks that prompted Dan Gallagher's action.

After Mr. Cataldo asked this question Mayor Gallagher stopped him. "You have asked the same question on each meeting and I give you the same answer," Gallagher said. He also stated it is isn't fair to the people attending the council meeting to have to sit there and listen to the same questions and answers meeting after meeting. The mayor noted that a group of scouts were in attendance at this meeting and it was getting late. When the meeting ended, Mayor Gallagher invited him into his office to answer his questions.

Mr. Cataldo felt that the Mayor's refusal to discuss the issue with him publicly is more personal than political. He stated that after the meeting he directed an acquaintance, Mr. Gonzalas, to the Mayor's office and entered with him to review some of the maps of the area that were the topic of questions asked at the meeting. He said that Mayor Gallagher asked him to leave the office. Cataldo pointed out that he also had a right to see the maps. After a heated discussion, the Mayor reportedly called in the police to have him removed. Cataldo said a half dozen officers arrived and after speaking with one of them he left on his own. He stated he did not want to create a scene or problems for the officer.

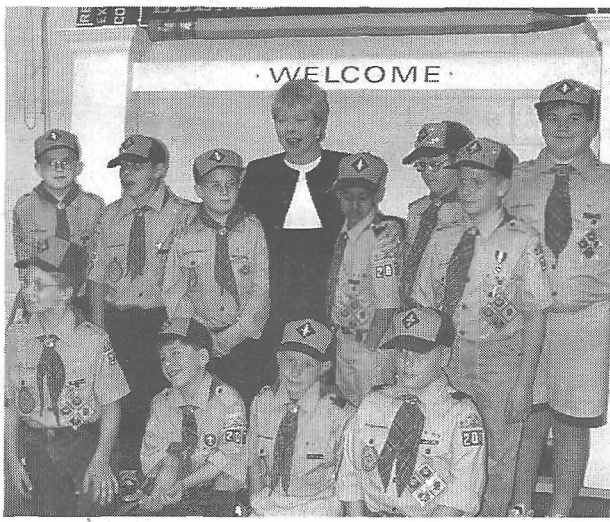
When asked about the incident, Mayor Gallagher said he was more than willing to answer any and all questions from Mr. Cataldo. According to the Mayor, Cataldo began shouting and using abusive language. The Mayor said when he asked Cataldo to calm down, he just kept shouting and refused to leave, so he had him escorted out of his office.

## Cub Pack 207 Surprises Franklin School Principals with Welcome Sign

Cub Scout Troop 207 presented a "Welcome to Franklin School" sign to school Principal Nancy Erickson at its recent awards ceremony. The Webelos spent the last few months secretly planning and constructing the huge sign.

Ms. Erickson had seen a similar sign in a magazine years ago, but the cost of \$5,000 prohibited a purchase. She was invited to the scouts' end of the year ceremonies and was surprised with the sign.

Arrow of Light recipients were Kyle Bostick, Gerry Butrico, Michael Duquette, Matthew Rasmussen, Patrick Pryor, Fernando Sandoval, Derek Smith, Roy Sorenson, Nick Vitale and Brian Zielinski.



## Rescue Squad Selling 50/50 Tickets

The South Plainfield Rescue Squad has begun its annual 50/50 ticket sale. Tickets will be sold until the drawing day, Labor Day, Sept. 7. Tickets are available at the squad building, 2520 Plainfield Ave. (behind the library) or from any squad member.

Tickets are \$1 each. Proceeds go to the South Plainfield Volunteer Rescue Squad. Last year's winner took home more than \$3,000.

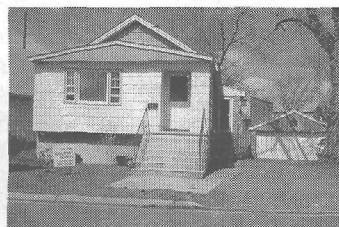


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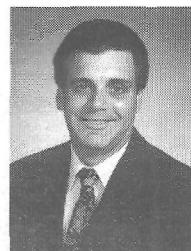
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# Sacred Heart Holds Annual Chinese Auction

## Chinese Auction Success Belongs to Volunteers

Before the first ticket was pulled by Father McGuire at Sacred Heart's April 24 Chinese Auction, Chairperson Darlene Pinto and members of the Home and School Association Board spent months planning and working on soliciting donations from local businesses and school families, designing the "Beach Party" motif, and coordinating the manpower necessary to make the evening a success. Publicity Chairperson Harriet Sideck launched a promotion campaign that resulted in a ticket sell-out in less than two weeks. Eileen Boosman, Patti Cullen, Babette Lipnick, Lorraine McHugh and Barbara Whitefleet visited local businesses to ask for donations and support while Darlene Pinto kept squeezing the generous offerings into her living room! Shirley Abel, Gail Del Negro, Mary Hohner and Mary Sikanowicz organized the donations into themes for the 75 gift baskets which were then painstakingly arranged and wrapped by Carol Ray, Wanda Revolinski and Joanne Semon. All fifteen HSA board members as well as numerous parent volunteers put on their running shoes and smiles to make "Beach Party '98" a resounding success. The event raised \$12,000 for the Sacred Heart HSA. The grand prize winner of a trip to Puerto Rico was Charisse Miglis and Cindy Howarth was the winner of the 50/50 raffle valued at \$800.



Sacred Heart HSA members in front of Chairperson Darlene Pinto's home with some of the donated baskets.



From left to right, Carol Ray, Joanne Semon, Mary Hohner, Shirley Abel and Wanda Revolinski



50/50 winner Cindy Howarth



Darlene Pinto, auction chairperson with grand prize winner, Charisse Miglis.



Attendees make their choices from the more than 75 gift baskets auctioned.



Baskets created from donations filled Darlene Pinto's home.



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# events around town

## Atlantic City Bus Trip Planned

The Rosary Society of our Lady of Czestochowa Church is planning a bus trip to the Claridge Casino, Atlantic City on Sunday, May 17. The cost of the trip is \$18. with a cash return of \$15. The bus will leave at 12:45 p.m. from the Hall Parking Lot. If interested please call K. Scesselberg 753-5305 or Marie Monticchio 755-7328.

## Elks Hold Mother's Day Breakfast

Enjoy a Mother's Day breakfast at the South Plainfield Elks Lodge on New Market Ave. on May 10 from 8-noon. Mom gets a beautiful carnation in her honor and it's "all you can eat and cooked to order" for \$7 per person. Call the lodge at 668-9750 for additional information. See you all there and Happy Mother's Day.

## Spring Yard Sale/ Bake Sale

The United Methodist Women of Wesley United Methodist Church are sponsoring a yard sale and bake sale at the church, 1500 Plainfield Avenue on Saturday, May 9. The hours are 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Space is still available at \$10 for 2 car spaces. The rain date is May 16.

For information call Ellie Wilson at (908) 561-2982 after 6 p.m. Dealers are welcome.

## Pampered Chef Party Planned

The South Plainfield Columbiettes are sponsoring a Pampered Chef Party on Friday evening, May 8.

The party will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall at 334 Hamilton Blvd., beginning at 7:30 p.m. Non members are welcome to attend.

For additional information, please call Mary Ann at (908) 226-1222.

## Take Me Out to the Ball Game!

The Recreation Commission will be sponsoring a trip on Friday, May 29 to see the Phillies vs. NY Mets at Veteran's Stadium. The bus leaves at 4:45 p.m. from the PAL Building on Maple Ave.

The cost of the trip is \$28 for adults, \$18 for children (16 and younger) and \$38 for nonresidents. It includes tickets, deluxe motorcoach transportation and excellent seats.

For more information or to register, call 226-07713 or visit the PAL Building on Maple Ave.

To have your organization included in events around town, submit your information to the Observer editorial department at 530 Union Ave. Suite 3, Middlesex, NJ 08846 or fax to 732 805-0815.

## Sacred Heart Sponsors Trip

Sacred Heart Church is sponsoring a vacation trip to Mackinac Island on July 15-21. The cost is \$864 per person double occupancy which includes transportation, five continental breakfasts, five dinners, one lunch, a visit to the Henry Ford Museum, Mackinaw City and Frankenmuth. While in Frankenmuth there will be time for a visit to Bonner's Christmas Village, the largest Christmas store in the world. Also included is hotel, baggage handling and driver gratuities. Reservation and payment deadline is May 15.

A one day trip to the living waters theater in Lancaster to see "Behold the Lamb," a dramatic portrayal of the life of Christ from Baptism to his heavenly reign is planned for Saturday, July 11. Following the show we will enjoy a family style dinner at Hershey Farm restaurant. The bus will leave Sacred Heart at 10 a.m. and return about 9:30 p.m. The cost is \$75 for adults and \$69 for children under 12. It includes the bus, show, dinner and all gratuities. Reservation and payment deadline is May 15.

For additional information and reservations call Mary Ann at (908) 226-1222.

## Man of LaMancha to Benefit SPSHS Scholarship

The David Pasacrita Memorial Scholarship Committee will host a benefit performance of the hit musical Man of LaMancha on

Sunday, May 31. The performance is at 3 p.m. A pre-show wine and cheese/desert reception will be held at 1:30 p.m. Reservations are required. Tickets are \$25 and include the reception and show. Reservations are needed by May 25.

Proceeds from the benefit will be used to support the South Plainfield High School Scholarship that was established in memory of David, (class of '76) after he passed away in 1996. The annual scholarship of \$500 is awarded to a graduating Senior with plans to continue studies in music or musical theatre.

The show is presented by Barn Theatre of Morris County. The theatre is celebrating its 70th season. Barn Theatre is located on Skyline Drive off of Rt 202 in Montville. For reservations call John Graf at 908 781-0470.

## Homebuying Advice Seminar Slated

A "First-Time Homebuyer's" seminar will be held on May 14, at 7:00 p.m. at Summit Banks Piscataway office and on May 20 at 7:00 p.m. at its South Plainfield office.

The seminar will be conducted by representatives from ERA Suburb Realty, Mongello, Marshall & Sciallabba LLC, Rich Gelwarg & Lampf CPA's, Credit Masters and Summit Bank.

