



SCOTCH PLAINS

# THE TIMES

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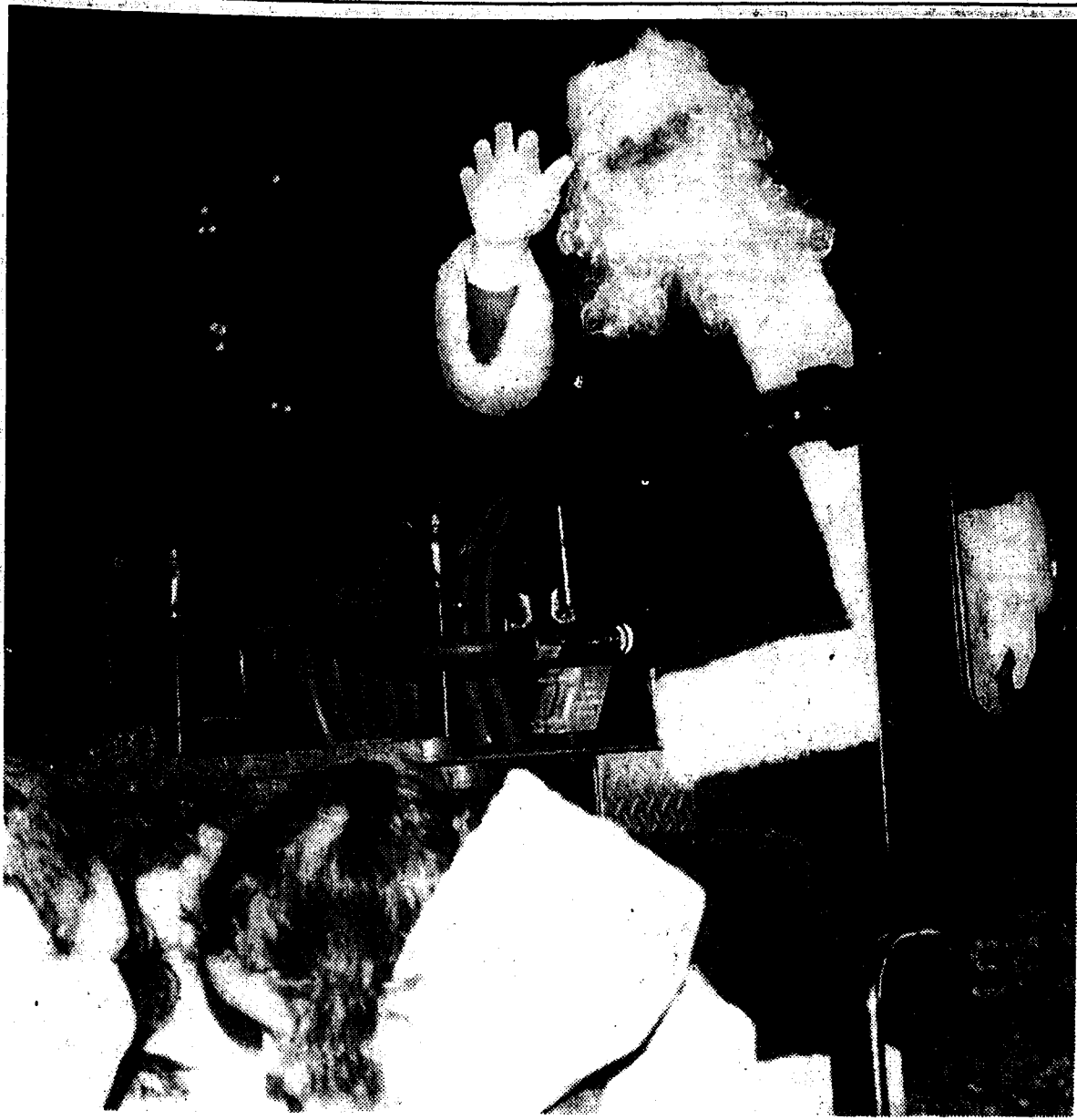
OUR 35th YEAR

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HO, HO, HO!... Santa Claus waves to the crowd gathered at the Scotch Plains Christmas tree lighting ceremony held December 1 at the Municipal Building.

