

SCOTCH PLAINS

THE TIMES



FANWOOD

VOLUME 25 - NUMBER 32

SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD, N.J.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 1982

25 CENTS



On Thursday, August 5 the younger set showed their cooking talents with the Annual Baking Contest at LaGrande Park. Winners are (1st row, l. to r.) Sharon Swetitis, Jocelyn Barbier, Debbie Jung, Kim Wilde. (Back row, l. to r.) Stephanie Swetitis, Diane Jung, Jennifer Grover, Brian Wilde and Missy Formato.



Greenside's activities, including carom pool, last week.

FANWOOD REP. CLUB TO HOLD FLEA MARKET

The Fanwood Republican Club will hold a Flea Market on August 14 at the Northside of the Fanwood Train Station.

Many dealers and great bargains will be the order of the day. Republican Club President Mike Brown has announced that the Club will be sponsoring a Bake Sale in addition to serving their Fanwood Franks for lunch.

The Flea Market will be open to the public from 9 am to 4 pm. Come sample some Republican baked goods and explore the bountiful bargain bazaar.

FANWOOD DEM. COMMITTEE TO SPONSOR FLEA MARKET

The Fanwood Democratic Committee will hold their Flea Market on August 21st, at the Northside of the Fanwood train station.

Anticipated are a large group of dealers with an assortment of merchandise to have "something for everyone". Refreshments will be available.

Make an effort to join us on Saturday, August 21, 1982. This market is open to the public from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Raindate, if needed, is Sunday, August 22, 1982.

AMUSEMENT PARK DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR RESIDENTS

The Scotch Plains Recreation Commission would like to inform local residents that the Commission still has discount tickets available for Action Park, Great Adventure, and Sesame Place.

These tickets, which are good for the entire season, can be purchased at the Recreation office Monday thru Friday, 9:00 - 4:30.

Ticket prices are:

\$10.00 for Vernon Valley Action Park (regularly \$14.00)

\$11.50 for Great Adventure (regularly \$14.95)

\$ 5.95 for Sesame Place (regularly \$6.95)

Anyone wishing more information can contact the Recreation office at 322-6700, ext. 29 or 30.

Fanwood architect designs Westfield Men's shop



Artist's rendering of a new Tony Dennis Men's Shop location. Situated at the corner of E. Broad Street and Central Avenue, the building's exterior is being redesigned by Richard Berry of Fanwood, who has been instrumental in characterizing the "face" of Westfield.

