

THE TIMES

ONLY NEWSPAPER WITH COMPLETE SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD NEWS

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SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD, N. J. THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 1972

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Site Pl Award For "Y" ly Center

"We are most happy to accept this award on behalf of all former and current members of the Y," said Joseph W. Duff, President of the Board of Directors and Norman Lacombe, Chairman of the Trustees, commenting on the recognition paid to the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Y by the Union County Planning Board in awarding the 1971 Planning Award for Outstanding Site Development to the new Y Family Center on Martine Avenue.



Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA officials receive the Union County Planning Board 1971 award for outstanding site development for the new "Y" Family Center on Martine Avenue.

From left — Joseph W. Duff, President of the "Y" Board of Directors; Robert R. Rishler, Chairman of Building Committee; Norman R. Lacombe, Chairman of the Board of Trustees; George Cannon of the Union County Planning Board; and Ron Dering, member of the County Planning Staff.

The new Family Center was recommended for this singular award by the Scotch Plains Planning Board. The Union County Planning Board annually selects and pays tribute to a site that "embodies principles of sound site planning while combining functional pleasing architectural design."

Mr. Duff continued, "This award is a tribute to all who planned so diligently and contributed their labor and financial support to transform the dreams of so many years into the living reality that it is today. The understanding of interested citizens, the cooperation of the Township of Scotch Plains and the Borough of Fanwood, and the concern of our competent architect and contractor contributed immeasurably to the successful development of the Family Center."

Now marking its first birthday, the new dark-brick and steel structure, housing the pool and auxiliary facilities, is set deep in the 5-1/2 acre site to blend with its surroundings, and two homes shield it from Martine Avenue. These homes are used by the Y for offices and meeting space, as well as for the pre-school Gym Jam program. Ample off-street parking adjoins the new building. The site is in approximately the geographic center of Fanwood and Scotch Plains. The site is screened by existing woods, supplemented by additional plantings of trees and evergreens.

The structure houses the heated 75 to 37 foot, 6-lane pool. Bleachers have been installed for spectators to aquatic events. The pool depth slopes from over 10 feet under the one-meter diving board, to about 3 feet at the shallow end. It is designed to accommodate adult to "tadpole" swimmers.

Carpeted locker rooms with over 200 lockers and adjoining

shower rooms occupy the next largest area. A ladies' makeup and hair-dressing lounge is a welcome feature by the distaff swimmers. Two large storage areas, an administrative office, the Aquatic Director's office, an entrance lobby and the necessary heating, pumping, and pool-filtering rooms complete the structure.

The new Family Center is the culmination of many years' effort by hundreds of local citizens. Approximately one-third of the families in Scotch Plains and Fanwood and almost all local businessmen contributed \$500,000 toward the cost of this facility. Five local banks made available mortgage financing for the additional \$300,000 necessary to complete the present structure. Spearheading the 1969 capital funds campaign that made the new building possible were co-chairmen Sid Hulsizer

Vandalism At Swim Club

Vandalism runs rampant in the Scotch Plains-Fanwood area. Schools, playgrounds, public and private property are destroyed, with taxpayers paying countless thousands of dollars each year for repairs and replacements. Certain facilities appear to suffer more frequently than others. Willow Grove Swim Club is one of these vandalism-prone locations. Located at the end of Evelyn Street just off Martine Avenue, the club is open only from Memorial Day to Labor Day -- and vandalism is most frequent during those months. Over last weekend, the swim club was "attacked" by vandals, with extensive damage resulting.

Crowds were used to pry sections of fence apart, lawn chairs were broken and thrown into the pool, umbrellas which are used for umbrella tables at poolside were cut up and tossed into the pool. Lattice work bordering the pool was pulled down, glass was broken and tossed into the pool.

The mop-up operation is quite extensive and promises to be expensive for pool members as well.

and Norman Lacombe. Under the guidance of Board Presidents Theodore F. Frankenbach and Pierre E. Peterson, a Long

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DEADLINE CHANGE

Because of the July 4th Holiday, the deadline for the July 6 Issue of The TIMES will be Noon Friday, June 30.

Police Report On Vandalism

COMPILED BY THE SCOTCH PLAINS JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB AS REPORTED BY THE SCOTCH PLAINS POLICE DEPARTMENT

1. Vandalism to the pool at Willow Grove.
2. Broken window at Evergreen School.
3. Broken windshield of car on Evergreen Avenue.
4. Damage to the Little League field on Westfield Road.
5. Window broken at Goodrich Air Conditioning on Plainfield Avenue.

