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SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD, N. J. THURSDAY, JULY 6, 1972

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Communities Dedicate Historical Museum

Independence Day was appropriately chosen by the new Scotch Plains-Fanwood Historical Society for the ribbon-cutting signalling the opening of Cannonball House, Scotch Plains-Fanwood's first historical museum. The occasion was a festive one, as hostesses in Colonial costumes of gay calico print with white muslin aprons and ruffled caps led over 100 visitors through the rooms of the tiny house just opposite the cannon on Front Street.



Cutting the ribbon -- Charles Detwiler, President of the Historical Society, left, and Mayor Albert Theurer, right. Smiling onlooker to the right is Justus Agnoli.

Mayor Albert Theurer and Committeeman William Kitz of Scotch Plains joined Historical Society President Charles Detwiler and Vice President Dr. Vincent Lindner in the ribbon cutting. Fanwood Mayor Theodore Trumpp, scheduled to be in attendance, was delayed in parade traffic and was represented by Justus Agnoli.

Lindner was Master of Ceremonies. An invocation was delivered by Rev. Robert Shoesmith of the Baptist Church.

A vast amount of work has been accomplished in Cannonball House during the past week, and where last week there were rough woods and unfinished rooms, on Tuesday the visitors saw wallpaper, fresh paint, antique furnishings and historical memorabilia of the area. In the rear yard, the visitors were treated to punch and cookies.

Cannonball House has four rooms downstairs, and two rooms and a bath upstairs. It dates back to the 18th century, and the house is one of the original 13 buildings which formed the village of Scotch Plains back in Revolutionary Days. It gets its name from a cannonball which is reportedly lodged in the side of the building.

On the left as one enters is a room furnished in Victorian style, circa 1865. To date, all furniture in the small museum is only on loan except for one piece in the Victorian Room -- a Victorian era refectory table which folds down over a hidden drawer which was used to house pieces of games. The refectory table has been given to the museum by long-time Fanwood residents Mr. and Mrs. C. Stuart Burns, of 177 North Martine Avenue. They acquired the table from "Gram and Gramp Kern," who

lived in the old farmhouse belonging to the family of J. Ackerman Coles. Mr. and Mrs. Burns felt that the table belonged within the museum not only because of its age but also because of its association with the old-time Scotch Plains family of Coles. The Victorian room also includes a Victorian sofa with wood frame carved in the grape motif and two Victorian sidechairs with needlepoint seats.

Mrs. William Elliott will do stenciling along the tops of the walls in the Victorian room, and she had begun just a sampling of the attractive blue-on-blue stencil pattern she found in an old home in Green Brook. In the corner of this room is a mannequin dressed in a reception gown which belonged to Mrs. William Cleaver.

In contrast to the Victorian room is the Colonial Room, housing furnishings from around 1760 -- pieces of a much rougher form and earlier vintage. This room, which has a fireplace surrounded by very old cupboards painted in a brick-colored paint, includes a blanket chest circa 1760, found in the old Laing farmhouse near Plainfield Country Club and a chair which was originally owned by Recompense Stanberry, innkeeper of Stage House Inn during the Revolutionary War. The chair was loaned by Walter Van Housen of Fanwood.

At the rear of the first floor is the Frazee Room, named after one of Scotch Plains' most famous early citizens -- Aunt Betsy Frazee. Betsy was reportedly baking bread at her farmhouse, which still stands and is the home of the Terry family at Terry Lou Farms on Terrill and Raritan Roads. Betsy

Fanwood Council OK's License Transfer

Temporary Location Will Be 193 South Avenue

The Fanwood Borough Council approved the transfer of one of the borough's two consumption liquor licenses, from Mother's Pantry, Inc. to Kingsley-Blakely Corporation last week. The action came on a divided vote, with three Republican and one Democratic Councilmen favoring the transfer, while another Democratic opposed granting the transfer. On the vote for renewal of the license for a year, the vote was unanimously in favor.

Councilman Stephen Ritter, one of the two Democrats, was in opposition. Republican Councilmen Tony McCall, Van Dyke Pollitt, and John Coulter and Democratic Councilman John Swindlehurst voted aye.

The license will be located temporarily at 193 South Avenue, the location of Charles Clark realtors. The Kingsley-Blakely Corporation has not yet announced its intention regarding the license, and are using the 193 South Avenue simply as a place to locate the license until it is either put to use at another location or sold.

The license transfer occurred after two nights of meetings on the question. Originally, Democratic Municipal Chairman Melford Teize had raised several areas of question, necessitating the calling of a hearing. That hearing was adjourned until last Wednesday, June 28, when final action took place.

Throughout last Wednesday's meeting, Councilman Ritter

reiterated time and time again that his concern was the benefit to the citizens of Fanwood. Ritter said he did not care how much money was invested in the license, nor how much money might be made with it. He wanted to have proven that voting for the transfer would prove beneficial to citizens. In Ritter's opinion, any vested interest which had existed regarding the liquor license had existed only when the license was located at the Maple Tree Inn, which has since been razed for a car care center. Ritter wanted a specific ruling that the license would be used only for a restaurant and not for a bar.

