



SCOTCH PLAINS

THE TIMES



FANWOOD

VOLUME 19 NO. 21

SCOTCH PLAINS • FANWOOD, N.J.

THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 1977

20 CENTS

New At The Zoo



Zoo Curator Debbi Lynch holds Carri Brennen, 4, of Cranford, on her shoulder for an eye-to-eye look at Louise, the new 5-month old giraffe at the Terry Lou Zoo in Scotch Plains. Looking on are Carri's teachers and friends from the Osceola Church Nursery School in Clark.

Board Directs Minority Hiring

If Scotch Plains-Fanwood school district hired black teachers in direct proportion to the black student population (10 to 12 percent), there would be 44 black teachers. In fact, there are 11 at the present time. The number of black staff members has dwindled from a high of 22 in 1975, to 15 last year, 11 this year. The Board of Education mandated a change.

Meeting last week, the Board authorized the administration to "physically go out and obtain minority personnel" as teachers. The Board voted unanimously in favor of this action, which came to the Board as a recommendation from its Affirmative Action Committee. If an aggressive effort to obtain minority teachers costs more money, the Board is prepared to implement the \$6,000 now earmarked for recruitment of staff.

Although there are other recommendations from the Affirmative Action Committee, these were to be aired this week. Richard Bard protested that the introduction of the first recommendation from the Committee was made without any advance notification of Board members.

Philip Geiger, who heads the personnel office, told Board members that the district had received applications from approximately 2,500 candidates for teaching positions last year, and about 250 were screened. There is no indication on applications of color, since such information is illegal. Therefore, Geiger noted, there was no way to determine in advance the color of the applicants. Of the

Calendar

Saturday, June 4 — Free Health Fair, Deerfield School, Central Ave., Mountainside, 10-4, open to public.

Tuesday, June 7 — S.P. Township Council, Municipal Building, 8:30 p.m.

250 who were eventually screened, only 10 were black. One of the 10 was hired.

Building principals make the final decision on candidates sent to them by the personnel office. Geiger has been seeking staff by newspaper recruitment.

Robert Lariviere said that seeking out candidates by actual recruitment trips may not necessarily cost more than the newspaper advertising approach.

Board member Leonia Reilly emphasized "diversity and quality." She called it unrealistic to have only 11 minority teachers here.

Bantasia

The annual Band-Tasia was held at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School on Friday, May 27. The program included an art show and music by the Symphonic Band, Concert Band and the Symphonic Wind Ensemble.

Music of the Baroque period, Broadway show-stoppers and a novelty selection was featured. The Wind Ensemble, which received the highest rating possible at the National Music Festival in Atlantic City, performed three selections.

The art show encompassed many areas of creativity — graphics, ceramics, painting, pen and ink and watercolors.

Faculty members in charge of the program were Marvin S. Piland, Director of Bands; Elinor Peter, Virginia Malpas and Richard Lupo of the Art Department.

Let's Hope The Sun Shines

Some people like auctions. Some like craft demonstrations. Some like fairs, with booths and games. Then there are the devotees of sports, like swimming and paddle.

Every single one of these people will love a very unique and unusual day, being planned by the Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA. You'll bet it's a flea market? Well, yes, it is — with all but the fleas for sale. You'll bet it's a crafts demo? Sure, it is. But it's a swim party, too! It's a platform tennis exhibition! It's snax like popcorn, homemade cakes, cotton candy, drinks. It's an all-day country auction, where you can buy the things you like that your neighbors didn't. What name to call this conglomerate? "Everything Under the Sun", natch.

The fabulous fund-raiser is scheduled for Saturday, June 18, 10 am to 4 pm (raindate, June 19). To contribute those lovely things that aren't lovely to you, circle the week of June 14 on the calendar. On that date, you may drop off at the YMCA Brown House at 1340 Martine Avenue. If you're contributing an auto, drive it there. If you're contributing your entire dining room set, or your backyard pool, or twenty-five nice bicycles, just call 889-5455.