Fan. DRC previews plan for new central business district

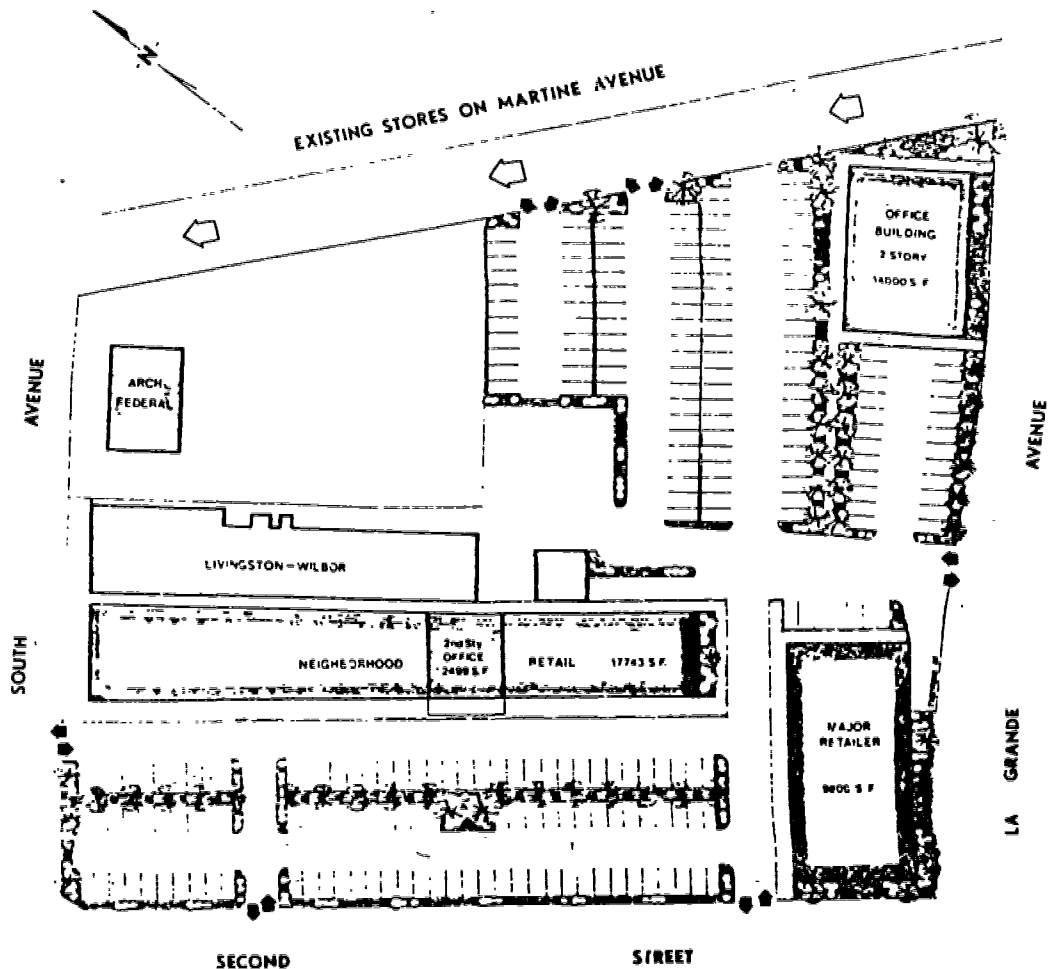
by Liz Gautier

Fred Michaeli, president of Planners Diversified of Summit, talked to the members of the the Downtown Redevelopment Committee last Tuesday night. "If the borough applies for, and receives, \$500,000 for an Urban Development Assistance Grant (UDAG) plus an additional \$150,000 from Union County Community Development Revenue Sharing Committee (UCCDRS), there should be sufficient funds to enable the borough to acquire the land, relocate the businesses and to demolish the buildings," Michaeli advised. "The actual groundbreaking, tentatively set for April, 1983, should be right on schedule."

Michaeli's firm was retained by the borough in January, 1982, as the borough's planning consultant on the Downtown Redevelopment Project.

Project Director Dan Mason outlined the progress of the program to date and the committee approved the expenditure of \$83,400 in HUD funds as follows: \$60,000 for land acquisition, \$17,400 for relocation of present businesses, \$4,000 for

Please turn to page 4



Artist's rendition of the proposed Downtown Redevelopment Project for the Borough of Fanwood. Present plans call for approximately 16,500 sq. ft. of office space, approximately 18,000 sq. ft. for retail stores and another 9,800 sq. ft. for a major retailer (large chain store, for example.)

Planning Board members grilled at firehouse trial

by Liz Gautier

Two witnesses shared the spotlight in the second day of the Fanwood "Firehouse Appeal Trial" before Superior Court Judge Milton A. Feller in Elizabeth on Thursday, August 5.

Former Planning Board Chairman Robert Thayer fielded questions from three attorneys regarding his participation in the approval of the proposed firehouse site plan and conditional use application which the Board approved Dec. 8, 1982.

Much of the questioning concerned the legality of the Board's approval of the site plan. Robert Mulvee, attorney for the Fanwood Junior Woman's Club, asked Thayer if he expressed approval of the site plan of August 17, 1982 (the Board's first meeting on the plan) and Thayer replied, "I might well have...I don't remember."

Judge Feller then asked Thayer when he decided to disqualify himself from voting, then or previously. Thayer commented, "When I knew I lived within 200 feet of the firehouse it was brought to my attention by Mr. Brandt (attorney for the Planning Board) or Mr. Otis (Planning Board member)

that I should not be discussing it. It made no impact on me as a homeowner. The ordinance says that anyone within 200 feet can't vote."

Attorney for the neighbors who are filing an appeal, Robert Kraus, asked Thayer if the driveway for the firehouse addition was placed on Russell Road, would it have any impact on his property? Thayer responded, "None whatsoever."

Councilwoman Patricia Kuran, acting as her own attorney, then questioned Thayer whether or not he had ever done a capital projects review, and Thayer answered that he didn't remember...he didn't think so.

Planning Board Attorney Charles Brandt asked Thayer what effect the firehouse had on him at his Russell Road address, "Are you aware anything is going on?"

Thayer said, "Yes, the fire siren goes off every day at 6 o'clock...the firemen drain hoses...we know when they have their picnic (on the municipal grounds). We get plowed out first in the winter because of the firehouse." He again spoke against the driveway for the proposed firehouse exiting on Russell Road. "The flow of traffic is greater and faster on that

street, thus making a greater hazard than on Watson Road."

On the cross examination Kraus asked Thayer what the speed limit was on Watson Road and Russell Road and Thayer replied, "It's the same...25 miles per hour." Brandt then introduced a series of photos into evidence that were taken by Chief of Police Anthony Parenti and his staff. The purpose of the

photos was to ascertain that there was adequate visibility of egress from Watson Road from the viewpoint of pedestrians and drivers of fire vehicles.

Planning Board member Joel Whitaker, the next witness, was questioned by Mulvee as to what he recalled from the December 8 meeting. Whitaker replied that Otis, Kuran and Thayer disqualified themselves from voting. Mulvee then inquired, "What is the basis for your approval of the site plan application?" Whitaker answered, "The borough had

Please turn to page 3

Concert In Review

HOME TOWN KID MAKES IT - IN SPADES - ON THE VILLAGE GREEN

by Liz Gautier

"If they could see me now...that little gang of mine..." sang Larry Stuart for his second number last Thursday night for the final "Music on the Village Green" concert. And if that gang had been there, they would have seen Larry bring an overflow crowd to its feet in a wild tribute to Scotch Plains native son who unabashedly declared his love for the town and the people in it.

The concert, starting a half-hour late due to late afternoon torrential rains, drew the largest crowd in the Cultural Arts Committee's excellent free program series.

There wasn't a square inch of sitting space on the grass, and

Please turn to page 5