PUBLIC HEARING, ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE FOR DECEMBER 20

## Scotch Plains Council Introduces Ordinance Which Bans Machines That Sell Cigarettes in Township

Issue Was Debated Over the Summer by Residents; Mayor's Gala on December 2 Raised \$1,600 for Charity

By GLENN R. KAPLINSKY  
Specially Written for The Times

The Scotch Plains Township Council introduced an ordinance, December 6, which will ban cigarette vending machines in the township. The issue was hotly contested by residents both supporting and opposing it over the summer.

The ordinance passed by a 4-1 vote. Councilwoman, Mrs. Joan Papen, opposed the ordinance which will take effect on Saturday, April 1, if adopted.

Violators will be subject to a fine of \$200 each day a cigarette vending machine is, "owned, operated or permitted on their premises."

The ordinance was passed on the urging of Harry F. "Skip" Ungar, a Brandywine Court resident. The matter had been pending since the summer.

Mr. Ungar thanked the council for their efforts in banning the machines. Second and final reading and a public hearing on the ordinance will take place on Tuesday, December 20.

Other ordinances introduced were:

- An ordinance appropriating the sum of \$150,000 from the state Department of Transportation in connection with the reconstruction of a small portion of Westfield Avenue and East Second Street from Park Avenue to Willow Avenue. The \$150,000 is in the form of a grant.

- A resolution authorizing a contract for attorney Harry Haushalter of the firm of Conley and Haushalter of Princeton, to represent the township in a tax appeal matter filed by a resident.

- Due to the professional service nature of the service, the contract was not put out to bid.

- Due to a conflict of interest, township attorney Donald T. DiFrancesco and his firm, Bivona, Cohen, Kunzman, Coley, Yospin, Bernstein and DiFrancesco, had to withdraw from the case.

- The new firm will be paid at the rate of \$100 per hour.

- A letter dated November 28 to Lake Avenue residents Mrs. Patricia Rappa and Mrs. Sarah Churgin from Township Manager Thomas E. Atkins was released. In the letter Mr. Atkins informed the women of the state Department of Transportation's action on the Lake Avenue speed limit.

- State officials have said they will not approve the recently enacted council ordinance lowering the speed limit to 25 miles-per-hour from 40 miles-per-hour since the state has jurisdiction over the road. The state, however, said they would approve a reduction of the speed limit to 35 miles-per-hour.

- The residents had pushed hard for a 25 miles-per-hour speed limit.

- An ordinance reducing the speed limit to 35 miles-per-hour on Lake Avenue was withdrawn from the council's agenda.

- The council said the composition of the area has changed toward being more residential especially since the opening of the Martine Avenue extension some years ago. The govern-

ing body said they would ask the state to address the issue once again when the Senior Citizen Housing Complex is completed some time next year.

- Two ordinances passed on second and final reading:

- An ordinance appropriating \$130,000 from a grant through the Department of Transportation in connection with the reconstruction of Deer Path.

- An ordinance which repeals a prior ordinance of August 16 which had prohibited all but right turns out of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School driveway during school hours.

- The new ordinance, which is effective immediately, will enable a motorist exiting the high school driveway during school hours to turn left, right or go straight.

- Chief of Police Robert A. Luce, in a memorandum to Mr. Atkins dated November 30, addressed questions regarding a proposed ordinance limiting parking in Municipal Parking Lot No. 2 which is bounded by Park Avenue, Bartle Avenue, Forest Road and Westfield Avenue. The proposed ordinance has been favored by all council members.

- Provisions, however, must be made for the parking needs of those who live above the downtown stores, officials noted.

- Chief Luce has spoken with William Murray and Louis Suriano about their parking requests. Mr. Suriano had been the prime supporter of the petition the township received which requested that parking in the lot be limited. The main concern raised in the petition was for vehicles parking adjacent to their businesses.

