

# THE TIMES

ONLY NEWSPAPER WITH COMPLETE SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD NEWS

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## Mayor Board Cut Is Justified

The Scotch Plains Township Council and the Fanwood Borough Council expected to provide the Board of Education with the rationale supporting their decision to cut \$969,000 from the defeated \$13,809,000 school budget yesterday, Wednesday, May 29. Mayor Walter Grote of Scotch Plains and Mayor Ted Trumpp of Fanwood said in a joint statement Tuesday night that the joint councils had engaged professional consultants to study the rationale upon which the decision of the councils had been made, and the professional consulting firms had not only found the reasoning of the councils to be "extremely conservative," but had also found areas of additional cut.

"However, we understand that the cut we are substantiating is the \$969,000 we removed from the budget," Grote said. Only that amount will be discussed when the Board of Education and the Councils meet with a state Department of Education hearing officer, who will make a determination of the amount needed to provide a thorough and efficient education here.

The Councils were granted an extension in providing the rationale to the Board of Education. Originally, the Councils were ordered to turn over their rationale to the educators by May 24, but attorneys for the two councils arranged for an extension until May 29.

The rationale is not yet a public document. However, the two mayors indicated that the rationale officially turned over to the Board of Education attorney Jeremiah O'Dwyer and Joseph Zach, Deputy Assistant Commissioner of Education, the details of the rationale will be made public.

## How Today Will Look To Tomorrow's Citizens

Recently, the government of Scotch Plains made public the somewhat water-soaked contents of a cornerstone box, which had been sealed into a corner of the old Scotch Plains Municipal Building back in 1927. The box yielded a glimpse of everyday life back then. A viewer could determine the price of a car and a newspaper as well as the concerns of governing bodies and the Board of Education.

Now, with a brand new Municipal Building functioning, another cornerstone awaits the tightly sealed copper box which will provide for tomorrow's citizens of Scotch Plains an equally revealing look at the Scotch Plains of 1974.

The selections have been made, and materials have now been collected for inclusion within the cornerstone box. Mrs. Leonard Sachar and Mr. Charles Detwiler, who have been named by Mayor Walter Grote to head the township's committee to plan an observance of the 1976 bicentennial of the nation, also served as advisors on the contents of the new cornerstone box.

Official Scotch Plains is well represented, with microfilmed copies of the June 15, 1971 Township Committee meeting, resolutions of July 13, 1971, and April 4, 1972, and an ordinance of June 15, 1971 (legislation leading to the building of the new municipal building); a list of officials, commissioners, police, fire and committee members of 1974; the budget message of March, 1974; the Mayor's message of March, 1974; and two copies of the township newsletter.

High school students are represented by two copies of the Scotch Plains - Fanwood High School newspaper, "Fanscotian."

Five articles from issues of the Scotch Plains "Times" will

## Tell School \$969,000 Budget

Grote said the consultants engaged by the combined councils worked primarily in the area of school budgeting. The firm is a well-rounded one, including educators, financial experts, school board members, etc.

Now, the Board of Education will have ten days to study the rationale provided to them by the Councils and to prepare a written evaluation.

The Board of Education decision to take the budget to Trenton for an appeal represents the first time such action has been taken within the Scotch Plains-Fanwood district. Although the majority of budgets have been defeated in recent years, heretofore, the problem of school budget amounts has been worked out on the local level. This year, the Board of Education declined to accept the budget, with board representatives stating that the budget presented for public approval at the polls had represented a maintenance budget, without any program improvements. Operating at the reduced level would necessitate elimination of programs and/or some teaching positions, it was said.

## Rec. Commission Meets Monday

Dr. Frank Besson, acting Chairman of the Scotch Plains Recreation Commission has announced that the next public meeting of the Recreation Commission will be Monday night, June 3rd at the Town House located in Green Forest Park. Recreation Commissioners are Mary Ciriglioli, Peg Katims, David Johnson, Michael Masciale, Dominick Lawrence and Andrew Meadows. The public is invited to attend the meeting. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman will take place at the meeting.

