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FORTY CENTS

TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR SCHOOL RENOVATIONS AT ALMOST ALL FACILITIES IN TOWNSHIP RECEIVES APPROVAL

Township, Borough Voters Defeat Education Board Budget, Mrs. Dettmar, Mr. Ruggiero and Mrs. Larkin Are Victorious

Decision on What Revisions Are to Be Made in Education Spending Will Be Finalized After Township and Borough Officials Confer; Deadline is Thursday; Board to Swear in Newly-Elected Members and Select New Officers to Lead It Until After Vote Next Spring When It Reorganizes on Thursday, May 5

FASZCZEWSKI
The Westfield Leader

Approximately 14 per cent of the 17,024 registered voters in Scotch Plains and Fanwood turned out for Tuesday's election in the school district covering both municipalities, and they decided against the proposed tax levy in support of the current expense budget and in favor of two incumbents and one newcomer from Scotch Plains on the board and in favor of the transfer of \$830,000 in bond funds to finance capital

improvements in the schools. The proposed \$34,890,617 tax levy in support of current expenses for the 1994-1995 school year was defeated 1,246 to 1,084 overall and 371 to 296 in Fanwood and 875 to 788 in Scotch Plains. Members of the Board of Education now will have to meet with Township Councilmen in Scotch Plains and Borough Councilmen in Fanwood so the governing bodies of the municipalities can decide to cut the budget, keep it intact or increase it.

An increase is very unlikely in light of the plan's defeat by the voters. The councils have until Thursday, April 28, to submit their budget proposals to the board, and the school body will have 15 days after that to determine whether it will appeal any proposed cuts in funds to the state Commissioner of Education. Should the Commissioner decide to restore any cuts the municipalities then may appeal his decision to Superior Court.

In specific voting districts in Tuesday's election, the budget was defeated by its greatest margin, 114 to 46 in District No. 2 in Scotch Plains, followed by a margin of 114 to 56 in the township's District No. 1 and 154 to 110 in the borough's district No. 11. Balloting for candidates, who only were elected from Scotch Plains this year, saw current board Vice President, Mrs. Lillian M. Dettmar, lead with 1,106 votes compared to 1,082 for Mrs. Theresa Larkin, a newcomer; 1,078 for August Ruggiero, and 858 for newcomer Joseph Sumanski.



Mrs. Lillian M. Dettmar



Mrs. Theresa Larkin



August Ruggiero

May 5, at 8 p.m. in the Administration Building on Evergreen Avenue, Scotch Plains:

At that time officers also must be elected for the new terms.

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Board of Education Approves Request To Seek Bids for Handicapped Lifts

Testing Ban on Religious Holidays Will Be Discussed by School Body Policy Committee

By TUCKER TRIMBLE
Specialty Writer for The Westfield Leader

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education approved the request for bids for handicapped platform lifts at the senior high school and Terrill Middle School at its meeting on Thursday.

Richard E. Marshall, the Assistant Superintendent of Schools in Charge of Business, told the board in the past it had been possible to offer classes all on the first floor for physically-handicapped students, but "this gets harder and harder to do."

Mr. Marshall explained the lift goes up the stairs close to the railing and is accessed by a key.

The stairs still will be usable while the lift is in motion, he said; other students will simply have a narrower path. The lift also conforms with the American with Disabilities Act, he noted.

The board also gave permission to advertise for buses and approved special education transportation routes.

In other business, board member, August Ruggiero, asked what the response had been to a letter from McGinn School requesting enlargement of their blacktop area.

Mr. Marshall told him the board had responded by saying the enlargement was not in the budget. The only

budget item increasing in cost is teacher salaries, he pointed out.

Mr. Ruggiero asked if a rough estimate of the cost could be provided, but Mr. Marshall told him that would only raise false hopes; "they might see it as a sign you're going to do it," he said.

In any case, School No. 1 would be first on the list for a new blacktop area, he continued, since they don't have one.

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Carol B. Choye, reported to the board she and board President, Dr. Donald E. Sheldon, had been asked by the New Jersey Coalition of Schools to join their Board of Trustees.

"You have a national presence," board member, Mrs. Jessica L. Simpson, told Dr. Choye. "I think you should do it."

Board member, Morris H. Gillet, agreed, adding having Dr. Choye and Dr. Sheldon as Trustees "would serve us well. We need a stronger voice. I think it's a good idea."

