



Scotch Plains

# THE TIMES



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## S.P. Council takes off on airplane noise

by Patricia R. Mundth

An standing room only crowd packed the council chambers for the August 15th meeting of the Scotch Plains Town Council. More than 90 people attended the meeting to state their grievances concerning the air traffic problem and to learn what progress had been made on the issue since the July 13 meeting at which representatives from the FAA were present.

Councilman Alan Augustine stated that he has been aware of the problem of air traffic since 1986 and that he has seen the problem shifted from one municipality to another. He said that the Town Council will not rest until the problem is solved. Mr. Augustine introduced a strongly worded resolution stating that the East Coast Flight Plan had created an intolerable situation for Scotch Plains residents and that the high level of aircraft noise could cause irreparable harm to the community. The resolution concluded with the "...demand that the East Coast Flight Plan be terminated and that the Federal Aviation Administration re-route the aircraft presently causing intolerable noise throughout the Township of Scotch Plains;..." The resolution was approved to the cheers of a frustrated and concerned audience.

Mayor Joan Papen said that Assemblywoman Maureen Ogden has been working for 2 years to get the FAA and the Port Authority of N.Y. and N.J., which owns the three major airports to work out a different flight path. Ogden's bill, A-4462, sponsored by Speaker Chuck Hardwick

addresses the issue of a scheduled passing out of stage II aircraft, the noisy older planes. These aircraft are to be replaced by the quieter stage III planes which produce one half the noise of the old ones. However, the plan would be completed by Dec. 31, 1996. Ogden's bill was introduced before the June 1 re-routing of the planes. Now the timetable seems particularly lengthy. Ogden recently met with representatives from the FAA and the Port

Authority. In a letter to Mayor Papen, Ogden stated her belief that, "...the planes could not be moved from Cranford to put the dim over Scotch Plains-Fanwood." She recommended that the planes be moved close to La Guardia airspace and that they be required to reach an altitude of 10,000 feet before going over New Jersey.

Mayor Papen pointed out that older stage II planes are sold by the airlines and used as cargo

planes. "If we don't set the rules here, we'll have stage II planes coming in and out of Newark and wherever else they're allowed," Papen said. She urged residents to call Port Authority at (201) 961-2000 and they will pinpoint the noise on a map. Papen also recommended calling the FAA at (718) 917-1022 or (718) 917-1021 and the writing of letters to Senator Frank Lautenberg who is chairman on the sub-committee on appropriations for airplanes.

Barbara Reeder, a resident of Scotch Plains has organized a citizen's action group called Stop The Jet Noise which has been circulating petitions. Mrs. Reeder and many residents voiced their concerns for the quality of life and the potential for diminished property values due to the constant noise resulting from the recent change in flight paths.

John Buckley, who is an audiologist took sound pressure readings before attending tonight's meeting and found that the decibel level far exceeded recommendations made to the FAA as to what would provide a safe, non-disruptive environment.

Dennis Reeder called for a class action suit against the Port Authority and the FAA, citing two precedent setting cases: Griggs v. Allegheny Airport and Cosby v. The United States, both of which dealt with the disruptive and destructive effects of low flying aircraft. He stated that Far Hills employed lawyers to keep the aircraft from flying over town and recommended that Scotch Plains consider doing the same

thing.

Dave Canoles, Regional Safety Director for the FAA listened to the many complaints and concerns presented by the residents. He stated that, "The

FAA's intentions are to work within the system and pay attention to safety considerations. When safety considerations are met, then the re-routing Please turn to page 14

## Fan. officials participate in "Jail-A-Thon"



Fanwood Police Chief Anthony Parenti gently urges his Police Commissioner into the Union County lockup. But please don't report this "abuse of power"; Connelly and Parenti were participating in "Judge" Quinn's "Jail-a-thon" to raise money for the American Heart Association.

## S.P. signs new contract with Utilities Authority

The Township of Scotch Plains has signed a new contract with the Union County Utilities Authority for the balance of 1989 from September 1st to December 31st.