The seminar leaders will discuss what mortgages are appropriate for different income levels, how to choose an appropriate mortgage, tax and legal issues and the closing process. To register for this free event call (908) 709-6643 or sign up at either branch location.



Members of Friends of the Library (above) and the Suburban Woman's Club (below) set up tables at the April 25 Flea Market which was sponsored by Friends of the Library at the Middle School on April 25. A variety of mixed crafts and items were sold.



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The South Plainfield Observer						
May 1998						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Recreation Comm. 7 pm	Board of Adjustment 8 pm	Court 9:30 am Business Advisory Group 6:30 pm	Taxpayers Advisory Group 7:00 pm Publication of So. Plfd. Observer		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Mother's Day	Council Agenda Meeting 8 pm	SP Library Bd of Trustees 7:30 pm Historical Society 7:30 SP High School Bd. of Health 8:00 pm Planning Bd. 8:00 pm	Environmental Comm 8:00 pm Cultural Arts Comm. 8:00 pm PAL Court 9:30 am & 7:00 pm	Council Meeting 8 pm Copy Deadline for So. Plfd. Observer		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Recreation Comm. 7 pm	Board of Adjustment 8 pm	Court 9:30 am Business Advisory Group 6:30 pm	Taxpayers Advisory Group 7:00 pm Publication of So. Plfd. Observer		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
 31	Memorial Day	Planning Board 8:00 pm	Traffic Safety Advisory Comm. 7:00 pm Court 9:30 am 7:00 pm	Recycling Comm. 8:00 pm Council Meeting 8 pm Copy Deadline for So. Plfd. Observer		

# The Alternative View

By Dr. Anthony J. DeCosta, D.C.



## What does it mean to you to be healthy? How would you define health?

When most people are asked this question the most common response that is heard is "Health is *feeling good!* It means not having any aches or pains or symptoms."

Although the traditional medical system, especially the pharmaceutical industry, spends millions of dollars each year marketing this philosophy through television and radio commercials, newspaper and magazine ads, billboards, etc., the truth is that symptoms or the lack of symptoms have very little to do with what health really is.

Health, according to Dorland's Medical Dictionary is, "a state of optimal physical, mental and social well-being, not merely the absence of disease and infirmity."

Webster's Dictionary defines health as, "a condition of wholeness in which all of the organs and systems of the body are functioning 100% all of the time."

According to Leon Chaitow, N.D., D.O., positive health depends upon three factors, which are interconnected. The first of these is the body's structural system, including all of the nerves, muscles, bones, ligaments, blood vessels, and organs and their functions. The second factor is the body's biochemical processes, which involve the absorption and utilization of nutrients, and the elimination of wastes. The third factor comprises the mind and emotions, as well as the spiritual dimension of each person.

"When there is a balanced, energetic interplay between these three components we have health," Dr. Chaitow says. "But when imbalances exist within any of these factors, or in their relationships with each other, ill-health occurs."

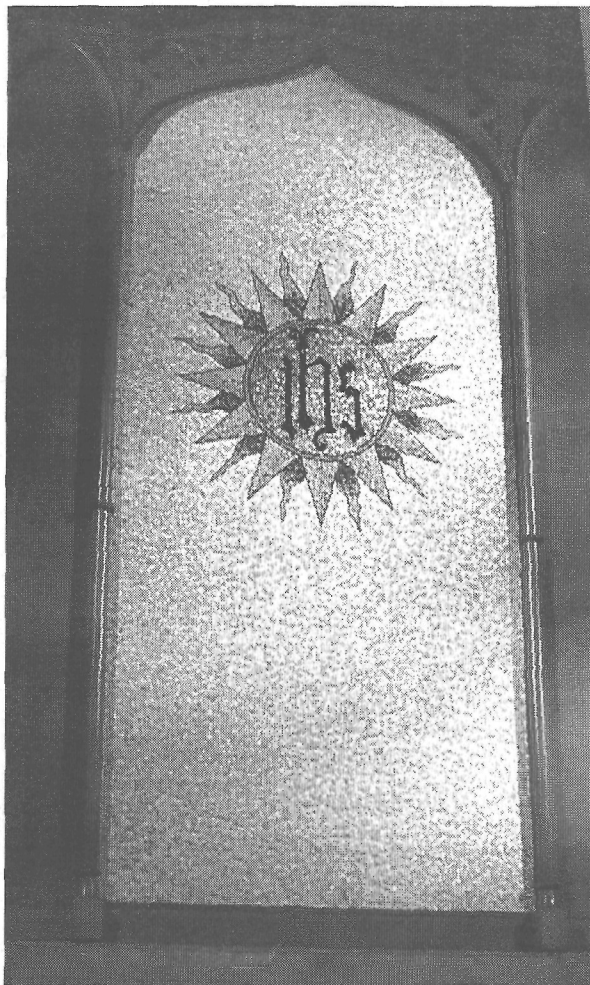
So, in a state of health, if we cut ourselves, we heal. If we are bruised, strained, or suffer a broken bone, healing starts immediately. If we are exposed to infection our immune system deals with it. These examples are illustrations of the body's natural tendency towards repairing itself. This tendency is known as homeostasis, the maintenance of the body's internal organs and defenses to compensate for external health hazards.

When homeostasis is called into play to handle a "crisis," its activity is usually experienced as "symptoms." For example, when you are exposed to infection your body will mount an aggressive defensive response which might result in fever, or, should you injure yourself, the healing process which starts immediately might involve inflammation and swelling of the traumatized area. In other words, under normal conditions, the body will attempt to heal itself without help, and the symptoms produced will indicate what sort of healing process is going on. Unfortunately, many people, including all too many physicians, rather than respecting these homeostatic processes and simply waiting for them to finish their tasks, will actively try to suppress the symptoms of self-repair, whether this be a raised temperature or inflammation in an injured area. When this occurs, we are in effect saying that we know more than our body's innate intelligence about what is good for it.

Therefore, in order to maintain good health, it is important to recognize that many symptoms are actually evidence that healing is underway, and that, unless they are actually unbearable or dangerous, the symptoms should be left alone so that the repair processes can be completed.

Thomas Edison said, "the doctor of the future will give no medicine, but will interest his patients in the care of the human frame, in diet, and in the cause and prevention of disease." This prophetic statement most certainly describes the foundation of alternative medicine.

Questions for *The Alternative View* should be addressed to: The Alternative View, c/o Dr. Anthony J. DeCosta, D.C., 129 South Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.



A new Mosaic by Victor Zucchi & Son adorns the wall of Sacred Heart Church. Through donations made by many individuals the mosaic was recently finished. Donations are still being accepted for the project. For more information, call the Parish Center at 756-0632.

## Carol Byrne To Review Election Results

By Patricia Abbott

Board of Education President Carol Byrne lost her seat by a narrow six votes. Before Mrs. Byrne could officially request a re-count, phone calls from strangers and friends alike poured in to the Byrne household. She discovered that many areas of town (approximately 600 households) had not received their sample ballots.

Supporting her request for a recount were elected incumbents Steve Bohan and Marjorie Reedy as well as the newly elected Dawn Jefferies. The recount took place on April 30, 9:30 a.m. at Roosevelt Park warehouse, where the voting machines are stored. The results were the same; Dawn Jefferies won by just six votes.

Due to rumors of people voting out of district, Mrs. Byrne has contacted the Board of Elections to arrange to review the books page by page to determine if this is, in fact, true.

Byrne has 30 days to petition the Superior Court judge for a new election.

Mrs. Byrne has been a Board of Education member for a total of 12 years. She served four terms 1978-1987 and 1995-1998. For two years she served as Board of Education President and six years as vice president. Despite having lost her seat Mrs. Byrne stated, "I intend to stay involved, whether as a Board member or as a volunteer."

## Home Depot Renews Contract for Hamilton Blvd. Adoption

The Home Depot has renewed its adoption of the stretch of Hamilton Boulevard in front of their store and corporate offices, from South Clinton Avenue to AJV Auto Service. Home Depot joined the South Plainfield Clean Business Association Adopt-A-Spot program in 1995 as a joint effort between the corporate offices and the store. Hamilton Boulevard runs along I287 here, and the fence and shrubbery that separate it from the highway tend to collect litter blown out of the parking lot across the street. The con-

tract between Home Depot and the CBA specifies that as many as 22 employees will pick up this litter on the first and third Friday of each month.

The Home Depot won a CBA Glitter Award in 1992 for their efforts at litter control. The litter problem is a constant challenge, which Home Depot is determined to meet.

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

### NEWS FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION Chaumont Post 243

Thanks to everyone for their support at the Saint Patrick's Day dance. Everyone had a great time. The guests were fifteen veterans from the Menlo Park Roosevelt Hospital. The post raised \$538. for the scholarship fund. Installation of officers will be on Saturday, June 13 at the post.

The post will hold its annual picnic on Saturday, July 11. All are welcome. The proceeds will benefit the scholarship fund.

## Aerobics and Body Toning Classes Starting

Shape up beautifully with exercises and dance routines choreographed to popular music. Aerobics is designed to condition the heart and lungs, and body toning will trim and firm the body, as well as promote flexibility. Step combines the two for a total workout!

Aerobics and body toning are ongoing programs. Each session is made up of 20 classes and open to ages 18 and over. They take place on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Session 3 began on April 27 and runs through June 12 at the PAL Recreation Center. The cost is \$34 for morning session and \$45 for evening sessions. Maureen Noll, a certified aerobics instructor will be teaching the class. For more information on times and dates, call 226-7713. Register in person at the PAL Building on Maple Ave.

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## Sacred Heart Church

149 South Plainfield Ave. South Plainfield, NJ

Very Rev. Michael A. McGuire, Pastor



### Mass Schedule:

Saturday Evening Mass 5:45 p.m.

Sunday 7:45, 9:00, 10:30 a.m. and 12 Noon

Weekdays 9:00 a.m. (church)

Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m.

Holy Days 7 p.m. (Vigil); 7, 9 a.m., 12:10 p.m. and 7 p.m.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 11 a.m.- 12 noon, 5:15 -5:45 p.m.

and after 5:45 p.m. Vigil Mass

Mark Your Calendar!  
 "Funstival 98" May 19-23  
 Advance "Funstival 98"  
 Tickets On Sale Now

# The Forecast Was for Fun



For the second year the Girl Scout Community of South Plainfield enjoyed a gorgeous day for their second Annual Fun Fair and Flea Market. Not only was Saturday, April 25 a beautiful day but the turnout was spectacular, both for fairgoers and volunteers.

