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THE TIMES

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VOLUME

SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD, N.J. THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1972

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Terry Lou Zoo Is For Grownups As Well As For The Kiddies

Frank and Louise Terry's Terry Lou Zoo has received a great deal of attention from the national press during the past month, with the birth of "Bradsha," a Siberian tiger at Terry Lou on July 31. "Bradsha" is but a tiny part of the Terry Lou enclave, however. A visit to Terry Lou is an eye-opener, especially for the "grown up" parents who recall visiting there perhaps a decade ago when the zoo housed sheep, deer, a few monkeys, a llama or two, and goats. Today, literally hundreds of species live together, sometimes in complete harmony, occasionally at battle, as happens in the animal world from time to time. Although the Scotch Plains zoo, at Terrill Road and Raritan Road, lacks the acreage common to larger public zoos, it most certainly doesn't lack the animals. There is at least one of just about every animal one can name.



"BRADSHA"

A reticulated giraffe stretches his graceful neck above the cage of Dumpling, Terry's three-year old elephant who is now weighing in at 320 pounds. "Arthur" is a beautiful male lion who is so gentle he'd challenge any act from "Born Free." He rolls on his back and allows Terry to put his arm into his mouth. Arthur shares a cage with King, another lion, and the two live next to the tiger family, including young Bradsha, who looks like the pussycat next door. Bradsha's greatest problem just now is falling into the watering trough in her mother, Natasha's, cage. She has to be fished out day and night.

King Tut, the popular camel who graced the Scotch Plains nativity scene for many years, now has a new mate, and the two live adjacent to a young pair of beautiful Grant's zebras. The zoo includes the hybrid "Zibroni," a cross between a zebra and a pony, a lovely animal with a faint suggestion of stripes down its brown coat.

Two bears -- one a black, one a Himalyan -- live in a cage close

to some timber wolves. A leopard, a jaguar, civet cats, a marmot, albino racoons, quasimundis, and the tiny kangaroos called wallabys also inhabit quarters.

Some of the more exotic members of the animal world are in a building with a carefully controlled temperature, permitting the rearing of such unusual animals as the iguana, two-toed sloth, prairie dogs, lesser anteater, hairy armadillo, porcupine, and a magnificent collection of birds. Of course, the uninitiated eye is drawn to the most colorful of the birds . . . but Terry points with pride to a guri-crowned pigeon, a most valuable and rare acquisition.

Where do the Terrys find all their animals and how did they begin the collection? It started 24 years ago, when Mr. Terry paid a visit to Florida and returned with an alligator, a few deer, and a bobcat. Today, he acquires new additions from a host of sources. As a member of the National Zoological Society, he is aware through publications of animals for sale.

Police Report On Vandalism

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

1. Eggs thrown at car on Westfield Road.
2. Electrical wire cut on house under construction on Debra Court.
3. Severe damage to house under construction, estimated at \$1,500, at Briarcliff Estates.
4. Playground equipment broken at Green Forest Park.
5. Windshield of car broken on Myrtle Avenue.
6. Mailbox damaged on Brandywine Court.
7. Windshield of car broken on Cooper Road & Martine Avenue.
8. Vandalism to vacant home on Westfield Avenue.
9. Windows broken at Scotch Hills Country Club.
10. Windows broken at Scotch Plains - Fanwood High School.
11. Water fountain damaged at Green Forest Park and shed damaged.
12. Eggs thrown at house on Coles Avenue.
13. Damage to South Side ball field.
14. Children throwing stones at McGinn school.

Action Postponed On Apartment Building

Builder Petitions For Increase In Number Of Units

The Scotch Plains Township Committee tabled action on a variance for an apartment building on Park Avenue next to the Post Office. The Board of Adjustment has recommended approval to the Township Committee. However, the applicant, Scotch Arc Realty Company, headed by Richard Schneider, was represented at Tuesday night's meeting to request that the apartment building include 36 units rather than the 30 units recommended by the Board of Adjustment.

Since the Board of Adjustment had not had a hearing specifically on the question of a 36-unit structure, the Township Committee deferred action until further consideration and discussion can be held. Regardless of the final decision on a 30- or 36-unit, Schneider said he definitely plans to build on the site.

The property now houses a private home. It is 1.8 acres, irregularly shaped, with the emphasis on depth rather than frontage. The property includes 60 percent in the residential zone and 40 percent in the commercial zone.

Schneider noted that the building would be 313 feet deep for 30 units, with only an additional 25 feet required for 36 units. The building will be 60 feet wide. It will feature apartments of a luxury calibre, with large rooms, a laundry room on each floor, intercom in the front lobby, etc. The building would cover 50 percent of the available land.