Two additional newspaper articles are included - one an article on local artist Maxwell Simpson from the Newark News of November 26, 1967, the second a feature on "Scotch Plains," authored by Carol Sperber of Scotch Plains, from the New York Times of November 14, 1971.

A Board of Education brochure, "Discover Your Schools," mailed in the autumn of 1973; the YMCA Mid-Winter Spring Program; a League of Women Voters survey entitled "Scotch Plains;" a tour booklet entitled "Historic Scotch Plains" prepared by the Junior Women's Club; and a Westfield Chamber of Commerce focus item on the new municipal building complete the written material.

The final additions to the box are badges and patches of Scotch Plains Police and Fire Departments; patches, by-laws and roster of the Rescue Squad, and the old seal of the Municipal Court.

## Parade Highlights Memorial Day In Plains And Fanwood

### Listening Post

Both the Scotch Plains Township Listening Post and the Board of Education Listening Post will meet this Saturday.

To avoid conflict the Board of Education Listening Post is scheduled for 9 a.m. till 10 a.m. and the Township Listening Post from 10 a.m. till Noon.

For those anxious talkers who might like to really be heard, it is now possible to scurry to the Board Listening Post in the Choral Room at the High School and then on to the Township forum in the Council Chambers.

Superintendent of Schools Fred Laberge has already notified 30 teachers in the district that their jobs could be in jeopardy if the budget cut were to be upheld at the state level. Two of the 30 teachers (all of whom were non-tenured) have already resigned to seek employment elsewhere.

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## Two Mayors Cite War Dead And Troubled Times In National Leadership

These are traumatic times for Americans contemplating the situation confronting their national leadership. Mayor Ted Trumpp of Fanwood and Mayor Walter Grote of Scotch Plains both singled out these times of doubt in our nation, as they led the citizens of two communities in observance of Memorial Day, 1974. They both urged an appreciation of our heritage and the contributions of our war dead.

While most of the festive Memorial Day spirit was dampened by chilly temperatures which dashed the hopes of swimmer, picknickers and barbecuers, the parade which marked the start of the three-day weekend left little to be desired. The skies were blue and the temps were comfortable early Saturday morning as marchers took off from the Fanwood Memorial Library for their traditional trek across Martine Avenue to the cannon in the center of Scotch Plains.

Although the parade began at the very early hour of 9 a.m., there was no dearth of viewers. All along the line of march, the same families wandered to the same corners as they have for years, greeting friends and neighbors along the curb and in the lineup. There were a few familiar sights missing in the parade itself . . . the always popular Mummers' string bands and the bagpipers weren't in the line of march . . . but the civic life of Scotch Plains and Fanwood was well represented by units from clubs, children's organizations, the YMCA, Scouts, etc.

American Legion Post #209 began the march, accompanied by the lively strains of the Falcon Cadets Drum and Bugle Corps. They were followed by the Councils of Scotch Plains and Fanwood. In years past, the Councilmen rode in antique

cars. However, most of them were "hoofing it" this year, in a straight line from curb to curb. Two Council members found antique cars a more comfortable way to "march." Fanwood's Councilman Bob McCarthy and Carol Whittington waved from inside elderly autos.

Automobiles, marching groups and floats were interspersed with some very excellent marching music from a number of bands engaged to participate. They included the popular Raider Marching Band from Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, Saints Drum and Bugle Corps, Emerald Lancers, Patriots, Meadowlarks, Continental Junior Drum and Bugle Corps, Silver Lancers, Boystown Drum and Bugle, and the Towns-Kids Drum and Bugle.

The Brownies marched and the Indian Guides marched. The Indian Princesses marched and the Little League marched. The emergency units of the two towns . . . ambulances, emergency vehicle, fire engines, etc . . . provided a high moment for many a youngster enamored with fire fighting and rescue equipment.

The Lions were on hand, with the now-famous marching lion who waved to the kiddies from aside the yellow and blue auto. However, lollipops weren't tossed this year, in deference to a request from the Optimist Club

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