

**SPRING CLEANUP DATES ANNOUNCED**



The old furniture and the cast-off lawnmowers, the broken toys and outdated wooden storm windows are piling up throughout Scotch Plains and Fanwood, as homeowners take on the unwelcome annual garage and attic spring cleaning. Fortunately, there's hope for those discard piles. Household trash collections are scheduled in both Scotch Plains and Fanwood.

Scotch Plains collections will take place on the following dates: June 4, 5, 6, in District 1 (northwest quadrant); June 11, 12, 13 in District 2 (northeast quadrant); June 18, 19, 20 in District 3 (southeast quadrant); June 25, 26, 27 in District 4 (southwest quadrant).

In addition, dumpster service is available every Saturday morning at the Scotch Plains Public Works Garage on Plainfield Avenue for those who wish to act their own.

Fanwood began its monthly collections this week, and will continue them every fourth Wednesday for the next five months. The Fanwood curbside collections go from April through September each year.

**OUR TREES ARE FAMOUS.**

Two local white oak trees will join the list of famous landmarks, as they receive designation plaques as "official quercus alba", or white oaks, of Union County. The Union County Board of Freeholders recently voted unanimously to approve the white oak as the official tree of Union County. In Scotch Plains, a new white oak will be planted in the new Village Green Park, with a marker to be placed sometime in the future. In Fanwood, a very much larger white oak, the famous Fanwood Oak, which has graced Martine Avenue since Washington's days, will receive a marker. A new white oak will also be planted and designated on the front lawn of the new municipal building on the Slocum property.

A Tree Selection Advisory Committee, which included a representative from each of the 21 municipalities in the county, reviewed nearly 100 trees and tree species nominated for consideration before arriving at a decision.

Among the considerations confronting the committee were such questions as: should the tree be native to the area? should it be just one tree in one community, or various representatives of a single species, each located in a different municipality? should it be ornamental or suitable for street plantings? The final selection was a tree native to the Union County area, with representative trees in each community.

The White Oak is often called King of the Forest, according to John Seager of the Union County Shade Tree Bureau. It has been known to attain ages in excess of 800 years, heights surpassing 150 feet, spreads broader than 100 feet, and girths greater than 20 feet in circumference.

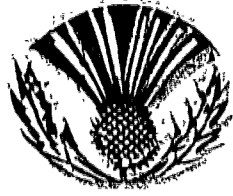
**MAYOR HONORS PLAYERS GROUP**



Mayor Alan Augustine of Scotch Plains proclaimed the week of May 4 through May 10 as Scotch Plains Players' Week. The honorary week coincides with the Players' forthcoming performance of "Funny Girl", opening May 4 at Park Junior High. Mayor Augustine cited the Players' 19 years of cultural contribution in the form of dramatic art. The organization is dedicated to bringing residents of Scotch Plains dramatic and musical productions of the highest professional quality, Augustine said. Above, producers James Imbriaco and Arleen Buchanan join the Mayor (center).

**Meet your local police officers**

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SCOTCH PLAINS

FANWOOD



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**Bugs Coming!**

Holes in lawn forecast coming cicada infestation

By Joan T. Monahan

A Fanwood man was out last weekend, applying chlordane to the foundations of his home. He'd spotted so many round holes in the ground that he figured he had a termite problem. A Scotch Plains youth, meanwhile, was filling the same type lawn hole with water, "to drown moles." Others have been ready to trap and kill squirrels, thinking the holes are created by squirrels, burying nuts. Obviously, these people didn't live here in 1962, to experience the cicada infestation which occurs here every 17 years.

The Scotch Plains, Fanwood, Westfield area has the very dubious distinction of having one of the heaviest infestations of "periodical cicadas" on the East Coast. Unknown to you, as you've mown and planted, hoed and weeded these long 17 years, millions of cicadas (often erroneously called 17-year locusts) have been living in underground tunnels, awaiting some mysterious predetermined signal, which brings them to the surface to undergo startling transformations and to spread through trees and bushes.

