

THE TIMES

ONLY NEWSPAPER WITH COMPLETE SCOTCH PLAINS - FANWOOD NEWS

VOLUME 14, NO.

SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD, N.J. THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 1973

15 CENTS A COPY

Terrill Singers Perform With The Carpenters

The CARPENTERS, the most popular singing group in the country, performed at the Garden State Art Center for the week of July 16 thru July 21. Appearing with them each night were fifteen girls from the Terrill Junior High School Seventh Grade Choir, who aided the Carpenters with their hit record "SING." During the week they performed before some 47,000 people as the Carpenters sold out every night and broke the record for weekly attendance at the Art Center.



Front - Richard, Karen Carpenter, George Bips - Manager, 2nd L to R - Ginny Devito, Stephanie Montuoro, Karen Westberg, Lori Carpenter, Evie Andrews, Karen Manganello, Sue Ericsson, Debbie Pearlstein, Katie Natt. 3rd L to R - Leslie Krnak, Margee D. Sahr, Bonnie Richmond, Michelle Schraeder, Gail Kiniery, Kathy O'Neil. Rear - Dave Christensen - Director.

This unforgettable week all began many months ago when George Bips, a student at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School heard the Carpenters were looking for some young singers and contacted Mr. Dave Christensen, choral director at Terrill Jr. High School. After George received official word from the Carpenters manager, Mr. Christensen started try-outs, and the difficult job of making a final selection of 15 singers and four alternates. As the months went by Dave and the Girls were in rehearsal striving for their goal of a perfect match to the record while George was making other arrangements with the Carpenters manager and the Art Center's general manager.

With much to accomplish time went quickly and soon it was July 16. Opening night with the Carpenters! A review of some highlights of the week are given to us by George Bips, manager of the group.

"Our township bus rolled into the Art Center for the first night with great anticipation and excitement. We were seated in the audience up front with a very good view of the state until our cue (which was pre-arranged before the show began) came.

Appearing with the Carpenters were Bill Skiles and Pete Henderson, a sound effect comic team, who were really funny. After a short intermission the Carpenters opening song was "Superstar." They performed many of their hit songs such as "Close To You," "Rainy Days and Mondays," "For All We Know," They also did an "Oldies Medley" consisting of such songs as "Leader of The Pack," "Johnny Angel," "Book of Love" and "Daddy's Home," which was our cue to go back stage.

Richard Carpenter announced that they would have some help on the next song from the Terrill Junior High School Choir and as the girls started their part of "SING" the amplification developed a problem, but the girls were not daunted by this and did not miss a single beat. They received great applause.

After "SING" was over, Richard Carpenter played a beautiful piano solo of Mancini's, "Sometimes" and Karen joined with him with her pure voice. This is the one number that their band members, each individually very talented, were not on stage with the Carpenters. On lead guitar was Doug Hamm, Bass and Vocals by Danny Woodhams, electric flute and sax by Bob Messinger, electric clarinet and organ by Doug Straun, and drums by Cubby O'Brien.

We were all witness to the fact that opening night is really hectic. The Carpenters were exhausted, and on this first night we did not meet them. On succeeding nights we stayed backstage to meet with Karen and Richard and their band members. We took pictures with them, talked, and became friends.

As the week progressed we all became more relaxed and settled into a routine (no more amplification trouble) with the exception of one night when Danny Woodhams, who did bass and vocals had severe pain from a neck injury. It happened at the end of the show, and we were asked to clear backstage for hospital personnel. On our way home that night our main thought was, "I hope Danny is okay."

The next night was closing night, and we were happy to see that Danny was there. The Carpenters gave their last performance of the week with the same

Legislators See Tax Reform As "Hot Potato" In Election Year

Rescue Squad Calls Increase

The statistics at the end of the first half of 1973 reveal that the Fanwood Rescue Squad is on its way to a record breaking year. The figures for this year, as compared with the same period last year, show across the board increases.

The Squad has received 250 calls through June of 1973, quite a margin ahead of the 168 posted during the first six months of 1972 for a percentage increase of 48.8%. The man-hours expended has reached 2,044 for a 114.3% increase. Oxygen administration has also jumped by 125% from 20 cases to 45 where oxygen was used.

The greatest increase in the type of call was in fire standby from 2 to 11 calls this year for an increase of 450%. Big jumps were also noted in the difficulty breathing (250%) and heart attacks (150%). They were followed by sudden illness (55%), injured person (47%), transportation (31%), auto accidents (28%), and miscellaneous (22%). Stroke cases remained the same.

