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Thursday, May 5, 1994

Published
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The newest piece of equipment in the Scotch Plains Fire Department

About 1,000 Firemen Expected At 125th Anniversary May 14

Antiques for Fire Fighting from 1826 and 1911 to Be on Hand for Parade

By SUZETTE STALKER
Specially Written for The Times

The Scotch Plains Volunteer Fire Department will welcome its neighbors, local officials and about 1,000 of its brethren from around the state to a gala celebration on Saturday, May 14, of its 125th anniversary of service to the community.

To commemorate the occasion, Scotch Plains firemen have planned a day-long roster of traditional activities commencing at 9 a.m. with a gathering of firefighters from more than 60 Garden State municipalities and 150 apparatus in the parking lot of Pantagis Renaissance, Route No. 22 and Park Avenue.

The department will have an opportunity to show off their vehicles in a competition to be judged by an independent "Motorists' Organization, H. Daming Fire Parade Judges, and more than 50 trophies will be awarded to the winners in such categories as oldest, newest and shiniest, as well as two Mayor's Trophies for best all-around entries.

The event is expected to conclude at about 11:30 a.m. The highlight of the celebration is expected to be the anniversary parade, beginning at noon from Pantagis, when local and visiting firefighting units will form a convoy traveling south on Park Avenue past the grandstand at Town Hall to Com-

pany No. 2 firehouse at the corner of Martine Avenue and Raritan Road. Leading the parade will be the Honor Guard from Scotch Plains American Legion Post No. 209, followed by the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Band. Marching bands and bagpipe bands from some of the fire departments in attendance are also expected to participate, as well as Smoky the Bear, who marks his 50th anniversary as mascot for the National Forest Service this year.

Over 60 Towns Will Be Represented In Gala Celebration

In addition to apparatus featuring state-of-the-art technology, the parade is expected to feature antiques such as a hand-drawn model from 1826 and a horse-drawn 1911 Christie Steamer, according to Scotch Plains firefighter Vincent Romano, who is chairing the event.

Among the dignitaries who have been invited to attend the festivities are Mayor William F. McClintock, Jr. and the members of the Scotch Plains Town Council; Fanwood Mayor Linda d. Stender and the members of

the Borough Council and State Senate President Donald T. DiFrancesco and Representative Robert D. Franks, reported Deputy Mayor Robert Johnston, the town council's liaison to the Scotch Plains Fire Department.

The celebration will continue with a picnic on the fire house grounds, open to the public, where the purchase of a \$10 commemorative ceramic mug will entitle participants to enjoy barbecue fare of hamburgers, hot-dogs, soda and beer.

There are also plans for a 400-square-foot petting zoo to be provided on the grounds courtesy of Terry Lou Zoo; sales of souvenir T-shirts, sweat pants and other articles, plus entertainment by a special "EMS" deejay, one who specializes in fire department and ambulance squad functions.

"This volunteer department is one of the oldest in the state," remarked Deputy Mayor Johnston last week, "and the 125 years of service is something we're very proud of."

"I think it's a proud moment for the fire department," added Mr. Romano, who is urging residents to turn out for the celebration in support of all firefighters and for merchants to welcome the visitors.

"There's not many departments that have been around for 125 years. It's a milestone. Hopefully it will be a great day — a day to remember."

BLOOD PRESSURE TO BE CHECKED

The Township of Scotch Plains will hold the monthly hypertension, high blood pressure, screening clinic on Monday, May 9.

The clinic will be held in the Scotch Plains Public Library Community Room from 10 a.m. to noon, and is free.

The intent of the clinic is to identify new cases of high blood pressure.

Those who are over the age of 30 and smoke or are overweight or have a family history of heart disease or diabetes and have not had their blood pressure checked recently should attend.

Board of Education for 1994-1995, Scotch Plains Mayor William F. McClintock, Jr. announced at Tuesday's Township Council meeting.

At the Monday session, in addition to Mayor McClintock, Scotch Plains Councilwoman, Mrs. Joan Papan, and Fanwood Mayor, Mrs. Linda d. Stender, and Borough Councilmen, Andrew J. MacDonald, Louis C. Jung and Donald S. Kolterjahn, were board President, Dr. Donald E. Sheldon; Board Vice President, Mrs. Lillian M. Dettmar, and board members, August Ruggiero and Mrs. Jessica L. Simpson.

The two councils have until the 19th to review the budget, make any suggested cuts and submit their proposals to the Union County Superintendent of Schools.

If the board disagrees with the proposed cuts, it may appeal them to the state Commissioner of Education.

If the Commissioner restores funds which are cut by the councils, the two municipal governing bodies then may appeal that decision to Superior Court.

Mayor McClintock characterized Monday's meeting as "constructive," noting, "It is a difficult process for all parties."

The council on Tuesday met in closed session to discuss the matter.

On another matter, the council voted Tuesday on the introduction of an ordinance to install granite block curbing on Ridgeview Avenue.

An ordinance will be introduced

at Tuesday's public meeting to install granite block curbing on Ridgeview Avenue, it was announced.

A majority of the homeowners on the block are in favor of installing the curbing, the council reported.

It is estimated a quarter to a third of the residents are opposed.

