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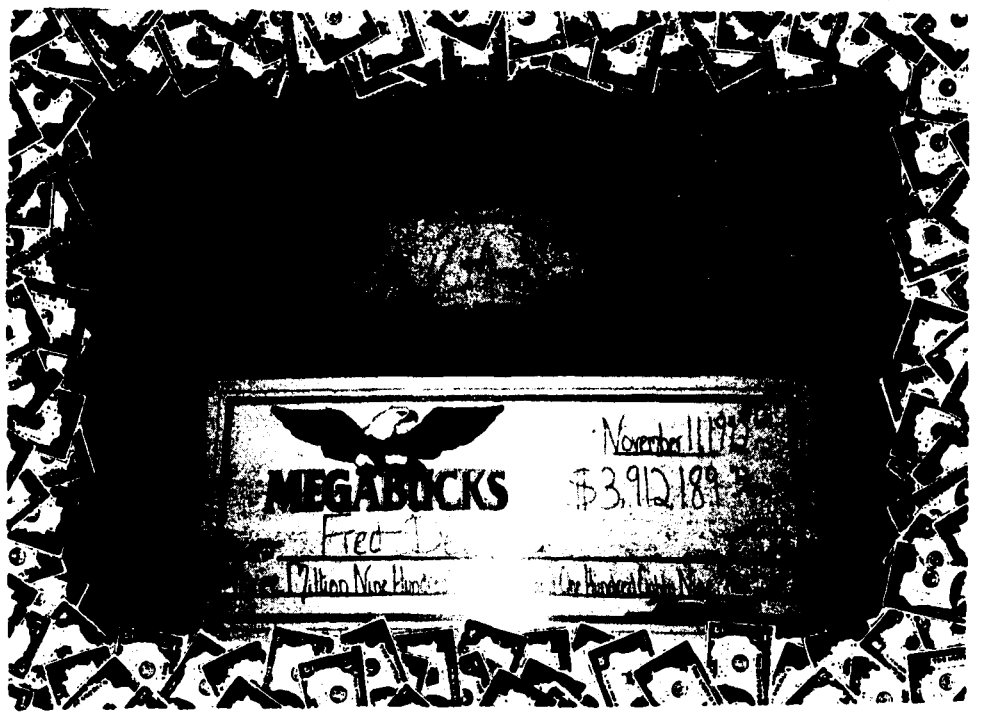
$3.9 million won by Scotch Plains man

Last Wednesday at Trump Plaza in Atlantic City, lifelong Scotch Plains resident Fred Delnero hit the "megabucks" slot machine and won $3,912.189.72. Delnero, who is 82-years-old, had been in the plumbing business here in town. When asked if he were retired, he replied, "I am now!"

He lives with his daughter, Barbara Scalzdona, and on Veteran's Day, they, along with his brother and his wife and daughter, took a gambling excursion. Delnero said he started out at the craps table, and after losing $300.00 figured that he should switch to the slots. He began by playing the dollar machines but soon switched over to the three dollar one-armed bandits.

He lost at the first machine and moved over to the next one. When that proved no friendlier, he ambled over to a third machine which started to pay off. He won about $50.00 when suddenly, the four "megabucks" appeared. He said he froze as the lights and buzzers came on.

"I was dumbfounded," Delnero explained. "I couldn't believe it." But it happened. Security people came over to him and within half an hour, the press and television crews arrived to interview him on his record win. "I shook hands with more people in the next three hours than I had in my whole life," he commented wryly. He was asked by a reporter if he was all right as he began to shake. He sat down and was able to compose himself. However, when he returned to his home, he was unable to sleep that night.



The $3.9 million dollar man, Fred Delnero.

Delnero will receive approximately $199,000.00 each year for the next 20 years. However, beside using some of the money for a couple of trips, he will divide the cash equally among his three daughters. "I never had very much in my whole life, just a house and maybe $10,000.00 in the bank. That was about it. I really don't need this."

Asked what else he would do, he said he had a set of golf clubs at his daughter's home in Florida. "Maybe when I go down there, I can shoot my age."

Mobile storage structures; Route 28 discussed at meeting

The subject of mobile storage structures finally came to a close at the Nov. 11 Fanwood Borough Council meeting. Discussion on this topic began last spring and was tabled several times due to various revisions. Salient features of the ordinance include: a) the use of no more than two (2) structures in the general commercial and light industrial zones so long as the zoning officer determines that the structures satisfy size, location, and zoning requirements; b) units in use in the Borough as of July 1, 1992 shall be permitted to continue in use through Dec. 31, 1993 by which time such units shall be removed unless allowed pursuant to the new ordiance and so long as a permit is obtained for such unit(s) by Dec. 15, 1992 and a permit fee of one hundred ($100) dollars is paid to the Borough by Dec. 15, 1992, for continuance through Dec. 31, 1993.

In other business, the Council adopted a resolution supporting the town of Westfield's request to

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Grausso honored for 25 years of service

Louis Grausso, Assistant Foreman of the Fanwood Public Works Dept. was honored for 25 years of service at the Nov. 11 Fanwood Borough Council meeting. Grausso began his employment with the Borough in 1967. The resolution honoring Grausso described him as a "dedicated and enthusiastic employee who rarely misses a day of work."

He was also praised for his mechanical ability to repair and maintain the Borough's equipment and for his patience in dealing with the public. Director of Public Works Ray Manfra called Grausso a "conscientious and dedicated employee" and thanked him for his invaluable assistance.

Evergreen's Hero

Fourth-grader Sean Sullivan proved to be a real hero. On Saturday, October 17, at approximately 5:10 pm, Sean was at his grandparents' house in Scotch Plains when a fire broke out in an upstairs bedroom.

The situation could have been disastrous if it wasn't for Sean's quick thinking and level-headedness. Sean alerted the family immediately, called the fire department, and assisted everyone in leaving the house safely.

Sean is Evergreen's real hero - he saved the day and the family.