The Fair was held on the grounds of the P.A.L. in South Plainfield and ran from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. There were the usual (and unusual) flea market vendors and the games created by the various troops, as well as delicious food, pony rides and a visit from

everyone's favorite Sesame Street character, Elmo.

The Girl Scouts, their leaders, friends and volunteers who participated in any way shape or form certainly have something to be proud of. It's great to know that events like these, which mean a lot of hard work and planning, can also be a lot of fun! The South Plainfield Girl Scout Community as a whole and the girls in general will benefit from the additional funds generated by this event.

The South Plainfield Girl Scout

Community would like to thank the following for making this event a success: Jaye Joyce and the South Plainfield Recreation Department, Angelo's Ice Co., Roma Foods, Ciccio's, Pathmark, Services Plus, Medicine Shoppe, Mohn's Florist, Sunrise Deli, Freihoffer's, Domino's, Spotlight On Dance, Marriott, Spring Lake Florist, CVS, McDonalds, Bagel Pantry, De'Corage, Razor's Edge, Diane's Nails, Bagel Stop, Party Pros, Bagel Chateau, Baskin Robbins, Acme, Cookie's Bakery

& Bagels, Bruno's, Salerno's, Holly Park Video, Shoppers World, Just 1 Hour Photo & Digital, Peter Pan Pharmacy, Rita's Italian Ice, Drug Fair, Sportsworld, Carma Hair Design, Gail Taylor Lisa, Westfield Orthopedic Group, Edwards Supermarket, the Girls Scouts and the leaders from the various troops, the Fair Committee, and the numerous volunteers.

If you missed this event, you missed a really great time! Set your calendar now for next year because you won't want to miss it!

## Nature Reserve Trail Maintenance Day Scheduled

The South Plainfield Environmental Commission and Friends of the Woods are seeking volunteers for the spring Trail Maintenance Day in the Highland Avenue Woods Environmental Education Reserve on Saturday, May 16. Those who have enjoyed the Walks 'N Talks programs over the last two years, and any others who would like to learn more about the Woods, are invited to come out for a few hours on a spring morning and

help spruce up the trails.

Volunteers will meet at the Sylvania Place gate at 9:00 a.m. Maintenance jobs will include trail mulching, pruning, weed control, litter removal, and possibly planting. Refreshments will be provided. Please call the Environmental Specialist at (908) 226-7621 to register and let us know if you can bring tools such as shovels, rakes, prunners, wheel barrows, etc.

## Recycling Center And Yard Waste Site Set Summer Hours

The Kenneth Avenue Recycling Center announces its summer schedule, which began on May 1. Summer hours are: Tuesdays and Fridays, 1 to 8 p.m. and Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Recycling Center accepts all materials collected at the curb, plus used mo-

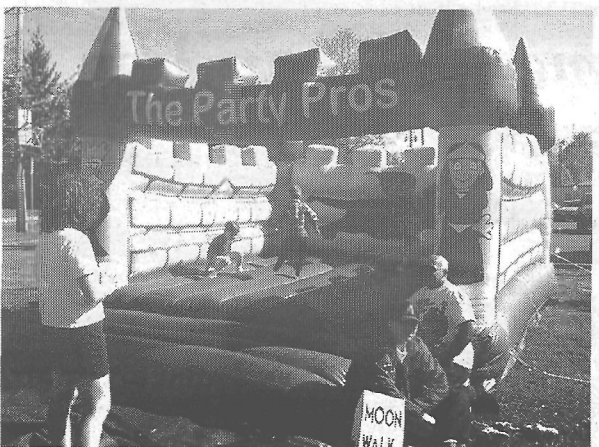
tor oil, scrap metal, and on the third Saturday of each month, used paint.

The Yard Waste Site at the end of Kenneth Avenue will be open to residents for brush, leaves and grass clippings on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 1 to 8 p.m.

and Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Both facilities are closed on Borough holidays, including the Tuesday following a holiday that falls on a Monday; they will be closed on Tuesday, May 26, for the Memorial Day weekend holiday.

For updates, call (908) 226-7620.



## Elks Poster Contest Awards

The Handicapped Children's Committee was host to the lodge's annual Poster Contest Awards Night on April 21. There were many winners and several went on to win awards at the district level (they won 13 of 15 of those awards). Our congratulations go to the third place winner in the state who is a South

Plainfield resident. Savings Bonds and cash prizes were earned by entrants from throughout the South Plainfield school system for their creative and artistic work in producing many terrific posters. The Elks are very proud of our young people and look forward to celebrating their successes in the future.



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## Cemetery Walk Slated for May 9

The South Plainfield Environmental Commission Walks 'N Talks program will conduct a History Walk at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 9, at the Hillside Cemetery of Samptown on New Market Avenue. The walk will be led by Larry Randolph, a local historian.

The cemetery is one of the oldest in the area and contains the graves of many individuals who were prominent in this area's history and is located in what was once the church yard of the Samptown Baptist Church.

The walk will look at archaeological evidence and visit the graves of several people whose lives illustrate the early settlement of the area, the founding and development of the cemetery, and the history of the Samptown Baptist Church.

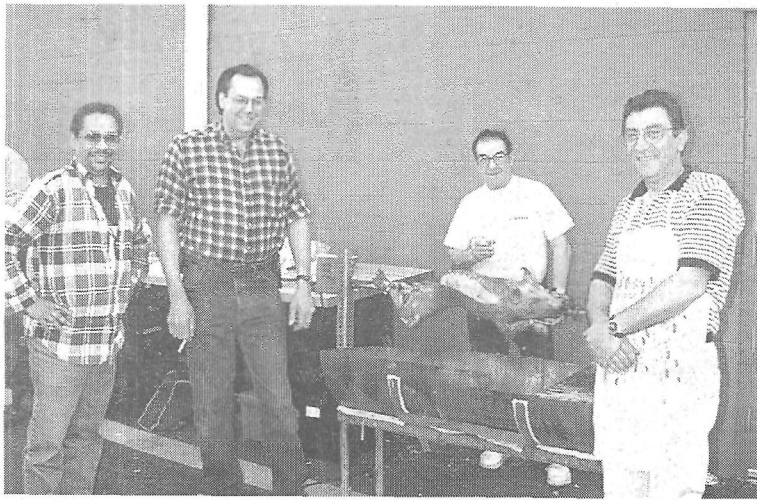
Parking is available across from the cemetery in the DeAndre Shopping Center. Call A. Templel at (908) 226-7621 for more information.

## Plans Underway For Summer Drama Workshop

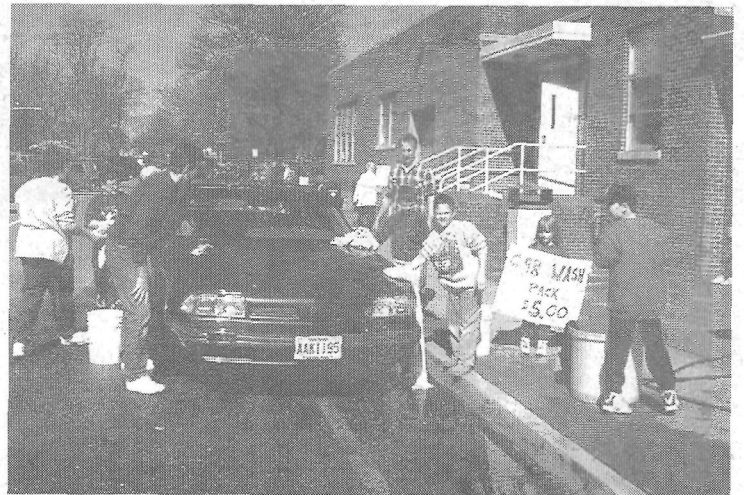
The South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop is planning its 1998 musical, an annual tradition in its 27th year. The workshop is looking for applications for director, choreographer, music director, vocal director and technical director. These are paid positions. Interested applicants should fax a resume, along with show suggestions to (908) 756-8790, and mail resumes, along with a VHS tape or photos of their work, to the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop, c/o the SP Adult School, Cromwell Place, South Plainfield, NJ 07080. Call (908) 756-8011 with any questions.

There will be an informational and organization meeting for anyone interested in helping with the production in any way on Monday, May 11, at 7:30 p.m. at the high school in Cafeteria A.

# Scenes Around South Plainfield



**Sal's Liquors celebrates its first anniversary with a pig roast.**



**Cub Pack 207 held a car wash at the Middle School on April 25.**



**Boy Scouts from Troop 125 attended the April 23 Borough Council meeting as a part of the requirement for earning the 'Citizenship for the Community Badge.'**

Pictured from left to right are CJ Headley, Mike Tudor, Chris Sangster, Evan Sims and Rohan Desai.

## South Plainfield Takes Time to Clean Up



On Saturday, April 18 local organizations, groups and residents set out to clean up South Plainfield. All over town people could be seen with plastic bags picking up trash. Each group had an assigned area to clean up. The clean up day ended with a pizza party at Borough Hall.

The clean-up was the beginning of a week long event.

Second grade Brownie Troop #431 from Riley School planted flowers at the South Plainfield Post Office. Pictured at right, (left to right, bottom row), Sherrie Donato, Melissa Fisher, Rebecca Bosse, and Alicia Shamus; middle row, Kaitlin Egan, Nicole Cosma, Stephanie Szeliga, Alyssa Roibal, Elan Sims, Stephanie Kelly and Katie Sullivan and top row, Post Office Officer in Charge, Mark Rizzolo, Fred Kirchofer, Chris Egan and Mike Rizzolo, along with Elaine Sullivan, Linda and Brian Kelly, Donna Roibal, Ryan Egan, and Charles Avery, pictured at (below).

Thanks go to the following area businesses for their generous donations of tulips, hyacinths, pansies and English daisies: Spring Lake Florist and Garden, Coppola's Farm and Garden, Moore's Stone and Garden and Home Depot. Excess donations were given to the John E. Riley School Beautification Committee for planting on the school's grounds.