- The owners have said that many employees working in town have been taking advantage of those locations and, therefore, the "prime" parking spaces are not always available for customers.

- The Chief has requested the "restricted" parking spaces be striped

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## Study Shows Need for Senior Citizen Housing in Fanwood; Monthly Income Seen as Low

Census Reports an Increase of 66.9 Per Cent in the Number of People Aged 65 or Over in the Borough Between 1980 and 1990, the Largest Increase of Any Town in the County

By SUZETTE STALKER  
Specially Written for The Times

The Fanwood Borough Council held a special meeting last Wednesday to consider prospects for senior citizen housing, a plan generally favored by the community but one which has also peaked numerous concerns about the overall impact such facilities would have upon the municipality.

Mayor, Mrs. Linda d. Stender, told an audience of approximately 40

people that a Senior Citizen Housing Needs Survey conducted by the borough in 1988 revealed the need for and interest in "at least 100 units of senior citizen housing" but that development of affordable housing is restricted because of the scant amount of vacant land left in the borough.

The governing body subsequently submitted a proposal to Union County in late 1991 for a formal Senior Citizen Housing Feasibility Study to be performed through a Federal Com-

munity Development Block Grant, which was approved by the county and yielded analyses and recommendations for developing affordable housing for senior citizens in the borough.

Fred Michaeli, President of the Planners Diversified of Summit, which prepared the study, outlined the general need for senior citizen housing in Fanwood, noting the 1990 Census reported an increase of 66.9 per cent of people age 65 and older in

the borough between 1980 and 1990, the largest percentage increase of all 21 municipalities in Union County.

Mr. Michaeli cited demographic statistics which were compiled to support the need for senior citizen housing in Fanwood. He reported that Fanwood residents, particularly the elderly, have been affected by the reduction of investment interest rates since 1989, and that "it may be assumed that a greater number are spending more than 30 per cent of household income on monthly owner costs or gross rent."

The planner's report concerning current housing needs for borough senior citizens revealed that:

- 21.9 per cent of Fanwood's households are headed by elderly persons.

- 20 per cent of the housing units are occupied by the elderly.

- 145, or 5.9 per cent of the housing units are occupied by elderly householders whose household income is less than \$25,000.

- 27.8 per cent of Fanwood's householders receive Social Security income and 18.6 per cent receive

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## Planning Board Supports Reduction in Woodland Estates Units from 51 to 28

Housing Project Would Be Built in Scotch Plains and Plainfield

By SUZETTE STALKER  
Specially Written for The Times

The Scotch Plains Planning Board voted on December 5 to support recommendations made by the Town Council concerning the Woodland Estates, a proposed housing development of single-family homes and duplexes which are expected to be built on a parcel

of land along Woodland Avenue.

Board attorney Lawrence A. Woodruff, in an overview of the matter, explained the project evolved following a 1987 lawsuit brought against the council and hard by a developer who wanted to build 300 townhouses. The case was eventually dismissed in court.

The council subsequently submitted proposals to the state Council on Affordable Housing which led to a proposal by a second developer to build 51 regular housing units in addition to six to eight units of affordable housing on the Woodland Estates property which is located in Scotch Plains and Plainfield.

Board members supported a recommendation that the number of proposed housing units be reduced from 51 to 28 with each dwelling to have two off-street parking spaces, typically a garage and driveway.

Mr. Woodruff added the township's agreement with the developer calls for the latter to pay a certain amount of money to the municipality in lieu of building the six to eight affordable housing units, since Scotch Plains has already met its quota.

Officials also favored recom-

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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.

