

See Page 11 For Winners Of  
The Times' Holiday Art Contest

O R RESERVE  
781 WESTFIELD RD  
SCOTCH PLAINS, NJ  
07075



SCOTCH PLAINS

# THE TIMES



FANWOOD

VOLUME 27 NUMBER 52

SCOTCH PLAINS • FANWOOD, N.J.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1977

20 CENTS

## Gov'ts To Reorganize

The Township Council of Scotch Plains will meet on New Year's Day at 1 pm for its annual reorganization session. The council will elect a new Mayor from its five-member midst. There are no new council members to be seated this year.

Also on the agenda for the January 1 session are appointments to fill vacancies on Township Boards and Commissions. Township Manager James Hauser noted that these will include one vacancy on the Board of Adjustment, one on the Recreation Commission, membership on the Bicycle Safety Committee, and two positions on the Library Board.

A temporary budget will be approved, to permit conduct of township business in the interim period until passage of a final 1978 budget a little later in the new year.

Outgoing Mayor Ann B. Wodjenski will present her end-of-year address, summing up accomplishments and events of 1977, while the newly elected Mayor will offer thoughts on future goals.

Continued On Page 2

### CALENDAR

Thursday, December 29 — Agenda Session of Scotch Plains Council, 7:30 pm, Municipal Bldg.  
Sunday, January 1 — Government reorganization. Scotch Plains Township Council. Council Chambers, Scotch Plains Municipal Bldg., 1 pm.  
Monday, January 2 — Government reorganization. Fanwood Borough Council. Borough Hall, 1 pm.  
Tuesday, January 3 — 1st regular meeting of Scotch Plains Council, Municipal Bldg.  
Monday, January 9 — The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Fanwood Memorial Library will be held January 9, 1978 instead of January 2, 1978.

### INDEX

CLASSIFIED..... 18  
EDITORIAL..... 4  
ENTERTAINMENT..... 9  
LEGALS..... 16  
MAYOR'S CORNER..... 10  
REAL ESTATE..... 17  
RELIGIOUS SERVICES..... 13  
SERVICES..... 19  
SOCIAL TIMES..... 6  
YMCA..... 15



SPFHS Basketball Coach Billy Lee talks over strategy with his co-captains Kevin Ford and Mark Thomann.  
Photo by Bob Luce

## New Season And New Coach For Raider Basketball Team

by Mark Tort

Coach Lee has stressed more offensive driving than outside shooting and we have been concentrating on this basic strategy in practices," related senior center Mark Thoman. The SPFHS varsity basketball squad will compete in the annual Christmas Tournament over the Christmas holiday. Last season the Raiders were eliminated in first round competition by the Jefferson Minutemen, 68-52.

With the resignation of eight year coach Joseph Coleman, Bill Lee, a graduate from SPFHS, took on the coaching assignment. The Union College (Ithaca,

N.J.) graduate was head coach of both football and basketball at Terrill Junior High School. Besides his physical education instructing, Lee is head coach of the hoopsters and assistant coach of the SPFHS gridders. In his senior year at SPFHS, at the time located on Park Avenue, Lee was named to the All-State squad for his team leadership and athletic ability at the guard position. With all these factors in mind one may say that SPFHS has landed an experienced and qualified individual.

The Raiders have only one experienced returning letterman back from last year's 13-12 squad. With the graduation

of All-County and All-Conference candidate Scott Rodgers, 6'5" center Dave Cherry, and the burly Patterson Reese who provided strength off the boards, the Raiders will be led by junior standout guard Kevin Ford, who awes audiences with superb ballhandling and shooting. "Kevin is one of the best all around players I have ever coached," stated rookie coach Bill Lee.

Teaming up in the backcourt with Ford is junior Bruce Gardner, who saw considerable playing time in his impressive sophomore year. Up front there stands 6'4" senior Mark Thoman, the

Continued On Page 2

## School Closing Details Released

by Libby Schmidt

Students attending La Grande School will be assigned to surrounding area schools starting in September. According to Dr. Reigh Carpenter, Superintendent of Scotch Plains-Fanwood schools, no specific plans have been formulated yet as to the redistricting of La Grande students, but a public meeting will be held concerning the subject sometime in January. Dr. Carpenter said he is producing his suggestions for the redistricting, which he will present to the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education in early January.

The closing of La Grande School affects approximately 230 Fanwood students. In redistricting these students, Dr. Carpenter's goal is to "provide the board with alternative, and least destructive suggestions." He expects the Board to adopt one plan for the redistricting within two or three weeks.

The estimated maximum closing of La Grande is 220,000 dollars. The elimination of an administrator, a secretary, media personnel, a remedial reading teacher, and seven classroom teachers will be included in this savings. Basic building costs, such as maintenance, service contracts, utility, and insurance, also will be eliminated.

