

DUMPSTER SERVICE ENDS

The Township of Scotch Plains closed its Dumpster Program on May 26 because the Township Clean Up Program begins on June 4th and will be completed on the 28th. The Dumpster Program will resume during the month of September and we encourage all residents to watch for their newspaper notices at that time.



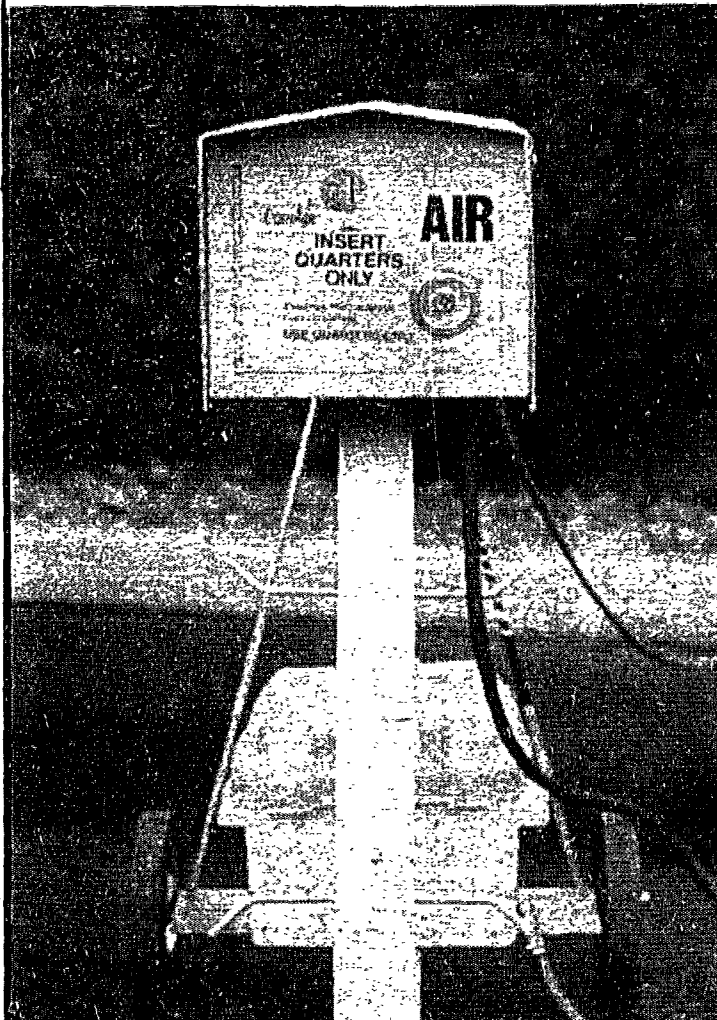
HONORED AS HEROES

On the eve of the Memorial Day weekend well over 200 people met for the Annual Valor Awards Luncheon of the Union County 200 Club. Held at the Towers Restaurant in Mountainside on Friday, May 25th the following men were honored with plaques and \$1,000 bonds for their heroics: N.J. State Trooper John Yanchyshyn for subduing an armed assailant who had taken a girl hostage in the Wrightstown area at great risk of his own life. Detective Carl Sicola for his outstanding action in pursuing and arresting an armed and very dangerous multiple offender who had just completed a gas station holdup. Detective Sicola of the Scotch Plains Police Department apprehended the robbery suspect in the Plainfield area after a foot chase and a fierce struggle. Firefighter Richard Fuchs of the Elizabeth Fire Department (a Scotch Plains resident) is credited with saving the lives of 2 women and a 15 month old baby in an apartment fire at Walnut Street in Elizabeth. Alex Webster, former coach of the New York Giants was the main speaker. In addition three Continuing Scholarship awards for college were given to Janet Kemble, Deborah Buczek and James Kemble. The 200 Club of Union County is a non-profit organization founded to assist the families of uniformed personnel killed in the line of duty and to honor and support the work of police, firemen and state troopers. Left to right, Yanchyshyn, Fuchs Sicola.

LEARN NOT TO SMOKE!

"Helping Smokers Quit," a program offered by the Union County Unit of the American Cancer Society, begins June 7 at the Scotch Plains Library. The eight week session will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. weekly in the Children's Section. Initial registration is \$25 (cost of 33 packs of cigarettes). Twenty dollars is returned to those who complete the program and attend six of the eight sessions. Limited to 22 people. Pre-registration necessary. For info and registration, call Union County ACS, 354-7373 or 232-0641.

THINK GAS PRICES ARE HIGH? NOW YOU'LL PAY FOR AIR!



If you think gasoline prices are putting a dent in your pocket witness the next wave of the future contributing to your dwindling reserves of cash! Here's an air pump (for your tires) with a 25-cent slot. The newest feature is located at the Exxon Station at Terrill and Front Street.

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THE TIMES

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Mini-twister hits northside Scotch Plains neighborhood

An unusual windstorm of "mini-twister" proportions hit a section of Scotch Plains Tuesday afternoon, uprooting several huge trees, tossing giant tree limbs and, in one case, damaging a home and car. The heavy winds were selective, experienced in limited areas of the community. All the damage was confined to the northside of Scotch Plains, to the east of Park Avenue, while mild winds and a bit of rain were all that homeowners on the southside were aware of.

