

**PLAINS RECREATION IS NOMINATED FOR NATIONAL AWARD**



Charlotte Keenoy, Chairman, Recreation Commission, accepting Award of Merit, 1979 from Mr. Ted Miller, owner of Bowcraft Amusement Park and member of the National Sporting Goods Association.

The Scotch Plains Recreation Commission was nominated for the National Gold Medal Award for excellence in the field of Park and Recreation Management.

This prestigious award has been made to Scotch Plains for the fourth consecutive year. The most current award was made on the basis of preparation of Master Plan, the Policy Manual and the Senior Citizen Programming during 1979.

**PADDLE SEASON BEGINS**

Both paddle courts at the Fanwood-Scotch Plains YM-CA have been resurfaced and are ready for play. The "y" paddlers will kick-off the 1979-80 season on Saturday, September 8, by holding their first Annual Hut Reunion at the courts at 7:30 P.M. This social is an opportunity for old and new members to be involved in a round robin or to just get together. Trophies from the Spring men's tournaments will be awarded. Refreshments will be served at the courts. Reservations can be made by calling Fred Hafer or the YM-CA. The fee is \$2.50 per person, payable at the courts.

Officers for the 1979-80 season are: Fred Hafer, President; Bernie Reilly, Secretary; and Marilyn Frankenbach, Treasurer. Help is needed on various committees; contact one of the above if you can serve.

New members are invited to join our paddle club. For more information call the Y at 889-8880.

**LIBRARY HOSTS YOUNG READERS**



In picture, front, Kristy Salinard and Brian McKee. Rear, Jean Soderberg, Jodi Woitdt, library page, Councilwoman Kuran and Warren Brannon.

On Friday, August 17th, the Fanwood Memorial Library hosted a party for all summer reading club and story hour children, happily ending summer activities at the library. Grace Paltz, Director, welcomed the children and Jean Soderberg, Children's Librarian, introduced Councilwoman Patricia Kuran who conducted the final story hour of the summer.

Warren Brannon, President of the Board of Trustees, presented certificates to children having completed the Build Yourself A Library summer reading club. Punch and cookies for all followed a delightful performance by Carlini - The Magician, who produced bunnies and other wonders to generally astonish his enthralled audience.

The Fanwood Library will resume winter hours after Labor Day. The schedule starting September 4 will include morning hours from 9:30 to 11:30 on Tuesdays, and afternoon hours from 1:30 to 5:00 Monday through Friday. Evening hours will be in effect from 7:00 to 9:00 Mondays through Thursdays, while the library will be open from 10:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. on Saturdays beginning September 8.



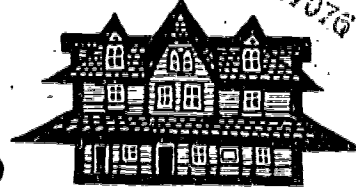
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**SCOTCH PLAINS**

**FANWOOD**



**THE TIMES**

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 1979

20 CENTS

**Local schools open Sept. 5**

**Changes include half-session cutbacks, better athletic fields and roof repairs**

On Wednesday, September 5th, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood public schools will open their doors to receive an estimated 5,200 scholars ready for another school year. The numbers continue to decrease. According to Superintendent of Schools Dr. Robert Howlett, the current year's enrollment will be down approximately 300 from the 1978-79 school year.

In contrast to last year's school opening, when a number of significant problems and complications faced the district, things have run very well this summer, according to Howlett, and the district is geared for a good year and a smooth and uneventful opening. Of course there are problems to be faced; Howlett noted, citing the challenge of a school budget which was reduced from a maintenance level before voter approval last spring, and the problems associated with fuel prices and availability, but in most areas everything is under control.

Among the particularly significant improvements which have been accom-

plished over the summer were attention to the outdoor fields, major roof repairs at Park Junior High and Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, and major paving repairs. "I have been told that the athletic fields are in the best shape they've been in in many years," Howlett commented. Summer has provided the opportunity to attend to all necessary areas of repair and maintenance to the facilities, he said.

While there will be no significant curriculum changes, Dr. Howlett foresees a school year of concentration on improved coordination and development of curriculum. In fact, the administration plans to provide the Board of Education with a systematic plan for review and development of all curricula. The approach will feature a cyclical review, Howlett said, with several academic

disciplines to be reviewed annually, with changes to be implemented where appropriate and new texts recommended. The systemic approach has been developed by Dr. Elena Scambio, the only new administrator on staff this year. Dr. Scambio has replaced Assistant Superintendent for Education, Dr. Perry Tyson, who retired last spring.

In other areas of staffing, Continued on page 3

**Bridge construction alters lifestyle on Raritan Road**

By Sue Amberg

The sign reads - Raritan Road Bridge Closed - Local Traffic Only. Many drivers slow down, speedread the bold black letters and continue on their way. Others stop dead in their tracks, pondering the message and the course of their destination.

The closing of the Raritan Road Bridge on July 2 altered the lifestyle of many commuters, visitors and locals.

This has created an inconvenience to those accustomed to traveling its course, but many of the locals agree that a few months of rerouting is worth the peace and quiet of the now lightly travelled Raritan Road.

