

THE TIMES

ONLY NEWSPAPER WITH COMPLETE SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD NEWS

VOLUME 16, No. 6

SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD, N.J.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1975

15 CENTS

Hearts And Baby Bottles



The eyes aren't even open yet, but this baby tiger cub nevertheless has loving wishes for Valentine's Day. The baby is one of two new arrivals at Terry Lou Zoo.

Dance Marathon Raises \$6,000 For Newman Fund

"Why sure. They're in the high school gym, dancing for Charlie." This might well have been the interchange in hundreds of Scotch Plains-Fanwood homes last Saturday night, as parents by the hundreds dispensed with the usual deadline hours and allowed teenagers to stay out all night long and into late Sunday afternoon.

What's the town coming to? It is coming to a tradition of concern for an injured football player, and teenagers who planned and attended an all-night dance marathon to raise funds for the Charlie Newman fund received the support and approval of parents. This is the second year of the Dance Marathon . . . and it appears that the event is improving with age. Last year's senior class brought popular disc jockey Wolfman Jack into the midst of the milling, throning in Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School population, raising about \$4,000 for Chuck Newman. This year, another class went well over that figure. At the moment, indications point to a "take" of over \$6,000!

Five disc jockeys were guests at the high school this year. They included Walt "Baby" Love, Tom Morgan, Jim Kerr, Harry Harrison and Chuck Leonard. All are top entertainers of the young, appearing on radio station WABC and WPLJ. Each disc jockey held forth at the mike in the high school gym for a stint, after paying a personal visit to Chuck Newman at his Victor Street home. The disc jockeys also circulated among the crowds collecting money for the Fund in buckets.

The radio stars then continued to plug the Newman Fund when they returned to radio duty, and on Monday of this week, were still urging their listeners to send money for Chuck Newman.

With such popular people on hand, and with the lure of a congregating spot for teenagers, Scotch Plains-Fanwood High drew far more than local teenagers last weekend. Kids came from Westfield, kids came from Summit, kids came from Berkeley Heights . . . and one wallet found in the gym indicated that at least one kid came from

Alexander Hamilton High School in Brooklyn.

The appearance of the disc jockeys and the take at the gate is only one facet of the marathon. In addition, high school couples signed up to dance, each setting a goal of 20 hours of dancing. The 32 couples who volunteered then got sponsor sheets and began the hard work of finding people to support them for each hour they danced. In the early hours of the marathon, when all 32 couples were still lasting, that dance floor was worth \$259 per hour. However, as the couples faded one by one, the average wound up at about half that. The dancers' work isn't finished yet, for they must now get out to make the collections for the hours they danced. Fifteen couples made it through to 3 p.m. on Sunday afternoon.

Was that the end? No, indeed. Seven couples then chose to continue, in a dance-down -- a contest of their dancing talents rather than their lasting abilities. The seven competed, with elaborate struts and stumps and clever routines, seeking a win from the judges, who included Board of Education members Charles Ferguson, Lee Reilly, Henry Schwiering, Peter Britton and Bob Carlson.

The dance-down was won by Darcella Herring and Michael Hedgepeth in first place, Daresa Jones and Randy Hamlette second and Penny Lewis and Chuck Hush third. And whose dancing was most valuable? First prize winners, dancing at \$37 per hour pledged money, were Maruo Fantini and Marge Woerner. Second couple were Patty Weir and Lisa Green, and third stompers at the Savoy were Chris Winans and Kim Anderson.

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School Board Adds \$54,168 To Budget

Calls Gorsky Retirement End Of An Era

Fanwood Police Commissioner Van Dyke J. Pollitt said today that the planned retirement of Police Chief Joseph Gorsky "marks the end of an era" in the growth of the Borough.

"Chief Gorsky has served this community with distinction for 4 decades," Pollitt said. "Not only did he watch this Borough grow, but he played a major role in that growth. His experience in police matters and his long service here have made him the dean of Police Chiefs in our State and Fanwood has been fortunate to have him."

"The image of the police officer in Fanwood is different from the image in many other communities," Pollitt said. "Here, they are 'helpful servants' and ambassadors of our Borough's good will. This results directly from the leadership of Chief Gorsky and the citizens of this community owe him an unpayable debt for his lifetime of service here."

"Gorsky has been Chief of Police for 33 years, roughly the equivalent of the average age of the citizens of our Borough. His record of service has been distinguished by awards and honors from International, National, State and local associations and he has earned a place of honor in the annals of Fanwood's leading citizenry."

"The Borough will miss him," the Commissioner said.

