

SCOTCH PLAINS

# THE TIMES



FANWOOD

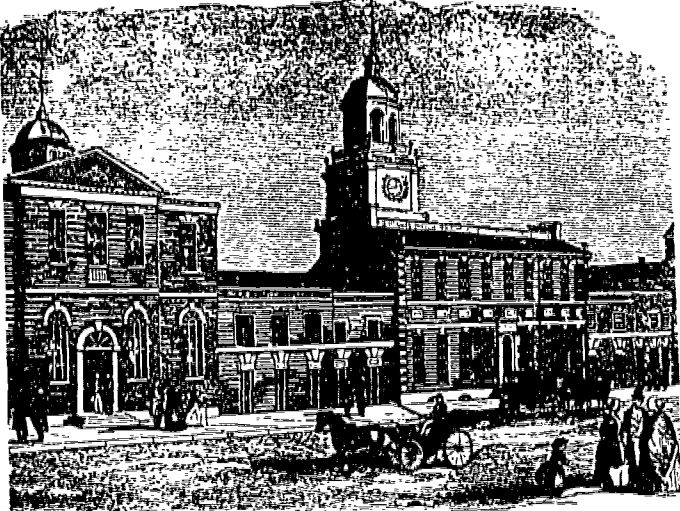
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SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD, N.J.

THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1982

25 CENTS

## \*\*\*\*\* HAPPY 110TH BIRTHDAY CALVIN COOLIDGE \*\*\*\*\*



INDEPENDENCE HALL, PHILADELPHIA

by Harry V. Jaffa

When President Reagan entered the White House, he rearranged the portraits in the Cabinet Room, replacing Thomas Jefferson's with Calvin Coolidge's. But Calvin Coolidge might have been more honored if his portrait had been side by side with that of the author of the Declaration of Independence.

Coolidge, the 110th anniversary of whose birth falls on Independence Day, 1982, is the only president of the United States to have been born on the Fourth of July. This is something seldom remembered, and one wonders whether President Reagan remembered it.

Abraham Lincoln once remarked that "The principles of Jefferson are the definitions and axioms of free society." And, in a speech delivered in Independence Hall, in February of 1861, Lincoln said "that all the political sentiments I entertain have been drawn...from the sentiments which originated and were given to the world from this hall. I have never had a feeling politically that did not spring from the sentiments embodied in the Declaration of Independence." Calvin Coolidge might have said the same thing, as he is the most notable interpreter of the Declaration since Abraham Lincoln.

Indeed Calvin Coolidge's first notable achievement as a young man was when, as a senior at Amherst, he won the gold medal in the Nationwide contest for the best essay on

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### Scotch Plains vs Springfield

JULY 4

Springfield American Legion  
Baseball Tournament Finals  
Ruby Field, Springfield  
10 AM

### TRYOUTS FOR YOUTH TENNIS TEAM SET FOR TUESDAY, JULY 6

The Scotch Plains Recreation Commission announced that tryouts for the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Youth Tennis Team will be held Tuesday, July 6 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Kramer Manor Tennis Courts (off Martine Ave.).

Scotch Plains and Fanwood youths between the ages of 10 and 17 may try out.

### TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS TO HOLD BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC

The Township of Scotch Plains Hypertension (High Blood Pressure) Clinic for Township residents only, will be held on Monday, July 12, in the Scotch Plains Public Library Community Room from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The intent of the clinic is to identify new cases of high blood pressure. Township residents who are over the age of thirty and smoke, or are overweight, or have a family history of heart disease or diabetes and have not had their blood pressure checked recently, are urged to attend.

### MUSIC ON THE VILLAGE GREEN TONIGHT!

July 1, 8 P.M.

Americana Celebration featuring  
THE GLAD RAGS - Fred, Liz, Patty and Chris  
Fischer and their musical friends

Bring lawn chairs or blankets.

Rain Location:

Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School

## Jean Soderberg Day named by Fanwood Library Board

by Liz Gautier

The day was perfect. A breeze was blowing gently under the canopy (set up by the Boy Scouts) where the punch and cookies were served. Over 150 adults and children had stopped by the Fanwood Memorial Library to wish Children's Librarian Jean Soderberg well on the event of her retirement after 25 years behind the desk in the Children's Wing of the Library.

Library Board Chairman Warren Brannon M.C.'d the program part of the afternoon and read a letter from Fanwood Mayor Ted Trumpp who was unable to attend the party. Library Director Bruce Buckmaster spoke, as did Councilman Loren Hollembaek, a member of the library Board of Trustees.

Fanwood Councilwoman Pat Kuran read a resolution, from the library Board of Trustees, which will be read at the July 14 meeting of the Fanwood Council, recognizing Mrs. Soderberg's service and devotion to the library.

Old friends and associates stopped by, notably former library directors Olive Harris and Grace Paltz. Also Helen Wallis, retired library substitute, joined the crowd and present Children's Librarian Claire Martin dropped in to toast the party girl.

A native of Boston, Jean earned her bachelor's degree at Boston University and her master's in library science at Rutgers. Before her library career, Jean worked at the Red Cross in Boston. In between her jobs, she and husband Art parented three boys and a daughter who, as Mrs.



Party girl Jean Soderberg is surrounded by young readers who came to share the cookies and punch with her at her "graduation" party. Left to right: Jennie Lorber, Theresa Norfleet, guest of honor Jean Soderberg, Stephanie Norfleet, Lisa Brown, Lisa Morris and Kc.in Brown.

Appelquist, presented Art and Jean with three grand-children...two boys and a girl. And so it was on Sunday, June 27, 1982...a day that the Fanwood library would declare "Jean Soderberg Day" and a day when a lot of people cared enough to give

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## No decision by council on Albert Farm division

by Sheela Peace Zipern

Scotch Plains Township Council members had a busy Tuesday night as they held a special session to hear agreements, applications and appeals.

The first item on the agenda was consideration to authorize the Mayor and Township Clerk to enter into

an agreement with New Jersey Transit for the installation of two bus shelters on Park and Mountain Aves. and Mountain Ave. and William St. The motion was carried unanimously with plans for installation to be completed by the end of summer.

The second topic for

discussion was the application for renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption License of Riffy's East, Inc. at 1785 Front Street. John DeNoia, the attorney representing Riffy's, stated that his client would attempt to "meet the criteria of the town and be a good neighbor". Since

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## Battle of Second St. waged over trolley

by Jacqueline Ostberg

Not many Scotch Plains residents have heard about "The Battle of East Second Street"...a battle which took

place at the turn of the century on the border of Scotch Plains and Plainfield. The battle ensued when J.K. Van Ness, a wealthy landowner, refused to allow the Plainfield Trolley company right-of-way over his property.

In 1899 the only means of transportation between Plainfield and Scotch Plains was by horse and carriage, bicycle or by foot. A trolley line ran through Plainfield extending to Richmond. The eastern sement of the trolley ran along Second Street in Scotch Plains to Leland Avenue. Beyond Leland was nothing but farmland over which the trolley line would have to run in order to connect the two sections. One of the owners of that farm land was a Mr. Van Ness (called the Count) who for many years lived in a palatial house on East Front Street near Raymond Avenue. After a fire destroyed his mansion, he and his wife lived in a

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On Sept. 14, 1935, the last trolley ran in Scotch Plains. Picture shows trolley on its route, known as Union Line 2249. On the left was the baseball field and on the right a cornfield where the post office was later located. View is looking west from the corner of Park Avenue and Second Street.