A couple of homeowners failed to respond either way to a survey conducted by Township Manager Thomas E. Atkins.

Mr. Atkins said he has met with some residents of the affected block on a couple of occasions. Those opposed to installing the curbing cited the cost, he noted.

All homeowners on the street

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Explorer Post Gives To Rescue Squad Drive

Township Residents Asked to Take Part in Effort

PLEASE SEE A PICTURE ON PAGE 1

Members of Explorer Post No. 757 of Scotch Plains recently presented a check from their fund-raising efforts to Scotch Plains Rescue Squad President Daniel Sullivan and Captain Harold Hill to kick off the 1994 Fund Drive.

The post is sponsored by the squad and open to students 14 to 19 years of age who are interested in learning more about the health-care professions.

The post is approaching its first anniversary and currently has 12 active members.

The officers are: President, Joseph

D'Albero; Captain, Edward Sorge; First Lieutenant, Remo Dogra and Secretary, Jennifer Jimenez. There also are several adult advisors to this group who are regular, active members of the rescue squad.

The post will sponsor several activities to help meet their fund-raising goal and members also will volunteer their time to serve and provide first aid at the upcoming Boy Scout jamboree this weekend of May 14 and 15.

All residents of the Scotch Plains community will be receiving a fund-drive letter shortly.

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Late Schedules Slated For Registration of Voters

Extended periods of registration for the Tuesday, June 7, Primary Election have been scheduled by the Clerk's Office in Scotch Plains and Fanwood. Residents may register through Monday, May 9, at the Scotch Plains Township Clerk's Office which will be open for voter registration from 4:30 to 9 p.m. on today and tomorrow, May 5 and 6, and on May 9 as well as during the normal 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. office hours.

The Fanwood Borough Clerk's Office will be open from 4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. on May 9 as well as during its normal office hours.

To register, prospective voters must be 18 years of age on or before June 7 and must have lived in New Jersey 30 days before June 7 in order to vote in the Primary Election.

Those who have changed their address should notify the Union County Board of Elections at 271 North Broad Street, Elizabeth, 07208.

Change-of-address cards may be obtained from the respective Municipal Clerk's Office or a voter registration card maybe used.

Alterations to Former Building Of Scotchwood Pharmacy Approved

Awnings and Sign at New Thrift Drug Spark Lively Discussion by Board

By SUZETTE STALKER
Specially Written for The Times

The Fanwood Planning Board, during its regular meeting last Wednesday, approved an application by the owner of the building formerly occupied by Scotchwood Pharmacy, 44 South Martine Avenue, who recently leased the premises to Thrift Drug.

Thrift Drug required variances for its awning and sign which sparked a lively discussion by borough officials regarding aesthetics and other aspects of the project.

Attorney William Lasher, representing the building's owner, Mrs. Rita Mandel, outlined the proposed awning and sign specifics, accompanied by Nicholas Schneider of Bergen Sign Company of Paterson. The application called for the establishment's name to be printed on the awning over the front entrance and on the front wall of the building, one of several stores located in a strip along the borough's downtown area.

Officials focused their discussion on the front wall sign, which was proposed as a four-foot high forest green aluminum panel as a backdrop for light-colored lettering measuring 30 inches high. The panel format, which required a variance since it exceeded municipal height regulations, was not favored by board members, who feared the dark background would not blend well with the surrounding area.

Several board members were also concerned that an aluminum panel could set a precedent or a trend among other businesses in the area, which municipal officials and local merchants are attempting to revitalize by sprucing up the district. These efforts have recently included special attention to architectural styles and landscaping, with pastels preferred over darker shades on buildings.

Other options considered included proposed installation of dark green individualized aluminum letters

against the building's light brick facade, a concept which would keep the 30-inch letter size within the borough code's height requirement but which could also be a target for vandalism, officials observed.

They also discussed the possibility of painting the wall and the business name on the front of the building, which would eliminate fears of the lettering being detached from the wall.

The board, which had also briefly considered allowing an ivory-colored panel with dark lettering attached to the building, ultimately decided to approve the application on condition that Thrift Drug representatives agree to choose either of the first two options: Painting the wall and lettering

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TESTING SLATED FOR POLICE

The New Jersey Department of Personnel will conduct an examination for Police Officer for Scotch Plains.

Applicants must be residents of Scotch Plains and citizens of the United States, hold a valid driver's license and between the ages of 18 and 35.

Applicants will undergo a written test, background investigation, medical and psychological examinations and drug screening.

Anyone failing the drug screening is prohibited by law from applying for a position of police officer anywhere in New Jersey for two years.

Applications can be picked up at Scotch Plains Police Headquarters and must be postmarked by Saturday, May 21, or they will be rejected.

The salary range for police officer in the township is \$22,500 to \$47,209.

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And Return It to Us!



DOING THEIR GOOD DEED...Troop Leader, Mrs. Anne L. Heureux, of Evergreen School Troop No. 907 of the Brownies of Scotch Plains, left, leads the following in Saturday's township Cleanup Day: Jeanne Standler, Erica Stuppler, Dennis Standler, Caroline L. Heureux, Elizabeth Standler, Kelli Lane, Kimberlee Wergland, Heather Vittolo, Laura Schwall and two other Brownies. Please see other pictures on Page 15.

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.