Kindergarten Registration

Registration for kindergarten children for the school year 1977-78 will be held at Shackamaxon School on June 9th and 10th.

A personal appointment will be offered to every parent and child. At this time the parents are requested to bring with them: 1. Birth certificate 2. Registration Form 3. Medical Form. Please contact the school at 889-8135 for any forms or additional information.

Don't forget to vote in the primary on June 7, 1977

Index

CHIT CHAT	12
CLASSIFIED ADS	29
EDITORIALS	4
ENGAGEMENTS	12
GOLDEN AGERS	20
THE LAW	21
LEGALS	30
MUSICAL NOTES	18
REAL ESTATE	28
SERVICES	31
SPORTS	23
THEATRE REVIEW	9
YMCA	24

Mayors Move For Parade Control

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood community marked Memorial Day with a community parade and picnic. However, within 24 hours of the holiday weekend, Mayors Anne Wodjenski and Ted Trumpp and Picnic Chairman John Philips of Fanwood met to arrange for a change in the sponsorship and management of the parade in future years. The parade planning and management will be turned over to a citizens committee, headed by Philips for next year.

The American Legion has sponsored the annual parades in the past. Past parades have been generally far more successful than the 1977 parade, which was marked by a distinct lack of planning and organization. However, the past years have not been without incident. The Legion has avoided Monday parades, claiming that it is difficult to obtain marching units for Monday because other communities have parades on that day. Therefore, the Legion scheduled parades on Saturdays, which drew the ire of the business community in Scotch Plains, where businessmen felt that the parade should be on the holiday itself so as not to conflict with business. The Legion also slated parades for Sundays, when clergymen registered a complaint because of interference with church services.

The Monday date was set this year at the request of the governing bodies, and the Legion was requested to run the parade

"backwards" to end up at the Fanwood Community Picnic.

This year, the parade plans (or lack thereof) brought comment from civic leaders and from participants as well. No advance notification of the parade was even given to the press. Customarily, Legionnaires have provided this newspaper and others with announcements and details regarding participating units. The police, who provide an important role in blocking off traffic and providing for safety, were alerted of the parade plans by Mr. Philips, who was acting in an unofficial capacity, parading units were never advised of the line-up in advance. As of 9:20 am on Monday morning, the line-up had still not been released.

Concerned with what he saw as a forthcoming failure, Philips took the initiative to attempt to "save" the parade. He personally contacted bands, using a

Continued On Page 6

New Cheering Squad Chosen At SPFHS

A new varsity cheerleading squad was chosen at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School last Thursday afternoon. The new squad includes eleven white members and three blacks. The new selections, which took place following two months of parental protests — pro and con — regarding the original tryouts, were marked by excitement and by some degree of hostility.

However, as school principal Dr. Terry Riegel pointed out, cheerleading tryouts are traditionally one of the most emotional events at the school. There was some degree of added hostility this year, Riegel noted, particularly in light of the fact that three girls who had originally made the squad were eliminated in last week's selection process.

"The girls and their friends were naturally very shattered, and there was some added anger," the principal notes.

The new tryouts took place despite the fact that State Commissioner of Education Fred Burke will conduct an investigation of the original tryouts, held in late March. At those tryouts, one black cheerleader was chosen. She also made the squad the second time around. Eight candidates of the 38 candidates in the original go-round had been black.

The controversy over the first session erupted when a high

school teacher who is black, James Mason, charged that the tryouts had been rigged, and that advisor Karen McDermott had expressed to Mason her preferences. This was later denied by Miss McDermott, but black parents attended several Board of Education meetings to register strong protest, and the Board voted to direct the building principal to schedule a second set of selections.

Following this decision by the Board, white parents of the girls originally selected also protested.

The black parents had sought state-level assistance from the Office of Equal Educational Opportunity, and that office planned a meeting here to discuss the issue. Before that meeting could be held, however, the Commissioner's Office, acting through his Department of Controversies and Disputes, entered the controversy, out-ranking and eliminating

Continued On Page 2