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THE TIMES



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IN RECOGNITION...The Osborn Cannonball Museum in downtown Scotch Plains joins 15 other Union County historical sites celebrating our county's rich heritage this weekend, October 22 and 23. A number of costumes from Colonial times on will be on display. Scotch Plains Mayor William F. McClintock, Jr. and, far left, Deputy Mayor Robert Johnston presented a proclamation to the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Historic Society members, Mrs. Phyllis Holder and Mrs. Bonnie Pisani. For details, see the feature in last week's issue of *The Times* and *The Westfield Leader*.

CURB RAMPS TO BE INSTALLED IN DOWNTOWN BUSINESS DISTRICT

Officials Urge Council to Reject Only Bid Received for Ridgeview Avenue Curbing

Tomaro Contracting Company's Bid Was \$15,000 Over Engineering Budget Estimate of \$64,000

By GLENN R. KAPLINSKY
Specially Written for The Times

The Scotch Plains Township Council decided to alter its meeting schedule for November by moving its Tuesday, November 8 public meeting to Wednesday, November 9. The meeting will commence at 8:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building.

Township Manager Thomas E.

Atkins delivered a report on the October 13 meeting of the Suburban Joint Insurance Fund. He said effective Saturday, July 1, 1995, the municipal Excess Liability Fund, which consists of 270 municipalities, and of which Scotch Plains is a member, will afford coverage for public officials liability for employment related practices. The township currently

has \$2 million in public official liability coverage which it purchased last year in the private sector.

Mr. Atkins said he will investigate other options open to the township. Hillsborough and Chatham have expressed interest in becoming members of the fund next year.

"At this point, however, I do not believe either municipality will submit a formal application for membership in 1995," the township Manager stated.

Chatham was actually supposed to be a charter member of the fund last year, but at the last minute they declined to join. The 1994 fund budget totaled \$2,127,377. The proposed 1995 budget sees an increase of approximately 3 per cent to \$2,191,470. The main increase in the 1995 budget is due to claims adjusting.

Many claims for property damage were filed during the first six months of this year for alleged property damage as a result of the severe winter.

A single bid on September 23 for the Ridgeview Avenue curbing was received from Tomaro Contracting Company, Inc., in the amount of \$79,571 which is \$15,067 or 23.4 per cent over the Engineering Department's estimate of \$64,504 and is over what the township had budgeted. Tomaro's bid compared unfavorably with the winning bid the firm submitted at the same time for similar work on the Hoe, Jackson and St. Ann road projects.

Officials noted several of the unit prices had considerably increased. For example, the bituminous concrete surface cost was \$37 per ton for the three streets

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Angry Residents Voice Their Criticisms About Comments of Mr. Gillet, Strategic Plan

District Receives Mathematics, Science and Special Education Grants Totaling \$28,000

By AMIT MAGDIELI
Specially Written for The Times

Angry public response on a Board of Education member's previous statements and the Strategic Plan marked an abbreviated Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education open agenda meeting on October 13.

Several remarks were made against a statement board member Morris "Butch" Gillet made on September 29.

"Gillet's dissertation is false. You lied about the Board of Education, and I don't think you have any integrity and I think you're a hypocrite," Thomas Fallon said.

This attack of Mr. Gillet was greeted with applause from many of the approximately 50 people in

attendance. Audiences at recent meetings of the board are often filled with those for and against the Strategic Plan, which has given meetings a volatile flavor.

Mr. Gillet's statement called for a respectful exchange of views without personal insults and suggested that many of the ideas which some parents objected to were not new. He outlined several programs such as ones where students can talk to teachers who would act as mentors.

Another concern was voiced by a parent who questioned a survey being administered to fourth- and fifth-graders asking them questions about alcohol, marijuana and other drugs.

"Is asking fourth-grade students about the high of cocaine appropriate?" he asked.

Several people spoke on problems regarding the Strategic Plan. One said in reference to previous comments, "If anyone that opposes the Strategic Plan is a right-wing Christian radical, than is anyone who supports the plan a left-wing socialist?"