Van Dyke Pollitt pointed out that the Council was approving only transfer to the new corporation, and not the establishment of another bar in Fanwood. Approval would have to be obtained for the next move, at which time the applicants would have

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Police Report On Vandalism

VANDALISM REPORT - (COMPILED BY THE SCOTCH PLAINS JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB AS REPORTED BY THE SCOTCH PLAINS POLICE DEPARTMENT)

1. Signs down on Raritan Road and Railway Road - STOP sign and Speed Limit.
2. Trees cut down at Brookside Park.
3. Cars sprayed with paint on Prospect Avenue.
4. Boys stoning a house on Grand Street.
5. Vandalism on Lenape Way.
6. Vandalism at the Willow Grove Pool -- Broken equipment.
7. Lawn tracked up on Ashbrook Drive.
8. Windshield and wiper broken on car while parked at Scotchwood Diner.
9. Broken windows at Evergreen School, Terrill Junior High, Goodrich Air Conditioning, 5 windows at Park Junior High as well as a broken door and glass broken in door at Mc Ginn School.
10. Bike racks overturned at Shackamaxon School.
11. Glass broken in window of home on West Broad Street.
12. Window smashed in car on Sunnyfield Lane.
13. Gaslights broken on Fenimore Drive.
14. Rocks being thrown at lights in High School parking lot.

The vandalism list this week has doubled over last week -- WHY? With a community that has much to offer its youth, how does this happen? We ask you, the parents to discuss this subject with your children, perhaps they can give us the answers. If you have any suggestions as to how we can control the vandalism in our town the Scotch Plains Juniors would like to know your ideas -- please drop a line to Mrs. William Sidon, 210 Katherine Street, Scotch Plains and voice your opinion.

(COMPILED BY THE JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB OF FANWOOD AS REPORTED BY THE FANWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT.)

- June 23 -- Twelve windows broken on a passing train.
- June 24 -- Floor thrown into a swimming pool on Mary Lane.
- June 24 -- All lights at a construction site on South Avenue turned on.
- June 28 -- Lights broken on barricades around street excavation on Shady Lane.

We ask Fanwood residents to be alert to signs of vandalism and to report your suspicions AT ONCE to the Fanwood police. If you have any ideas or suggestions as to how we may combat this problem please send a letter to the Jr. Woman's Club of Fanwood c/o Mrs. Jeffrey Manuel, president, 146 Belvidere Ave., Fanwood.

Cannonball House Has Honor Roll

The creation of a community asset such as Cannonball House must represent a coordinated effort and a great amount of toil by many citizens. Only dedication and a willingness to work in behalf of one's community can create such sources of community pride as the new museum. Within the room of memorabilia in Cannonball House is an "Honor Roll" listing all the citizens who gave of their time and elbow grease. They include: Fred Ronn, carpentry; Rocci DiNizio, masonry; Anthony Maglio, electrical work; Peter Terry, plumbing; Robert Gorsky, grounds cleanup; Betty Lindner, "everything" cleanup; Marg. Elliott, stenciling and fireboard; Rick Detwiler, paneling, floor removal; Alex Kroll, painting and moving; Mr. and Mrs. C. Stuart Burns, moving; Anthony Bruno, Jr., moving; Laurie Detwiler, painting and scraping; Robert Glass, sand and spackle; Bill Elliott, legal aid; Charles Detwiler, miscellaneous painting, moving, planning; Mrs. Wolfe, Vincent Lindner and Justus Agnoli, displays; Emma Sampson, decorating; Bill Sampson, recorder; Florence Clarke, paint removal; David Carson, painting and moving.

Among local businesses contributing help to the restoration of Cannonball House were Loizeaux Lumber, Hand Lumber, Early Crafts, Young Paint Company, Sterling Silversmith, Township of Scotch Plains Road and Public Works Departments, Cooper Hardware, Essel Paint Store, Interstate Press, Recorder Press, and Harvey's Hutch Antiques.

was visited by the British, who smelled her bread and requested some. Aunt Betsy said, "I give this bread in fear, not in love," and the British left with nary a crumb.

In the Frazee Room at present is a floor to ceiling corner mantel, with small cupboard spaces atop the fireplace area. It comes from the home of Gersham and Betsy Frazee described above, and it dates to about 1750. Covering the front of the fireplace is a replica of an old "fire back." These were decorated boards used to close up "ugly" fireplaces when they were unused during the summer months. This one has been prettily stenciled by Mrs. Elliott.

Upstairs, one very small bedroom is being used as an office. It houses one of the most fascinating furnishings of the old house -- an early Scotch Plains Post Office desk, complete with all the old hand-lettered cubbyholes for the mail received by early Scotch Plains families.

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