

PATIENCE PAYS OFF



Fred Merkle won the second Annual Scotch Plains Recreation Fishing Derby, held at Brookside Park. Fred, pictured above, shows how he caught the winning fish, which measured 6½ inches. The N.J. State Fish Hatchery at Hackettstown stocked the pond with sunfish. The Commission Staff who organized and ran the Derby included Vincent Parello, Beth Yotcoski and Albert Nelson.

MIXED UP PLAYERS RAISE \$\$\$\$\$

Mixed up, they were - but successful at money-raising. Last Sunday 40 people played "Mixed Up Doubles" tennis at La Grande Park, as part of the Fanwood Tennis Association's continuing charity drive to benefit Resolve, a local counseling agency for youth. Approximately \$75 was raised. All tennis players and platform players are invited to continue their fund-raising efforts through September 29. Play platform or tennis for an hour in a foursome, contribute \$2 per player. Platform courts may be reserved free by calling the YMCA, 889-8880. Applications for platform or tennis fund-raising games are available at the Martine Avenue YMCA, Fanwood Municipal Building, or Scotch Plains Recreation Commission.

DUMPSTER PROGRAM RESUMES

The popular Scotch Plains dumpster program will resume on Saturday, September 29. The dump site at the Scotch Plains Public Works building on Plainfield Avenue will be open from 8:30 am to 1 pm every Saturday until December 1. What can you bring to the dumpsters? See page 4 for details.

COUNCILWOMEN TO SPEAK

Councilwoman Patricia Kuran of Fanwood will join Westfield Councilwoman Elizabeth List as guest speakers at the first fall meeting of the Women's Political Caucus of Union County. The Councilwoman will detail their experiences in running for office, how it felt to be in office, and what it is like to run for re-election as an incumbent. Have their views changed? Have their goals changed? Are they more party loyalists or do they vote the issues as they see them? These are questions the Council members will be asked to answer. The event is scheduled for Mountainside Inn, Mountainside, on Friday, September 21 at 8:00 pm.

R.N.'S — YOU'RE INVITED

Nurses — have you considered a return to work, but don't know where or how to begin? Runnells Hospital needs you. Nursing at Runnells consists of long-term care, a specialized facet of nursing, for which the hospital will train you.

At Runnells, there is no pediatrics, no obstetrics, no surgery, etc. Instead patients fall within the following categories of nursing care: geriatrics, restorative, alcoholic, mental, hematology-oncology. To acquaint you with the needs and the program at Runnells, nurses are invited to attend a luncheon and discussion session on Wednesday, October 3. The free luncheon, to be held from noon until 3 P.M. will include an introduction to long-term care nursing, discussion with applicants as to types of patients and services the hospital offers, and a tour of the facilities.

"We have a desperate need for R.N.'s to fill full and part-time positions," explained Joan Ritter, an in-service instructor who, with clinical instructor Jean Trumpp, is coordinating the luncheon and recruitment program.

Nursing at Runnells offers unique advantages, the two pointed out. Because it is a long-term care facility, the pace is slower and R.N.'s are able to offer direct care on a one-to-one rewarding basis. While the major need exists in Geriatric care, openings are also available in the Alcohol, Rehab., Psychiatric, Physical Medicine and Oncology units.

A five-and-a-half week refresher seminar will run from October 15 through November 21. It will be conducted for seven hours per day, five days a week, but the schedule is flexible and would be adjusted after interviews with candidates.

Luncheon reservations are requested by September 27. Information may be obtained by telephoning 322-7240, ext. 309, or through the in-service department of the hospital.

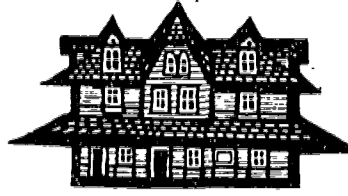


Fall Fashions
Starting on page 10



SCOTCH PLAINS

FANWOOD



THE TIMES

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20 CENTS

Where's Route 22 overpass?

It has been one year since the state Department of Transportation promised to improve the pedestrian crossing situation at Harding Road and Route 22 in Scotch Plains. Municipal officials, members of the Community Improvement section of the Scotch Plains Women's Club, PTA leaders, students and parents turned out at a public hearing a year ago to plead for safety measures, following the death of a teenager.

