



SCOTCH PLAINS

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## Paterson Road completed, borough selected to apply for grant

At the July 8 Fanwood Borough Council monthly public meeting, Councilman and Chairperson of the Public Works Committee David Borger announced that the Paterson Road reconstruction project had been completed. This project began late last fall and was fully funded through a grant from the New Jersey Department of Transportation. The completion of this project, which seemed to have more than its share of contractor difficulties, was long awaited by area residents.

Councilman Borger also announced that Richard Marsden of Najarian Associates of Eatontown had been hired as the new Borough engineer. Marsden replaces the late Richard Luster who had retired on July 1. Marsden, who was unanimously approved by the council, will earn an annual salary of \$35,000 for this part-time position and \$72 per hour for any additional work performed.

Council President and Police Commissioner Maryanne Connelly reported that Fanwood was one of several New Jersey communities selected to apply for a state grant involving seat-belt education and enforcement. The selection of Fanwood was based upon the outstanding efforts of the police department in educating the public and maintaining

seat-belt statistics, according to Connelly.

In 1991, Fanwood Police Chief Anthony J. Parenti, nationally respected for his expertise in the area of traffic safety and enforcement, implemented a spot check seat-belt program in the Borough. At various times throughout the year, motorists who were stopped at traffic lights were

checked by police officers to see if they were wearing seat-belts. Two such occasions included the day before Thanksgiving and Leap Day 1992.

Those who were wearing seat-belts received a gift from the police officer. These gifts were donated by Fanwood merchants, according to Chief Parenti. They ranged

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## Scotch Plains 3rd quarter tax bills delayed

Because the New Jersey Division On Local Government services has not as yet approved any municipal budgets in the state, the payment of Scotch Plains real estate taxes, which would normally be due no later than August 10, will be delayed, probably until the latter part of August.

A resolution passed at the Scotch Plains Township Council meeting this past Tuesday

evening stated "that the grace period during which no interest shall be charged for payment of 3rd quarter 1992 property taxes be hereby extended to a period of 15 days after the date on which the 3rd quarter 1992 property tax bills are mailed."

In an accompanying resolution which was also passed, the Township extended similar relief by resolving "that no interest shall be charged to lending institutions for the amount of 3rd quarter taxes actually due in excess of the amount of the estimated 3rd quarter property tax payment. Interest on this excess 3rd quarter payment will become due and payable on November 1, 1992." This referred to banks that had collected mortgage payments which included property taxes from home-owners, and cannot pay the township the proper amount until the new tax bills come out.

Township Manager Tom Atkins thought that what these two resolutions stated "was only fair." He added that Scotch Plains residents, whom he is sure will appreciate the cash flow problem for the Township, may wish to pay their taxes based on their last estimated tax by August 10, and then make

up the difference when they finally receive their 3rd quarter tax bills. He commented that this would certainly "be appreciated by the Township."

State Senate President Donald Di Francesco (R), who was present at the meeting in his capacity as Township Attorney, blamed the delay on the executive branch of the state government. He said the state budget was in place as of June 30, which is the same date that the last two fiscal budgets were finalized, and that the Division On Local Government Services had no problems approving the municipal budgets promptly in 1991 and 1990. This year, the budget was adopted by the state legislature on June 25. Governor Florio vetoed it and that veto was overridden on June 30.

Earlier in the evening, Councilman Alan Augustine noted with sadness the sudden death of recently retired Fanwood Borough Engineer Richard O. Luster. Mr. Luster had served as a consulting engineer for Scotch Plains in the 1970's, and in his position in Fanwood, had many dealings with the Scotch Plains municipality.

## Local communities cited by N.J. Smoking Commission

Scotch Plains and Fanwood were cited by the New Jersey Commission on Smoking OR Health, an arm of the New Jersey Department of Health, for their initiative in attempting to prevent smoking in indoor places of public access.

Scotch Plains in the latter part of 1991 and Fanwood earlier this year authorized that signs be posted in retail stores, business and professional offices and other public indoor places requesting that smoking not be permitted on those premises.

Now, the American Heart Association says that smoke should be banned from work and public places because it is an environmental toxin. It claims that in the United States, secondary smoke is responsible for bringing on heart disease that

causes over 40,000 deaths each year of people who don't smoke but who are exposed to tobacco smoke. It, along with the American Lung Association and the American Cancer Society, say that secondary tobacco smoke should be listed as a Class "A" carcinogen which means it is a primary cause of cancer.

It is expected that legislation will be sought to ban smoking in the work place and in public places. The latest figures from the Centers For Disease Control show that cigarette smoking causes over 435,000 deaths each year, or about 25% of the total fatalities in the United States.

The Lung Association's deputy managing director, Fran Du Melle, stated, "This news is the final nail in the tobacco coffin. The

time has come to really clear the air in public places and protect the health of every one of us."

Approximately 50 million non-smoking adults over the age of 35 are exposed to secondary smoke and it is estimated that about 50% of all American children live in families with one or more smokers.

In a separate action by Governor Jim Florio, state government departments and facilities in New Jersey are in the process of going entirely smokefree. New air quality standards enacted by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs will make all state government operations, plus all local government facilities, effectively 100 percent smokefree in all outdoor areas.

## Richard O. Luster

Richard O. Luster, 62, of Watchung, died suddenly at home Sunday, July 12, 1992. A Memorial service will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Westfield, on Friday, July 24th at 3pm.

Mr. Luster had just retired on June 30th as Borough Engineer of Fanwood where he had served for over 28 years. He had also been an engineering consultant for four years for Roselle Park and two years in Scotch Plains. He had his own civil engineer-

ing and consulting firm from 1956 to 1988. The company was started in Elizabeth by his grandfather in 1911 and he had worked with his father in that family business before taking over.

He received his B.S. in Civil Engineering from Lehigh University and his M.S. from the New Jersey Institute of Technology and was a naval officer in the Korean War. He was a member of the New Jersey Professional Engineering Society and the State

Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors.

His public service included membership on the Board of Governors of Union County College, the Union County Utility Authority Construction Committee, the Foundation Board of Trustees for the Children's Specialized Hospital, Mountainside, and Habitat for Humanity.

Surviving are his wife, Marylyn Henry Luster;

five children: Randall and his wife Elizabeth of Accokeek, Maryland; Thomas of New York City; Clifton of Boulder, Colorado; Abigail of New York City; and Jenny of Kent, Connecticut; two grandsons Daniel and William; and a sister, Sally Lewis of Fort Meyers, Florida.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in his memory to Union County College, 1033 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey.



Jeffrey Grysko, new Principal of School One Elementary School, Scotch Plains.

Last month the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education appointed Jeffrey Grysko to the principalship of School One Elementary School in

Scotch Plains. Mr. Grysko assumed his new position July 1, and replaced the retiring School One Principal James V. Cerasa.

Most of Mr. Grysko's professional years in education have been spent in Scotch Plains-Fanwood Schools. Prior to becoming Principal of School One, he served as the district's K-12 Supervisor of Health and Physical Education. Mr. Grysko also worked as a teacher of physical education in Scotch Plains-Fanwood for six and one-half years.

Mr. Grysko's teaching experience included as well one and one-half years of service in Plainfield Public Schools. He holds Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees from Kean College of New Jersey.