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BRUNNER KIDS IN CYBERSPACE



21ST CENTURY TECHNOLOGY... The New Jersey Association of School Administrators (NJASA) recently held an in-service program. Pictured, left to right, are: Ms. Sally Swetts, Brunner School Media Specialist; Jeffrey B. Ross, Director of Instructional Technologies; Ms. Evelyn J. Shepherd, Principal of Brunner Elementary School, and Dr. Carol B. Choye, Superintendent of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood School District. The special in-district seminar was designed to instruct administrators to learn how to plan, implement and use technology to meet the needs of elementary school students in developing technological skills for the 21st century. The three-session seminar covered technology, planning and implementing the elementary media center as the technological "hub" and technological resources such as: Software, CD-ROMs and the Internet applications used in the elementary program. The NJASA Continuing Education Seminar was conducted on October 8 at the Brunner Elementary School in Scotch Plains.

COMMITTEE FEELS FANWOOD NEEDS LOCAL

Borough Officials Recommend Dropping Proposed Interlocal Construction Office Agreement

By SUZETTE STALKER
Specially Written for The Times

The Fanwood Borough Council's Building and Zoning Committee has unanimously recommended that the governing body not pursue a proposed interlocal agreement with Scotch Plains under which the duties of the borough's construction office would have been assumed by the township, it was announced during the council's agenda session last Wednesday.

Councilwoman Karen M. Schurtz, the Chairwoman of the Building and Zoning Committee, reported that while some aspects of the proposed arrangement would have been advantageous to the borough, the committee ultimately felt it was in the overall best interest of the community to keep the construction office in Fanwood.

The committee, which also includes Council President Bruce H. Walsh and Councilman Louis C. Jung, had reviewed data on the proposal to de-

termine whether the interlocal agreement would be economically feasible for the borough. Officials, who recently commissioned a space study of borough buildings, were also considering the arrangement as a possible way of freeing up additional space for administrative offices at Borough Hall.

Among the advantages of the agreement, according to the councilwoman, would have been that the Scotch Plains office is open 40 hours a week, while Fanwood only has 21 business hours, although the borough office is open Monday and Thursday evenings. The Scotch Plains construction office does not have evening hours.

The township also has a greater number of construction office inspectors, although one of the committee's concerns was whether Fanwood residents would still receive the same priority since Scotch Plains was not expected to hire additional staff for that department.

The schedule of hours for the Fanwood construction office, though they will not increase, are expected to be rearranged in order to provide more opportunities for people to come in during the week, the councilwoman confirmed.

Councilwoman Schurtz said the projected disadvantages of the agreement would include loss of revenue generated by the sale of permits, which is used to pay the salary of Zoning Officer Nancy Koederitz and also contributes to the borough's general revenue. In addition, Fanwood residents would lose the convenience of having the construction office in their own community, as well as the "in-house expertise" of Construction Official James Silance, she said.

Under new business, the council also approved a resolution transferring funds allocated in its bond ordinance for milling and general up-grading work which is expected to be

done next spring on North Avenue, from Hunter Avenue to Terrill Road, as well as on Thorne Place. The bid for the two projects came in at less than the amount earmarked for North Avenue but more than was allocated for Thorne, so a transfer of money from one account to another was necessary before the bid can be awarded.

The governing body also supported a resolution formally approving adjustment of the contract price for the first phase of work done last fall on North Avenue, from Martine Avenue to Hunter Avenue, based on recent changes in state striping and paving requirements, as well as various additions and deletions which were part of the overall project.

In other business, Borough Attorney Dennis Estis reviewed Statutes 40 and 40A of the state code by which municipalities are governed, during which he discussed the roles and responsibilities of the Mayor, Borough Council and borough commissions, and how they interact with one another.

Mayor Maryanne S. Connelly recommended the document be reviewed on an annual basis in order to avoid confusion concerning the different levels of local government.

The chief powers of the Mayor, Mr. Estis explained, include ensuring that state laws and borough ordinances are carried out in the municipality; recommending measures which will benefit the community; appointing people to municipal positions or boards; administering oaths of office, and serving as a member of the Planning Board and the Library Board of Trustees.

