

MRS W H DEVLINGH
1943 FARMINGDALE RD
SCOTCH PLAINS, NJ
07076



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20 CENTS

Ponder Joint Health Plan

Scotch Plains Township Manager James Hauser and Health Officer Melvin Kramer visited Fanwood this week, to discuss with the Borough Council Health Committee and Board of Health members possibilities for a regional health coverage. Earlier, the Fanwood Board of Health had recommended to Council adoption of a contract with Westfield, in a regional health plan involving Westfield, Garwood and Mountainside and Fanwood. However, action has not yet been taken on that recommendation, and last Wednesday, during the Borough Council meeting, some citizens questioned the regionalization in that direction.

As explained by Hauser, Scotch Plains would charge Fanwood \$16,000 to provide full coverage for all state-mandated core health activities. Actually, the coverage would cost Scotch Plains \$20,200, but Hauser noted that inclusion of Fanwood would bring the Scotch Plains total number of citizens served above 25,000, thus qualifying Scotch Plains to receive \$11,600 in state aid. That state aid for the health area is not yet a finality, however. The Legislature is expected to take up the issue very soon, Kramer explained.

Fanwood is acting within a tight frame, for the borough must inform Westfield early in December in order to be included in a program there. Fanwood, like many other small communities throughout the state, has been caught in a squeeze by the new state law which mandates that every municipality, regardless of size, must be served by a full-time Health Officer. Fanwood has had a part-time sanitarian until now.

Continued on Page 14

INDEX

CLASSIFIED.....	31
EDITORIAL.....	4
ENTERTAINMENT.....	11
LEGALS.....	26
REAL ESTATE.....	28
SERVICES.....	32
SOCIAL TIMES.....	9
SPORTS.....	24
YMCA.....	24

Gone, But Not Forgotten



The autumn leaves have fallen, but they're still in our midst. This scene on Shackamaxon Drive, Scotch Plains offers a clue to the problems still facing Public Works crews in Scotch Plains-Fanwood.

**DUE TO
THANKSGIVING
WE WILL HAVE
AN EARLY CLOSING
DEADLINE...
COPY DUE FRIDAY,
NOVEMBER 25 —
NOON.**

Bd. To Act On Super. Profile

The Ad Hoc Superintendent's Profile Committee of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education has submitted its completed report of personal and professional qualifications to be required of applicants for the position of Superintendent of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood school district.

The position becomes vacant on June 1, 1978. The Board of Education has met with the Committee and will take the action on the report at the November 17 regular public meeting to be held at Evergreen School at 8 pm.

The Committee consisted of nine citizens, four teachers, three administrators and two students. The profile which they developed listed characteristics and criteria in categories of leadership, educational expertise, management capabilities and personal qualifications. A copy of the completed report is available at the Administration Building, 2630 Plainfield Avenue, Scotch Plains.

Rail Conditions Concern Commuters

Joe Nagy, a Fanwood commuter, returned to the Fanwood Borough Council last week to voice another plea for improvement in conditions at the railroad station. In a commuter's community, a railroad station is a necessary resource. Nagy said, but speaking of the one he uses, he said he's embarrassed and ashamed to get off and splash through deep railwaters in bad weather. "Mr. Average can't get anything done," Nagy said, but threatened to continue to annoy the town fathers until improvement is realized.

Officials explained the repeated actions taken by the town to force Conrail into improving. While Nagy is concerned with flooding, town officials are equally upset by filth and debris, dumping and broken stairways. They have a date in municipal court with Conrail on November 22 on cleanup of the railway cut.

Nagy called the explanations "typical beauracratish gibberish." The echo keeps coming back, he said. He urged the town to go in, to dig trenching with Public Works equipment, and to provide better flood control.

Richard Luster, who is the Municipal Engineer, said there is a serious water problem there, in that the railroad is situated between two watersheds, and diversion waters move from Robinson's Branch into Cedar Brook via the cut. A solution could be realized at considerable expense, Luster said. Plans are already drawn, but costs eight years ago were \$375,000. Trenching would do no good at all, Luster said. The ultimate solution is more involved, he said.

Councilman Robert McCarthy said that while the

ultimate solution is available, the property is not Fanwood's, and Fanwood would not take the responsibility to build trenches, a boardwalk, etc.

"Do you mean to tell me that Conrail officials are a bunch of sadistic ghouls, so hung up in a legalistic impasse that nobody will make a commitment?" Nagy asked. He feels that there must be some way somebody could agree to action.