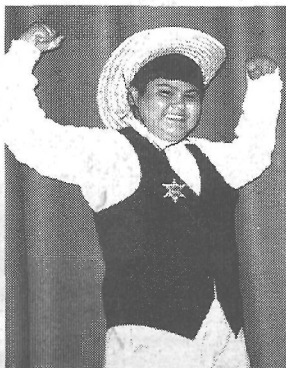
# 'Paper Bag Bandit' at Middle School — A Treat to Watch



Last Friday night the South Plainfield Middle School drama club presented *The Paper Bag Bandit Rides Again or... Behold the Cheap Mask*. Under the direction of Gina Capizola and assistant director Kathy Boye, it was a delightful evening. The talented Middle School students each performed their parts to the laughter and cheers from the audience.

The play, a melodrama which encourages the audience to participate by booing and hissing at the villain, cheering for the hero and sighing for the heroine. A cue card was held up at the appropriate times to help remind the audience when it was time to boo, sigh or cheer. The audience caught on quickly and soon they were willing participants in the play.

The villain Sludge Slysull, played by Jay Leahy, was the notorious Paper Bag Bandit. As the



community was terrified of the bandit, the hero Buzz Saw, played by Josef Rodriguez, devised a plan to capture the crook.

Both men were also trying to win the heart of Clementine, played by Stephanie Swiere. Slysull's partners in crime, Diamond Dolly, Panhandle and Trig-

ger, played by Christine Martinez, David Allara and Danny Sierzega provided many comical moments.

Katie Lawrence helped to set the mood with her piano music, reminiscent of the silent movies. Comedy, music and laughter proved a successful combination. If Siskel and Ebert had been able to attend the play, I'm sure the review would have given the play a thumbs up!

Mrs. Gina Capizol and Kathy Boyle are both special education teachers at the Middle School. A total of 41 students participated in the production of the play. Members of the cast and crew have been rehearsing since January. They play was performed three times during school hours for the sixth, seventh and eighth grade students, and on Friday night, May 1 parents, families and guests enjoyed the production

## *The Paper Bag Bandit Rides Again or... Behind the Cheap Mask*

Directed by Gina Capizol  
Assistant Director, Kathy Boyle

### Cast of Characters (in order of appearance)

Martha Melonrind .....	Michelle Socha
Miss Fitt .....	Khristina Theobald
Granny Nanny .....	Jenna DeSimone
Buzz Saw .....	Josef Rodriguez
Mother Goodsort .....	Malika Aaron
Hedda Lettuce .....	Christina Meleo
Smiley .....	Ricky Sullivan
Mrs. Kibble .....	Tiffany Boyle
Clementine .....	Stephanie Swiere
Sludge Slysull .....	Jay Leahy
Mayor Rutledge .....	Alex Tierney
Panhandle .....	Alex Tierney
Diamond Dolly .....	Christine Martinez
Trigger .....	Danny Sierzega
Mademoiselle FuFu .....	Valerie Osley
Iris .....	Kristen Nietzer
Rose .....	Jaime Morris
Mrs. Van Pettigrew .....	Lillian Williams
Veronica .....	Tawanna Nichols
Shenandoah .....	Debby Soriano
Townspople .....	Quin Bowe,
	Vincent Carubia, Chirstina Ettore,
	Tomaika Limerick and Brittany Regan
Master of Ceremonies .....	Jaime Morris
Piano Player .....	Katie Lawrence
Assistant .....	Jessaka Whatsitt

### Blackouts

John .....	Chris Imbrosciano
Joe .....	Joseph Reach
Bellboy .....	Nicholas Doell
Man .....	Greg Publik

### Stage Crew

Kaitlin Bundy, Gary Carney, Kristen Fredericks, Shannon Dillon, David Garatino, Brian Johansen, Kim Kolvites, Jed Lush, Dominick Mascolo, Tristan More and Jessaka Whatsitt.

# Godspell Playing at S.P. High School May 7-8-9

South Plainfield High School is doing a very "nontraditional" version of the Broadway hit musical GODSPELL. When the play originated in the 1970's it was set in a junk yard and all of the characters were clowns. In this production the director, Shayne Miller, has taken a bold move to come up with an original concept, setting this production in a juvenile detention center and a community service center.

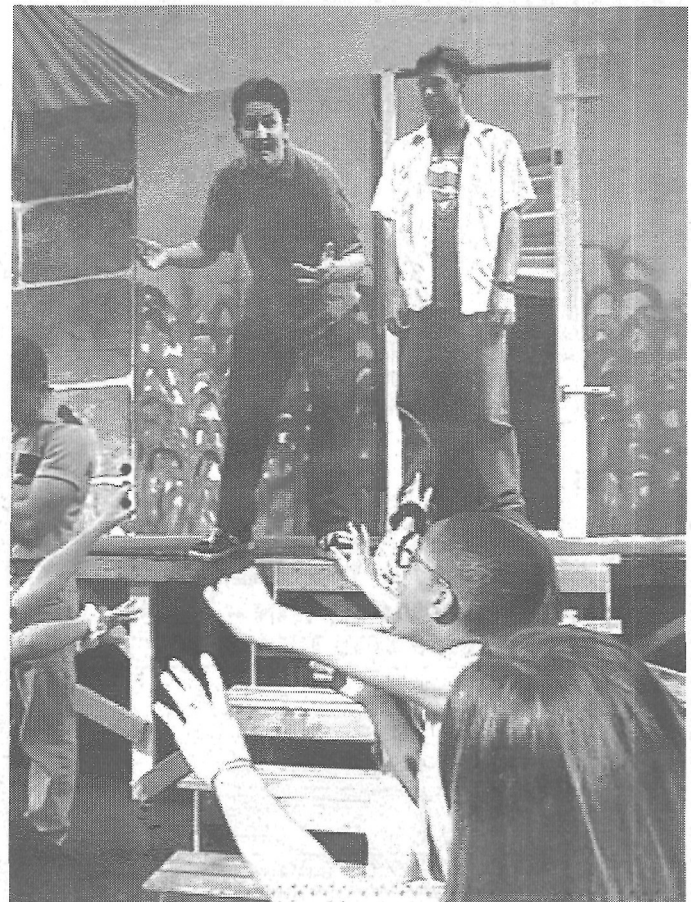
In the beginning of the show the ensemble are told by Judge John T. Baptist (Kenny Huynh) that they will be released from the detention center if they complete 33 hours of community service. Jesus (Steve Ambielli) appears as the community service center volunteer who shows the ensemble the right way to live. Through comedic skits and antics Jesus teaches the cast the lessons in the book of Matthew. In this particular production Mr. Miller has gone as far as using "Wheel of Fortune", "The People's Court" and the "Looney Tunes" to tell the stories.



The performance is complemented by music composed by Steven Schwartz, including the song "Day by Day" and including the song "Tower of Babbble", which is cut from many GODSPELL productions. Tracy Glenn Murray, professional music director, provides the cast with gorgeous harmony and has arranged the movie soundtrack song "Beautiful City" for this production. This fits in well with the original Broadway-style dancing provided by choreographer Debra Bagno.

The audience will continue laughing until interrupted by a jealous Judas (Vinnie DeNizo), who decrees to betray Jesus, which carries the audience through the crucifixion of Jesus.

GODSPELL is now being performed at South Plainfield High School in the Joesph A. Mondoro Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. on May 7, 8, and 9. Tickets are only five dollars for students and seven dollars for adults. For more information call 908-754-4620 at ext. 278.

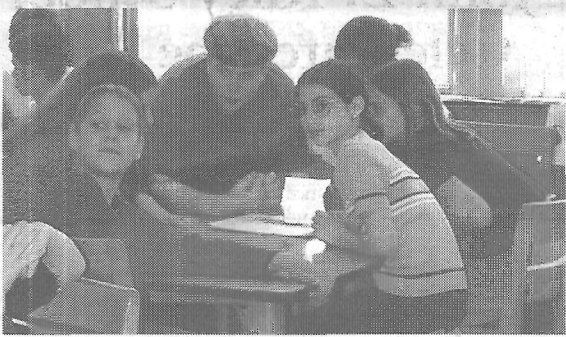


# School Work

## Battle of the Books



Pictured above are the winners of "Battle of the Books," a middle and grade school reading contest: Middle School students Tara Israel, Amanda Rastelli, Alex Tierney, Michelle Puskas, Brittany DeNitzio and Martina Ganiaris. Pictured below are students participating in the "battle."



## Roosevelt School 'Dives for Treasure'

To kick off a new reading program at Roosevelt School, Principal Mario Barbieri asked Barry Fidler, Board of Education member and certified scuba diver, to speak to the students. The theme of the reading program is "Diving for Treasure".

Mr. Fidler told the students they can't just jump in the water and start scuba diving. Special training is required and divers

must pass a rigorous test to receive certification.

Fidler brought his diving gear to Roosevelt School and explained to students how each piece of equipment is used and why it was needed. The students were very enthusiastic and asked many questions about scuba diving.

The "Diving for Treasure" reading program challenges the students to read every day during the

month of May for twenty minutes. Parents are asked to verify students' participation by signing a "Dive for Treasure" form. Each Wednesday students bring the forms to school and a "Treasure" is awarded.

A scuba diver display is set up in the school hallway which will show the diver going deeper and deeper into the ocean as the books are read.

## Kennedy School Celebrates Grandparents

The third graders of Kennedy school sponsored a Grandparents' Day Breakfast on Thursday, April 23. The children and their grandparents enjoyed breakfast with the help of the teachers and parents. The classrooms were decorated with poems and pictures for the grandparents to view.

Children wrote essays or poems about their grandparents, and if they didn't have a grandparent, to an aunt or uncle. The essays were printed in a booklet which was given to the grandparents. As the grandparents read the children's essays, smiles and pride were evident on their faces.

Pictures of grandparents, some of them recent and some of them during their younger years, were also on display in the gym. A photograph of each child was taken with his or her grandparents as a souvenir. Bingo was played and the children performed for the their special guests.

