



SCOTCH PLAINS

THE TIMES



FANWOOD

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SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD, N.J.

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LOCAL LEADERS REVIEW S.P. DOWNTOWN BUSINESS DISTRICT



Assemblyman Bob Franks (right), who represents Scotch Plains in the New Jersey Assembly, reviews with Mayor Gabe Spera and Downtown Vitalization Chairwoman Alice Agran the improvements that will be made in the downtown business district. Assemblyman Franks sponsored an appropriations resolution, which was included in the Fiscal Year 1986 State Budget that grants Scotch Plains \$200,000 to revitalize the downtown area.

COMING NEXT WEEK SCOTCH PLAINS SIDEWALK SALES AUGUST 1, 2, & 3

Bargains galore, Strolling Minstrels, Free Concert on the Village Green, Free Puppet Show, Free Balloons and Giant Flea Market.

TRIP PLANNED BY SCOTCH PLAINS RECREATION

On Monday, July 29th, the Scotch Plains Recreation Commission is sponsoring a trip to Island Beach (Seaside). The bus will leave the Municipal Building Parking Lot at 9 a.m. and return at 5 p.m. Cost per child (ages 6-14) will be \$2.00. Registration may be made at the park or playground near the child's home, or in the Recreation Office. Deadline for registration is July 25th.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN THE TIMES?

If you have any ideas for features, columns or information you would like to see in future issues of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood TIMES, send your suggestions to THE TIMES, 1600 E. Second St., Scotch Plains, NJ 07076. We will appreciate and consider your thoughts.

CRAZY T-SHIRT CONTEST AT BROOKSIDE PARK



Contestants and Counselor Norma Garner pictured at Brookside Park's Crazy (Backward) T-Shirt Contest. For more Playground Activities see pages 6 and 14.

Downtown planters enhance Fanwood's business district

Downtown Fanwood is looking brighter and better than ever, thanks to the combined efforts of the Fanwood Beautification Committee and several local service organizations.

Planters filled with red geraniums and white petunias appear along Martine Avenue and South Avenue. The flowers and wooden planters were purchased with money donated by the Fanwood Junior Women's Club and the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Jaycees.

The planters were the first project of the committee, which was created by Fanwood Mayor Patricia Kuran last spring. The committee got underway by sending letters to local service groups asking for contributions and volunteers.

"Local organizations have already responded encouragingly," said Rebecca Perkins, chairman of the committee. "The Senior Citizens, the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Woman's Club, and the Junior Women's Club all have representatives on the committee."

"In addition to the

money received from the Jaycees and the Junior Women, the College Club has donated money and the Woman's Club has pledged money for a fall project."

Future plans include purchasing flags & metal holders for the downtown area and cleaning & planting the area behind the tennis courts at LaGrande Park.

Fundraising will also be discussed, since, as Perkins noted, the committee receives no funding from the borough. "Since future projects depend largely upon how much money we have to work with, we need to broaden our base for fundraising," she said. "Contributions from the civic groups are wonderful, but we'd like to give everyone in Fanwood a chance to become involved in funding these projects, since they'll all benefit from them."

Perkins noted that membership on the committee is open, and that any interested Fanwood resident is welcome. Meetings will resume in September, and anyone interested should contact her at



Burgdorff Realtors' sales reps Connie Burke, Doris Kopil, and Judy Schuman take an afternoon break to admire Fanwood's new planters. 889-7957.

and we're fortunate to have many people with residential community, Please turn to page 15

Rev. Johnson accepts position in Pittsburgh

The Reverend Bernard Eric Johnson, Senior Pastor of Fanwood Presbyterian Church since 1980, has accepted the position of Senior Pastor of the Mount Lebanon United Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh. He will assume his duties as head of staff of the 1,200 member congregation in August. He will become the tenth Senior Pastor of the 181-year-old congregation. Historically, Mt. Lebanon Church has been noted for its support of world mission and a strong local ministry.

While in Fanwood, Bernie Johnson initiated or expanded such diverse programs as divorce recovery workshops, family life and marriage encounter groups, junior high youth club and a ministry to older adults. His Bare Bones Bible studies and "Come Catch the Spirit" weekend involved the local congregation.

Under his leadership,

and with enlarged staff, the Fanwood Church Foundation was expanded, handling dedicated gifts for such projects as office renovation, ramp installation, new Bibles for youth and adults, and sponsorship of a Hispanic seminary student.

Active in the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Ministerial Association, Rev. Johnson was a member of Elizabeth Presbytery, serving on several boards, notably the permanent commission of Worship and Spiritual Enrichment. He was a training consultant for Contact Teleministries, Fox Valley Child Guidance Seminars, Faith at Work Leadership Training Institutes, and frequently headed leadership training retreats for clergy and laity of other churches.

Mr. Johnson's family includes his wife, Patricia, who worked in the Scotch Plains-Fanwood school system, son Grant, 13, and daughter, Emily, 9.

S.P. Sale Days set for August 1, 2 & 3

A festive atmosphere with ballons and special events will be on tap as the Scotch Plains Chamber of Commerce hold their Annual Sidewalk Sale through East Second Street.

While the atmosphere is street fair, the community theme is evident.

When the Sidewalk Sales begin on Thursday, at 9:00 a.m., participating merchants from Park Avenue through East Second Street will have a huge variety of selected merchandise for sale at fantastic bargains.

Myra's Amazing Puppets will be special visitors as the Chamber of Commerce Sponsors

Kids Day on Thursday afternoon. In addition, the Store Minstrels will be touring the entire business district from Park Avenue through East Second Street.

In the evening, at 8:00 P.M., Reed, Rhythm and All that Brass, will be performing a free concert on the Village Green. Many stores will remain open until the concert begins.

The highlight Saturday will be a gigantic Flea Market in the Municipal Building Parking Lot, sponsored by the Scotch Plains Lions Club.

Invite your friends and go to the Scotch Plains Sidewalk Sales.