Other residents said that the incessant name calling is becoming the issue and clouding the real issue. They believe the town has a problem and needs something to pull it together.

On the agenda, shortened due to many of the issues being tabled for tonight's Board of Education meeting, Mrs. Jessica L. Simpson asked the board to rescind her September 22 resolution. The resolution was for the New Jersey School Board Association to seek state legislation reallocating \$31.25 of the monthly Supplemental Security Income benefit for certain disabled and blind children from their families to the local school districts which now bear the special educational costs for these children.

Mrs. Simpson stated that, after talking to several members of the community, she realized it was an unjust resolution because of the extraordinary burden on these families and the amount does not cover a significant portion of the cost.

The initial resolution was unanimously passed by the Board of Education in spite of strong community protest.

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Carol B. Choye, announced two

grants were given to the school system totaling approximately \$28,000. An amount of \$8,244 will be given to the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools through the Eisenhower Mathematics and Science Education Act. The money will be used to enhance the science and technology programs in the school system.

The Carl Grant will give \$19,708 for a program aimed at helping students in the Special Education curriculum get jobs in the workplace by "shadowing" an individual in a certain profession.

Dr. Choye stated at tonight's meeting that three teachers will make a presentation on how the district can integrate its social studies, English and science curriculums.

All eight Back-to-School Nights were completed without incident. Dr. Choye commended the teachers stating, "The teachers did a great job in explaining their programs to parents."

A member of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Boosters Association said the high school was honored by the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association for being one of only 25 schools in the state where the entire athletic program was disqualification free.

It Was a Night for Signs At Township Zoning Board

Events Sign Approved for Evergreen School

By JEANNE WHITNEY
Specially Written for The Times

With half of the applications before the Scotch Plains Board of Adjustment Thursday night requiring lengthy discussion about signage, Chairman Thomas Barth declared it "Sign Night."

Evergreen Elementary School took the unusual step of presenting six fifth-grade children to testify before the board in favor of a four-foot-by-eight-foot sign for the front of the school at 2280 Evergreen Avenue.

Approving all but one of six cases before the board, members also dealt with variances for additions of a pool, shed and second story.

When the fifth graders left the meeting by 9 p.m., on a school night, they had approval for their green-and-white, school-colors sign. The students described the caring atmosphere of the 350-student school for the board and the proposed use of the sign for events announcements. The sign will be next to the flagpole,

facing Evergreen Avenue.

Dr. David Laskowski, who said he lives directly across from the school, objected to the seven-foot height of the sign and asked it be lowered to no more than four feet. He also asked the sign be placed perpendicular to the avenue. Mrs. Mary Ball-Cappio, a Past President and officer of the Parent-Teachers Association, said the sign was primarily to remind parents of events, not for drivers by traffic. Mrs. Cappio did agree to lowering the adjustable legs of the sign, to reduce the height.

The sign as approved as proposed, with a maximum height of six feet allowed.

The Terrill Road Baptist Church at 1340 Terrill Road was given approval for a two-sided, five-foot-by-eight-foot illuminated sign. The Reverend Michael Seaman, Pastor, testified the church hopes to attract non-members to church events with the sign, as well as serving as a reminder, for members.

Town Manager Thomas E. Atkins, speaking as a member of the church, asked the board to consider the "quiet good work" of the church in considering the application for the sign.

Last month, the board rejected a proposal for a six-foot-by-eight-foot sign for the church. Vice Chairman of the board, Mrs. Alice Agran, said she would have liked the sign to be smaller still, but that the "earth tone" colors and design of the sign were aesthetically pleasing to her.

Mrs. Agran pointed out other signs in the area appeared to be the same size or smaller.

The sign will be perpendicular to the road and will be illuminated from dusk until midnight.

The application for a temporary sign permit of Robert Craden of RDC Company at 2056 Route No. 22 was

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Composting Class Set in Township

The Township of Scotch Plains, in conjunction with the Union County Utilities Authority, will be holding a backyard composting class on Wednesday, November 9, at the Scotch Plains Municipal Building.