The Fanwood Squadmen have made 160 trips to Muhlenberg Hospital in Plainfield, N.J. and 80 to Overlook Hospital in Summit, N.J.

In May, the Squad responded to 64 calls, the highest number in a single month in its 25 year history.

enthusiasm and wonderful talent as they did on the previous nights. The Terrill Junior High School choir members can be proud they fulfilled their part extremely well. Backstage, for the last time, the girls presented a thank you card to Karen and Richard and a small get well gift to Danny. The farewells began as Richard and Danny kissed all the girls good-bye, and Karen said how good they were all week. Richard made a point of saying that he noticed that the girls were very precise and had included all the finer details that were on the record. He felt that this is a most essential part of music. We owe thanks to Mr. Christensen for making it possible to receive such great compliments.

The Carpenters manager said it was a pleasure working with us, and hoped we would continue on other things.

So ended a most exciting week in our lives, one we will never forget. It has been beneficial in many ways, but most of all, it has encouraged us to continue to gear ourselves to doing our very best. The friendship and good feelings of our entire group made the week even more memorable.

In celebration of our "Big Week," a party was held in

Continued On Page 16

Appeal Of Court Mandate May Force Hasty Decision Later

The State Legislature, in an obvious attempt to defuse "tax reform" as a campaign issue in this legislative election year, has embarked upon a collision course with the courts and with the calendar regarding the State Supreme Court mandate to abandon the property tax as the means of funding education, according to Fanwood councilman Van Dyke Pollitt.

"The recent, bi-partisan legislative decision to appeal the Supreme Court's unanimous decision will certainly allow the 240 Senate and Assembly candidates to 'duck' the matter of tax reform and school's funding in their campaigns this fall," Pollitt said, "In effect, they will be bypassing a thorny issue. But the taxpayers, particularly in communities like Scotch Plains and Fanwood, could suffer in the long run," he said.

"If the appeal fails, and I predict that it will fail, the Court's mandate that the legislature must create a new funding by December 31, 1974 will leave precious little time for responsible legislative action," Pollitt contends. "In other words, while the appeal buys time now, it could readily deprive the legislature of the essential time necessary to study such a complex problem and to develop a workable, palatable program."

"The time problem will be more acute because we will have a new governor and many new legislators as a result of the election," Pollitt added. "All will be 'feeling their way' for several months until, suddenly,

the court-mandated deadline will be upon them."

Pollitt, who served for three years as a member of the Governor's Tax Policy Committee, noted that Governor Cahill's 62-bill tax reform package was soundly defeated in the Assembly last July. "The vote was 52-23 against the income tax proposal which was the 'heart' of the program. Obviously, a very strong tide runs against any new broad-based tax even though it would result in a reduction in locally imposed property taxes," he said.

"The enigma facing the legislature is that an equally strong tide, nearly 70% of the voters by some polls, insist that tax reform in some variety must be forthcoming. When we stop to realize that some \$1.4 billion must be transferred from the local property tax to some form of state taxation in order to fund education, a new broad-based tax or combination of taxes is inevitable," he said.

Pollitt said he believes Scotch Plains and Fanwood could suffer in the long run because of the

Continued On Page 16

Council Votes \$30,000 To Improve Scotch Hills Clubhouse

By FRED HONOLD

The Scotch Plains Township Meeting was punctuated by a series of bids and ordinances this past Tuesday evening, in what was mostly routine work.

It was voted by the five members of the township committee to appropriate the sum of \$30,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund for the construction of improvements to the present township building at the Scotch Hills Golf Course in Scotch Plains.

Mrs. James Gilgannon, president of the Scotch Plains Women's Club, thanked the township committee for restoring the building. "We use the building for our monthly meetings," noted Mrs. Gilgannon. "The clubhouse," she continued, "is one of the true landmarks of our town." The clubhouse, which dates to the mid 1700's, was originally a colonial farmhouse. A campaign has been conducted by the Woman's Club for improvement of the clubhouse.

Another citizen, Mr. Emil J. Maginot of Redwood Rd., voi-

ced strong support for the Council's proposal to provide funds for improvement of the clubhouse. Reading from a prepared statement, Mr. Maginot said that he felt the Scotch Hills Country Club was "a facility of civic pride and prestige. We are one if not the only municipal course in the state."

The sum of \$80,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund for the Expansion of the Main Building of the Department of Public Properties in the township was appropriated. \$19,500 was marked from the same fund to amortize the loan obtained from the Federal Government for the South side Comprehensive Sewers.

A variety of bids were approved, ranging from a 3 Wheel Sweeper for the Dept. of Public Properties for \$15,565 to Venetian Blinds for the new Municipal

Continued On Page 16