

THE TIMES

ONLY NEWSPAPER WITH COMPLETE SCOTCH PLAINS - FANWOOD NEWS

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SCOTCH PLAINS - FANWOOD, N.J. THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 1973

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Fanwood May Get New Dining Spots

Fanwoodians may have two dining spots close to home, if applications now before the Board of Adjustment are approved. Both applications are for restaurants on South Avenue, and approval is required because the restaurants would need use permits in the area, which is zoned for light industry.

Paul D. Hedrich wants to open a restaurant at 133 South Avenue, where he now has "The Golden Lion" antique shop and Circuit Plating, in the building to the right of the A&P. The restaurant would be small and intimate, with approximately 15 tables, as described, and the antiques which now fill the three small rooms would be part of the decor.

The restaurant would not have a liquor license, but patrons would be able to bring in their own wine. Steak and lobster are planned as the basis of the menu, and the restaurant hours are contemplated as noon to 10 p.m., with reservations in the evening.

A few local families were represented, and they expressed concern over increased traffic. Hedrich is now in the process of building a restaurant in Point Pleasant Beach. He was accompanied by a meat supplier.

The second application before the Board is for Fanny Wood's, a larger restaurant with a railroad theme. According to plans shown to the Board of Adjustment, two lots would be joined, with the house on one of the lots slated for demolition. The Fanny Wood Restaurant and Lounge, to be built on the combined lot, was designed by architect Dalim Sibdial, and would measure 140 by 64 feet. The building would be in the form of a railroad station, and the railroad motif would

be carried out inside, with waiters dressed as conductors, etc.

The proposed establishment would be operated by 15 South Avenue, Inc., in a building owned by Fanwood Realty Corporation, headed by Frank Mazzeo.

The 15 South Inc. corporation owns Fanwood's sole liquor consumption license, which has not been in use since it was purchased from Mother's Pantry, operating as Maple Tree Inn. Maple Tree Inn was demolished to make way for an Exxon Car Care Center at the corner of South and Terrill Road in Fanwood. The license has recently been housed at the Charles Clark Realty firm awaiting use. Now owned by Lee Bilcher and Robert Krauss, application will be made to the Fanwood Borough Council for transfer of Krauss's interest to Anthony Rocco, Jr. Rocco, Jr. plans to operate the proposed restaurant with Bilcher. He is not associated with either of the other Rocco liquor establishments in Fanwood, Rocco's Tavern at the corner of Midway and Terrill Road and Fanwood Liquor Store on South Avenue.

The restaurant would have a restaurant capacity of 130 to 140 diners, with space for approximately 70 more patrons in the lounge, which would feature booths and a bar.

The New School Year At S.P.F.H.S.--There'll Be Some Changes Made

When school opens at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School in September, official rules and regulations will be a bit different for high school students. They will have open lunch and open-ended day - at least for the first 60 days of the school year. The Board of Education approved both Student Council proposals last week, but specified that the approval is strictly on a trial basis, with extensive reports from student body, faculty and administration to be forthcoming before the Board decides to grant approval for the proposals to become policy.

Open lunch permits students at all levels in the high school to leave the grounds during their 48-minute lunch period, between 10:45 and 1:18 p.m., only if they have signed permission slips. The open-ended day allows a student to come to school when his first period begins and to leave at the end of his last class of the day. However, all students must report in for third period daily.

While the lunch trial proposal passed unanimously, the open day was opposed by John McCormick, who questioned student maturity in coping with the freedom. Several other board members who voted approval nevertheless registered concern that careful evaluations be established. Henry Schwiering wanted criteria for full evaluation before expiration of the 60-day trial period. Mrs. Lee Reilly urged that parental reaction be considered,

and Meyer Freiman suggested that such comment be made in writing to board or superintendent. Philip Labasi read a statement, in which he said open lunch would be beneficial, since it is not desirable to confine people to a specific area when they are relaxing. He compared the high school work day to a business work day, and pointed out that people need to get away from the desk for a break for better efficiency.

Mrs. Robbie Mason read a lengthy statement of her views. At the present time there are two dozen diversionary stations where students can spend non-classroom hours in the high school and where a structured situation does not exist. She raised doubts that lack of maturity may lead to abuses of open lunch-open day. "Don't we have an obligation to those

Council Backs Citizen Petition For Fast Flood Control Action

Write To Your Representative

As a result of the floods and great expression of concern by residents and officials of the Township of Scotch Plains, the Councilmen are urging the people to follow their example and contact their representatives in Washington. The Councilmen suggest that the individuals tell their representatives exactly what their personal situation is from their own knowledge, what they have been through, and urge them to speed up any presently funded studies to improve the flooding situation in the area.