The third grade class would like to thank the following sponsors who made the event a success. Sponsors who helped were Sherbans, Razors Edge, Flanagans, Holly Park Diner, Sal's Spirit Shop, Easy Video, Domino's, Cross Stitch Plus, Yogurt Express, Bagel Pantry and Cookie's Bakery.



Nancy Pauls and Lois and Bill Russo enjoy breakfast with their grandson, Justin and Ryan Miller.



Kennedy School Principal Al Czech, along with a helper, prepares breakfast for the grandparents of Kennedy School third grade children.

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MOTHER'S DAY DRAWING**

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ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Deadline is May 8, 2 pm. Entries must be dropped at  
Twice Is Nice. Winner need not be present to win.

## Hooray for America



(Left to right) Allison DiMeglio, Jessica Dabrio and Sara Sukenik

The fifth grade students at Franklin School recently held a Spring Social Studies fair. Each child chose a state and researched industries and other important facts pertaining to their selected state.

Supervised by teacher Mrs. Nancy Donahue, students used the school computer programs and library to research information on each state. Conferences were held by Mrs. Donahue with every child at each stage of project development.

Finally, state projects were enthusiastically presented and displayed to all classes and parents of Franklin School.



Heather Floodcrisitello, Carlos Aguilar, Jeff Toolan and Tany Graves are ready to enjoy bug sticks and bug blood.

### Riley School Fifth Graders "Bug Out"

The fifth grade classes of Mrs. Mariani, Mrs. Elster and Mrs. Gaffney held a 'Bug Fest' last week. Each classroom created edible buggy-wormy looking cuisine and displayed it in a colorful cafe atmosphere. Some of the cafe names were *The Insect Garden and Meals, Worms and Jimmy Cricket*. Students prepared and served their delectable dishes such as Mosquito Meringue Pie, Cockroach Krispies, Pesticide Punch, Centipede Fries, Bug Burgers and Bugs in a Blanket.

Students toured each others classes before they sat down to eat their delicious meals. The cafe tables included candles, flowers and violin player provided atmosphere. The dishes displayed very much resembled their names.

The 'Bug Fest' was a celebration of *Who Won the Contest*, a book about the advantages of eating bugs and their nutritional value. The story explains how to make brownies with bugs in them. The fifth grade teachers baked brownies which were closely examined by the students before they enjoyed them.



Sarah Gagliano, Victoria Maione, Colleen Kamen and Kelly Whitney display their table and menus.

### Discover the Joy of Learning With Computers

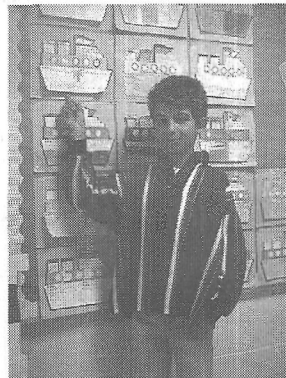
#### Roosevelt School Hosts Family Technology Night

On Thursday, April 30, parents and students of Roosevelt School participated in a Microsoft Family Technology Night, a free presentation and hands-on workshop to introduce parents, educators and students to the Internet and to exciting, new computer software and hardware available for home and school use. Families experienced first hand how fun and easy it is for kids to do their homework using resources from the Internet and the latest multimedia and creativity software.

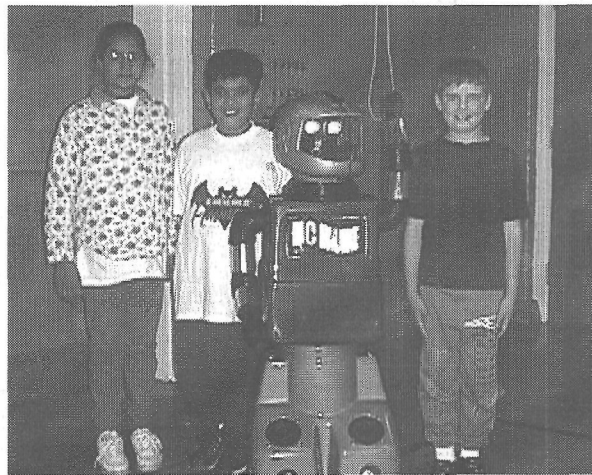
Microsoft's Family Technology Night program, now in its fifth year, will reach more than 150,000 parents and teachers in 1 500 schools nationwide this school year and result in donations of more than \$400,000 in free software and hardware to schools.

Family Technology Night is being held to help celebrate Math, Science and Technology Month. Microsoft Corporation, the world's leading software developer, is sponsoring the event with the support of Sony, the American Association of School Librarians, Campbell's Labels for Education, MSNBC and Comp USA. According to a report from the Software Publishers Association, educational technology has been found to have positive effects on student attitudes toward learning and on student self-concept.

The program enabled parents to see how technology can make learning fun and how computers at home can enrich children's learning experience at school.



Fourth grade Roosevelt students researched facts about New Jersey and filled the hallways of the school with their findings. Gina Severini (above left) shows off her New Jersey shirt while Jonathan Guirguis (above right) proudly displays his "heritage ship" as part of the study of students' genealogy.



MC BLUE, the recycling education robot, recently paid a visit to Roosevelt School at a free recycling program presented by Middlesex County. Pictured with the robot are students Kiran Budhan, Daniel Sambat and Andy Keraga.

### John E. Riley School Celebrates the Arts

Students from Riley School showcased their musical talents at the annual Spring Concert held on April 27. Over 170 third, fourth and fifth grade students performed for their parents, relatives and friends.

The concert began with third-grade students performing five selections on the recorder, under the direction of Mrs. Joanne Gurske, vocal music teacher. The children began studying this musical instrument in January in preparation for this performance. In addition to learning how to play a musical instrument, the students learned to read musical notations, how to perform together in an ensemble and how to present a performance.

The String Ensemble performed six selections, including "Trumpet Tune" by Purcell, Feather Theme from Forrest Gump, Crystal City March, Austrian Folk Song and Petite Tango. The ensemble was made up of 32 students from the third, fourth and fifth grades. This was the first concert for the third grade students. Mrs. Carleen Todeschi, the director of this ensemble, founded the string program in South Plainfield twenty four years ago and currently teaches strings at Riley, Kennedy and the Middle

School. The Riley School Band, under the direction of Mrs. Joan Stasio, has 33 members in fourth and fifth grade. Highlights of this portion of the concert included *The Lion Sleeps Tonight* and selections from *Anastasia*. The concert also premiered Riley School's Jazz Ensemble which played a piece called "Bionic Blues" from *The Little Jazz Suits*. Mrs. Stasio is a graduate of South Plainfield High School and has been the instrumental director at Riley and Franklin School for the past fourteen years.

The concert concluded with selections by the Riley School Chorus under the direction of Mrs. Joanne Gurske. The 75 member chorus performed five selections including a ragtime song, a spiritual and the finale, which was a patriotic tribute. Mrs. Gurske has been the vocal music teacher at Riley School since 1972 and has taught music in all the other elementary schools over the years.

Many of the students involved in this concert also had the opportunity to participate in the All-District Music Festival which was held on March 27 at South Plainfield High School. This event is held yearly to celebrate National Music in Our Schools Month.

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# School Work

## Seven Local Teachers To be Honored

On Thursday, May 21 seven South Plainfield teachers will be honored at a reception for the Governor's Teacher Recognition Award recipients at the East Brunswick Chateau. This year honorees, selected by their peers, are Janet Errico, Grant Future Stars Preschool teacher; William Nothnagel, John E. Riley School physical education teacher; Victoria Molnar, fourth grade teacher at Franklin School; Sharon Perez, Roosevelt School vocal music teacher; Joan Wysochansky, second grade teacher at John F. Kennedy School; Donald Panzarella, Middle School Physical Education teacher and Michael English, who teaches history and social studies at South Plainfield High School.

**Janet Errico** earned her B.S. degree in Elementary Education from the College of New Jersey, Trenton State and has been a teacher for 15 years. She worked as a substitute before coming to South Plainfield. Errico has also worked at the Latchkey program and at Summer Fun and Tiger Day Camp. She is a former Girl Scout co-leader and member of Franklin School PTA.

**William Nothnagel** has been an educator for 35 years, 34 of them in South Plainfield. Although he is currently teaching at Riley School, Nothnagel has taught at all the elementary schools in the district. He has both a Bachelor of Science and Masters degree from Rutgers University and is a NJSIAA Baseball, Softball and Soccer official as well as program coordinator for South Plainfield Recreation. He is also a member of the South Plainfield Education Association, Middlesex County Education Association, New Jersey Education Association, and the National Education Association. In his spare time Nothnagel enjoys fishing, golfing, skiing and traveling.

**Victoria Molnar**, who taught at Kennedy before coming to Franklin in 1980, has been a teacher in South Plainfield for 28 years. She received her undergraduate degree in Education from Glassboro State College and an M.A.-Ed.M from Rutgers University. She also earned a Principal/Supervisor Certificate and Learning Disabilities Certificate from Kean University. She is actively involved in all Franklin School functions and sang *The Star-Spangled Banner* for the school's Veteran's Day celebration and Tom Lennahan dedication. At home Molnar enjoys reading and arts and crafts.

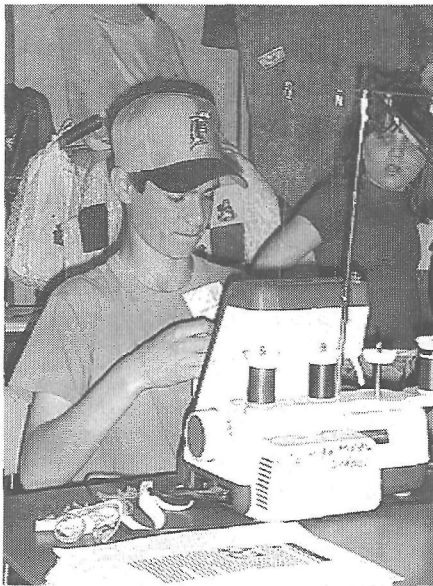
**Sharon Perez** has taught vocal music, K-8 and strings 3-5 for 14 years, nine of them in South Plainfield. In addition to teaching at Roosevelt School she has also taught at Kennedy and Grant Schools, Perez received a Bachelor of Music in Education degree from West-

minster Choir College, Princeton. She is a member of American Choral Directors Association, Music Educators National Conference, New Jersey Music Educators Association, and Choristers Guild. She also serves on the Pupil Assistance Committee (PAC) at Roosevelt. Her hobbies include sewing and other needle arts.

