

# THE TIMES

ONLY NEWSPAPER WITH COMPLETE SCOTCH PLAINS - FANWOOD NEWS

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15 CENTS A COPY

## Needs A Ho



Nice doggy! He's a hound-type puppy, 6-8 months old, gentle and affectionate. He was abandoned and picked up in the Donsen Lane vicinity. Now he's in residence with Dog Warden Frank Terry. Call 322-7180 and he's yours.

## School Board Members Express Hope For Early Budget Decision

"I hope a decision can be reached shortly in Trenton regarding the 1974-75 school budget, and I hope the decision is one that both parties can live with," Charles Ferguson, President of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education said this week. A final settlement of the budget, could come before school opens in about six weeks . . . and then again, that decision could be delayed past opening day. Ferguson feels settlement is a major concern, and that the impact of the debated budget will have an effect on the local school system.

The budget was soundly defeated by voters last February and was then reduced by \$969,000 by the combined Councils of Fanwood and Scotch Plains. The Board of Education found that figure unacceptable, and took the budget to state educational authorities in an appeal move.

Although all information from the Councils explaining their rationale for the reduction and from the Board defending the budget, have been in the hands of state officials for quite some time, there has been no word yet on the next dates. After the hearing officer who heard both parties reviews all the material, he prepares a written report, which is sent to the local Board and Councils before it is passed along with recommendations to the Commissioner. The local bodies have 15 days to challenge that report and to submit reactions if they so desire. The report has not yet been received here. After the report and recommendations go to the state Commissioner of Education, another wait can be anticipated.

Although Ferguson expressed the hope that a final agreement will be reached once the Commissioner sets a figure for the budget, there is always the possibility that the Commissioner's findings may result in a budget that is too low for the Board to

live with or too high for the Councils, in which case there is the possibility of even further delay in the form of a court appeal.

Ferguson says that right now, he and Board members are getting concerned over the amount of funds to be available during the coming year. Ferguson pointed out that soon preparations will begin for next year's budget, which represents an awkward situation in light of the fact that no decision has yet been reached on the budget for 1974-75.

Dr. Perry Tyson, who is Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and acting Superintendent while Superintendent of Schools Fred Laberge is ill, spoke about the budget indecision this week. He called the situation very uncomfortable and difficult to deal with from an administration angle. The major concern of the administration is the personnel area, Tyson said. There are positions in dispute . . . ordered eliminated in the Council rationale. The administration has had to notify some teachers that they will have a job for 1974-75 if the Commissioner reinstates the funds, but then again, they might not have the job if the funds aren't reinstated. Because of the indecision, Tyson said there have been some staff members who have

## Council To Consider Court Action Over Westfield Dump Site

### Red Cross Needs Blood

The Plainfield Area Chapter of The American Red Cross is taking no vacation in its blood program. In order to help fill the critical summer need the Red Cross volunteers will set up a blood bank at Radio Station WERA 120 West 7th Street, Plainfield, N.J. Tuesday, August 6, from 2 to 7 p.m. Disc Jockeys, Program Directors, Advertising Personnel and the Administrative Staff will be taking turns in giving blood.

Come in -- the public, too, is invited to join the WERA at the bank for not only will the bloods needs of our community be helped, but to each donor goes the secure knowledge that all blood needs of the donor's family (which includes father, mother, children and grandparents) will be met for the period of one year as a "thank you" for the donation.

ected to leave the district for other jobs.

The hiring of new personnel has also been affected, Dr. Tyson noted. Where there are staff positions open, interviews have been conducted and, in some situations, decisions made. However, applicants must be told that they will be employed IF the budget so allows. This is a very awkward situation surrounding a professional and ethical commitment, Tyson said.

At the present time, there are openings in administrative, secretarial, custodial, and aide areas. Tyson said one of the openings is that of a librarian for the high school library. Because of question over her position in the Council rationale, the person who held the post recently resigned to accept an assignment in another district and at this point, the district has been unable to fill the job. People who are job hunting do not want to risk accepting a job here, particularly if they have security in their present assignments, Tyson said.