"It is so tranquil around here," said Mrs. Joan Amberg of Quimby Lane. "You especially notice it at night with the absence of cars screeching around the bend."

But not for long. The finishing touches, including some landscaping around the area, should be completed sometime during late October, but the bridge may be passable anytime during the next month.

There are three main reasons for the destruction and rebuilding of the 56 year old bridge, according to Frank Petrik, assistant County Engineer.

Contour of the small brook causes the water to build up

without much control. The structure of the old bridge was weakened through the years as water build-up and flooding caused excessive damage. In the event of a heavy rainfall, the water build-up is so quick it often reaches the top of the bridge.

The new structure, with a wide concrete base, has increased its opening for flow from 17 feet to 24 feet. The bank of the creek has been "rip-rapped" with several rocks and stones to shape the flow of the water, protect the slope and discourage build-up.

A third predominant problem posed by the bridge was the sharp bend in the road. The narrow width of the bridge and an abrupt curve has caused many accidents in recent years.

To smooth out the serious curve, the location of the bridge has been moved over

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**Jim Jensen and CBS team play our firemen**

Scotch Plains Fire Department will host Jim Jensen's CBS-TV All Stars in a benefit game for the Charlie Newman Educational Fund.

The softball game for the benefit of Charlie Newman will be held Sunday September 9th, at the Scotch Plains High School field. Game time will be 2:30 P.M.

The game will pit the Fire Department team, unbeaten in F.D. League play in 1979, against Jim Jensen's WCBS-TV All Stars.

Admission price will be \$2.00 for adults, \$1.00 for children under 14 and Senior Citizens. Gates will open at 1 P.M. for ticket sales. Advanced purchases are available at selected businesses throughout town or any Scotch Plains fireman.

In the event of rain, your ticket can be used as a rain check for the next event.

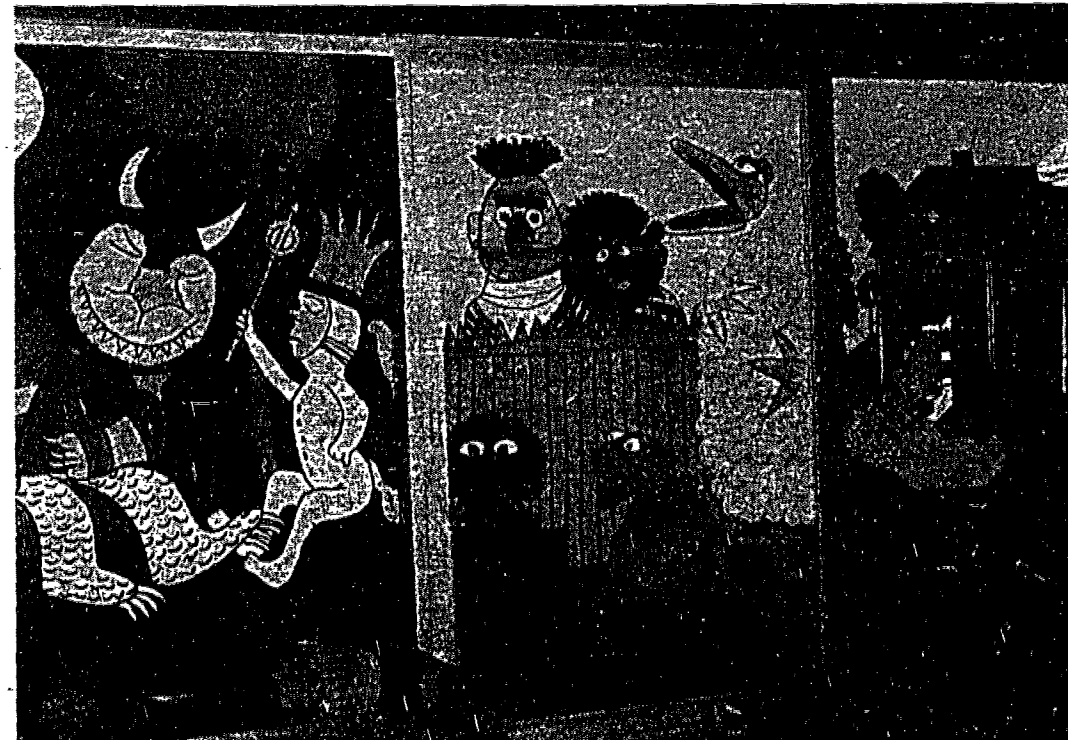
Jim Jensen, Anchorman and correspondent for Channel 2 News, organized his All Star team in 1967 and began playing games for charity in 1971, helping to raise over \$350,000 in the tri-state area.

His team, composed of ex-major league ballplayers; CBS employees and television personalities (Nick Benedict, "All My Children," Sal Mar-

ciano, Sportscaster, and Irv Gikofsky, Weatherman) have a truly outstanding team, with more than 450 wins and only 42 losses since 1967.

Because of limited seating (approximately 600 bleacher seats) please bring a lawn chair so you can relax and watch these stars in comfort.

**New story panels enliven library**



Colorful painted story panels have been created by two Scotch Plains Library employees. See story, page 5. Photo by Reflections.