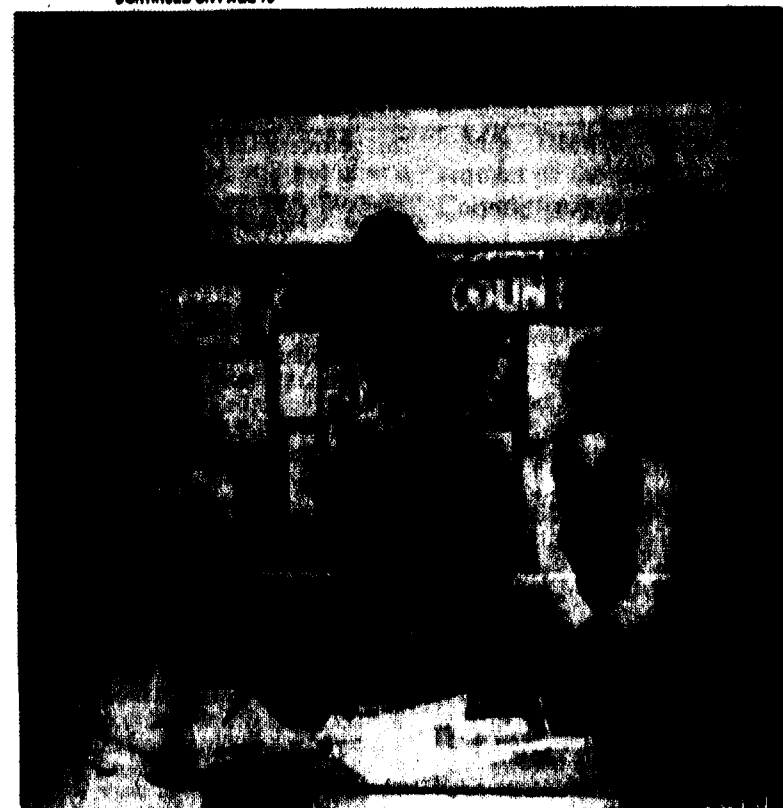
Obituaries will be taken until Tuesday at 5 p.m.

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.



BRAIN PUZZLES...Meg Brooks, right, a fifth-grader at Brunner School in Scotch Plains, checks out some reading material with her mother, Mrs. Lola Brooks, and younger sister, Kate, throughout the week of November 14, students and their parents were able to browse and buy award-winning and best-selling selections at the school's annual book fair.



LEARNING EXPERIENCE...On Election Day, November 8, McGinn School fourth graders met some local elected officials. The dignitaries included State Senate President Donald T. DiFrancesco, Representative Robert D. Franko, Assemblyman Alan M. Augustine, Union County Clerk Walter G. Halpin and Scotch Plains Councilwoman, Mrs. Irene Schmidt. Each of the guests discussed their job titles and functions of their respective offices. As part of the fourth-grade curriculum the children are learning about local and state governments and the history of the county. In April, students will be going to the county courthouse for a tour hosted by Mr. Halpin. Pictured, left to right, are Mrs. Marjorie Lawless, a fourth-grade teacher, and students Scott Wojcik, Jillian Zuber and her grandfather, Mr. Halpin.

### HOW TO GET THE TIMES

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identification sign for the purpose of providing greater awareness of the establishment's address.

Renee Gallardo, a part-owner of the salon which opened on October 13, testified that having her business's name listed with others on the facade of the building made it difficult for customers to locate it. She stated she has already had several people drive past the salon who then had to call for directions back to it.

The area where the building is located is zoned for business, board members confirmed, and several neighboring establishments have identification signs which were covered under a grandfather clause when the town enacted its ordinance concerning signs.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mazzullo of 2234 Princeton Avenue, while ex-

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### St. Bartholomew Sets Breakfast with Santa

The St. Bartholomew Home School Association will sponsor its annual "Breakfast with Santa" on Saturday, December 17, in the school auditorium located at 2032 Westfield Avenue, Scotch Plains from 9 a.m. to noon.

A continental breakfast will be served. Each child will visit with Santa, and parents can take their own pictures or have one taken. There will be door prizes, and Christmas carols will be sung. Tickets cost \$3.50.

For further information, please call 322-5631.

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SHOPPING DAYS  
LEFT TO CHRISTMAS