

# THE TIMES

FORMERLY  
THE  
SCOTCH PLAINS TIMES  
AND  
FANWOOD  
INDEPENDENT

VOL. 9 NO. 48

SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD, N.J., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1968

10 CENTS A COPY

## Accident Investigation Course



Two-week accident investigation course sponsored by New Jersey Auto Club-AAA was taken by Scotch Plains Sgt. William Blake. At instruction board is C. Stewart Mead, (left-right) traffic and safety director of the AAA Club, Thad Aycok and George Burnett of the Traffic Institute of Northwestern University.

## Police Will Cover Patrol Car Guns

Shotguns which are carried in Scotch Plains police cars will be covered in the future, it was reported this week.

The guns, purchased for the force following 1967 Plainfield riots, have been mounted in a floor-dashboard mount, with the end of the gun visible above the dashboards of the cars. An objection was raised by Gilbert Ridley, president of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Human Rights Council. Ridley said he spoke

for black citizens of the community, and that they felt the visibility of the shotguns was interpreted as an affront to them.

Following Ridley's objection, the Township Committee met with members of the Human Rights Council.

It had been explained at a recent Township Committee meeting that it was necessary to mount the guns within the automobiles, since damage would result if they were tossed in the trunks. Officials also said that the guns change hands with the change of shift of police. The floor-dash mounts were the only ones available from police catalogs, it was stated.

Committeeman Albert Theurer, public safety director, said that township officials checked with police departments in surrounding communities to find a solution to the gun storage, but found no better answer. He said the hoods for the shotguns would be the most economical solution and that members of the Human Rights Council concurred in the arrangement. Their protest had been to the exposition of the guns, and not to their presence.

16  
SHOPPING  
DAYS

BEFORE CHRISTMAS

## Mail Early!

Times have changed, and our mail attests to it.

On a typical day, the United States Post Office Department processes almost as much mail as the rest of the world combined.

During the Christmas rush, the postal service carries more mail in a month than most countries do in a year.

This year, theoretically, every man, woman and child in the United States will be receiving 407 pieces of mail annually. In 1947, the average postal patron received six letters a year.

Nearly 9.7 billion pieces of mail will be delivered by the Post Office Department this December, according to Postmasters Schettino and Cardino.

Over 75 per cent of the nation's mail now carries ZIP Code in the mailing address. We're striving for 100 per cent use of ZIP Code in both mailing and return addresses.

Postmasters Schettino and Cardino ask all area residents to mail now to avoid severe overloading of postal facilities. They also urged residents to keep their sidewalks and rural mail boxes clear of snow and ice so that postal employees will not be delayed in delivering the large volume of mail.

The Post Office Department needs the cooperation of all citizens in the use of the ZIP codes to simplify the mail handling, cut out several hand operations and save money.

## \$30,000 Appropriation For Library Books Is Questioned

### Jaycees Plan Third Annual Blood Bank

The third annual Community Blood Bank coordinated by the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Jaycees in cooperation with the American Red Cross will be held on Saturday, December 7, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Terrill Junior High School, Scotch Plains.

Information about eligibility and appointment schedules may be obtained by telephoning 756-6414 (Plainfield Red Cross) or 322-5644 (Robert Blair, Jaycee co-chairman).

Messrs. Robert Blair and David Keffer, Jaycee co-chairmen of the event, advise that a one pint donation to the Blood Bank by you insures for one year the total blood needs of your family, including you, your husband or wife, your children, your parents and your parents-in-law.

The Blood Bank is a unique community project which provides the rare opportunity for many community organizations to participate in a common effort to benefit all of the citizens of Fanwood and Scotch Plains. To date, the following organizations have agreed to cooperate in this project: local PTAs, Parents Guild, St. Bartholomew's, The Junior Women's Clubs of Fanwood and Scotch Plains, College Women's Club, Fanwood, Blue Raiders Boosters Club, Newcomers Club, Rotary Club, Lions Club, Kiwanis and YMCA.

### Study Committee Asks Delay On Garbage Report

A committee appointed by Mayor Thomas Santo Salvo to study the various means of garbage collection in the municipality has asked for a month's extension to submit a report. The committee requires more time to complete their study, which had been scheduled for completion this month.

