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BIDS RECEIVED FOR S.P. TRAFFIC LIGHTS

Union County Freeholder Walter E. Boright, of Scotch Plains, today announced that bids have been received for the long awaited traffic lights for two key intersections in Scotch Plains.

"These intersections", noted Freeholder Boright "are Cooper and Terrill Roads and Mountain Avenue with Westfield Road. These projects have been a long time in coming and the receipt of these bids for the two traffic lights, brings the two projects that much closer in reality."

"Construction should begin August, 1985 with completion some time around April, 1986, if weather and other conditions remain favorable" concluded Freeholder Boright.



MONTHLY BP CLINIC TO BE HELD JULY 10

The Township of Scotch Plains will hold the monthly Hypertension (High Blood Pressure) Screening Clinic on Wednesday, July 10. The Clinic will be held in the Scotch Plains Public Library's Community Room from 4:00 - 7:00 P.M. and is free.

The intent of the clinic is to identify new cases of High Blood Pressure. Those persons 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.



DMV HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

All offices and field facilities of the New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicles will be closed on the 4th of July, Acting Director Robert S. Kline announced.

For the convenience of motorists, all inspection stations, driver testing centers and motor vehicle agencies will be open on Friday, July 5, he said. DMV Headquarters in Trenton will remain closed, however.



JULY 4TH SALUTE



Planner & Senator speak to residents on Mt. Laurel issue

by Sharon Pachler

"There is no Builders Remedy standing now; the township is in control," stated Richard Coppola at last week's historical and legislative presentation of the Mt. Laurel issue. This meeting, where 140 residents and township officials gathered to hear professional planner Coppola and Senator Donald DiFrancesco speak, took place following the June 24 Senate vote approving Governor Kean's conditional veto of the proposed housing bill and one day prior to the State Assembly's vote to support the governor's recommendations.

Coppola's chronologic review included the original, very general, 1975 ruling that said every municipality had to absorb some of the responsibility for affordable housing up to January 1983's definitive Mt. Laurel II decision that dictated where, when, and how towns were to comply with orders to erect low and moderate income housing.

His comprehensive

explanation detailed the State Development Guide Plan, which has been used to determine where growth should occur but which "was never earmarked as a blueprint for housing obligations throughout the state." An area designated for growth by the S.D.G.P., such as Scotch Plains, "had a regional obligation to provide (affordable) housing."

Also clarified was the concept of the 'Builders Remedy'; an incentive offered to a developer wherein he could construct four higher cost units for every low-moderate income unit he builds. A developer was given this status if he helped bring a municipality into compliance with Mt. Laurel II.

Coppola was hired to assist the township in responsibly planning the use of its land. A base map is currently being drafted which will "outline the existing conditions in the township and its' capacity to absorb future growth." Data gathering will include community facilities and traffic circulation analyses and trends in

employment and population growth. The studies will culminate in a land use plan which becomes a zoning map and part of a Master Plan document.

The potential for increased taxes was of concern to residents. According to Coppola, the tax impact on a township is based primarily on school costs. In his experience, "Mt. Laurel developments have

generated a very low percentage of children in the neighborhood of .1 or .2 child per unit. In Scotch Plains, the impact from a tax viewpoint should not be dramatic...If there was sound development...there could even be a tax dividend to the town."

At the legislative end, Senator DiFrancesco explained Governor Kean's Please turn to page 3

The Glad Rags return to the Village Green July 11



The Glad Rags return to the Village Green Seville Stage, in Scotch Plains, on Thursday, July 11th at 8 P.M. The Glad Rags play upbeat Ragtime music featuring Fred, Patty, Liz and Chris Fischer.

This performance will be sponsored by Scotch Plains-Fanwood Service League.

The audience is encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets.

All Cultural Arts programs are free to the public and will be held every Thursday on the Village Green next to the Municipal Building on Park Avenue. The season will continue throughout the summer. Several programs are still in need of financial support.

Master of Ceremonies for all performances will be Walter Schonwald.

Persons wishing to lend financial assistance should contact Chairwoman Maria Sartor or phone 322-2022. For further information concerning any performance call 757-1885.

The theme of this year's cultural series "A Community Together" is bolstered by yet another performance of Scotch Plains native talent, in the "Glad Rags".

The July 18th Village Green performance features "Chuck Bower and the Star Dusters" along with the "The Dancing Squares".

Fan. condo proposal rejected by 5-2 vote

A request by Robert Rau, Jr. and Ernest DiFrancesco, Jr. for a special use variance to construct 24 condominium units at Third and LaGrande has been turned down. The application, which was filed with the Fanwood Board of Adjustment, was rejected by a vote of 5-2.

The decision was made following many months of expert testimony on both the positive and negative aspects of condominium development in the area. Under this type of variance, the applicant must show special justification for construction. "The Board felt that the reasons offered (in favor of development) weren't compelling enough,"

said Board member L. Monson during a telephone interview. "It would be a detriment to the public good...and would impair the zoning ordinance.

Monson also stated that research presented by Police Chief Anthony Parenti during a previous meeting was an important factor in the outcome of the condominium hearings. Parenti had remarked on the potential parking problems and that Third is already a heavily travelled street. Whether Fanwood had adequate police power to protect the increased number of pedestrians was also a concern.

DiFrancesco declined to comment on the proceedings that evening.