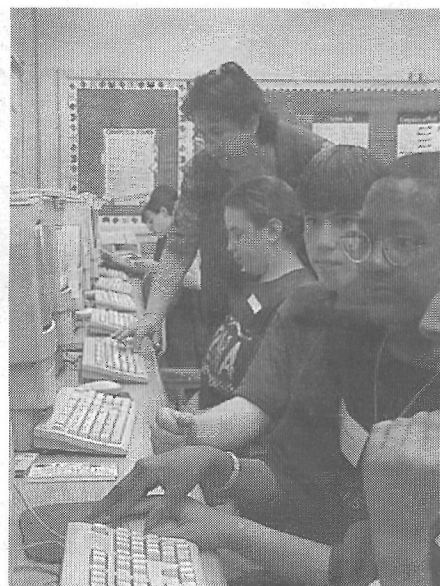
**Joan Wysochansky**, has taught grades K-3 in South Plainfield, first at Roosevelt School and then Kennedy School. She graduated from Trenton State College with a degree in Elementary Education and has been an educator for 33 years. In addition she has been an active member and officer of the South Plainfield Education Association. Wysochansky loves to read and is a big fan of Mickey Mouse!

**Donald Panzarella** has been a Physical Education teacher in South Plainfield for 18 years. He taught grades K-5 at Kennedy and Roosevelt Schools before his current assignment at the Middle School. He received a B.S. degree in Health/Physical Education from Seton Hall University and is a member of SPEA, NJEA and GMCSCA. In March of 1988, he was inducted into the NJ Scholastic Coaches Association (NJSICA) "Hall of Fame". Panzarella presently coaches youth athletic programs, baseball and basketball, in his hometown of Readington, where he has been vice president of Readington Junior Baseball League for two years. He is also director of Baseball/Basketball Leagues in his community. At school he acts as SPMS Phys. Ed Team Leader and SPHS Varsity Softball Coach.

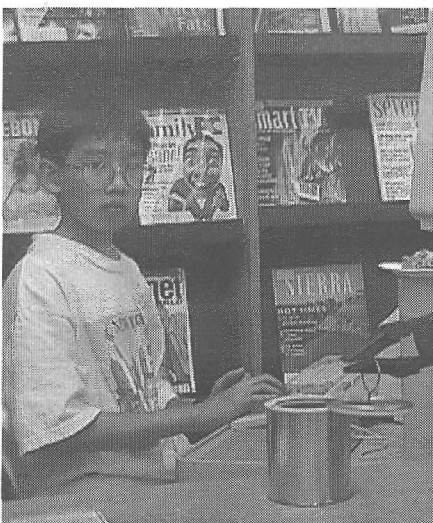
**Michael English** received his undergraduate degree in Social Studies and Education from St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia, PA. He has also earned graduate credits from Seton Hall and Princeton Universities. Currently he teaches ninth grade World History Honors, eleventh grade U.S. History 2, and twelfth grade Government and Law. English has been involved in many aspects of school and community service. He was a former South Plainfield councilman and mayor. He has been a student council advisor, and coach for little league, varsity and traveling varsity soccer, varsity swimming, and varsity lacrosse. For six years he ran the traveling All-Star Baseball Tournament for S.P. Little League. In addition, he organized the Recreation Soccer Program and was a cofounder of Hand-n-Hand Festival. English was also a past member of the Little League Executive Board, South Plainfield Jaycees and Lions Club. Currently, he is president of the SPHS Athletic Booster Club. In 1984 English was recognized by the N.J. Jaycees as "Outstanding Man of the Year".



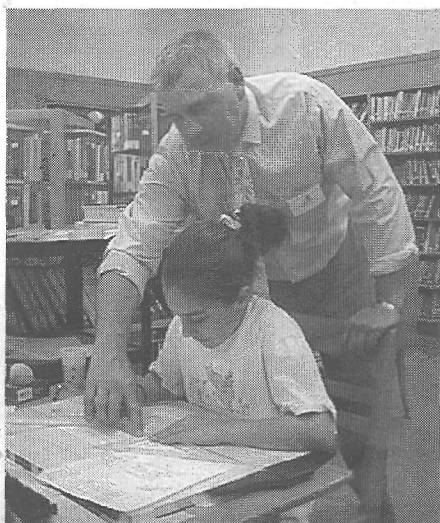
Joe DeAndrea, seventh grade, demonstrates textile tech.



Eighth grade Writing/ Research Lab students work with teacher Diane Scarpulla.



Alex Huynh, seventh grade, demonstrates the Robot Arm.



Middle School Mechanical Drawing Instructor William Mosca works with sixth grade student Britany DiNizio.

## Tiger Technology Fair Showcases Students' Talents

The South Plainfield Middle School Tiger Tech Technology Fair, a fascinating evening of demonstrations of technology in our schools was held on Wednesday, April 29. The event was sponsored by the Middle School Expressive Arts Department. The evening offered a wide range of examples of the technology available to a student in the 1990's. Foods Technology for Living offered refreshments as well as a demonstration of recipes with computer generated nutritional analysis. A variety of computer techniques were demonstrated by

students, from writing and research to spreadsheets and data bases, from graphic arts and visual communications to a Robot arm controlled by a computer. Additionally, there were displays of wood and metal technology and students giving hands on demonstrations of clothing and textile tech.

District Coordinator of Mathematics and Computer Technology Mr. Fred Oberkehr was on

hand to chat with concerned residents about current and future technology goals for the district and to answer questions. The Expressive Arts/Computer Department at the Middle School is chaired by Jeffrey Spezio and consists of the following teachers, Neil Aiello, Catherine Coyle, John Hanlon, Denice Hogan, Diane Kardos, Shari Lepore, William Mosca, Peter Primmer, Diane Scarpulla and Rachel Villani.

### Roosevelt School Offers Welcome Program for Incoming Students

Roosevelt School P.T.A. will be offering a "Welcome" program to those students entering Roosevelt School kindergarten this September. Parents may choose either 9-10 a.m. or 1-2:30 p.m. for the week of June 1 through June 5th.

All children wishing to participate must be previously registered for kindergarten at the Administration Building. Sign up for the "Welcome" program will take place on Thursday, May 14 and Friday, May 15 from 9-10 a.m. at Roosevelt School in the main lobby.

Questions about this fun-filled program, featuring a tour of the school, meeting some of the teachers, playing games, songs and crafts, can be answered at the

"sign up" or you may call the main office at Roosevelt School at 754-4620 ext. 336.

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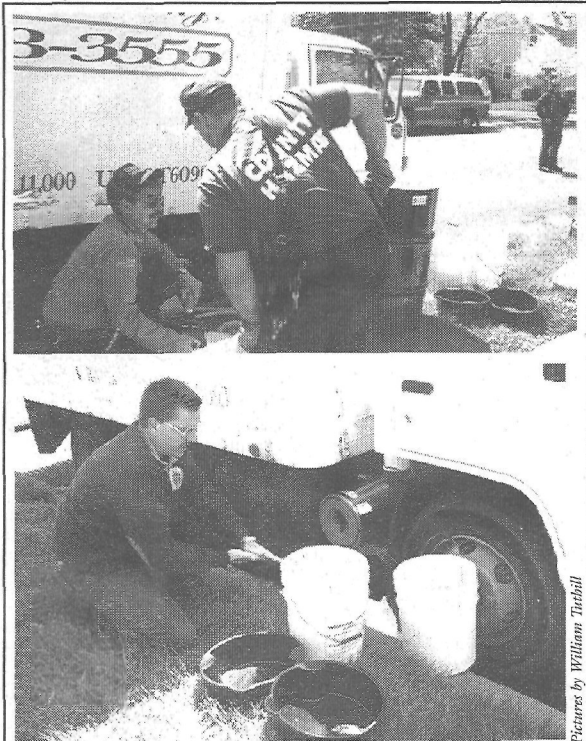
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to include your story in  
the *Observer*.



Pictures by William Tutbill

### Truck Spills Diesel Fuel on Road

A Middlesex Lumber Company truck sprang a leak in its diesel fuel tank recently. The leak caused a streak of oil from Plainfield and Maple Aves. to the second block on Sampton Ave. Kenneth McCauley, the driver, said he had no knowledge of the leak until people stopped and advised him that there was a problem.

Traffic was disrupted for about an hour while the South Plainfield Fire Department and the Middlesex County Haz-Mat teams worked on the clean up. The South Plainfield Emergency Management team was on the scene to oversee the operation.

## 101st to Hold 53rd Annual Reunion

The 101st Airborne Division Association will have a "Gathering of Eagles" for its 53rd Annual Reunion at the Holiday Inn Central in Omaha, Nebraska, on August 19-22. The reunion will be hosted by the Midwest Chapter, 101st Airborne Division Association.

More than 5,700 members of the association who served in the "Screaming Eagles" division in World War II, Vietnam, Saudi

Arabia, Iraq, Fort Campbell, Ky., and other countries throughout the world are trying to renew friendships with fellow troopers with whom they served.

The 101st Airborne Division Association was formed in Southern Germany in 1945 and has been an active organization since its founding. Most members of the association served in, or were attached to, the 101st Airborne Division. The

association also has associate members who did not serve in the 101st Division, but have an interest in the "Screaming Eagles" through a relationship with a former member or because of other connections or interest in the 101st Airborne Division. Members of the Association include World War II veterans of OVERLORD, the airborne assault behind the German beaches of Normandy and those who were part of MARKET GARDEN, the airborne operation to keep "Hell's Highway," in Holland open for the British armored drive to cross the Rhine River at Amheim (popularized in the book and movie *A Bridge Too Far*). Many members fought with the 101st Airborne Division at Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge, under General Anthony C. McAuliffe who told the Germans "NUTS" when they demanded surrender.

Younger members of the association served in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Division and saw combat in well known battles like the 1968 Tet Offensive, Hamburger Hill, and Dak To. They fought in many other successful battles that kept the Army of North Vietnam from gaining sufficient strength to take and hold important terrain.

