



SCOTCH PLAINS

# THE TIMES

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COMPLIMENTARY



## BACK to SCHOOL ISSUE

### S.P. curbside recycling adds tin cans & cardboard

As of September's curbside recycling pick up, materials being collected will include tin cans and corrugated cardboard as well as aluminum cans, plastic bottles, glass bottles and jars, and newspaper. Brochures are being mailed out to every household with a full explanation of what this expanded program entails and should be received by early September. Corrugated cardboard must be clean, flattened, and tied in bundles. Aluminum and tin cans may be mixed together in the same container. However, no paint cans or spray cans will be accepted. Glass bottles and jars must be rinsed and caps/lids removed. Newspapers must be tied with twine in bundles no higher than 12 inches. Do not use tape, wire or rubberbands to tie. Plastic bottles must be rinsed, flattened and have caps and lids removed and have a number 1 or 2 in a triangle on the bottom or be marked PET, PETE, or HDPE. Materials placed in plastic bags or paper bags will NOT be collected.

If you are a Scotch Plains resident and have not received a brochure outlining the expanded curbside program by September 4, 1992, please contact the recycling coordinator at 322-6700 ext. 243 to receive a copy.

## Labor Day

Due to the Labor Day holiday on Monday, September 7th, all copy for the Thursday, September 10th issue of THE TIMES must be submitted no later than Friday, September 4th at 3:00 P.M.

# School bells will ring on September 9

"I am looking forward to the opening of schools this year with mixed feelings," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Robert J. Howlett. "This summer, although quiet, has been a time of busy preparation to ensure a smooth opening for the district students and staff. The usual excitement and anticipation in the days just prior to schools opening are beginning to build. At the same time is the realization that this 36th year of opening school as both teacher and administrator will be my final one. The challenges in the year ahead are certainly significant as we must strive to continue to provide quality education in the face of reduced financial resources and less staff.

Priorities being addressed by the Board and administrators this year include addressing the projected shortfall of elementary classrooms in the years ahead, a review and possible modification of the district's program to address multicultural diversity, initiation of contract negotiations with the district's education association and, of course, the Superintendent Search and appointment of my successor.

Building a responsible and responsive budget for the 1993-94 school year, maintaining reasonable class sizes and continuing to keep our educational offerings on the cutting edge of what is vital and meaningful are objectives that will take the continued cooperative efforts of not only the Board and administrators, but of the greater community and staff. I came to the Scotch Plains-Fanwood school district over 14 years ago with a great deal of pride and excitement in being associated with these communities, and I look forward to these final months of being just as excited and pride-filled."

### ORGANIZATION OF THE SCHOOLS

Scotch Plains-Fanwood is a regional school district of eight schools. There are

five elementary schools for grades K-5, two middle schools for grades 6-8, and a four-year high school.

Registration: The entrance age for Kindergarten and first grade is age 5 and age 6 respectively on or before October 1. Children entering school for the first time must be immunized in according with New Jersey law.

**BASIC CURRICULUM**  
Elementary (K-5)  
-Reading with a whole-language approach, language arts including process writing,

mathematics, science, social studies, art, instrumental and vocal music, physical education, and health with chemical dependency education. Computer instruction focuses on the use and application of computers across the curriculum.

Middle (6-8) - English including process writing; reading with a whole-language approach; mathematics; science; social studies; foreign languages, including grade 6 exposure to French, German, Italian, and Spanish; art, home economics; industrial arts; keyboarding;

music; physical education; health with chemical dependency education; and typing. Computer instruction in computer labs focuses on the use and application of computers across the curriculum.

High (9-12) - English including process writing, mathematics, science, social studies, foreign languages (French, German, Italian, Latin, Russian, and Spanish), computer studies, art, business, home economics, industrial arts, music, physical education,

Please turn to page 19

## Commander Mark Checchio leads F-14 Squadron

With the situation in Iraq heating up once again, it is both reassuring and comforting to know that our armed forces have people of the caliber of Commander Mark Checchio in their ranks. Commander Checchio is the son of former Scotch Plains mayor Mauro Checchio and his wife, Portia.

Mark was born in Scotch Plains and graduated from Scotch Plains-Fanwood School in 1970. From there, he entered the Naval Academy in Annapolis where he received his commission as an ensign in the United States Navy in 1974. He subsequently won his wings after training at the U.S. Naval Air Station at Pensacola, Florida in 1975.

In 1984, he won the "Top Cat Award" which is presented by the Grumman Aircraft Corporation. It is given to the pilot who has contributed most to the F-14 community and who has advanced tactics and other aerial programs. The F-14 is the type of fighter plane Commander Checchio flies. In 1991, he became commander of the "Tophatters", having joined that squadron in 1990. The "Tophatters" is the oldest active naval



COMMANDER MARK CHECCHIO

aviation squadron, having been established in 1919.

In August of 1990, when operation "Desert Shield" commenced, Commander Checchio, aboard the aircraft carrier, John F. Kennedy, sailed for the Persian Gulf. Once there, his squadron, among others, was responsible for enforcing the embargo. If a ship

heading for Iraq appeared suspicious, Commander Checchio would inform naval helicopters and patrol boats who would board the vessel in question and examine it. He also flew along the border of Iraq gathering intelligence. "Mirror Image Strike" was the term used for the practice in

Please turn to page 19