Board Vice President, Mrs. Lillian M. Dettmar, reported she had received telephone calls concerning proposed changes in special education.

Dr. Choye told her annual reviews for special education students are taking place right now, and the question of whether the children will be placed

in self-contained classrooms or receive services from the resource room will depend on the outcome of the reviews.

"Where the youngsters go, the staff will follow," said the Superintendent.

Any questions board members have should be addressed to Dr. Choye, Dr. Sheldon said.

The board discussed policy questions as Steven Schwartz of Michael Lane, Scotch Plains asked the board to consider four policy changes, changes, he said, "that are common sense and don't affect the budget."

The first is not giving tests on religious holidays. This should be a district wide policy, he said.

Mr. Schwartz alluded to a specific problem, and added, "I don't think that problem was resolved."

The second proposed change is no more than two tests should be given in one day.

For example, he said, English and mathematics tests only could be given on a certain day.

Third, no testing should be given during mid-term, except for the mid-term tests, and fourth, group projects that have to be completed out of school should be abolished.

Parent have to drive the children to get them together, he said, and this is difficult with families where both parents work.

Most students do not drive, he noted.

"I'm going to say publicly to you what I said privately on the telephone," Dr. Choye told him. "If two of these deal specifically with one teacher, then that teacher should have the option of responding and explaining."

Dr. Sheldon note the policy committee is wrestling with the question of religious holidays right now, and board members, Mrs. Jessica L. Simpson, added, "To define what the religious holidays are is to open a can of worms."

Nevertheless, Mr. Schwartz said, teachers should know the approximate percentage of students who would be out of school on a given religious holiday.

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Planning Board Okays Plan for Jewelry Store

Mother and Daughter to Operate Park Avenue Shop

By SUZETTE STALKER
Specialty Writer for The Times

The Scotch Plains Planning Board on Monday approved an application by a township mother and daughter who are planning to open a jewelry store on the corner of Park and Mountain Avenues.

The application, which received a public hearing March 21, had been tabled that evening while the board awaited further review of the proposal.

Miss Michelle Licho and her mother, Mrs. Carol Licho, applied for several variances concerning their anticipated family-owned business, to be called "M. Licho Fine Jewelry," which they plan to operate at 253 Park Avenue within a two-story Colonial-style brick building following demolition of an existing service station on the site.

The family will utilize only the first floor of the building for the jewelry store but is considering opening the second floor later on for the sale of china and crystal if their initial establishment proves successful.

Mark Daniels of the Daniels Engineering Group, Inc. of South Plainfield highlighted on his site plan how his clients planned to incorporate board recommendations made last month.

The applicants have agreed to narrow their proposed building coverage by four feet in order to install a safety walkway for patrons coming from the Park Avenue entrance.

The streamlined building, originally planned as 42 feet by 45 feet,

would now measure 42 feet by 41 feet, and would feature barrier-free access for handicapped patrons at the side entrance.

Air conditioning units would be installed at the rear of the building and would likely be partially shielded by plantings, according to Mr. Daniels.

The Lichos, who under the revised plan were required to have 17 park-

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Local Parties Face No Opposition In Primary, But Much in the Fall

Two Fanwood Councilmen Decide Not to Seek New Terms; Former Member Runs

By ROBERT R. FASZCZEWSKI
Specialty Writer for The Times

Although there will be no contests for nominations locally in either major political party in the Tuesday, June 7, Primary Election, voters in both Scotch Plains and Fanwood will have choices between Republican and Democratic candidates for their respective councils in the Tuesday, November 8, General Election.

In Scotch Plains, incumbent Republican Township Councilmen Robert Johnston, Mrs. Joan Papan and Mrs. Irene Schmidt will face Democratic nominees, Mrs. Teresa Ford of 4 Linden Lane, Mrs. Barbara Schwartz of 12 Winchester Drive and Harold Burwell of 317 Willow Avenue, in November, for four-year terms according to petitions filed in time for last Thursday's deadline.

Two Fanwood Borough Councilmen Democratic Kevin McGonigle and Republican Donald S. Kolterjahn have decided not to seek new three-year terms on the council.

Former Democratic Councilman William E. Populus, Jr. of 384 LaGrande Avenue and fellow Democrat, Mrs. Linda Muller of 74 Russell Road, will face Republicans Joel Whitaker of 205 Marian Avenue and Chester Lindsey of 200 Midway Avenue in the fall.