The 400 block of Union Avenue was blockaded on Wednesday morning. An enormous oak tree, with its root structure uprooted, fell across the street and miraculously spared homes and cars. Another very large tree fell a block away, in the 400 block of Forest Road. At 351 Parkview Drive, large limbs blew from a tree and knocked down a balcony fence on the second floor of the home, tore out gutters and downspouts, and crashed into the rear window of a car parked in the driveway.

In all, the Scotch Plains Police Department received 11 calls regarding tree or limb damage from the storm, which lasted only 20 minutes. The calls came from Westfield Road, Prospect, Green-side, Parkview, Stout, Bartle and Birch Streets. Another area of damage occurred in front of Park Junior. High where huge limbs were tossed into the parking lot and street.

Township Manager James Hauser said some of the damage occurred on private property and some on town-

ship property in the rights-of-way between street and sidewalk. Township Public Works employees were alerted as soon as the strong winds began, between 4 and 5 p.m. They worked until 11:30 p.m., dismantling trees and clearing streets.

Hauser said work would have continued even longer Tuesday night, but some of the felled trees were tangled in power lines and Public Works had to wait until Public Service cut off the power. At one location, a police officer spent four

hours on duty to insure public safety, due to downed wires.

Hauser estimated that it may take until Saturday to complete all the cleanup work. He is utilizing both township employees and outside contractors.

Carriage House vote due

The Fanwood Borough Council is scheduled to make a final decision on the future of the old Victorian Carriage House on the grounds of the Slocum property during its meeting next Wednesday. A final decision is necessary by that date in order to comply with requirements of the Union County Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee, which necessitates a working plan in operation by the end of July. If the deadline is not met, funding will be withdrawn.

In November of 1975, the Borough applied to the C.D. Committee for a matching grant to undertake restoration of the small Carriage House, considered a lovely example of Victorian board and batten construction, with barge boards at the gables and horse stalls still intact.

The one-and-a-half story building is in better shape inside than out.

The Revenue Sharing group granted \$27,000, with the grant to run through fiscal 1978-79. The restoration project languished between 1975 and 1978, primarily because Council directed its energies and attention to other projects, including a



CARRIAGE HOUSE

new Municipal Building, recently completed on the same site. The architect charged with drawing plans for the restoration was also working on the top-priority new municipal facility.

Council decided action was needed quickly, when a borough resident pointed out the deteriorating condition of the building, in the summer of 1978. By that point, Council was faced with accelerating costs for the restoration work and a diminishing tax base from

which to meet such costs. Council requested architect Richard Berry to formulate figures on borough costs for such a project.

Berry's costs, presented to Council early last winter, indicated that the optimum cost to the Borough would be \$36,000. The majority of Council, in informal discussion, registered feelings that the building would have to be demolished for lack of funds. However, Mayor Ted Trumpp and Councilwoman Patricia Kuran supported any effort to save the Carriage House. Kuran was given time to search for alternative sources of funding, and the Council deferred decision.

Following extensive publicity on the fate of the old house, Kuran called a public meeting, attended by residents and representatives of community organizations interested in preservation. Among the suggestions emanating from the meeting was an indication of interest from the Junior League, who hopes to lease the building for a "hands-on" children's museum. The League, in a letter, advised Council they would be interested in a "minimal leasing arrangement" but could not assist in the fund-raising for restoration.

In March, Councilwoman Kuran applied to Green Acres for funding of \$50,000, but has not yet had a reply. Councilwoman Kuran has

Police monitor gasoline lines

"We're hoping it doesn't happen...but if it does, our plans are ready," said Fanwood Police Chief Anthony Parenti, speaking of this possibility of greater gasoline shortages and/or rationing, which would occasion a repeat of the gas lines of 1974. He and Police Chief Michael Rossi indicated that police have already addressed the growing problem of limited station hours, extended lines, etc. and are ready to move in with plans for traffic control and maintenance of peace and order when the need arises.

Chief Rossi's men keep a close watch on crowded gasoline stations now. Citgo at Route 22 and Willow has been operating for the longest hours and apparently pumping the most gas in the area, Rossi notes. Over the last weekend, the station owner

planned to close, and summoned police to effect a peaceful closing, since lines of cars were waiting in line. The closing went smoothly.

Backed up lines are of prime concern to Chief Rossi. During the last "gas crunch" in 1974, the problem area was Pinehurst Avenue, where cars lined up awaiting service at the Route 22 Exxon station. Rossi noted that the street is a narrow one, residential in nature, with many homeowners' cars parked on the street. The lines and the carbon monoxide fumes from the exhausts of the waiting cars mandated barricading of that street to gasoline lines. Such action would be taken again if experience warrants, he said.

During the 1974 crunch, Plantation Shell on Route 22 had the longest lines in Scotch Plains, but the lines

didn't interfere with residential neighborhoods. "It's called selective traffic enforcement," Rossi said, noting that police dictate the direction that the gas lines form.

Scotch Plains police are now conducting weekly surveys of all gasoline stations in town, collecting data on hours the stations are open during the week and on weekends. Through the information collected each week, they'll know where gas is available and stations open, the better to monitor developing traffic situations.

"There's no telling in advance where the gas will be available and the lines the longest. It all depends upon what the individual stations are allocated in supply," Rossi said.

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