If you think the lawn holes are a concern...you ain't seen nuthin' yet! Just wait, or better yet, check an old-timer for his impressions of the cicadas of 1962! As the cicadas emerge in sizeable numbers, on some special night in April, May, or early June, the adult "nymphs" burrow upward to the surface



and head for upright objects. A tree is the ideal goal if it can be attained. If a tree isn't within range, a bush, a weed, a blade of grass, or even a post or a telegraph pole will do.

The nymph secures a good hold on the object, splits its nymphal skin down the middle of the back, and

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**Board to urge statewide changes in tenure laws**

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood school district will present a resolution to the New Jersey School Boards Assembly at its next session, urging changes in the state tenure and seniority laws. Edward Perry, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education delegate to the school boards unit, will present the resolution for adoption.

Kathy Meyer, Legislative Chairman of the Board of Education, outlined the content of the resolution, following the meeting. The proposal would urge the New Jersey Legislature and/or the Executive Branch of the state government to reexamine tenure and seniority statutes and possibly to reexamine some of the pension regulations. Mrs. Meyer noted, "When the law is written into the form of binding commitments, what

we are seeing massive layoffs of teachers, we're seeing the flaws in the tenure laws. When you're hiring, you do not see the flaws. It is when a district is laying off that it runs right into the lack of management prerogatives. There is no choice open to the Board of Education, since it is all governed by statutes - which are often as harmful to teachers as they are to parents and students, Mrs. Meyer stated.

The decision to seek changes in the law came as the district grappled with staff dismissals necessitated by declining enrollment. Approximately 50 citizens were on hand as the Board of Education met last week, to urge re-evaluation of some of the 27 professional staff members up for dismissal. The citizens spoke in behalf of a football coach, a guidance counselor, business teachers,

and others. However, the Board voted to eliminate the 27 teaching posts, while registering concern and regret over having to take the action.

Approximately three dozen members of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood high school varsity football team attended the meeting on behalf of their coach, Charles Meredith. In another group, a dozen fathers representing the Raider Booster Association appeared in support of Meredith. He joined the district two years ago as a Social Studies teacher, and was cut in a Reduction in Force (rif) in the Social Studies Department.

George Bips, President of the Raider Booster Association, addressed the Board. The tenure laws must be revamped, Bips said. The local district is feeling the negative effects of the laws and, if action is not taken now, it will be a recurring problem. Bips spoke of the tenure laws which mandate that last hired is first fired within a department.

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**Parenti heads state drive for jogger ID and traffic control**

Our local streets are alive with joggers. Their ranks seem to swell daily by the dozens, as the denizens of fitness take to the streets during these warm spring days. The pattern is repeated throughout New Jersey. Jogging builds fit bodies...but it also has inherent dangers to jogger and motorist alike.

This week, Fanwood Police Chief Anthony Parenti and three local joggers - Austin and Joanne Dunn and Rick Sprague - appeared on a CBS Channel 2 news program, to discuss the safety concerns of the New Jersey Traffic Officers' Association, of which Parenti is President.

There were at least 20 documented jogger deaths within New Jersey last year,

Parenti notes. That number is undoubtedly much higher in reality, for existing police reporting systems list joggers as pedestrians, hence clouding the true figures. A death of one of Parenti's personal friends just two weeks ago led him to raise the question of jogger safety at a subsequent meeting of the Traffic Officers, with an immediate outpouring of support for safety measures from his fellow officers.

The Traffic Officers want to seek state level legislation to help reduce the traffic problems and dangers in jogging. They're embarking on a campaign for state passage of a three-part law.

What's a jogger? That's problem No. 1, Parenti says.

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A recent CBS Channel 2 news broadcast featured Mr. and Mrs. Austin Dunn of Westfield Road, Fanwood and Fanwood Police Chief Anthony Parenti, who discussed the need for laws in insure joggers' safety. Missing from the picture was Rick Sprague, who also represented the jogging community.