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SCOTCH PLAINS

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*"I have a dream
that one day
men will rise up
and come to
see that they
are made
to live
together
as
brothers."*

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Christmas Tree Pick-Up in Scotch Plains

On Tuesday, January 19th, the Township of Scotch Plains Public Works Department will begin recycling Christmas trees. The plan is to chip the trees up at curbside. Therefore, the tree should be free of any Christmas debris which can damage their equipment. Trees will not be picked up if they are in plastic bags or any metal or plastic is left on them. **THEY WILL ONLY BE GOING THROUGH THE TOWNSHIP ONCE.** Residents will be allowed to drop off their trees at the DPW Storage Yard on Plainfield Avenue, if they wish. Please check in at the DPW Office before leaving the tree. They are asking for everyone's patience and cooperation if severe weather conditions develop and we have to suspend pick-up.

Blood Pressure Clinic

The Township of Scotch Plains will hold the monthly Hypertension (High Blood Pressure) Screening Clinic on Thursday, January 14, 1993.

The Clinic will be held in the Scotch Plains Public Library Community Room from 4:00-7:00 pm and is free. The intent of the clinic is to identify new cases of High Blood Pressure. Those persons who are over the age of thirty and smoke or are overweight or have a family history of heart disease or diabetes and have not had their blood pressure checked recently are urged to attend.

Recommendations to be discussed by board

Tonight and on January 28th the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education will discuss the recommendations of Dr. Robert J. Howlett regarding the district facilities task force. Both discussions will occur before the board takes action.

The meetings will begin at 8:00 P.M. at the Administrative Offices of the Board of Education, Evergreen Avenue and Cedar Street, Scotch Plains. The public is welcome to attend.

FAA villified by local residents at hearings

The FAA was villified, criticized and castigated by federal, state and local area representatives when it held hearings on January 5 and 6 in Cranford. They were joined by local residents who spoke out complaining about the FAA's inaction in resolving the aircraft noise that has been plaguing Scotch Plains, Fanwood and dozens of other New Jersey communities. Also in high visibility was CAAN, Coalition Against Aircraft Noise.

Among those who spoke before the FAA panel were Senators Frank Lautenberg, Representative Bob Franks, State Senate President Don DiFrancesco, Assemblymen Alan Augustine and Richard Bagger, the entire Scotch Plains Township Council and the Mayor and Borough Council President of Fanwood.

The complaints centered around the \$4.5 million FAA environmental impact study which was criticized as being grossly inaccurate, a waste of the taxpayers' money and a sham. Repeatedly, the FAA was accused of being arrogant and out of

control. Pamela Barsam-Brown of CAAN said the study lacked technical detail and failed to include any consideration of the impact on the people. She also claimed that the agency in its report refused to consider alternative routes which would ease the noise pollution that has enveloped the area.

Scotch Plains Councilman Bill McClintock pointed out a major flaw in the FAA's rationale, showing that the agency had changed its definition of its reference to "no action" in the impact study from its original connotation. The term "no action" referred to 1986 and the way the air routes were then. Their new "no action" reference refers to 1991 routes implying that a "no action" decision by the FAA would leave things the way they are now.

Councilman George Brown of Scotch Plains, in a saddened voice, explained that he had wanted to enlarge his home to accommodate his aging parents, but they could not tolerate the aircraft noise and were forced to leave Scotch Plains.

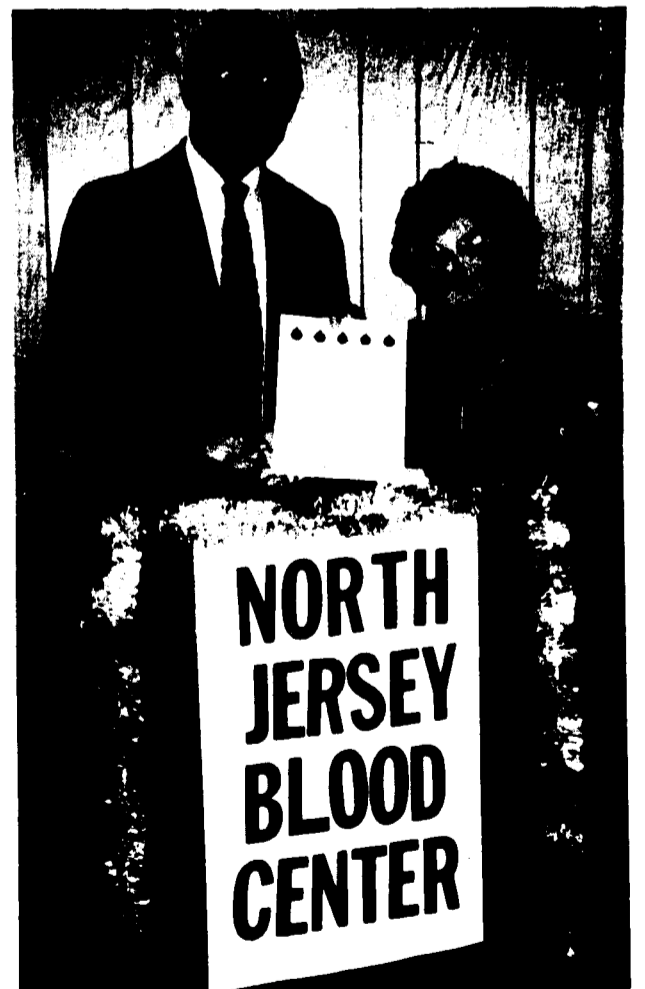
"They will not have the comfort of dying at home in the arms of family. I can never forget this is the fault of the FAA," he said.

The FAA is using the excuse that it cannot change the air routes to extend them over the ocean without changing some routes that affect LaGuardia and JFK landings and take-offs and that Congress only empowered them to become involved in the New Jersey situation, thereby making them powerless to make the change. The agency

also claimed that if they rolled back the routes to where they were before the change, it would only help 45,000 residents and cause an adverse effect on 1.5 million New Jerseyans. Many at the hearing called this "bogus" since before the change in routes, the problem was non-existent.

CAAN says that the FAA has admitted it made a mistake, and would not do what it did again, but that it cannot rectify it. In the meantime, it will be holding meetings throughout the area through January 26.

Scotch Plains woman receives service award



The North Jersey Blood Center in East Orange recently held its annual Employee Recognition luncheon, commending staff members for years of dedicated service. The Blood Center, which services over 40 hospitals in northern and central New Jersey, has a mission to furnish the community with blood and blood products consistent with the highest possible medical and professional standards. Pictured is North Jersey Blood Center President and CEO Robert D. Rowan, presenting Doris Wise of Scotch Plains, donor services representative, with an award for 7 years of service.

Wedding Showcase



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