Mr. Estis added that a lesser-known prerogative of the Mayor is the power to veto an ordinance or resolution, although the council can override a Mayorial veto with a two-third vote by the full governing body. He noted, however, that neither of these options are common occurrences.

The council has the authority to create new positions in accordance with state law; to pass resolutions approving the awarding of bids, payment of debts and adoption of municipal budgets; the right to appoint an administrator and to adopt an administrative code, and subpoena power similar to that of a Congressional committee, the borough attorney reported.

In reviewing the role of borough commissions, Mr. Estis spotlighted the Fanwood Recreation Commission, which is comprised of eight representatives, including the Mayor as an ex-officio member, as well as two alternates.

He said this body has the authority to purchase property for park land; to undertake surveys; to charge certain fees for park use by the public; to hire people for programs and maintenance work, and to improve and maintain property which is within its jurisdiction.

Scotch Plains Health Day Events Announced

The Township of Scotch Plains will be holding its eighth annual Health Fair for township residents exclusively on Saturday, October 19, at the Municipal Building on Park Avenue between 8 a.m. and noon. A variety of free health programs will be featured at the event, which is being sponsored by the Scotch Plains Health Advisory Board.

Planned programs are expected to include hearing and vision exams; spinal and scoliosis analysis; an oral cancer screening and pulmonary function test. There will also be free medical screenings to detect colon-rectal cancer (home test kit), and hypertension, as well as the SMAC-23 CBC blood test to detect, from one sample, abnormalities related to cholesterol and triglycerides, which are associated with the increased probability of heart disease.

The test, which costs \$20, is also an indicator for diabetes, various liver disorders and anemia, in addition to being a complete blood workup. Prepayment and pre-registration is necessary. The test requires 12 hours of fasting, excluding water.

Anyone interested in taking this test should call or visit the Scotch Plains Health Department to register. To register for the test or to receive further information on any Health Fair events please call 322-6700, Extension No. 309.

The township's monthly hypertension clinic, which offers screenings for high blood pressure, will be held for October at the Municipal Building in conjunction with the Health Fair. In addition, free influenza immunizations will be offered to senior citizens living in the township.

Proof of age will be required for the immunizations and senior citizens are reminded to bring their Medicare Number/Card with them. Anyone allergic to eggs, chicken, chicken feathers, or chicken dander should not receive this vaccine without first contacting their physician.

School immunizations will also be available for students, who must be accompanied by a parent and present a request slip from their school nurse. Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center of Union County will provide free blood pressure screenings, coun-

selling and a pulmonary function test. Railway Hospital will offer information and counseling regarding medication and/or prescriptions which people are currently taking.

Overlook Audiology Department and Hearing Services will offer free hearing screenings.

The Scotch Plains Lions Club will sponsor free eye screenings for glaucoma, cataracts, diabetes and visual acuity in the Lions No. 16-E Eye/Ear Mobile Trailer, which will be located in the Municipal Parking Lot on Park Avenue. Screenings will be performed by ophthalmologist Dr. Milton Franklin from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. No appointment is necessary.

Owner of Dangerous Dogs Fined \$200 by Judge

Fanwood Man Found Guilty of Violating Court Order

By JEANNE WHITNEY
Specially Written for The Times

A Scotch Plains Township judge found Fanwood resident William Barnes guilty Monday of violating a court order to keep two "potentially dangerous" dogs locked up in Garden State Kennels of Stirling pending compliance with the order, fining him \$200 for the violation. Judge Joseph Perfilio said he was fining Mr. Barnes \$100 a day for "at least the two days, that I'm sure of, that the defendant had the dogs in his possession."

Mr. Barnes, who testified he took the dogs from the kennels only for distemper shots, was also fined \$725 in May when he pleaded guilty to three charges after the two husky mixed-breed dogs reportedly killed one pet dog and maulled another in March on Jerusalem Road near Malcolm Place. Kennel employees previously testified that Mr. Barnes' dog killed another dog while in the kennels.

President of Garden State Kennels, Peter Pellisier, showed Judge Perfilio a bill to Mr. Barnes for boarding charges at the kennel that indicates the dogs were out of the kennels for most of July and August.

Scotch Plains resident Mrs. Sharon Weichert, whose dog was mauled,

said she notified the township several times that the dogs had been released to Mr. Barnes, after she saw them on his property.

