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SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD, N.J. THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1973

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Mayor Nan McCarthy To Fanwood Council

Robert J. McCarthy, a 17-year resident of Fanwood, will become a Councilman in that borough effective January 1, 1974. Mr. McCarthy was named last night by Mayor Theodore Trumpp as the replacement for Republican Tony McCall.

McCall appointed to the Council in April of 1972 to fill out the nine months still remaining in the term of former Councilman William Nelson, was elected to a full three-year term in the regular elections of November, 1972. He began his present term in January of the present year, and recently announced that he would resign from the Council due to a family move to Westfield.

Mr. McCarthy's appointment was announced by Trumpp during the regular monthly meeting of the Borough Council last night. However, the vote of the Council would not come until McCarthy is seated on January 1, during reorganization proceedings. At least four Council votes will be in the affirmative for confirmation, it was indicated.

The Council presently has a Republican majority, with Trumpp, Councilmen Van Dyke Pollitt, John Coulter, Charles Coronella, and McCall as the GOP members. McCarthy is also a Republican. Two Democrats now serve on the Council - John Swindlehurst and Stephen Ritter. In last month's elections, Swindlehurst sought re-election

and won. Ritter declined to run, and Swindlehurst's Democratic running mate, Mrs. Carol Whittington, also won a Council seat.

The McCarthy appointment would only be effective until the next regular elections in November of 1974. Therefore, in 1974, the ballot in Fanwood would include three, rather than the traditional two, Council seats. The terms of Coulter and Coronella end next year.

Bob McCarthy is 43. He and his wife, June, have lived at 96 LaGrande Avenue since their marriage 17 years ago. Mrs. McCarthy is a 35-year resident of the borough. The couple are parents of two boys: Robert, who is a student at Union Catholic High School, and James, in the fourth grade at Saint Bartholomew's.

McCarthy is an usher at Saint Bartholomew's Church and vice-president of the Lions Club. He serves presently on the Fanwood Planning Board and was a director of the Jaycees when a member of that organization.

He is staff supervisor of New Jersey Bell Telephone Company in Newark.

Two Week School Vacation Scheduled For Holidays

School children in the Scotch Plains-Fanwood school district will add an extra three days to their Christmas holidays this year, thanks to the nationwide energy crisis. In line with a state Board of Education mandate that schools throughout New Jersey close from December 21 through January 7, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood school district will observe the vacation schedule, according to Superintendent Fred Laberge.

However, the vacation schedule is the only definite decision to date, Laberge said. The additional three days was mandated last week. At the same time, the state board made several recommendations to local districts. These included a call for reduction of evening activities at schools by 50 percent, curtailment of field trips, daytime scheduling of scholastic sports events, reduction of heat, etc. Laberge has some very strong questions in several areas of the recommended activities, and to date has no plans for adoption here.

Among the considerations, the local Superintendent said, is the 180-day school year mandated by the state. Will the 180-day year still hold? Will the calendar as now adopted for our district still hold? When will the extra three days be made up and what prerogatives do local boards have in determining the dates of makeup times, if indeed the time must be made up.

Laberge said he personally does not look favorably upon unilateral mandates from the state board. In fact, at a recent meeting of Union County school superintendents and the county superintendent, Laberge tried to register such an opinion from superintendents throughout the county. He introduced a motion that the state Board of Education be informed of the opposition to such unilateral mandates,

which Laberge feels usurp the freedom of local boards, but his motion was defeated.

If schools are to be closed for a full two-week vacation beginning December 21, what about full 12-month employees, Laberge said. There are many employees who remain in the school buildings even though students and teachers are off. He cited administrators, maintenance personnel, secretaries, custodians. These employees are under contract for a specified number of vacation days and work days. To what degree should building heat be reduced, in the opinion of the State Board, Laberge asked. And is that temperature tolerable for the employees who would normally be in the building? What savings in heat would be realized if local districts have to keep buildings at a temperature that is tolerable for 12-month employees, and what happens to contracts if buildings are so cold that employees cannot work?