NAMES & ADDRESSES OF THOSE TO WRITE TO CONCERNING AID:

Senator Clifford Case
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Harrison Williams
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Congressman Matthew Rinaldo
House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Jerome M. Epstein
3 Argyll Court
Scotch Plains, N.J. 07076

Senator Francis X. McDermott
Independence Plaza
500 Morris Avenue
Springfield, N.J. 07081

Arthur A. Manner, Assemblyman
317 Plainfield Avenue
Berkeley Heights, N.J. 07922

Peter J. McDonough, Assemblyman
925 Oakwood Place
Plainfield, N.J. 07060

Herbert Keihn, Assemblyman
823 Midwood Drive
Rahway, New Jersey 07065

FREEHOLDERS:

Edward H. Tiller, Director
502 Locust Avenue
Garwood, New Jersey 07027

Everett C. Lattimore
214 Hillcrest Avenue
Plainfield, N.J. 07060

Thomas W. Long
219 Gesner Street
Linden, New Jersey 07036

Matthew H. Nilsen
333 N. Broad Street
Elizabeth, N.J. 07200

Walter E. Ulrich
98 Colonia Boulevard
Rahway, New Jersey 07065

Harold J. Seymour, Jr.
604 Orchard Street
Cranford, N.J. 07016

OK's Additional \$360,000 For Greenbrook Drainage System

Flood waters and their patterns occupied the Scotch Plains Township Council and the public in attendance at Tuesday's Council meeting for over three hours, as residents sought answers and offered suggestions to avert a repeat of the flooding on August 2 which caused hardship and loss in some areas of Scotch Plains. Robert Lee of 441 Hunter Avenue presented the governing body with a petition, signed by representatives of 300 households, urging attention to local problems from all levels of government. The petition seeks that President Nixon direct the Army Corps of Engineers to proceed with some program for proper channeling of Green Brook. An eight-year wait is unconscionable, the petition says. It further asks for federal grants rather than loans for victims. At the county level, the petition points out that the lower dam at Seeley's Pond washed out in 1968 and no action has since been taken to hold water back.

The Township Council recognized receipt of the petition and authorized the attorney to draft a resolution expressing support of it.

Deputy Mayor Walter Grote said Mayor William Kitsz has already contacted Washington urging the grants. He said discussions have been held in the past with the county, when opinion was expressed that the Seeley's lower dam did not have much retention value, but Grote said a second effort should be made.

"It is going to happen again if nothing is done on the dam, and we need the government to run the ball for us," Lee said. He also requested a special meeting on the subject of flooding and was told such arrangements will be made.

Flood-damaged homes were but one effect of the August 2 deluge. Sewers, supplies, and future building was also considerations in the wake of the tragedy. Mrs. Catherine Fromm of Cecilia Place, one of the hardest hit areas in Scotch Plains, said she will not pay sewer tax, since her sanitary sewer backed up in the basement, causing illness to her child. Another man reported sanitary sewer backup. This complaint will be investigated.

Further land development in Scotch Plains will have to be closely studied to determine long-range effect on the water table, Grote told Emerson Shelton, who wondered whether such considerations arise when building permit applications come in. "Maybe the rains were a long-range blessing in disguise," Shelton said.

Charles Boynton of Haven Avenue wants the township to prepare ahead for future floods. He wondered why his street and homes there weren't cleaned until six days later. The major priority of the township was shoring up of

Thomas A. Kaczmarek
16 Cook Street
Clark, New Jersey 07066

William J. Maguire
20 Poplar Terrace
Clark, New Jersey 07066

Herbert J. Heilmann, Jr.
762 Hemlock Street
Union, New Jersey 07083

13 lost foundations, so that the homes would not collapse, Grote told him.

Hugo Diaz, temporary chairman of Concerned Citizens, a group of flood victims, urged that the township acquire supplies to give citizens a feeling of security. "Go buy equipment, lifejackets, pumps, boats, so people can sleep at night," he urged. Grote concurred, pointing out that, although no one would have believed it in the past, the township now should have its own outboard motor for such emergencies.

A couple of real estate promoters trying to capitalize on the flood victims by urging panic selling brought indications of wrath from more than one homeowner. Al Curtis of Farley Avenue said, "Tell the real estate people to stay off that block. We're trying to put ends back together. We don't need this."

The Council approved an ordinance authorizing an additional \$360,000 for the storm drainage system along the East Branch of the Green Brook, along U.S. Highway 22. The state is sharing costs on the project. Joseph D'Annunzio of James Court opposed any further expenditure until an attempt is made to purchase a right of way from the county Park Commission and State Highway Department to move the line northerly 20 feet. Such a movement would eliminate stiff state requirements for steel sheeting and backfill which have jumped costs "severely over and above the original budget," D'Annunzio said. He feels the state should contribute more funding, since the storm sewer replaces two existing culverts.

Al Curtis also spoke on the ordinance. Don't let Scotch Plains become a water retention basin, he said. He pointed out that the smaller brook between Second Street and Midway Avenue has been channeled and dug out on the Scotch Plains end, but as it flows toward Plainfield, it empties into a much smaller channel due to lack of similar effort. Local officials will discuss the matter with Plainfield.

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