



SCOTCH PLAINS

# THE TIMES



FANWOOD

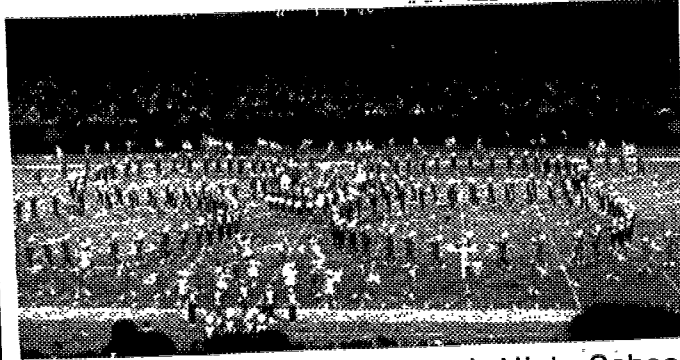
VOLUME 28 - NUMBER 10

SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD, N.J.

MARCH 7, 1985

25 CENTS

## RAIDER MARCHING BAND TO PERFORM AT THE MEADOWLANDS



The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Raider Marching Band has been invited to perform for the half-time show at the New Jersey Generals game on Sunday, March 10. The band previously played for a Giants game in October, and due to tremendous public response they have been invited to once again appear in the stadium.

## IT'S GIRL SCOUT COOKIE TIME

The Girl Scout Spring Cookie sale began March 2. Local girls will continue to ring doorbells and take orders through March 17 as part of the largest fund raising event for Girl Scouting. Deliveries will be made April 15-28. Cookies are \$2.00 per package, \$1.26 of which represents a contribution in support of Girl Scout troop activities, Council services and camp development.

## TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS TO HOLD BP CLINIC

The Township of Scotch Plains will hold the monthly Hypertension (High Blood Pressure) Screening Clinic on March 13. The Clinic will be held in the Scotch Plains Public Library Community Room from 4:00 P.M. and is free. The intent of the clinic is to identify new cases of High Blood Pressure.

## MCGINN SCHOOL HOLDS KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Registration forms for children entering kindergarten next September are available in the McGinn School Office. Parents are encouraged to complete initial registration forms by March 15th. To be eligible for admission to kindergarten in the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools next September, your child must be five years of age prior to December 1, 1985.

## SOCCER ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES TRYOUTS

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Soccer Association has announced tryouts for all Intercity teams for birth years 1971 to 1976, Divisions III, IV, and V. Openings are available on each team. The tryouts will be Saturday, March 9, at 9:00 at School 1.

## FANWOOD PLANNING BOARD HIGHLIGHTED ON TV-3

Planning Board Chairman Joel Whitaker and Board Member Maryanne Connelly appear as guests of Mayor Patricia Kuran on "Fanwood Facts", Suburban Cable Channel 3, on Friday, March 8 at 8:30 p.m. The program will be repeated on Friday, March 15 at 8:30 p.m. Chairman Whitaker explains the role of the Planning Board, how it differs from the Board of Adjustment and the revision of the Master Plan for the Borough which is now underway. Board Member Connelly discusses her dual role as member of both the Planning Board and the Environmental Commission and why such representation is necessary.

## Det. Carl Sicola becomes first juvenile officer in S.P.

Detective Carl Sicola, a 16-year veteran of the Scotch Plains Police Department, became the department's first juvenile officer on Monday, March 4.

"The formalization of the full-time position was an apparent need in the community with many parents working, leaving children unattended, and the increase in drug and alcohol abuse," said Police Chief Robert Luce.

On the average the township handles 10-30 juvenile complaints a month. Sicola was chosen for this position due to the excellent rapport with township youngsters.

For the past several years he has worked with the Delphi team, which acts as a liaison among police, school officials and adults, and the adopt-a-cop program, in which a

police officer visits elementary schools. Both of these programs have been cited for excellence by Union County Prosecutor John H. Stamler.

"Scotch Plains has needed a juvenile officer for a long time. I enjoy working with children and very happy I was selected," said Sicola.

"We're talking about a preventive position and we'll design programs to enable better supervision," said Chief Luce.

Sicola will supervise the department's contract systems for youngsters in trouble. Instead of visiting Family Court, in Elizabeth, juveniles are given hours of community service such as washing police cars. A lifelong Scotch Plains resident and Vietnam veteran, Carl Sicola is married and the father of two children.



Newly appointed juvenile officer Carl Sicola.

## Mt. Laurel Housing suit instituted against S.P.

### STATEMENT BY MAYOR SPERA

Mayor Gabe Spera announced that a Mt. Laurel II Housing suit has been instituted against the Township of Scotch Plains. The court suit, started by a group known as Landmark Realty Inc., and the Estate of Maybelle Albert, has asked the Court to declare the Township ordinances of Scotch Plains invalid as they relate to zoning for residential use. In effect, this suit is requesting that the Court force the Township of Scotch Plains to rezone a farm known as the Albert's Farm located on Rahway Road, so as to allow low- and moderate-income multifamily housing.

This suit now becomes one of over 100 law suits instituted in communities throughout the State of New Jersey, based upon the Supreme Court case which has been known as the Mt. Laurel II decision. "I am appalled and puzzled by the institution of this action against Scotch Plains", stated Mayor Spera.

"Scotch Plains is a residential community containing many different types of residential houses, including apartments, condominiums, houses on 50' by 100' lots, two-family houses and houses on as much as one acre of property. Over the years, the Township of Scotch Plains' residents have offered a variety of housing, from low-

priced to extremely high-priced homes, as well as many rental units."

"We believe we have met the Mt. Laurel obligation by our past practices, and we believe that the present law suit is unfounded and flies directly in the fact of sound planning", said Mayor Spera.

"Scotch Plains has never been a community that has been accused of 'exclusionary zoning'. In fact, since the first Mt. Laurel decision, numerous condominiums and apartments have been built and other private developers have plans in process."

"Nor does Scotch Plains contain the desirable commercial and industrial tax rates that other communities enjoy in the surrounding area, while at the same time, continuing to zone out multi-family residences as well as high density lots."

"If the Court were to agree with the Plaintiff in this case, the Township could suffer financial strains in its most crucial areas of fire, police and road maintenance."

"In addition, the property in question is extremely sensitive from an environmental standpoint, and extensive development would cause further damage to the surrounding area in this regard."

"I condemn this law suit and point out the Please turn to page 5

## U.C. Monitors to visit Scotch Plains-Fan. schools

Union County Gagliardi, Union County Superintendent of Schools, will determine whether there are well based programs in the district. If a school district fails the evaluation, that district would be checked more frequently than the mandated five years to see if the problem has been corrected.

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Robert J. Howlett, commented "Scotch Plains-Fanwood Schools have never been better and I look forward to the observations of the monitoring team."

## DOG LICENSES OVERDUE IN SCOTCH PLAINS

Dog licenses are now overdue in Scotch Plains. Licenses are available at the Township Clerk's office, Park Avenue, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

A veterinarian certificate proof of rabies shot must be presented at the time a license is issued, so everyone is urged to bring this with them in order to avoid having to make a second trip.

Licenses may be purchased through the mail. Fee is \$9.20 for unneutered, \$6.20 for spayed or neutered. Send check to Township Clerk's office, Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, N.J. 07076.