



SCOTCH PLAINS

THE TIMES



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JANUARY 2, 1986

25 CENTS

TROOP 203 TO SPONSOR PAPER DRIVE

Boy Scout Troop 203 will start their 1986 series of paper drives on Saturday, January 4. The drive will be held at St. Bartholomew's church, rear parking lot, 2032 Westfield Avenue, Scotch Plains between 8 AM and 2 PM.

Proceeds of these drives help offset costs of campouts and equipment to aid in the boys' growth and advancement in scouting.

Your donations of old newspaper and aluminum will be deeply appreciated.

"NEW YEAR'S BLOOD DRIVE"

In an effort to bolster blood supplies depleted during the holidays, Ann Henry from the Plainfield Red Cross, announced that the Red Cross has slated a community blood drive during the first week of January. Cosponsored by New Jersey Blood Services, the drive will be open to the public.

On Thursday, January 2, the Willow Grove Presbyterian Church, located at 1961 Raritan Road in Scotch Plains, will host a blood drive from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Anyone between the ages of 17 and 66, weighing at least 110 pounds and in good health can donate blood. Seventeen year olds require written parental or guardian consent. For further information, please call the Plainfield Area Red Cross at 756-6414.

LAST CALL FOR WINTER '86 ADULT SCHOOL COURSES

A Real Estate Licensing course by Weichert Realtors and a Slenderizer program by Martie of New You will begin on Monday, January 6, as part of the Winter Inter-session of Scotch Plains-Fanwood Adult School.

Interested individuals are urged to call 889-7718 immediately regarding course descriptions and registration information.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

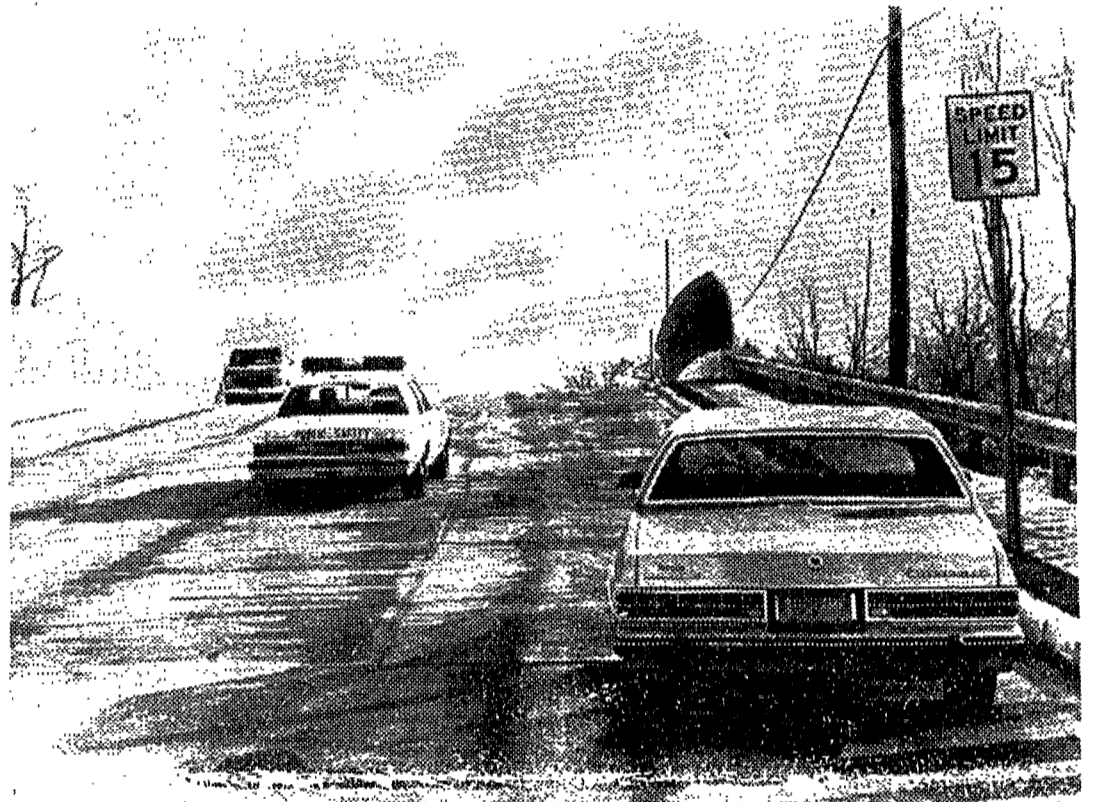


Terrill Road Bridge opens in time for Christmas holiday

Terrill Road Bridge is located on the Fanwood-Plainfield border but local roads in Fanwood have borne a heavy burden of increased traffic since the bridge was closed a year ago. For that reason, Fanwood Mayor Patricia Kuran described the opening of the new bridge as "a Christmas present for the Borough."