The cost of the class is \$10 and a composting bin will be given to each participant — one per family. Registration is required as class size is limited to 30 participants.

Those interested can register by calling the authority at 382-9400. Additional questions should be directed to the Municipal Recycling Coordinator at 322-6700, Extension No. 243.

Woman's Club Holding Atlantic City Trip For Nurse Scholarships

The Scotch Plains Woman's Club is having a bus trip to Showboat Casino in Atlantic City on Wednesday, October 26. Proceeds from this trip will go towards the nursing scholarship.

The cost is \$22 per person and \$10 in coins will be given. A bus will leave the Scotch Plains Library Parking Lot at 8:30 a.m. and return at approximately 7 p.m. Refreshments will be served on the way home. For reservations, please call 889-4264.

College Night At High School To Be October 27

Students and their parents will be given the opportunity to hear representatives from over 130 colleges and universities at the annual College Night Program at the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School on Thursday, October 27, at 7:30 p.m.

The program is held in cooperation with the High School Guidance Department. There will be an hour and half during which parents and students may visit with official representatives and alumni of the schools.

"This will be the 43rd year that the College Club has sponsored a College Night and the enthusiasm and interest of parents and prospective students has been rewarding to the attending representatives," a spokesman said.

Shady Lane Residents Seek End To Problem of Rusty Pipe Water

Mayor Stender to Meet With Water Company Leaders Today

By MARIA YARGA
Specially Written for The Times

Several Shady Lane residents attended the October 12 meeting of the Fanwood Borough Council to seek a solution about the rusty pipe water problem which continues to exist on their street.

Mrs. Janet Winey brought a yellowed white sweater to show the

point was well-taken by the council. Mr. McManus also complained that his water pressure was low and again several of his neighbors murmured in agreement.

Mayor Stender stated that she has a meeting scheduled with a representative of the Elizabethtown Water Company today, Thursday, October 20, to discuss this specific problem. The Mayor also urged residents to voice their complaints at a Wednesday, October 26 Elizabethtown Water Company public meeting scheduled to be held in Westfield.

Raymond Manfred, the Director of Public Works, requested that the council fully support by resolution the Public Works Association's recommendation that the state of New Jersey legislate minimum requirements for certification of public works officials. He stated he had been encouraging continuing education in this area for many years and always had council support in the past. The resolution was passed.

Other resolutions which were passed unanimously were: The appointment of a new police officer to replace an officer who will retire in November, the extension of the bidding date for the construction projects taking place on Second and Helen Streets, the awarding to the Mid Atlantic Truck Center for a dump truck and plow at a cost of \$63,865 which the Mayor noted was under budget, a

mayor, Mrs. Linda Stender, and the council how this water was effecting her family's laundry.

Charles McManus presented three water filters, a white towel and the utensil holder of his dishwasher to make his point regarding how bad the situation has become.

Other sympathetic Shady Lane residents applauded his efforts and his

point was well-taken by the council. Mr. McManus also complained that his water pressure was low and again several of his neighbors murmured in agreement.

Mayor Stender stated that she has a meeting scheduled with a representative of the Elizabethtown Water Company today, Thursday, October 20, to discuss this specific problem. The Mayor also urged residents to voice their complaints at a Wednesday, October 26 Elizabethtown Water Company public meeting scheduled to be held in Westfield.

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Senate Unit Supports Naming Of Judge Coleman, See Page 21

Women Voters To Hold Night For Candidates

The Westfield Area League of Women Voters will conduct a Candidates Forum for the November Scotch Plains municipal elections on Wednesday, October 26, at 7:45 p.m. in the Scotch Plains Municipal Building Council Chambers.

All candidates are scheduled to attend, no charge. Public is invited to come and hear them speak and to put their questions.

The speaker will be Mrs. Margaret... For more information, please call...



ON THE MOVE... Two members of the Boys and Girls Raider Cross Country teams complete the course during their dual meet against Union and Kearny on October 11. Scotch Plains-Fanwood went on to win the meet. Please see Page 16.

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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 week-end 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.