Even younger members have served our country in Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm. As the first troops to fire shots and destroy the communications system of Iraq, they served our country well.

Headquarters for the 101st Airborne Division Association is Bentonville, where the records of all members are maintained and where the bimonthly magazine, *The Screaming Eagle*, is published six times a year for the benefit of association members. For more information write: Billy A. Carrington, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, P.O. Box 101, Bentonville, OH 4505-0101, or call (937) 549-4326.



The South Plainfield Borough Council presented Certificates of Appreciation to members of the Family Leaders of America at their April 23 council meeting. The group recently hosted a successful luncheon for Senior Citizens. Pictured above from left to right are Jessica Linico, Dana Bertrand, Linh Doung and Isidra Price. Members who received certificates but were unable to attend were Melinda Agostino, Kristin Anderson, Jennifer Basile, Rocco Borja, Heather DeBlase, Leticia Donegan, LeeAnn Errico, Susan Garfield, Janie Joy, Joanna Llerena, Christina Raimondi, Jennifer Reynolds, Katherine Skoba, Amanda Sterling, Elaine Smith and Judy Wang.

## From the South Plainfield Library Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Yes, we know that Mother's Day is on Sunday, and that obviously takes some preparation. But, if you could spare a few moments, here's some news from the South Plainfield Library.

We'll be following our regular schedule for children's storytime programs for the next couple of weeks. The programs for 3-6 year-olds are on Mondays at 6:30 p.m., Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m. and Thursdays at 11 a.m. Please contact children's librarian Judy Fischer for more information.

The next meeting of the Library Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12 at 7:30 p.m. Members of the public are welcome to attend and get more information about the Library's future plans.

There's been a big demand for the Internet terminal lately, so we've added a second terminal right next to it. It was helpfully provided by the South Plainfield School System. We're working on getting a third terminal running. However, we still ask that patrons limit their time on-line to thirty minutes.

There have been several recent additions to our permanent collections. Turning to the compact

discs, we've just added several musical boxed sets by artists like the Doors, ABBA and John Denver. We've also obtained two new books-on-CD, *The Street Lawyer* by John Grisham and *You Belong To Me* by Mary Higgins Clark. We'll be doing an update of our main desk CD lists ASAP. Until then, just check our catalog terminals to see what's available.

The latest group from the Video Circuit it is now available for borrowings. These tapes will be around until May 23. Some of the recent releases in this group include "Air Force One", "187", "Shine" and "Inventing the Abbotts."

Back on April 21 we had a special National Library Week program featuring Izzy the Clown. We had a very large turnout of adults and children, all of whom conducted themselves very well. We'd like to thank everyone who attended; special thanks to the Friends of the Library who helped out during the program.

Recently, we've had a number of comments about the new com-

puter system. Specifically, they commented on the new check-out-style receipts with the due dates, replacing the old card system. In answer to some of the questions we got, we issue a single receipt per patron, instead of one receipt per item, because it saves on cost and paper, as well as saving you the hassle of trying to track down multiple receipts. But, as always, if you lose your receipt, don't hesitate to call us and ask when your books are due.

Finally, a reminder. Sometimes, patrons take books down from shelves, but then decide not to borrow them. If you're not going to borrow something please leave the item on one of the tables. Don't try to reshelve it; the filing system can be a little tricky. Besides, we keep statistics of books read inside the library, as well as those borrowed.

That's about all for this issue. We'll have more in the next *Observer*. Thanks for your attention, and have a happy Mother's Day.

## Orchard Lake Alumni Association Holds Reunion



Story and Picture  
By William Tutbill

members attended the dinner meeting.

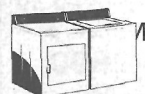
On Sunday, April 26 the Orchard Lake Alumni Association held their annual get-together at the social hall of Our Lady of Czestochowa Church in South Plainfield. These reunions are held for the benefit of the Orchard Lake Schools in Orchard Lake, Michigan.

Located on the one campus are Sts. Cyril & Methodius Seminary, St. Mary College and St. Mary Preparatory School. About 120

Those on the committee were Msgr. Joseph Krysztofik. President Patrick Kerzik, Msgr. Arthur Demski, Msgr. Henry Bogdan, Rev. John Skwara, Estelle Kanfinski and Evelyn Carney.

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## INTERACTIVE COMPUTER CORNER

By Briggs Langbotham  
and Eric Tillman



Are there any readers out there who have not heard of something called "Y2K"? Better known in some circles as the "year 2000 problem," it's crunch time for our electronic world and the systems users and just about everyone else for that matter. Without going into the monotonous details, this has bearing on the way computers handle dates. We've all seen the date written in the mm/dd/yy format as in 12/07/41 (Pearl Harbor). The issue here is how the "41" is handled by electronic brains and what that will mean to virtually everyone and everything. We know that day was in 1941, but machines don't know which century, BC, or AD.

I won't go into the myriad of possible scenarios, but besides some being very humorous there are also very critical ramifications. This applies just as much to those who never touch a computer as well as to the geeks like me who talk like we've got wires in our heads.

Computers are great and they work exactly as they're told, but one small detail like an improperly worded or ambiguous instruction or punctuation mark in a line of code in a company's payroll system is wrong, guess what? No paycheck! That is exactly the kind of problem that will occur beginning on Jan. 1, 2000. As much as companies both very large and very small think that this can't happen here, it will. Look out everybody! Of the dozens of tech journals that cross my desk every month, each one of them has touched on this subject at least several times already.

The bottom line is that 1/1/00, better make that 1/1/2000 will be another date that will live in infamy. I've even heard some fear-mongering talk show guests advising people to withdraw money from their banks to last them at least through the first couple of months of the year 2000 "just to be on the safe side." Can you imagine what just such a run on the bank would do the economy much less the problem itself? The very worst part of all this hype and worry is that there really is truth to it all! At least so far as that "nobody knows for sure" how and to what degree this problem will hit. Sort of like the inevitable comet that will strike the Earth, you know it's coming and maybe you can blow it up but the pieces will still be on track. To make the situation even stranger, scant few are talking about it for fear of starting a panic. Should we wait and see, dig in and take precautions, or what? By the way, does anyone know if my Windows 95 will crash on that one too? I'm not ready to

start counting lifeboats yet, but I do know where they are.

**TIP:** This one comes down the pipe from Microsoft. If you're running Windows95 and also MSIE (internet explorer) 4.0 or later, you MUST uninstall the browser before installing the upgrades to Windows95 such as in Service Pack 1. In fact Microsoft's Knowledge base and support site are full of helpful tips, patches and upgrades. Visit them at <http://microsoft.com>.

Last issue I mentioned that the South Plainfield website could be found at <http://www.south-plainfield.com>. This was not correct. The "official site" is <http://www.southplainfieldnj.com>. Thank you to whomever pointed that out. But both sites do exist and both do refer to our town so I say visit both! They are both commercial sites and their purpose is provide content that is of value to the site visitor. (And yes, they get paid for it too.) Check them out often and give them feedback. It's in our best interest to tell them the bad and the good so we can have better representation on the web for our town.

**TIP:** When typing in URLs or web addresses, and you get error messages, double check for punctuation in the address. You may not cause a Y2K problem, but these things do need to be perfect. Generally such addresses are not case sensitive. However this is not always true. Usernames and URLs often allow upper and lower case without distinction. Passwords always demand the proper case input.

If any reader has their own insight or outlook on the "Y2K" issue, please share it with us. Write to me care of the Observer or directly to my email address ([Bruggo@earthlink.net](mailto:Bruggo@earthlink.net)). This is something we'll all want to know more about.

Well, it's time to go for now. When I started this issue's column the Mir Space Station was over Australia and now it's half a world away. And I'm not that slow a typist either. Check out this site for tracking satellites: [www.gsoc-ddlr.de/satvis](http://www.gsoc-ddlr.de/satvis) It's German site (note the ".de" domain). 'till next time.

## Obituaries

### Virginia Ruth (Courter) Bykowski, 76

Virginia Ruth (Courter) Bykowski of Spring Hill Fla., formerly of South Plainfield, died on April 13, at her home.

She was born in North Arlington and was a former long time resident of South Plainfield before moving to Spring Hill in 1997.

She was predeceased by her husband Victor T. Bykowski Sr. who died in November of 1997.

She is survived by two sons, Victor T. and John Bykowski, both of Spring Hill, Fla.; three grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the Brewer Memorial Funeral Home in Spring Hill, Fla.

### Dorothy A. Gianfrancesco, 68

Dorothy A. Gianfrancesco died on Tuesday, April 28 in John F. Kennedy Medical Center.

Born in Manville, she has resided in New York City and New Brunswick before moving to South Plainfield in 1955.

She had been a graduate of the New York Foundling School of Nursing in New York City. She had been a baby nurse with St. Peter's Medical Center in New Brunswick in the early 1950's, since then she has been a homemaker.

Mrs. Gianfrancesco was a communicant of Our Lady of Czestochowa R.C. Church, where she was active with many church functions including the Altar Rosary Society where she had served as President and Vice President. She had also been a volunteer at the Lyons V.A. Medical Center in Lyons working in the wood shop area with the disabled veterans.

Surviving are her husband Daniel A. Gianfrancesco; two sons, Henry M. of South Plainfield and Robert P. of Dunellen and a sister, Joan Maune of Hauppauge, Long Island, N.Y.

Funeral Services were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

### Mary J. (Salvato) Hirst, 89

Mary J. (Salvato) Hirst died on Friday, May 1 at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Mrs. Hirst was born in Philadelphia, Pa. and had resided in Audobon, NJ and in Berlin, NJ before moving to South Plainfield in 1993. She was a homemaker for most of her life.

Her husband, Arthur C. Hirst died in 1984.

Surviving are two daughters, Lauretta J. Barton of Lakehurst and Jacquelyn N. Quitt of Trevoze, Pa.; three sisters, Elizabeth Short of Berlin, Teresa Costanzo of Pine Hill, NJ and Rose Bucelli of Atlanta, Ga.; two brothers: Nicholas Salvato and John Salvato, both of Philadelphia, Pa.