Schneider originally proposed apartment units for the site. His lawyer, Franz Skok, pointed out that the applicant seeks to obtain a return on his investment. Excavation and building costs would be borne more easily if the building would eventually include 36 units, Skok said. This percentage conforms to Union County Planning Board standards of 18 to 20 units per acre. Schneider, who has built similar apartment complexes in other towns, noted that the building would include four efficiency apartments; 16 one-bedroom, one-bath; and 16 two-bedroom, two-bath apartments if approval for 36 units is received.

Skok argued that the increase in number of units would not adversely affect Scotch Plains residents in any way and would provide a greater tax rate.

In other matters, J. Herbert Moody of 331 Hoe Avenue told the Committee he has been questioning the fire alarm system installed throughout Scotch Plains in recent years, and it is his impression that the \$200,000 investment in the "red ball" system could be a white elephant in the future. According to Moody, the township has not received the necessary maintenance documents to maintain the system if the manufacturer goes out of business. The Committee will look into Moody's question.

Dr. Marvin Agran requested that the Township Committee consult residents concerning any new zoning change, proposed buffer zone, and subdivision granting in the industrial zone,

Now It's A Legitimate Traffic Light

The Scotch Plains Township Committee voted Tuesday for installation and operation of a traffic light at Park Avenue and Front Street. Yup. They really did. What's that you say? Either you're crazy or there already is a traffic light there. Well, have no doubts about your sanity. There is a light there. It seems that the light, which has been there for a number of years, isn't state approved and therefore unenforceable. New Police Chief Joseph Powers, in sorting through papers when he took office, discovered this fact. A few state prerequisites were necessary to obtain approval - street striping, a particular time sequence setting for the light, freeholder approval, and finally, the approval of the Township Committee. Incidentally, the vote was unanimous!

Sometimes zoos trade their "overstock" back and forth, and in this way Terry has acquired many of his animals. Other times, animals are bought outright. Still others have been donated. In some instances such as is the case of the albino racoons, people who have visited Terry Lou remember it when they find very unusual animals, and contribute them to the collection.

During the busy Labor Day weekend, the Terrys had the added task of "packing up" a baby bison who was sold to a zoo owner in Delaware. The Terry Lou pair of bison have produced a baby each year since 1955, and the sale of these bison provides the money for Terry to acquire something new and different on Raritan Road. A trip around the local zoo reveals dozens of sources of animals. Natasha, the tiger, came from Bronx Zoo, where her mother abandoned her. The zebras were acquired from zoos in Gettysburg and Norristown, Pa., King, the lion, came from the Houston Zoo, and a brand new seven-foot alligator named "Barney" recently arrived from an over-supply in the Philadelphia Zoo. Terry's Zoo is inspected and licensed by federal and state agencies.

The greatest thrill in raising animals is the breeding of endangered species, Terry points out. There are roughly 400 endangered species in the world at the present time, and he points with pride to his baby Siberian tiger as an example. He has also bred the beautiful ring-tailed lemur, those big-eyed members of the monkey world with their beautiful pale gray bodies and gray and white striped tails. National controls now

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in light of the recent Grand Jury presentment which was critical of the Scotch Plains Planning Board. Dr. Agran felt the Township Committee was also at fault in the Regal Properties subdivision case, since it "must always be their duty to make sure that the resident is always protected and considered as the number one priority in any subdivision granting."

Dr. Agran was informed that the entire zoning ordinance is slated for its second public hearing on September 25. He was further informed that no zoning change can ever take place, nor can a subdivision be granted, without legal notification of adjacent residents and a public hearing.

The Committee received a petition with 41 signatures from Maple Hill Road residents opposing sidewalks there, as requested by a group of McGinn parents. The Maple Hill Road group stated that they were assured, when the school was built, that traffic patterns in the area would remain unchanged since ample provision was planned at front entrance for pickup and discharge of children. The Maple Hill Road approach would suffer only an increase in pedestrian traffic, the town and school officials told them, according to the petition. They seek as a solution the redirection of cars to the front of the school. While it may be a slight inconvenience to parents, the petition reads, this action would be more just than forcing Maple Hill residents to make a permanent sacrifice to solve a problem they have not created. The question was referred to committee.

The Committee tabled action on a proposed ordinance which would prohibit parking on one side of Cedar Street. The police

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Board Of Ed. Will Meet Tonight

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education will hold a special meeting tonight, Thursday, September 7. The meeting will be held in the auditorium of Terrill Junior High School.

The purpose of the meeting is to award bids for the school expansion program and to approve a resolution authorizing the sale of bonds to finance the expansion program.