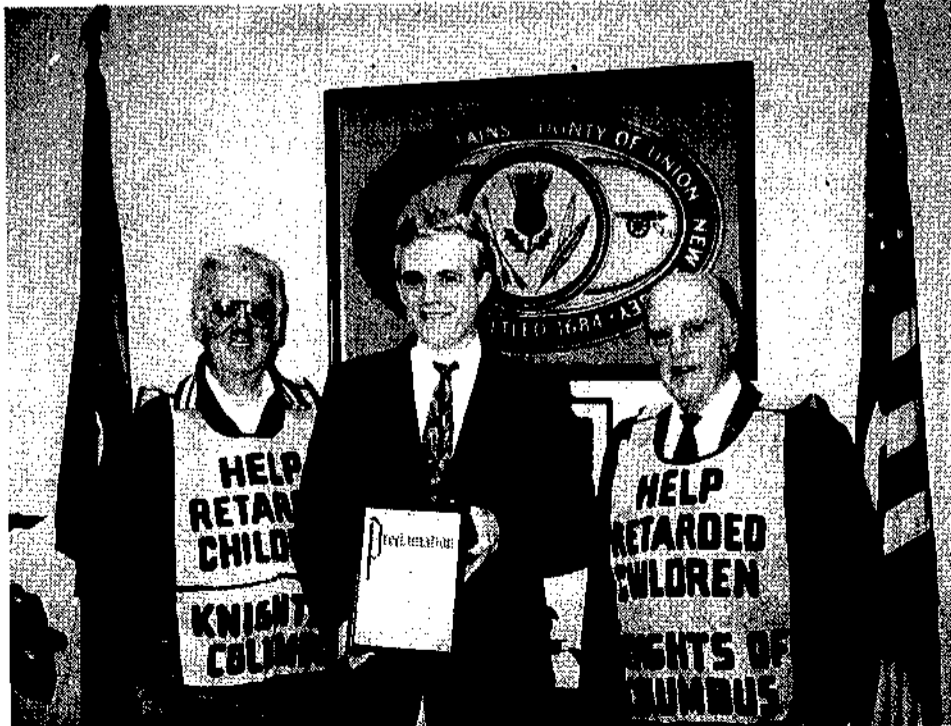
Township and Borough Republicans will, however, be voting for a male and female member of their respective municipal committees in each election district in the June Primary, however.

The Democrats will not elect members of their committees until next year.

Incumbent Democratic United States Senator Frank R. Lautenberg of Cliffside Park will face Primary challenges from William Campbell of Green Brook and Mrs. Lynne A. Speed of Ridgefield Park.

The winner of that party's Primary will face Republican Assembly Speaker Garabed "Chuck" Haytaian of Hackettstown or former Republican State Senator Brian Kennedy of Sea Girt, who are seeking their party's nod in the Primary, and a host of independents, in November.

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A HELPING HAND...Scotch Plains Mayor William F. McClintock, Jr., center, presents a proclamation to Post Grand Knight John Kelly, right, and Grand Knight Charles Gates, left, of the Father John S. Neilligan Council No. 5730 of the Knights of Columbus of Scotch Plains. The council will hold its fund drive for the retarded and those with learning disabilities from tomorrow to Sunday, April 24, at various locations in the borough and township.

DEADLINES HELP PAPERS SERVE YOU

Those preparing press releases for submission to *The Westfield Leader* or *The Times* are reminded all copy should be in the hands of the Editor at 50 Elm Street, Westfield, by 4 p.m. on the Friday before the Thursday on which they wish it to appear.

Leader releases also may be mailed to Post Office Box 250, Westfield, 07091, and *Times* releases to Post Office Box 368, Scotch Plains, 07076, to meet the above requirements.

For events which happen the weekend prior to publication, press releases should reach the Editor by Monday of the week of publication at 10 a.m.

Obituaries will be taken until Tuesday at 5 p.m.

For events which are planned weeks or months in advance, we encourage submission of stories as early as possible prior to the event.

The above deadlines are meant to enable us to prepare your copy carefully.

HOW TO GET THE TIMES
Just Fill in the Form
On Page 12
And Return It to Us!

County Budget Introduced: See Page 5

Federal Crime Bill Causes Heated Debate at Borough Council Meeting: See Story on Page 2