Also surviving are seven grandchildren, seven great grandchildren and a great great grandchild.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

### Mary (Nedorolik) Bugle, 92

Mary Nedorolik Bugle died on Thursday, April 30 at the Hunterdon Health Care Center in Flemington.

Mrs. Bugle was born in Newark and was a long time resident of Scotch Plains, before she moved to Flemington seven years ago.

She had worked in the Birchwood Nursing & Convalescent Center in Edison in the Arts & Crafts Dept. Prior to that, she had been an assistant at St. John's Baptist Church in Scotch Plains.

She was an avid volunteer in community service and was instrumental in organizing and leading many Girl Scout Troops in Scotch Plains.

She had also been active as a member of the Washington Rock Girl Scout Council for several years.

Mrs. Bugle was also a member

and past director of the Scotch Plains Golden Agers. Her organizational skills helped her develop numerous additional activities for the club members including much of the club's group travel program.

She was a member of St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church in North Plainfield.

Her husband, Edwin Bugle, Sr., died in 1970. She was also predeceased by her sister, Rose Loeffler and her brother John Nedorolik.

Surviving are her son, Edwin Bugle, Jr. of Whitehouse Station; three daughters, Mary Crocco of Trinity, Texas, Alice Kyrioglou of Warren and Gloria Pellegrino of South Plainfield; a sister, Doris Warner of Martinsville and her brother, Milton Nedorolik of North Plainfield.

She is also survived by twelve grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home for Funerals.

### Sophia R. (Stachnick) Fitt, 84

Sophia R. (Stachnick) Fitt of South Plainfield died on Tuesday, April 21, at her home. She was born in Old Forge, Pa. and has been a resident of South Plainfield for the last 45 years.


Mrs. Fitt was a production worker for Westinghouse in Edison for 25 years before retiring in 1975. She was a member of the International Union of Electrical and Radio Workers Local 402 in Edison.

She was a communicant of our Lady Czestochowa R.C. Church in South Plainfield.

She was predeceased by her husband Frank Fitt who died in 1957.

She is survived by two sisters, Johanna Malecki of South Plainfield and Loretta Zagorsky of Old Forge, Pa.

Arrangements are by the James W. Conroy Funeral Home.

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Middle School essay contest winner Michael Tudor, Jr., with Phil Cortese (middle) and Rudy Poczak (right).



Sacred Heart School essay contest winner Margaret Monroe, with Harriet Square and Phil Cortese.

## VFW Awards Patriotism Essays Winners

VFW Post 6763 prizes to the winners of the Youth Essay Contest on Wednesday, April 29. The essay contest was open to seventh, eighth and ninth grade students in the South Plainfield school district. Each student wrote an es-

say on the "What Patriotism Means to Me." The top three essays from each grade received prizes. The first place winner received \$150, second place \$100 and third place \$75.

Rudy Poczak, Past Commander

said that the VFW received essays from 41 high school and 53 middle school students. He said it was a very good response and the essays were all well written.

From the high school the first place went to Ryan Hardy; second to Anthony Ruiz and third to Jessica Arndt.

At the Middle School first place went to Michael Tudor, Jr., second to Jason Yu and third to Tamika Limerck.

Sacred Heart first place went to Margaret Monroe, second to Lauren Reed and third to Katy Selbey.

The "What Patriotism Means to Me" Essay Contest is conducted by VFW Posts nationwide. After local winners are chosen the first place winner goes on to compete at the district level, then the state level. The state champion then competes in Washington, DC for National Champion.

Post Commander, Phil Cortese, Rudy Poczak, past post commander, and Harriet Square, Woman's Auxiliary, President chaired the contest and presented the prizes.



South Plainfield High School essay contest winner Ryan Hardy with Harriet Square, Phil Cortese (back middle) and Rudy Poczak (right).

## Oak Tree Church Hosts Medical Mission Presentation

Oak Tree Presbyterian Church of North Edison invites the community to learn more about what's happening in the field of overseas medical mission. The church will be hosting a presentation by Mr. Rob McClelland, regional director for the Medical Benevolence Foundation at its 10:00 worship hour on Sunday, May 10. The Medical Benevolence Foundation is a partner with the Presbyterian Church (USA) and other Christians in

over 20 countries worldwide. Each year MBF raises millions of dollars for medical mission, as well as recruits volunteer health care personnel for service and collects donated medical equipment and supplies. The Foundation provides direct medical relief, as well as focuses on longer-term health education and development strategies, such as creating clean water supplies in remote communities. The church is lo-

cated at 455 Plainfield Rd. in Edison. For more information, call 549-4178.

### NOTABLE MENTION

Sean O'Brien of South Plainfield captured first place in a field of 72 entrants in The Expert/Sponsored category at the aggressive in-line skating competition held at the Hackettstown skate arena on Saturday April 18. Sean is sponsored by Unreal Skate Shop of Somerville. Sean is the grandson of Donald and Ginny O'Brien.

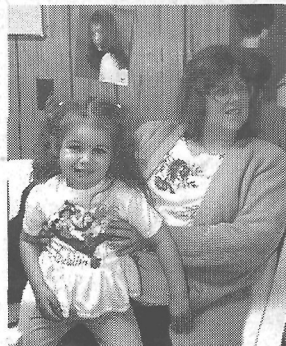
## Carousel and Woman's Club Host Cut-a-Thon

Carousel Beauty Salon and the Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield held their second annual Cut-a-Thon for the benefit of a graduating South Plainfield High School senior.

On Sunday, April 26 Marty Papa, owner of Carousel Beauty Salon and hairdresser Jean Rahill, were kept busy cutting hair all day. Customers streamed in and out of the shop while Marty's husband, Joe directed traffic in the shop and daughter, Annette pitches in as well. Nati Zeno, a neighbor, also helped with the shampooing.

Members of the Woman's club helped out by sweeping the floor, serving refreshments and assisting in any way they could. Waiting customers enjoyed an assortment of refreshments. Door prizes, including a Lady Di Beanie Baby, were on display. Five raffle tickets were included in the \$10 price of the hair cut. Winner of the Lady Di Beanie Baby was Justin Martin.

Over 113 customers participated in this very successful fundraiser. \$911 was raised towards a \$1000 scholarship for a graduating South Plainfield High School senior.



Waiting for their haircuts are Brittney and Kim Iannitto.



Jean Rahill cuts Patrick Hunter's hair.



Marty Papa, owner of Carousel Beauty Salon, cuts Mrs. Stollenmaier's hair at the second annual Cut-a-Thon benefit.

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**DIRECTOR, VOCAL, BAND, TECH** directors, choreographers needed for So. Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop. Submit resume to: So. Plfd Summer Drama Workshop, So. Plfd Adult School, 305 Cromwell Place, South Plainfield, NJ 07080

**RECYCLING CNTR GROUNDSKEEPER** So. Plainfield Yard Waste Site operations and maintenance; front-end loader exper. preferred. Up to 20 hrs/wk. Call Recycling Coord. (908) 226-7621. EOE.

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**HISTORIC PHOTOS** of South Plainfield buildings, landmarks and/or businesses. 732-469-4381.

# Classified Advertising Works.

Call (732) 469-4380 to place your classified ad.

3 line minimum at \$10.00 and \$2.00 per additional line. All classifieds must be pre-paid. To place a classified send your check to the Observer, c/o G & G Graphics, 530 Union Ave., Ste. 3, Middlesex, NJ 08846.

Next issue deadline is May 14.

# POLICE REPORT

• Police responded to a report of a burglary at a home on Jersey St. and found two bedrooms ransacked and an undetermined amount of money missing. They also found the owner's dog had apparently been shot several times and a large amount of blood was found on the kitchen floor. Shell casings were also found in and around the area and the kitchen window was shot out. The dog was transported to the animal hospital.

• A motorist came to the Police Department to complain that he had been threatened by another motorist. The incident happened as he entered Rt. 287 in Woodbridge. Another car almost ran him off the road. The car then followed him on Rt. 287 and continued to follow him when he exited on Stelton Road. The motorist drove to the BP Station on Stelton and parked his car. The car followed him, verbally harassed him and threw an object at his car that hit the trunk. He waited until his father arrived but by that time the other car had left the scene.

• Caldor had two incidents of shoplifting. The first was a shopper who attempted to steal a phone and video, valued at \$42.98. He was caught by Caldor's security. The second was an employee who was also caught by store security attempting to undering a purchase. Both were arrested.

• The owner of Winfall, Inc.,

Hamilton Blvd. reported that after she fired an employee for stealing, the employee returned the next day for his paycheck. She refused to give it to him saying she intended to deduct the amount he had stolen from the check. He then threatened her and said he could destroy the building in one shot.

• A shopper at Caldors paid for his purchase with eight \$20 dollar bills. After he left, the clerk inspected the bills a little closer and noticed they

were counterfeit and called the police.

• Someone slashed all four tires of a Volkswagen which was parked at Innovative Plastics on Durham Ave. Recently discharged employees are suspected of this vandalism. The tires were valued at \$300.

• Adberrahi Halali was arrested after a motor vehicle stop. He was charged with DWI, refusal to take a breathalyzer test and disorderly conduct.

## South Plainfield Observer

The South Plainfield Observer is sold at the following locations

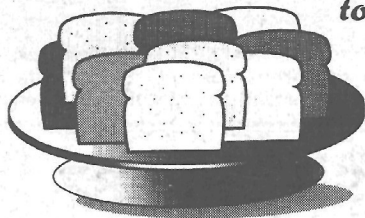
If you would like to sell the newspaper, call us at (732) 469-4380.

- 7-Eleven, Plainfield Ave.
- Bagel Pantry, Plainfield Ave.
- B & C Deli
- Copolas Farm, New Durham Ave.
- Corner Deli, Hamilton Blvd.
- Carousel Hair Salon, Oak Tree Rd.
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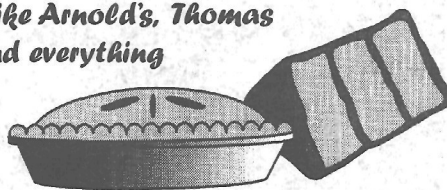
Good bread and fun desserts really add to the quality of everyday life. We're happy to provide you with both - at savings that permit you to enjoy the best often!



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## FREE BREAD! (Buy two, get one free)

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