The new \$1.8 million dollar bridge is twice the width of the old bridge with four lanes of road bed and pedestrian walkways on both sides. A quest of the striping of the northern approach along Terrill Road remains to be resolved since Fanwood did not agree to four lanes of vehicular traffic, but there was a collective sigh of relief from Borough officials that the bridge is finally open.

Originally a grade level crossing, the first bridge at the site was built in 1899. The first bridge, a wooden structure, was replaced with steel and concrete bridge in 1925 which was widened in 1956. "Terrill Road Bridge is falling down, falling down..." became a theme song for



local officials two years ago when plans to replace the deteriorating structure apparently bogged down. While the bridge itself was not likely to fall down, chunks of concrete from the road bed fell to the tracks below with increasing frequency. By the direct order of Fanwood Chief of Police Anthony Parenti the bridge was

closed numerous times during 1984 awaiting temporary repairs. No fewer than 18 steel plates covered the old roadway, presenting considerable hazard to vehicular traffic in wet weather and the crumbling pedestrian walkway was a challenge

even to the quick and limber.

Parenti also played a key role in having the new bridge opened to traffic on Christmas Eve. He noted that when it was obvious that all work had been completed, a phone call was made to the Borough Engineer. Please turn to page 7

"First a friend, then a host" advises AAA Club

"Alcohol is a factor in more than half of all fatal accidents - a sobering fact that all motorists should keep in mind this holiday season," says Matthew J. Derham, president of the AAA New Jersey Automobile Club.

Because the holidays are traditionally times of celebration, some of which involve alcohol, the Florham Park-based AAA-affiliate recommends that you be "First a Friend, Then a Host."

The AAA "First a Friend, Then a Host" program fosters awareness about the responsibility party hosts have to make sure their guests' ability to drive home is not impaired. A host can do this by following these few, simple rules when mixing fun and alcohol:

Serve the first drink yourself, if you wish, but let the guests be their own bartender after that. Studies show that people

tend to consume less when they mix their own.

Provide plenty of non-alcoholic beverages as an alternative.

Serve snacks throughout the evening. Food, starchy foods in particular, slows down the rate at which alcohol is absorbed into the bloodstream.

Plan activities that draw attention away from the bar.

Close the bar about an hour before the party ends and serve coffee as your "one for the road." The coffee won't necessarily help to sober anyone, but it will buy time which does clear heads.

As the host take it easy yourself and set a good example.

If for all your good intentions there is still a tipsy guest, arrange for a ride home or invite the guest to stay over. Your role as a friend before that of a host could prove life-saving.

Plains Council O.K.'s street improvements

by Sharon Pachler

The potential for increased tax assessments brought several concerned Scotch Plains residents to the final public meeting of 1985 last Tuesday night. The evening's agenda included an ordinance authorizing road and sewer improvements in School Place. Although assembled residents requested an approximation of the added fees, Township Manager Tom Atkins stated that bids must be received before costs can be calculated. "One third of construction costs will be funded from the budget," said Atkins. That, plus the probability of engineering the project in-house, will assist in keeping charges to a minimum.

Another road and sewer project approved by Council that evening will take place on King Street. \$150,000 of the total cost will be funded by the Department of Transportation and construction is expected to begin in the

Spring.

Deputy Mayor Joan Papen, as liaison to the Board of Education, announced the Board's plan to auction off Shackamaxon School. Bids on the property and school will start at 1.5 million, the school and front of the property at 1.2 million, or the four back lots at a minimum bid of \$300,000. The auction date has not been scheduled.

Scout Scott C. Jackson was honored for attaining the rank of Eagle Scout. "Setting an example for both youth and adults" alike, Jackson had demonstrated proficiency in many fields and showed great concern for hunger throughout the world by raising money for those in need locally.

Mayor Gabriel Spera closed the evening by announcing the January 1, 1986 Reorganization Meeting. Ceremonies begin at 1 p.m. in Council Chambers and all residents are invited to attend.