Plans Board Meeting Date Is Changed

The Public Meeting of the Scotch Plains Planning Board has been changed to Wednesday, February 19, at 8:15 p.m., Room 202, of the Municipal Building because of the Washington's Birthday Holiday, according to Michael Chairman, Chairman.

The Agenda includes appointment of the Planning Board Attorney for 1975, as well as reports from the Master Plan Committee, and the Site Plan Review Committee. There are no Subdivision Committee reports for February. The Site Plan Review Committee will make recommendations concerning application: 75-1, McDonald's Corporation, 1455 Broad Street, Bloomfield, N.J., location of development: Rt. 22 & Union Avenue, Block 58, lot 1, 2, & 3, proposed development: 30' rear seating addition to existing McDonald's Restaurant and additional parking at easterly 45' parcel. Other business includes a discussion of the Detwiller Subdivision of 1969 with Mr. David E. Ritchie. A resolution to amend the By-laws of the Planning Board will also be read for the second time.

Additional Funds Earmarked For State Mandated Costs, Athletic Equipment, Phys. Ed.

After two public hearings and considerable community input, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education increased the school budget which will be presented to the public by \$54,168. The public will now vote on a current expense budget of \$12,296,370 instead of \$12,242,202. Capital and debt service remain unchanged. However, the final budget figure to be raised by taxes will remain the same, since the administration was directed by the Board to find the additional \$54,168 from anticipated surplus by July 1.

Some of the additional funds were necessary because of newly mandated costs resulting from directives of various state bureaus in Trenton. These new laws added \$23,168. The Board, following considerable public comment recently, will also add \$10,000 for the athletic equipment account and \$21,000 for two physical education teachers at the elementary level.

Not all board members liked the budget. Robert Carlson voted against it, stating that it isn't in the best interests of students, taxpayers, or citizens. Philip Labasi abstained, stating that property taxes are going to be devastating, and board and administration are insensitive to the elderly and less affluent. Labasi expressed irritation that board and administration feel he is negative, when he is reflecting frustration of parents and teachers. "Some of the budget I agree with, a lot I am against," he said.

Darrell Brownawell felt the board had done well in holding the budget below the inflation level. Lee Reilly called it a compromise of needs and desires of all segments of the community. If citizens want sweeping changes, they'll have to get together, she said. Robbie Mason felt the budget is not in the best interests of students, personnel and taxpayers but the best the board could do in the instance. Peter Britton said his overriding concern for six years has been the children, and for them he supports the budget.

Once again, at the public hearing which preceded final adoption of the budget on Tuesday night, the Board heard considerable negative comment regarding recruitment funds and policies. Previously, citizens had objected to news articles detailing recruitment trips through the south to obtain teachers from minority groups and with diverse experience and backgrounds. Robert Gordon of Parkwood Drive, Scotch Plains was a new voice on the question. He expressed amazement at a budget of \$5,600 for recruitment outside the state, claiming our tax dollars support state schools which turn out capable black teachers. "We're spending lots for our state colleges to educate our teachers. Why spend dollars out of state to tell others our colleges here are not satisfactory?"

A Fanwood resident echoed Gordon's feelings. She recommended that the board eliminate money for plane fares and room

and board and instead send brochures to appropriate out-of-state schools, letting teachers come here to be interviewed at their own expense. She noted that while only \$3,500 is being added to the recruitment budget to bring it to \$5,600, each bit added sets standards which, in a poor economy, impose a burden on future generations.

Under questioning, Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Tyson said a recruitment trip earlier this year resulted in hiring of two black teachers who had done graduate work in a southern school, and were residents and had received baccalaureate degrees from New Jersey. The point strongly emphasized by several board members and by administration in the past is that recruitment trips provide a face-to-face opportunity for close contact of candidates, and result in a pool of talent to be drawn upon in the future, when the district will require an average of 50 teachers per year due to attrition.

David Schreiber of Fanwood expressed pleasure at the effort to recruit minority teachers. He said many citizens feel it is long overdue. The board has received considerable unjust criticism of a move which is an affirmative action, and has been urged for years, he said.

Mrs. Lee Reilly, a board member, indicated that placement of a single ad for a single teacher in the N.Y. Times costs \$200 to \$300, often does not result in a candidate for a difficult-to-fill post, and only yields paperwork rather than personal contact.

Board candidate John Corcoran urged that \$5,000 be removed from the \$10,000 allocated for two computer terminals at the high school.

James Loudon, another board candidate pressed once again for a school-by-school breakdown of personnel costs. He was told that originally the Planned Program Budgeting System would have permitted easy access to this information, but cutbacks this year made this unavailable. Loudon stated that in that case

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Notice

Coverage of the community candidates night, sponsored by the Joint PTA Council last week, will be carried in next week's issue of The Times, due to space limitations.