Mayor Ted Trumpp explained that Conrail would not give permission for an
Continued on Page 25

Initiate Neighborhood Protection Plan

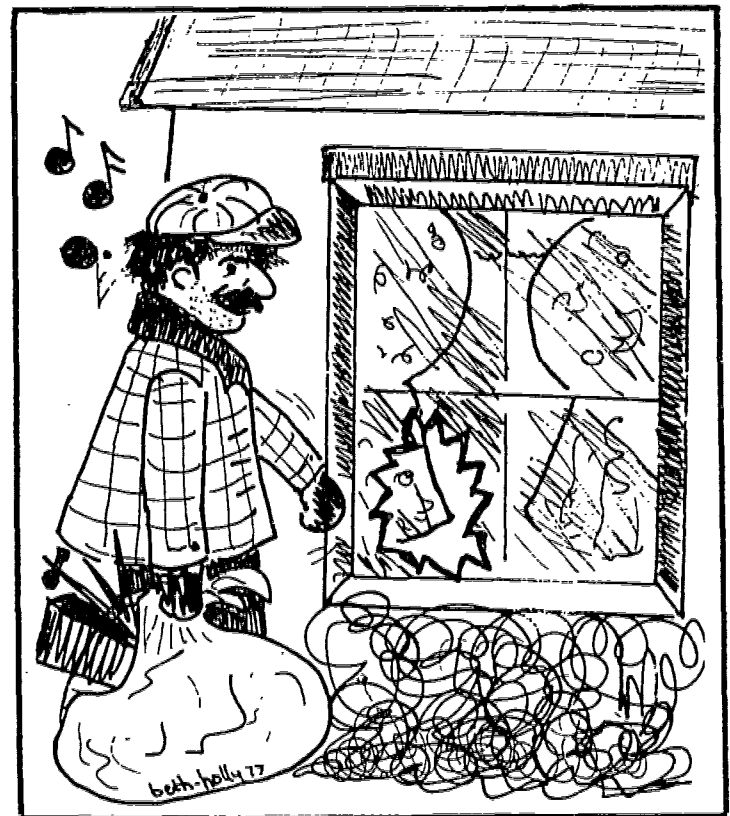
This year, in the nine-month period from January through September, 105 homes and businesses experienced robberies in the community of Scotch Plains. Only one percent of these robberies occurred in businesses. The remaining 99 percent were suffered by private homeowners. In Fanwood, there were robberies at 20 homes. Total financial suffering totaled over \$60,000. You can cry, "Help, we've been ripped off." Is there any other defense you can take? Yes, is the answer from the Scotch Plains Junior Woman's Club. They're initiating the Neighborhood Watch Program — and you're invited to take part... to make your neighborhood safer, your mind more at ease, and to help your neighbor as well as yourself.

What is Neighborhood Watch? It is a program instituted in 1972 in response to requests from hundreds of sheriffs and police chiefs for a program that would help stem the alarming increases in burglaries and vandalism — particularly those occurring in rural and suburban residential areas. The program was initiated as a means of bringing citizens into action to protect their own

property, to join in community crime and prevention efforts and to cooperate with local law enforcement officials in community action crime prevention programs.

The local Junior Woman's Club heard about Neighborhood Watch when it was suggested among ideas for Public Affairs Committees, in the state federation guidelines of activities. Marv

Continued On Page 7



Tis The Season To Be Jolly

Hearing Cont'd. On Nursing Home Site

The Scotch Plains Board of Adjustment continued to hear testimony last week, on an application for a nursing home on Terrill Road, across from Terrill Junior High School. Many residents from the neighborhood have registered objection to the granting of a variance for the facility, citing the presence of two schools adjacent to the proposed site, impact on real estate values, etc.

On Tuesday of last week, Daniel Bernstein, attorney for the applicants, introduced an architect, a project architect-designer, and one of the prospective owners of the home as witnesses.

John T. Martino, a licensed architect and an associate of an architectural firm, said the nursing home would occupy 17,280 square feet, or 14 percent of the total acreage, which, he said was below
Continued on Page 16

CALENDAR

- Thursday, November 17 — Bd. of Ed. Regular Monthly Meeting, Evergreen School, 8 pm.
- Monday, November 21 — Special Meeting, Fanwood Borough Council Plans for New Municipal Bldg. Sr. Citizen Housing Corp., Rm. 202, S.P. Municipal Bldg., S.P.
- Tuesday, November 22 — Neighborhood Watch Program, Organizational Meeting, Fanwood Community House, RR Station, 8 pm.
- Wednesday, November 23 — SP-F Ministerial Assoc., Thanksgiving Eve Service, Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 8 pm.