Although state DOT officials promised a pedestrian

overpass eventually, they also had promised immediate interim measures to avoid pedestrian traffic accidents. Among the promised improvements were a glare screen, a blinking warning light, a barrier and a delaying action to slow the existing light to permit a longer pedestrian crossing time.

To date, none of the improvements have been made. Mrs. Marlana Franklin, for one wants answers. Representing the Women's Club she spearheaded the safety drive. She wrote to Louis Gambac-

cini recently, pointing to the delay and asking for immediate help. "It has already cost the lives of two children from this community. What will it really take to start some action, more deaths?" she asked.

The Township Council has sought a waiver of state DOT requirements for a barrier-free overpass design, since the ramp and other barrier-free aspects of an overpass would add greatly to costs, in both construction and property acquisition for rights of way. DOT estimates of a

barrier-free ramp were set at \$500,000.

In the opinions of local officials, a barrier-free ramp would be hazardous, luring cyclists and skateboarders.

The Council has asked for preparation of a non-barrier free design and for priority listing for 1979.

The Township has sought approval for a "Bailey Pedestrian Bridge" and was informed in January that a public hearing would be the first step toward realization of that goal. However, despite repeated requests for a date for a public hearing, no response has been forthcoming. As recently as Sept. 8, requests for a hearing date continued with available dates forwarded to the DOT, with no response as yet.

Residents win victory over zoning change objection

With over 35 residents in attendance, the Scotch Plains Township Council finally voted to reject a zoning ordinance change which would have changed North Gate Road from an R-1 to an R-2 residential zone. But how did North Gate Road become an R-1 zone in the first place? Discussion of Council and residents took over an hour and traced a long and apparently error-ridden path to the current R-1 designation. Residents of North Gate Road, a cul-de-sac off Martine Avenue near Raritan Road, are apparently not the only Scotch Plains residents who were confused about what residential zone they live in.

According to local officials, North Gate Road was once zoned R-2. Then, in 1976, when the Master Plan and revised zoning map were adopted, the street was redesignated R-1. The residents want to stay R-1, and told the Council so vocally. They were represented by George Perselay, a Westfield attorney, who claimed a mistake or error created R-1. Most homes on North Gate meet the setback, rear yard and side yard requirements of R-1, while many fall a bit shy of the total floor space requirements and many are ten feet short on the frontages, he said. It is an established prime residential area which has existed over 25 years, and residents want to retain the R-1 zoning.

Apparently, the issue came up when Robert Farkas, a patent attorney, purchased a home at the corner of Martine and Raritan. He was told he was buying in an R-2 zone. Since an R-2 zone allows professional offices in a home, he proceeded to create an office in his home. He spent considerable money in setting up the office, sending out mailings, etc., then was notified he was "zoned out of existence." Farkas told

Council and citizens he has no intention of antagonizing the neighborhood and, in fact, isn't overly eager to convert back to R-2 either. However, he will be financially hurt if the area were not rezoned back to R-2, allowing his office. He asked Council to find a means to protect him.

Farkas said only two or three homeowners exceed R-2 limits and belong in R-1 zoning.

Why the residential concern? The residents of the quiet cul-de-sac do not want the traffic and evening office hours which professional offices might bring.

While North Gate and the southern end of Martine were apparently changed from R-2 to R-1, other areas are zoned R-2 to the present. These are areas where residents think they are living in R-1, according to Dr. Marvin Agran of Winding Brook Way. Agran

said he served on the Ad Hoc Committee of the Planning

Where's your head, sir???



The Fanwood Borough Council plans to restore the old Victorian Carriage House on the Stocum property. The Council isn't the only concerned party, however. Interested citizens have also volunteered to help with all the nitty-gritty chores - masonry, glass installation, painting and even plain old broom-yielding. Here, an able-bodied volunteer began to explore the foundation, where he found a hole. He explored further and further, until our photographer captured the headless shot above. Fanwood will receive \$27,000 in Community Development Funds for starters. It'll cover the beginnings - enough to protect the house temporarily - and further restoration will come over a long period. Sign up to help. Call the Municipal Building to register. Take a role in preserving a bit of oldtime Fanwood!

Photo by Reflections