The second big area of concern is that of supplies and equipment. The administration is aware that, as of July 1, the school district has \$969,000 less to work with than was originally

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### This Week At RESOLVE

Selma Gwarkin, Director of RESOLVE, has announced that next week's "Outreach" program will include a karate demonstration at the Fanwood Community Center and a rap session on alcohol and the teenager sponsored by Emily Schroeder, Counselor at the Alcoholic Rehabilitation Center at Rumlins Hospital. The alcoholism program will be given at Green Forest Park.

### Area Residents Object To Plans To Add Solid Wastes To Lamberts Mill Road Location

For more than two years, residents of the Lamberts Mill Road area of Scotch Plains have been living with a situation which they have found unpleasant and undesirable. The homeowners in the vicinity of the Westfield Recycling Center objected long ago to the odors and traffic which resulted from Westfield's program to recycle grass clippings, logs, leaves, etc. However, the citizens and the township of Scotch Plains have had to live with a court decision rendered in November of 1972 regarding the center. Now, with divided opinion on its own Council, Westfield is considering a plan to consolidate all the community recycling programs, including bottles and papers, attic waste and the gardening operation, at the single Lamberts Mill site. The suggestion has brought an outcry from official Scotch Plains and from the homeowners. They registered opinions at a hearing held in Westfield on Tuesday night.

For several months, Westfield has been conducting a pilot program of a three-pronged clean-up. Residents tote their garden debris to Lamberts Mill Road. Attic waste is no longer picked up at curbside, but is carted to a site at the Public Works garage on North Avenue in Westfield by homeowners, while bottles and papers have been collected at a railroad station gathering spot. Now, Mayor Donn Snyder has indicated a desire to combine all three in a one-stop recycling effort. The site favored by

Snyder and some others is the existing garden recycling center. It is at a location which is within the boundaries of Westfield, but which affects Scotch Plains homeowners perhaps to a greater degree than Westfield residents.

The members of the Westfield Council are reportedly divided in their views of the plan. Two Councilmen there, Councilmen Chin and Weiss, oppose the southside Westfield choice for all refuse. The Council also heard extensive opposition from private

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## Local Gas Stations: Not Quite Back To Normal

Six months ago, on bleak chill wintry mornings, local drivers huddled for hours in gasoline lines throughout Scotch Plains and Fanwood. The governing bodies held meetings with gasoline station owners in an attempt to control the lengthy waiting lines for those elusive gallons, and the harried station owners posted "Line Ends Here" signs in attempts to control desperate automobile owners.

If one talks to the average car owner today, those uncomfortable experiences are a thing of the past. Gasoline seems readily available. One can almost always find an open station, and a full tank. However, a close look at the business hours of the local stations indicates that things never really did return to pre-crisis patterns after all. There is nary a station in the area which now remains open for the lengthy business days of a year ago. Furthermore, although it would appear that gas is available to all corners, many of the stations are still on allocations.

At Cush's Chevron Station at Park and Mountain in Scotch Plains, hours are now 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Last year, the station was open daily from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Cush reports that a year ago, people filled the tank, whereas now they buy only what they need. His station is still on the same allocation which it was assigned during the crisis. The limited hours represent a saving in personnel.

At the huge Exxon Car Care Center on Terrill and South in Fanwood, business hours one year ago were 6 a.m. to midnight seven days a week. Not so today. The pump islands are open

from 9 a.m. to 5:30 on weekdays, with more limited business hours over the weekends. One offshoot of our mid-winter gasoline crisis which still persists, according to one employee, is car pools. He says customers of the car care center are still car pooling in many instances.

At another local Exxon station, Fanwood Exxon at LaGrande and Martine in Fanwood, the allocation has been increased a bit since last winter, and the pumps are now open from noon to 5:30 p.m. most days. Once upon a time, business hours were 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. If gas sales are a bit slower one day, the pumps stay open a little longer the next. The station owner sees a slowing up of sales during these mid-summer weeks, when many people are doing their gas-buying at vacation locations.

Does the increased price for gas result in any better business profit for the station owner? Not so at Fanwood Exxon. Most of the money goes right back to the company, it was reported. However, the limited hours enable some saving in personnel and in outside lighting, heating, etc.

While most local operators say they'll survive with perhaps a bit

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