



SCOTCH PLAINS

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Illegal dumping on the increase in township

Publicity from legislation aimed at reducing littering and pollution has resulted in increasing numbers of phone calls to police and the Public Works Department reporting cases of illegal dumping. Residents and business owners witnessing and reporting trash and debris being dumped on public or private property or privately-owned dumpsters accounted for twelve notices of violation in 1992.

Incidents of this type are violations of municipal solid waste laws and violations carry fines of up to \$1,000.00. Please note that illegal dumping refers also to the unauthorized disposal of dirt, mud, gravel, sand, stone, cement, trees, stumps, brush, grass, wood, metal, iron, plastic, manure, fertilizer, ashes, coal, cinders, litter and garbage upon any highway, street, or piece of land within the limits of the township of Scotch Plains, whether publicly or privately owned.

Unless illegal dumpers are confronted, problems associated with the time and cost involved in cleaning up after them will continue. Do not hesitate to report such information to either the Scotch Plains Police or to the Solid Waste coordinator, Department of Public Property.

Community Center will distribute commodities

The Scotch Plains Community Service Center located at St. John's Baptist Church, 2387 Morse Avenue, Scotch Plains, will distribute commodities January 26, 27, 1993 - 10 am - 2 pm. You must have a current card registered with the Scotch Plains Community Service Center. For further information contact the Center at (908) 233-4720 or 232-6972.

Applications accepted for Chapter I Pre-School

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Chapter I office is now accepting applications for admission to the Chapter I Pre-kindergarten Program. This program is without cost to the families of participating students. Pre-schoolers selected for the program will attend one of the district's five elementary schools and will be taught by certified early childhood educators. Classes meet for half-day sessions five days a week.

To be considered for the program, children must have reached their fourth birthday on or before October 1, 1993. A specially trained staff will evaluate such areas as language abilities and large and small muscle development.

Chapter I is a highly individualized program varying from school district to school district designed to make all children entering the public school system able to realize their full academic potential. Those youngsters will be selected who could most benefit from the program. The Chapter I Pre-K has come to be known as a preventative program, reducing the need for remedial help.

Applications are available at every elementary school or by calling the Chapter I office at 889-4233.

Trip to the Ice Capades

The Scotch Plains Recreation Department will sponsor a trip to the Ice Capades spectacular, this year featuring Dorothy Hamill Olympic Champion, on Sunday January 31st. The bus will leave from the Municipal Building, Scotch Plains Parking Lot at 1:45 pm, participants viewing the 3 pm performance of the stars, returning by 5:30 pm. The cost of the trip with transportation and show ticket is only \$20.00 for residents and \$22.00 for non-residents. Call at the office, 430 Park Avenue, and purchase your tickets. The show also has some acts or skits which appeal to youngsters, and when accompanied by an adult, can participate in this trip.

Manfra celebrates 30th anniversary in Fanwood

Thirty years ago Ray Manfra began working for the Fanwood Department of Public Works. It was in January and he only planned to stay for the winter months. As time passed, Ray enjoyed working in Fanwood and decided to stay a bit longer. 'A bit longer' turned into thirty years as Ray celebrates his 30th anniversary this week. He began as an equipment operator and was soon promoted to foreman. Not long after that, the director of public works retired and Ray was promoted to the director's position - a position that he truly enjoys and one in

Directing this department takes a great deal of knowledge and organizational ability. The department is responsible for 41 miles of roads, 2,000 catch basins, maintenance of all borough owned properties, two playgrounds and eight tennis courts. Six brush pick-ups are also annually held. Additionally, Fanwood is one of the few towns in Union County which still provides a townwide annual clean-up for residents. This clean-up is unique in that public works employees conduct the entire operation.

In 1982, Ray was selected 'Man of the Year' by the New Jersey Public Works Association. He serves on the executive board of the American Public Works Association and is an instructor at the Rutgers University Public Works Institute. Ray is one of the founders of that institute. He was also one of several public works directors in the state who actively lobbied for the passage of the bill requiring all municipal and county public works managers to pass an examination administered by the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs. This bill allows any public works manager without certification but with at least five years of continuous service as of January 1, 1995 to remain in the position. It also states that nobody can be appointed after January 1, 1995 unless they have been properly

certified and requires that public works managers take continuing education courses.

Ray firmly believes in

a law requiring the certification of public works managers. "We are a lot more than 'pot hole patchers' and 'street

knowledgeable in such areas as recycling, solid waste management, road and pavement maintenance and sanitary and storm sewers systems. Ray is proud to have been in the first graduating class for public works certification in 1988.

A busy man, Ray also serves as chairman of Fanwood's Clean Communities Committee and obtained a \$7,000 state grant for the 1993 program. He also believes in educating youngsters about recycling and distributes recycling coloring books to the public. Borough. He also hopes to replace the waste receptacles in the parks this year with grant monies. Ray serves as recycling coordinator for the Borough of Fanwood.

On the county level Ray was recently appointed co-chairperson of



RAY MANFRA

the professional status of the public works director position. He is very proud that New Jersey is the first state in the country to pass

sweepers,'" states Ray. In addition to being responsible for purchasing and management, public works directors must be

Wide array of participants testify at jet noise hearings

The high degree of public interest in the ongoing hearings on aircraft routes over New Jersey, is evidenced by the large turnout of public officials, and the diversity of the participants attending. These hearings are being held by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to collect public feedback on a document it published, the Draft Environmental Impact Study (DEIS). This study was forced upon the FAA after public outcry which resulted when the FAA started to implement its Expanded East Coast Plan (EECP) in 1987. The purpose of the EECP was to reduce delays at the area's three major airports by creating numerous new air routes over areas of New Jersey which previously had little or no air traffic.

At the Cranford hearing on Jan. 5th, Senator Lautenberg delivered the keynote speech. He denounced the scorn with which the FAA has treated New Jersey's public of-

ficials and citizens, and called the report's contents "unacceptable". Senator Bradley's statement deplored the FAA's lack of supporting data for its claim that ocean routing would not be feasible.

Other public officials proceeded to demonstrate how the document would not pass simple tests of methodological soundness: With remarkable insight, Councilman Bill McClintock of Scotch Plains, pointed out that the entire Draft Environmental Impact Statement had been done "backwards": The study was to evaluate the effects of the implementation of the EECP. Conducting the study after the fact, the FAA then managed to interpret the current EECP as the status quo -- in effect canceling the "no-change" option which every impact study is supposed to consider. This extraordinary logic leads to the statement in the FAA's handout (p 1-4) "Consequently, the EECP

as defined, represents both the Proposed Action and the No Action alternatives".

Mayor Papen of Scotch Plains, related how, in conducting the study, FAA workers had installed sound-measurement equipment only in the most quiet areas, and when this was discovered they at first refused to change the locations. How many other towns was this not discovered? Assemblywoman Maureen Ogden gave instances of the flagrant bias against the State of New Jersey which runs throughout the document when alternatives are considered. George Brown, Deputy Mayor of Scotch Plains, using the FAA's own data, pointed out that their goal of reducing delays at Newark Airport had not been attained with the EECP.

Numerous other public officials represented the constituents at the Cranford hearings, such as Mayor Aschenbach from
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