The personnel cuts, because of the school closing, will not all be out of the La Grande School staff. The seven teachers will be removed from the whole Scotch Plains-Fanwood School District, not one particular school.

No new children will be bussed to elementary schools

when La Grande is closed because of the centralized location of the school. Dr. Carpenter sees the average number of students per classes not increasing above 21 students, even with the removal of seven teachers.

The Superintendent of Schools understands the fiscal environment as a source for replacing other reductions." The money saved in the closing of the school will be used in keeping worthwhile programs alive that benefit all Scotch Plains-Fanwood students, according to Dr. Carpenter.

There are approximately 1700 Fanwood students in Scotch Plains-Fanwood district schools. Only 230 elementary students attend La Grande School. According to the Superintendent, Fanwood parents are "naturally attached" to La Grande, but the Scotch Plains-Fanwood School district encompasses both Scotch Plains and Fanwood, and "what benefits all students has to be weighed."

## Washington Weekend Brings U.N. Experience To Students

The international problems of the environment and world hunger, economics and trade became realities for 20 local high school students recently, as they took on the roles of United Nations members for a three-day Washington weekend. The 20, representing the Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA, in a unique Model U.N. — Youth Government program, joined a total of 900 students from YMCA's throughout the Middle Atlantic region.

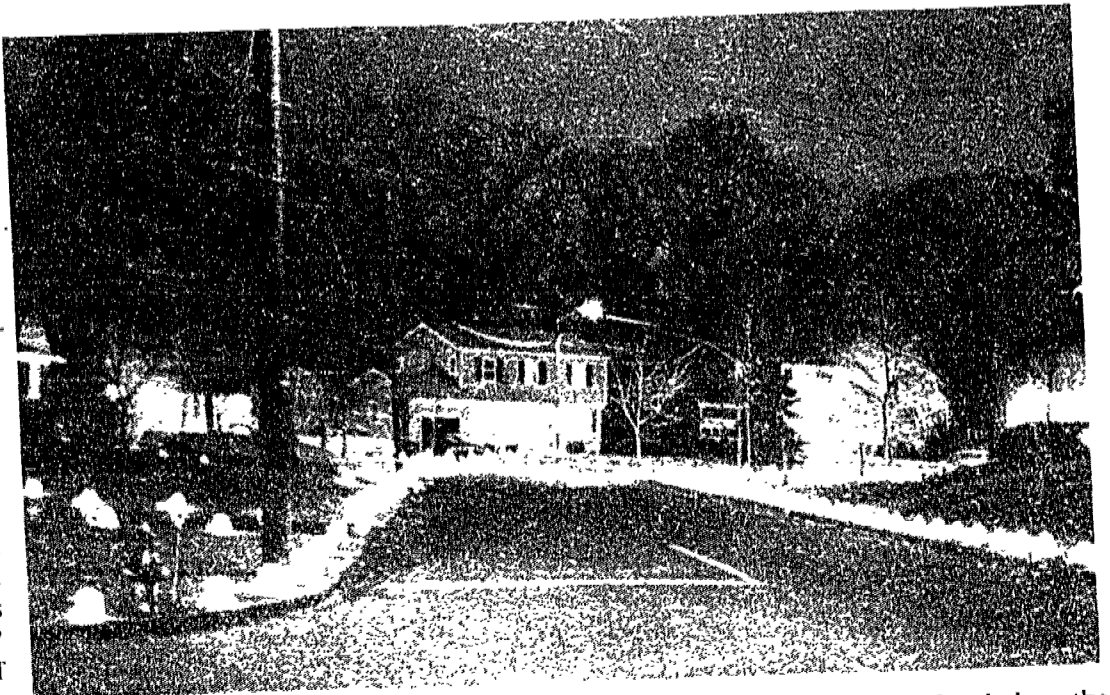
The mock U.N. program also gave the 20 students three days of actual on-the-job experience. It also brought two high school credits. The weekend was preceded by months of study, with each student assigned the name of a country to represent. Working with the staff of local schools, each U.N. representative went to Washington well prepared with facts on the problems and concerns of his adopted country. Research included writing to the countries in

question and, in some cases, involved actual telephone contact with ambassadors in Washington.

The Washington weekend opened with an Ambassadors Banquet, complete with a candlelight ceremony and display of flags of all nations represented. Many "real" ambassadors were guests of the ambassadors-for-a-weekend at the opening festivities. Students spent the remainder of Friday evening running from caucus to caucus, cam-

Continued On Page 3

## Christmas Eve Luminaria



Christmas Eve, 1977 glowed in the lights of over 35,000 twinkling candles placed along the property boundaries of private homes, churches and public buildings throughout Fanwood and Scotch Plains. The "luminaria", a Spanish-Mexican traditional holiday decoration, has been gaining popularity by leaps and bounds in Scotch Plains and Fanwood over the past few years.

Photo by Bob Luce