Laberge said he plans to meet with members of the Board of Education to discuss the recommendation for a 50 percent cut-back in use of school buildings in evening. "We will try to equate the negative aspects of a cut-back with the possible positive effects that might be incurred," he said.

He questioned the wisdom or value of scheduling varsity games in afternoons instead of even-

A Plains Landmark Leaves Park Avenue

Old Municipal Building Is No More. Jail Cells Find New Home

The old Scotch Plains Municipal Building bit the dust last week, and boy, there was dust! Just ask any employee in the brand new facility next door! The old gal didn't give up without a real fight, as wrecking crews spent far longer than they had originally anticipated trying to get the building leveled.

L. L. Amato Construction Company, the contractors for the construction of the new building, subcontracted the demolition work to V. Ottilio and Sons, and workmen were busy both last week and this, as the rubble pile on Park Avenue grew higher and higher.

The hitch in the demolition proceedings was the strong construction of the building. Nobody had realized that so much structural steel held the building together. Both a spokesman for Ottilio and Sons and a foreman for the Amato firm said the building was unusually well put together, and the amount of steel to be torn down required lots of additional work. In many cases a building the size of the former Municipal Building can be razed in a single day, sometimes two. However, workmen were well into the third day there was still plenty of building left.

For those who have pangs of nostalgia and figure they'll miss the old gal, most is lost, but not all. Policemen can spend a nostalgic hour or two thinking lovingly of old prisoners if they but travel to Byram Township, for a pair of jail cells from the old building will now become part of one of the exhibits in Wild West City in Byram Township.

That came about because Amato Construction is also building in Byram Township, and "you just naturally get to talking, and sure enough somebody wanted the jail cells," a spokesman said.

Most of the materials will be hauled away to a dump in Newark. Some of the more valuable metals, such as copper and aluminum, will be recycled.

Recycling Drive Set For Saturday

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Jaycees monthly recycling drive will be held as usual on the third Saturday of the month, December 15th from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Fanwood Train Station, south parking lot. Magazines, newspapers, cans and bottles will be accepted. Papers should be bundled. Clear and colored bottles should be separated and metal rings and caps should be removed from them. Labels need not be removed from bottles.

ings, citing the fact that school buildings are at only 68 degrees in the afternoons and might be somewhat cooler in the evenings, but not enough to make a appreciable difference to players.

What about field trips, Laberge was asked. The prime obligation and concern is to meet the busing needs of students who must be transported to and from school. If a bus contractor has been engaged for a field trip that has been planned, and that contractor maintains that he can provide the trip transportation without endangering transportation for the regular school student needs, then Laberge said he sees no reason for cancellation of trips.

"I am still quite concerned that the schools are the only public facilities or businesses directly affected by direct mandates resulting from the energy crisis," Laberge said. He noted that highway discount stores are open nightly until ten p.m., and shoppers could walk around in shirtsleeves with the temperatures now prevailing in those stores.



"The old order changeth, yielding place to new" . . . and down she goes! The old Municipal Building, which had become cramped and overcrowded, has been replaced by a spanking new facility next door.

Plains Leaf Pickup Ended

The final Leaf Pickup was started on December 6th and was completed on December 11th. We urge all residents not to put out any more leaves for pick up since they will not be picked up. This year we have been fortunate with good weather which allowed the leaves to be picked up at a faster rate and gave all residents an opportunity of disposing of their leaves on five different occasions. The Road Department will be sweeping all streets in town for as long as the weather holds out.

This year 708 trips to our Leaf Disposal site were made and the Township picked up close to 16,000 cubic yards of leaves.

The building cost about \$100,000 to erect. The figure for taking it down is in a combination package which includes not only the demolition but site clearance as well. That figure was \$10,500.

Although the public had the opportunity to request memorabilia from the building, in actuality requests were very few, according to Township Manager, Daniel Allan. Only a few pieces of the marble which lined hallways were requested.

At the time demolition was originally considered there was some local opposition to tearing down the building. However, Mayor William Kitsz named a bipartisan citizens study committee, which found the building impractical to heat and maintain.