



SCOTCH PLAINS

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Merry Christmas

Papen to be mayor of Scotch Plains in 1993

At the last regular 1992 meeting of the Scotch Plains Township Council this past Tuesday, it was announced that former Mayor Joan Papen would assume that role again for the year of 1993. She will be sworn in at 1:00 P.M. on New Year's Day at the Municipal Building, succeeding Irene Schmidt who served as Mayor in 1992. Councilman George Brown will take on the responsibilities of Deputy Mayor.

In other business, amendments were passed on first reading which increases the number of items that will be collected for recycling, which is in accordance with the Union County Solid Waste Management plan. A list of the new recyclables will be published in THE TIMES in its next issue, and the collection process will begin in 1993.

After a lengthy discussion between members of the Council and residents of St. Ann St., an ordinance appropriating \$50,000.00 from Community Development Funds in connection with drainage improvements on Hoe and Jackson Aves. and St. Ann St. was ap-

proved on its second reading. Some of the residents objected to the work which would reduce front yards by 3 to 4 feet in depth. Jeffrey Perry, an attorney, and his brother, Brian, both residents of St. Ann St., disagreed with Township engineers that it would improve their property and claimed it make it less valuable. They also said that there was no drainage problem there and that the project was a waste of money, and

could be put to better use. The discussion ended with the Mayor promising to see to it that the engineers would get together with the residents and listen to their suggestions before any work was begun. Tom Atkins, Township Manager, pointed out that this project had been under consideration for a long time and that residents had many opportunities to voice their views on many occasions over the past months.

On the recommendation of Mr. Atkins, a bid of approximately \$300,000.00 for the purchase of a remanufactured aeriasscope for the Fire Dept. was not accepted and that other bids would be sought. He said these new bids would be received by January 15, at which time the Council could then decide on a course of action.

Mayor Schmidt read a resolution honoring
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Frank Mertz cited by Fanwood Fire Company

On Saturday, December 5, 1992, the Fanwood Volunteer Fire Company honored former Fire Chief Frank Mertz for his thirty-two (32) years of service during a surprise covered-dish dinner at the Fire House. The affair was attended by Fanwood Mayor Linda Stender, Council President Mary Ann Connelly, ex-Mayor Theodore Trump, and ex-Councilmen Loren Hollenback and Robert Rau, Jr. A surprise visit and tribute was paid to Chief Mertz by Reverend

John Doherty, current Head Pastor of St. Andrews Church in Bayonne and former associate pastor of St. Bartholomews Church in Scotch Plains who is a long time friend of the Mertz Family and honorary Chaplain of the Fanwood Fire Department.

Mayor Stender presented Chief Mertz with a resolution proclaiming December 5, 1992 as Frank Mertz Day in Fanwood. Chief Mertz joined the Fire Company on

September 15, 1964 and served as Second Lieutenant 1967, 1968; First Lieutenant 1969-1971; Captain in 1973; Second Assistant Chief in 1974 and 1990; First Assistant Chief in 1975-1977; and Chief in 1978-1980. Chief Mertz served in many other offices during his tenure including the Exempt Association and Relief Association of which he is an Honorary Life Member. Chief Mertz also served several important roles on Fire Department.
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