6. Vandalism at Farley Avenue park. Now that school is over and we face ten weeks of vacation, let us keep in mind that children do not bored and need activities to keep them busy. Our Recreation Department offers a wide variety of activities in our parks and schools -- take advantage and use these facilities. If you feel you are too old to partake of the activities offered, perhaps you could be a helper. Remember it's lots of fun to help others learn and enjoy -- so wherever you fit, use your summer well!

COMPILED BY THE FANWOOD JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB AS REPORTED BY THE FANWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT

1. Broken windows in door at Plain and Fancy Delicatessen.
2. Broke n glass in street on Montrose and Birchwood Avenues -- after graduation parties.

Decision Is Still Pending In License Transfer Application

Borough Attorney Sees No Conflict Of Interest

Kingsley Blakeley Corporation, a Fanwood-based corporation, has requested the Fanwood Borough Council to transfer one of Fanwood's two liquor consumption licenses from Mother's Pantry (which originally traded as Maple Tree Inn) to Kingsley-Blakeley. Fanwood Democratic Chairman Melford Tietze opposes the transfer, and in a hearing which was conducted last Wednesday night to hear Tietze's opposition, he listed eight counts. No decision has yet been reached by the Borough Council, and the meeting concerning the license was adjourned until Wednesday, July 5.

Tietze feels that the Fanwood Borough Council is not in a position to hear the request for transfer of the license, since Robert Kraus, who owns 20 percent of the stock in Kingsley-Blakeley, is the Fanwood Borough Prosecutor and an appointee to that post by the Borough Council.

Tietze further noted that Kraus, as Prosecutor, has "law enforcement responsibilities in the municipality which may be in conflict with his own interests and that of applicant corporation such that he should not be a party to such application, or ownership of the proposed business and, furthermore, should

not represent applicant in such matter."

The Fanwood Borough Attorney, Edward W. Beglin, Jr. rendered an opinion regarding Kraus' position. Beglin said: "The only prohibition contained in the State Alcoholic Beverage Law . . . is that of Section 20 of the statute which provides that the governing body of a municipality, as the issuing authority, shall not issue a license to a member of the governing body or to any corporation in which the member of the governing

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Sees Flaw In Governor's Tax Reform Package

One of the most critical pieces of legislation in Governor Cahill's tax reform package contains "a glaring error of omission," according to Fanwood councilman Van Dyke Pollitt, a member of the Tax Policy Committee. The bill, A-1272, provides for full State funding of elementary and secondary education but does not provide for a review procedure in the event of budget referendum defeat in school districts such as Scotch Plains-Fanwood.

Pollitt explained that, under the pending legislation, the Commissioner of Education would, each year, promulgate an amount per weighted pupil that, in his judgment, is required to provide for a "thorough and efficient system" of free public schools. Those districts that are currently at an expenditure level above the State average would be allowed to continue expenditures at that same dollar amount without referendum. With the approval of their local electorate, these "local leeway" districts would be allowed to spend up to 13% of the State grant.

"The error in the law is that districts such as ours which experience referendum defeats would be forced to revert to the prior year's spending level regardless of increases in 'built in' costs," Pollitt said. "There would be no review by the combined governing bodies or by the Commissioner and there is no provision for a second referendum."

"This would result in a deteriorated education program," he claimed. "Even if there would be no increase in teachers' salaries in a given year, the additional cost of teachers moving up within the existing salary grid would have to be paid for at the expense of educational program."

"A solution is to amend the law to provide a 'second look' -- some provision for review by the governing bodies or by the electorate in a second referendum. A more viable correction to the law would be to allow districts such as ours to increase pupil expenditures by the same dollar amount that the State grant increases each year."

Pollitt said that there are some educators who might want the law corrected to allow school districts to increase their per pupil expenditures by the same percentage increase as the State grant "but I seriously doubt if the Legislature would make this provision."

"If the bill is not corrected it would lead to the eventual deterioration of educational quality in districts such as Scotch Plains-Fanwood by reducing all school districts to the lowest common denominator. Should that occur, property values would suffer and we would have created an educational monolith which very few taxpayers in our communities would want to see occur."

Pollitt has discussed the bill's shortcomings with State officials who agree that the error must be corrected by amendment to A-1272.