



SCOTCH PLAINS

THE TIMES



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OXYGEN EQUIPMENT PRESENTED TO FANWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT



Captain Hope Walton, Fanwood Rescue Squad, presents new oxygen equipment to Chief Anthony Parenti and Patrolman Domanoski of the Fanwood Police Department.

The new equipment includes three new Oxycaddys, which protect oxygen cylinders from damage during use and make carrying much easier and a complete oxygen set-up with regulator. Each police vehicle in Fanwood will carry this equipment.

The Fanwood Rescue Squad is an all-volunteer organization serving the residents of Fanwood 24-hours a day.

BE A BLOOD BUDDY!

In cooperation with the Plainfield Red Chapter of the American Red Cross and New Jersey Blood Services, the Fanwood Rescue Squad will sponsor a blood drive on Tuesday, July 29, from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Rescue Squad Building, 120 Watson Road, Fanwood.

Anyone between the ages of 17 and 66, weighing at least 110 pounds and in good health, can donate blood. Seventeen year olds require the written consent of parent or guardian. Donors over the age of 65, must have donated previously, be in good health, and meet the medical requirements of a New Jersey Blood Services physician.

Each donor receives a mini-physical in which temperature, pulse, blood pressure and hemoglobin count are taken. The single pint of blood donated may be used, after processing to treat as many as five patients.

For further information, please call the Plainfield Red Cross at 756-6414.

JAYCEES TO SPONSOR FLEA MARKET

On Saturday, July 26th, the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Jaycees will sponsor a flea market at the Fanwood Train Station. In the event of rain, the market will be held Sunday, July 27th.

County Clerk wins raffle



Union County Clerk Walter Halpin accepts congratulations from Fanwood Lions President James Santo as raffle chairman Richard Aichele displays the winner's ticket. Halpin, a Fanwood resident, won a \$1,000 trip of his choice in the Lion's eighth annual vacation raffle conducted last week.

Funds sought for restoration of Fanwood Railroad Station

The old Victorian stationhouse on the northside of the Fanwood railroad station was purchased by the Borough of Fanwood in 1965 and later renamed the "Community House". It has served in recent years as a meeting place for many local organizations and several of the Borough's boards and commissions. The building also receives heavy use during the flea markets that are scheduled for most Saturdays during the warm weather months.

It became apparent this year that the building was deteriorating rapidly and the governing body of Fanwood asked for an assessment of its condition from an architect experienced in working with historic buildings. The bad news was that about \$90,000 worth of work was needed just to preserve the building. The building needs a new roof, scraping and painting and rewiring.

The stationhouse is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and is a focal point, and symbol, of the Borough. It is the oldest existing stationhouse in Union County and photographs of the building frequently appear



Janet Russo, left, Fanwood's representative to the Union County Cultural and Heritage Advisory Board and Linda Stender, Chairman of the Downtown Restoration Committee.

in articles and books dealing with area history. A logical first step toward restoration seemed to be an appeal to local organizations for help. Mayor Patricia Kuran appointed Linda Stender, Chairman of the Downtown Restoration Committee, and Janet Russo, Fanwood's representative to the Union County Cultural and Heritage Advisory Board, to represent the

Borough in carrying its message to the community. Last month a letter went out to local organizations asking them to schedule time for Mrs. Stender and Mrs. Russo to address their group on the history of the railroad sta-

tion, its desperate need for restoration and how the organization can help.

Mrs. Stender and Mrs. Russo have enlisted the aid of Union County Preservationist Linda McTeague and have had

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Scotch Hills C.C. in need of TLC

The original farmhouse which is the nucleus of what we now know as the Scotch Hills Country Club was built in the mid 1700's by Ephraim Tucker. Its center hall, Dutch Colonial style is still evident, though additions at either side of the building have altered the original edifice.

Through a succession of owners, this grand old dame of Scotch Plains has seen a diversity of uses and events. It has gone from farm to tavern and from homestead to golf club in its 237 year history. Reputed to have been a stopover on the "underground railroad" for escaping slaves, it was also variously a nightclub and an all-Black golf course. Rumor has it that Count Basie and Althea Gibson were among notables who visited it when it was the Shady Rest Country Club. Tales of the unsolved murder of a housemaid also surface as one sorts through the records that exist concern-

ing this seemingly serene white building.

Throughout its recent history, it is apparent that caring people have been concerned with its preservation as well as with its continued use as a facility for all residents to enjoy.

At present, Scotch Hills Country Club overlooks a municipally owned and run nine hole golf course with a golf pro and meticulously maintained greens. The building itself also serves as an affordable meeting place for clubs and service groups. There is a roomy and utilitarian kitchen where oversized counters and appliances facilitate food preparation. A magnificent fireplace warms the atmosphere of the ballroom which is frequently used for birthday, anniversary, and graduation parties. It has hosted everything from political fundraisers to weddings and has weathered all of this use with ease.

Now, however, it is ap- Please turn to page 2.

New siren for Fan.? Any minute now!

Fanwood's new emergency siren has been in place for some weeks now but it has yet to sound its first alarm. The siren, an electronic model, is mounted high on a telephone pole just west of the northside railroad station. Once activated, it is expected to replace the Borough's two old sirens. In anticipation of the new siren, the ailing old siren in LaGrande Park was disconnected a month ago. Currently, only the old siren mounted on top of the former fire house at 130 Watson Road is alerting the firefighters and Rescue Squad to calls for assistance.

The new siren came into existence through a convergence of needs. The Borough needed to relocate the siren from the former firehouse but its

age and condition rendered a successful relocation unlikely. The users of LaGrande Park needed some relief from the excessively loud, and unreliable, old siren which was frightening the children at play there and a petition for the removal of the siren was sent to Borough Hall. The solution put forth by the Chief of Police and the Public Safety Committee was a single new siren, centrally located.

The "siren lady" played no role in the decision to relocate the siren. That decision had already been taken when the "siren lady" moved to Watson Road and began a one woman campaign against the sounding of the siren. Readers may recall that the campaign consisted of Please turn to page 8.