

THE SOUTH RIVER ADVOCATE

Vol.3 Issue 6 _____ The Newsletter of SEPTA of South River _____ March 2002

http://www.geocities.com/septa_srnj

septa_srnj@geocities.com

Information Line (732)432-6747

Coming Events:

March 4: No School
Teacher In Service

March 5: SEPTA Meeting
"Transition Planning Seminar" 7-9pm South
River Middle School Library

March 7: SEPTA Board Meeting
7-9pm South River Elem. Library

March 12-15: Parent Conferences

March 19: Kindergarten Registration
9-11 am

March 21: Board of Education
Pre-Meeting 7pm Administration Bldg.

Special Child Health Meeting
7:30pm E.B. Library
Topic: Planning for the Future
Call: 732-745-3180 for more information and to
confirm attendance.

March 25: Board of Education
Public Meeting 7pm H.S. Library

March 26: Kindergarten Registration
9-11 am

March 29-April 5: Spring Recess
School Closed

2002 SEPTA Scholarship Applications

Applications for the \$250.00

**SEPTA 2002 Scholarship
are now available.**

Deadline for submitting an application is
April 26, 2002



AT&T Family Week at the Theatre

The New Jersey Theatre Alliance will be sponsoring it's 5th annual AT&T Theatre Week. There will be more than 115 events across the state including several in New Brunswick. Most are free and others are discounted. The events run from March 2 through the 10. For more information call (800) 843-2787 or visit their web site www.familyweek.com

SEPTA

Starts Special Needs Parent Resource Library:

The Special Education PTA of South River will be donating several books and videos to the South River Public Library on various topics of interest to parents of children with special needs. If any parents would like to make a suggestion please contact SEPTA. These books / videos will be available to parents in the next few months. For more information, please visit our web site:
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"Misunderstood Minds"

Misunderstood Minds, a PBS documentary about learning differences and the impact that these differences have on the children who have them, their families and society will be airing on PBS television on March 27th.

(Please check your local channels programming for time by visiting
www.pbs.org)

This program will address the neuro-developmental approach (pioneered by developmental-behavioral pediatrician Dr. Mel Levine and the All Kinds of Minds Institute) to understanding and managing differences in learning.

For more information on the All Kinds of Minds Institute visit their web site at:
www.allkindsofminds.org

The Special Education PTA Of South River

*Would like to thank the following merchants
for their generous support and donations:
Laffin Chevrolet Oldsmobile of South River*

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I am the Child

I am the child who cannot talk. You often pity me; I see it in your eyes. You wonder how much I am aware of. I see that as well. I am aware of much...whether you are happy or sad or fearful, patient or impatient, full of love and desire, or if you are just doing your duty by me. I marvel at your frustration, knowing mine to be far greater, for I cannot express my needs or myself as you do.

You cannot conceive my isolation; so complete it is at times. I do not gift you with clever conversation, cute remarks to be laughed over and repeated. I do not give you answers to your everyday questions, responses over my well being, sharing my needs, or comments about the world about me. I do not give you rewards as defined by the world's standards...great strides in development that you can credit yourself: I do not give you understanding as you know it.

What I give you is much more valuable...I give you instead opportunities. Opportunities to discover the depth of your character, not mine: the depth of your love, your commitment, your patience, your abilities, the opportunity to explore your spirit more deeply than you imagined possible. I drive you further than you would ever go on your own, working harder, seeking answers to your many questions with no answers. I am the child who cannot talk.

I am the child who cannot walk. The world seems to pass me by. You see the longing in my eyes to get out of this chair, to run and play like other children. There is much you take for granted. I want the toys on the shelf, I need to go to the bathroom, and oh I've dropped my fork again. I am dependant on you in these ways. My gift to you is to make you more aware of your great fortune, your healthy back and legs, your ability to do for yourself. Sometimes people appear not to notice me: I always notice them. I feel not so much envy as desire, desire to stand upright, to put one foot in front of the other, to be independent. I give you awareness. I am the child who cannot walk.

I am the child who is mentally impaired. I don't learn easily, if you judge me by the world's measuring stick, what I do know is infinite joy in simple things. I am not burdened as you are with strifes and conflicts of a more complicated life. My gift to you is to grant you the freedom to enjoy things as a child, to teach you how much your arms around me mean, to give you love. I give you the gift of simplicity. I am the child who is mentally impaired.

I am the disabled child. I am your teacher. If you allow me, I will teach you what is really important in life. I will give you and teach you unconditional love. I gift you with my innocent trust, my dependency upon you. I teach you about how precious this life is and about not taking things for granted. I teach you about forgetting your own needs and desires and dreams. I teach you about giving. Most of all I teach you about hope and faith. I am the disabled child.

Author, Unknown.

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SEPTA 2002 Scholarship:

The Special Education PTA of South River is once again offering a \$250.00 scholarship to a special education student of South river who will be continuing their education upon graduation. Interested students can receive an application from their special education teacher or contact Dr. Marciante, Director of Special Education, South River Public Schools at (743) 613-4073.

*Applications must be recieved by April 26, 2002

Winner will be notified after May 6, 2002

Good luck to all applicants!

Interested in a Summer Camp or Summer Recreation?

If you are a parent and interested in finding a summer camp or summer recreation program for your child

Start looking now.

Because of the high demand and limited amount of spaces available these programs fill up fast.

Who can you contact to get more information on summer camps and recreation programs?

There are many organizations that can assist you in finding out more information on camps and summer recreation programs in your area:

The Office of Recreation
N.J. Department of Community Affairs
Telephone: (609) 292-6243
"Guide to ACA-Accredited Camps"

Information Line of Middlesex County
Telephone: 1-888-908-4636
or visit their web site at:
<http://community.nj.com/cc/informiddlesex>

Middlesex County
NJ Assoc. of County
Offices for the Disabled, Inc
Telephone: (732) 745-4013

State Office on Disability Services
(for local recreation resources)
Telephone: 1-888-285-3036

Or visit these websites:

www.kidscamps.com

www.summercamps.com

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March

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					1	2
3	4 Teacher In-service Day	5 SEPTA Workshop Transition Planning 7-9 pm S.R. Elem Library	6	7 SEPTA Exec. Board Meeting 7-9pm S.R. Elem. Library	8 HS Spring Pep Rally	9
AT&T THEATRE WEEK						
10	11 ES Parent Conferences 1:30-3:30pm	12 Parent Conferences Elem. School 1:30-3:30 pm Middle School 7-9pm	13 Parent Conferences Elem. School 7-9pm Middle School 1-3pm	14 Parent Conferences MS 1-3 pm HS 7-9pm Kindergarten 8:30-3pm	15 Parent Conferences High School 1:15-2:30pm	16
17	18	19 Kindergarten Registration 9-11am HS Winter Sports Awards 6pm	20 High School Pops Concert 7:30 pm	21 Pre-meeting Board of Ed. Medical Mistakes & Your Legal Rights 7-9pm NJ Bar Found.	22	23
24	25 Board of Education Meeting	26 Kindergarten Registration 9-11 am	27	28	29 Spring Holiday Schools Closed	30
31	<p><u>SEPTA Scholarship 2002</u> SEPTA is once again offering a \$250.00 scholarship to a graduating special education student of So. River. Scholarship deadline is April 26, 2002. For an application contact the Office of Special Education or your teacher.</p>		<p><u>NJ Bar Foundation</u> The New Jersey State Bar Foundation offers free law-related seminars to the public at the NJ Law Center off Ryders Lane in New Brunswick. Admission is free but advanced registration is required. Please call 1-800 Free Law to register.</p>		<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">2002</div>	