In a recent court decision, Magistrate George Jackson ruled in favor of the Board of Health in a case involving a scavenger, Puntis, who had raised his rates for monthly garbage collection following a denial for the increase by the Board of Health.

### Action Promised On High School Parking Problem

The Scotch Plains Township Committee, which has gathered standing-room crowds in recent months, finished its agenda in crack time on Tuesday night. The meeting was over in just over 20 minutes, with only a handful of people in attendance.

Two ordinances were passed, following public hearing. One appropriates \$30,000 from the capital improvement account for book acquisition for the Scotch Plains library.

Virginia Dekle, of 1 Balmoral Lane, raised an objection to the expenditure. Mrs. Dekle said she felt the allocation should be cut to 13, or \$10,000 at this time. She said she felt such a quantity of books would be impossible to process at one time.

Library Board of Trustees member Frank Spooner said the Library Board had never requested 55,000 volumes, as stated by Mrs. Dekle. Spooner said the shelf capacity was designed to accommodate 55,000. The collection at the time of the move to the new building was 12,000, and it was planned at that time to acquire a total of 32,000 over a 4-year period, Spooner said. The \$30,000 appropriation was part of the \$80,000 earmarked previously for future capital needs, Spooner said.

The second ordinance approved prohibits a left hand turn from Lake Avenue into Farmingdale Road from 7 to 9 a.m. and 4 to 7 p.m. Drivers had been using Farmingdale Road for a shortcut to avoid the intersection of Paritan Road and Lake Ave.

Rev. Kelmo Porter, Jr., pastor of St. John Baptist Church, purchased, in behalf of his congregation, two lots, Lots 6 and 7, Block 155A, on Park Place, behind the Morse Avenue church. The congregation plans to use the lots for parking. The purchase was made at a public sale, with sale price \$1200, and subject to the following conditions:

1. Lots shall be combined into one.
2. No certificate of occupancy shall be issued for a structure there until the property can be sewered.
3. 15 feet off the front of the lots should be dedicated for street right-of-way.
4. There shall be a 10-foot setback from new property line.

The Council received a letter from George Timkin, a Hoppel Court resident, questioning the lack of action in establishing parking limitations on his street, which adjoins high school property. Timkin said conditions in the street are most unpleasant and aggravating, and the street is a "full" parking lot before 6 every morning. Timkin stated further, "I have consulted with my attorney and have been advised that there would be

a strong case against the committee should an accident result from the hazardous situation'.

The letter was referred to committee. Mayor Santo Salvo said it was unfortunate that action could not be taken sooner, but, he added, it had been anticipated that the Board of Education presentation of new parking plans to the Board of Adjustment would take place in December, and was now scheduled for January. As soon as the new plan is presented, Santo Salvo said the township is prepared to move ahead as quickly as possible to alleviate the "miserable" parking situation around the high school.

Alex Milton, Superintendent of Public Works, was authorized to submit required invoices to collect Scotch Plains' share of Flood Disaster Rehabilitation Funds. The grant to Scotch Plains for damage to public properties following last May's extensive floods has been approved by state and federal authorities, but the proper invoices must be filled out to obtain the money.

A test for prospective patrolmen on December 21 was announced. Committeeman Theurer pointed out that the age limits have been extended to 35, and that applicants will now be considered from surrounding communities as well as Scotch Plains. Further information and forms may be obtained from Police Chief James Osnato and Municipal Clerk Helen M. Reidy.

Bids for the construction of storm sewers and appurtenances in portions of Rahway Road will be accepted in the Municipal Building on December 16 at 1 p.m.

## Chief Osnato Reappointed

The Township Committee re-appointed James Osnato to another year's term of office as police chief of Scotch Plains on Tuesday night. The term will commence December 8 until December 31 of 1969.

The appointment was necessary, it was explained, because Osnato has reached the age of 35, and Civil Service laws require yearly appointments after that age has been reached. Osnato has served as the Scotch Plains police chief for 4 years.

Committeeman Albert Theurer praised Osnato's good work of late during the 4-year term.