By 1990 towns must by State Law, reduce by 25% the solid waste stream by recycling. Scotch Plains is paying the U.C.U.A. \$20./per year for each household to be picked up curbside whether you use it or not so residents are

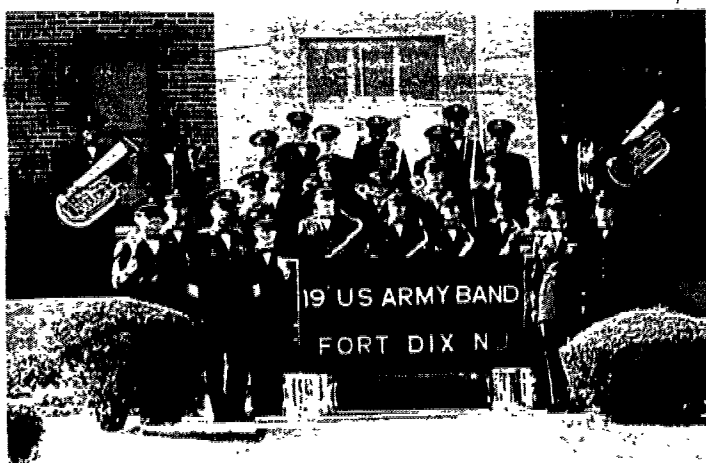
reminded not to waste their tax dollars but rather use this service.

What & How To Recycle:

Newspapers: Tied with twine or string only. No more than 8" high. Do not use tape, wire or rubberbands to tie. No magazines, paper bags, telephone books or cardboard.

Glass Bottles & Jars: Rinse well. Remove caps Please turn to page 14

## 19th Army Band will perform at concert



The Scotch Plains Cultural Arts Committee proudly presents the 19th Army Band in concert at the Village Green in Scotch Plains on Thursday, August 17 at 8 p.m. The Band consists of 40 professional soldier musicians whose home is the U.S. Army Training Center and Fort Dix. Their repertoire has a variety of music to suit everyone's taste from Sousa marches to the top 40 hits.

Most recently the band provided honors for President George Bush in Wilmington, Del. during his recent visit to that city.

Under the command and direction of Warrant Officer Vincent J. Goulette, the band has logged more than 400 public performances with an estimated audience of more than 275,000 this past year. Bandmaster Goulette, a native of Oneida, N.Y., has performed with Army bands since entering the service in 1976 and served as associate conductor for bands in Texas and West Germany before his assignment as commander of the 19th Army Band.

In case of rain, this free concert will be cancelled. For further information call 322-6700.

## Local advisory member speaks with President Bush

"If the polls are accurate, the nation is saying it is past time to get serious about the scourge of drugs, and from what President Bush told our group Tuesday, August 15th, his administration is going to be serious about providing a coordinated, comprehensive, continu-

ing response to that demands," said Manya S. Ungar following her meeting at the White House with the President, Drug Director William Bennett and Secretary of Education Lauro Cavazos.

Held in the historic Roosevelt Room in the

West Wing of the White House, the occasion - coincidentally the 20th anniversary of Woodstock - marked the so-called "drug czar's" initial outline of the report on the forthcoming drug strategy, scheduled for official unveiling on September 5th. Mrs.

Ungar, Immediate Past President of the National PTA has been appointed by Mr. Bennett and Secretary Cavazos to serve on the 24-member Advisory Commission on Drugs mandated by Congress to advise and oversee the work of the Drug Director. Prior to that

panel's first full meeting, August 23-24, several Commission members were invited along with small groups of representatives from industry, education, law enforcement, judicial and medical communities to be briefed on the emerging strategy and offer opi-

nions and reactions.

As outlined by the Director and his deputies, Dr. Herbert Kebler and Judge Reginald Walton, the strategy will be tough but compassionate and will address every aspect of the drug problem "from farm to arm" as

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