



# THE TIMES

FORMERLY  
THE  
SCOTCH PLAINS TIMES  
AND  
FANWOOD  
INDEPENDENT

VOL. 9 NO. 1

SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD, N.J., THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 1968

10 CENTS A COPY

## Five Year Old Application for Variance Gets Approval

The Fanwood planning board cannot be accused of a hasty decision on the application of Mrs. V. Barbara Holton for permission to divide her Tillotson Road property into two lots. She filed the request five years ago. The Board recommended Borough Council approval of the subdivision of her property into two lots at its regular meeting last Wednesday night. Action came after the subdivision was classified as minor.

Tillotson Road is presently a private street. The approval would be on the condition that the newly created lot cannot be built until Tillotson Road became an improved street, accepted by the borough as a public street. This would be binding on present and future owners of the property.

Mrs. Holton had appeared before the Planning Board several times during the past few years. She sought permission to divide her 180' x 182' property into two lots with 100' and 80' frontages. There had been a question of whether the Board could legally act on a subdivision for property on a private street.

In another action the Board recommended Council approval

for a two-lot subdivision in Midway Avenue between Martine Avenue and Midway Circle. The applicant in this case was Angelo Appezzart Construction, Inc.

The Planning Board's first by-laws, prepared over the past several months by a committee headed by Norman O. Geuder, were adopted. They set procedural rules for the board's operation. They will take effect at the board's January meeting.

Also adopted and set to the Borough Council for approval was the board's 1968 budget. It totals \$1,600, an increase of \$100. Included in \$1,100 for printing and mailing of brochures for the revised master plan which the board is preparing.

It was reported that Beard is reviewing proposed revisions to the land subdivision ordinance. The board secretary, Charles Smith, was instructed to prepare its 1967 annual report.

This meeting was the last for the board chairman, M. Douglas Beals. He was elected to the Borough Council in November.

Beals has resigned from the Planning Board, on which he served five years. He was chairman for the past three years.

## Township Committee Elects Chairman

### Non-Violent Did You Say?

A leader of the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee, just back from Viet Nam, is advocating the use of terrorist tactics against President Johnson. "To resist is to make the President afraid to leave the White House because he will be spat upon wherever he goes to tell his lies," SNCC field secretary Julius Lester says. "His knowing will find the street filled with tacks and thousands of people who will surge around it, smashing the windows and rocking the car until it is on its side."

### About-face on Vietnam

Pollster Louis Harris reports that the American public increasingly favors get-tough policy in Viet Nam. Last July a majority of voters favored de-escalation of the war, Harris says. Today, nearly two out of three advocate escalation.

### Thomas Santo Salvo Wins By Four to One Vote

The five-man Scotch Plains Township Committee elected Thomas Santo Salvo Chairman by a vote of 4-1 at its annual organization meeting at Municipal Building on Tuesday night. Santo Salvo was nominated by outgoing Mayor William Kitz, with no other nominations forthcoming. The solitary nay vote was that of Committee-woman Edith Powers, lone Democrat on the committee, and senior member. Santo Salvo's father, Thomas Santo Salvo, became mayor of the Township 22 years ago. An invocation was given by Rev. Vincent Sprouls of Saint Bartholomew's.

One of Santo Salvo's first official duties was the appointment of Albert Theurer, another committeeman, to serve as assistant chairman of the Committee, an action also opposed by Mrs. Powers, who indicated that the senior member of the Township Committee should be assistant chairman. Lloyd P. Koppe was again appointed as executive secretary of the township.

The Township Committee includes Santo Salvo, Mrs. Powers, Kitz, Theurer, and Ray Schnitzer, the only new member. Schnitzer took his oath of office, administered by Township Clerk Helen Reidy, from a Bible held by his mother, who was accompanied by Schnitzer's wife Betty.

In a statement of his plans for his administration, Santo Salvo particularly emphasized the need for a strong and complete police force, with a moderate increase in taxes to enable the township to pay salaries high enough to lure competent men to membership in the force. Santo Salvo said that the caliber of man needed for good police work would also be enticed by salaries paid by other jobs without the personal risk involved in police work, so salaries must be appealing. He also stated that one of the main problems of the local government is that of communication between the various departments and committees. He promised a closer liason with subcommittees, departments, and committees, with duties well outlined either by ordinance or by resolution.

Santo Salvo said that taxes will be higher, due to both the anticipated increase in police salaries, and the requirements of the Board of Education. He pledged himself to preserving Scotch Plains "as we all know it" and expressed a hope that with careful planning it would become an even better place to live.

George Venezia, president of the Scotch Plains Republican Club, continued a tradition in presenting red roses to the wife of the outgoing committeeman, William Burke. Both Kitz and Santo Salvo expressed the appreciation of the committee for Burke's contribution, citing particularly the new personnel policy and the introduction of electronic data processing on checks, etc. He was presented with a plaque.

After approving annual reports from the various departments, the Township Committee on Tuesday night approved the appointments of a long list of township officials and employees for 1968, and also announced the subcommittee assignments of Township Committee members.

Personnel in the various departments and positions remains much the same as last year, with the exception of two newcomers. George Voget was ap-



THOMAS SANTO SALVO

pointed to a four-year term to replace Mrs. Harry Geetlein on the Recreation Commission. Her term is completed. Edith Powers, Democratic Committeewoman, abstained on the vote of Voget. She is a member of the Recreation Commission Subcommittee, and stated that she did not know enough about Mr. Voget. Robert Haug was approved for a four year term on the Library Board, replacing Israel Gazek, who has moved from Scotch Plains.

One new Board was set up, the newly instated Architectural Review Board, which will approve new buildings, additions and alterations to old buildings in an attempt to guide the growth of the township along desirable lines, to preserve the character of neighborhoods, and to prevent the erection of a building which would downgrade the value of surrounding properties. The Board includes Chairman Mauro Checchio for two year term; Clinton Seaman for two years; William Franklin for six years; James Carlock for four years' and William Kitz for one year.

In a realignment of their own sub-committee assignments, the township committee members

Continued On Page 17

## Winter Storm Sets Back Sea Scouts Project

During the past few months passersby have been watching with interest a shipbuilding project that is being carried out behind the Municipal Building by the Sea Scouts. A thirty-four foot boat built to U.S. Navy specifications is being completely overhauled, refitted, and equipped with a navy-donated \$7000 diesel engine. The scouts have spent every spare moment working on the boat, and looking forward eagerly to the launching of a sea-worthy vessel.

Undaunted by wintery winds and cold, the troop along with their Skipper, Jim Walsh, and Executive Officer, Steve Sedillo

constructed an enormous shelter to protect their "ship". Completed it would have provided a snug "drydock" under which work could continue despite weather conditions.

Unfortunately the shelter was not sufficiently completed by December 28 when the area was lashed by gale force winds, snow sleet, and freezing rain. Despite a massive effort by the crew and their leaders to shore up the structure it collapsed with a loss of several hundred dollars worth of construction materials and many months labor.

The Sea Scouts who will become affiliated with the Coast

Guard in February now need help desperately. They plan to place "donation cans" in business locations throughout the community hoping that sufficient donations will be forthcoming to resume their "shipbuilding" project.

The troop, incidentally is looking for fifty additional members, boys between 14 and 18 years of age, hopefully with dads who will be willing to contribute some spare hours in support of the troop's activities. Meetings are held on the second Friday of each month in the basement meeting room of the Fanwood branch of the Plainfield Trust Co.



Last weeks wind and snow storm all but demolished the protective structure built by the Sea Scouts to shelter their 34 foot boat.