A lawyer for Mr. Barnes, John DeMassi, told the judge that a handwritten log from the kennels indicating that the dogs were out of the kennels for more than two days was "absolutely not a business record."

Mr. Pellisier said the dogs were in the kennels from March until July with no instructions from the township as to what was to become of the dogs. Judge Perfilio said Township Health Official Andrew T. Snyder notified the kennels that Mr. Barnes must offer proof of tattooing the dogs and secure fences in compliance with the court order before the releasing of the dogs.

At one point, Mr. Barnes testified that he agreed to euthanize his two dogs but then changed his mind.

Mr. Barnes said he attempted to license the dogs through Fanwood, in August, but was told he must first tattoo a number on the dogs' ears, according to New Jersey state law. The tattoo is a tool for tracking the dogs since they were declared "po-

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Scotch Plains Council Appropriates \$80,000 In State Funds for Handicapped Accessibility

Public Facility Improvements to Be Made at Township Library and Municipal Building

By JEANNE WHITNEY
Specially Written for The Times

The Scotch Plains Township Council unanimously passed three ordinances on a final reading Tuesday night, and thanks to the effects of Tropical Storm Josephine outside, the televised council meeting had no competition from the rained-out American League Championship playoffs between the New York Yankees and Baltimore Orioles.

The council approved an ordinance that appropriates \$80,000 from the Community Development Fund to improve public facilities for handicapped and disabled persons. Councilwoman Joan Papan cited proposed improvements to the township library and municipal building.

The council also adopted an ordinance that repeals the "code of ethics" section of township ordinances, because, as Councilman William F. McClintock, Jr. explained, a separate code of ethics written under the State of New Jersey guidelines by the township Ethical Standards Board replaces the repealed code. The code deals with financial disclosure and possible conflict of interests for public officials.

A different ordinance revising township elevator inspection fees was adopted, following the recommendations of Construction Official Robert LaCosta, to raise some and lower others.

In other business, Mrs. Papan announced that the township received \$107,662 in federal and state funds through Union County Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offices for help in meeting expenses incurred as a result of severe winter weather conditions earlier this year. Mrs. Papan credited the township's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Team with compiling the necessary evidence to receive the funding.

In a separate move, Democratic candidate for council Kenneth Lipstein proposed from the floor, what he called an "anti-graffiti" ordinance that would require five to 10 hours of community service for those found guilty of defacing public property.

Mr. Lipstein said he found graffiti in township parks to be a problem. Attorney for the township, Ms. Judith A. Babinski, said she would review the proposal. Mr. Lipstein is also an attorney.

Former township Mayor and mem-

ber of the Ethical Standards Board, Albert Theurer, asked the council what it was doing about heavy traffic on Park Avenue. Mr. McClintock responded that it was now a regional problem as well as a local issue.

"It's a county road. We're a main thoroughfare from Rahway to Route 78."

Over 30,000 cars per day use the Route No. 22 overpass in the township, he said.

Referring to the State of New Jersey Department of Transportation (DOT), Mr. McClintock said, "DOT knows about it and is working on it." Mayor Alan M. Augustine said he would like to see left-turn signals or a dedicated left-turn lane at the downtown intersections on Park Avenue.

In other business, the township accepted bids totaling over \$48,000 for three lawn mowers to maintain township property.

No decision on five bids received since September 26 for township janitorial services had been made, officials said.

The council unanimously agreed to appoint Ms. Mary Nell Jones Tax Search Officer. She is currently a Tax Collector for the township, officials said.

Earlier in a council conference meeting, attorneys for the township said an ordinance allowing fire and police departments officials to turn off noisy home security alarms from outside the house was being reviewed by Police Chief Thomas O'Brien. Council members said they hoped to introduce the ordinance by the next regular meeting, Tuesday, October 22.

Last month, the council indicated the township received complaints from residents about neighbors' malfunction-

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Scotch Plains Planning Board Grants Driving Course for Police Academy

By SALLY E. BECKWITH
Specially Written for The Times

Former Scotch Plains Police Chief Robert Luce, now Director of Training at the John H. Stamler Union County Police Training Academy at the Union County Vocational-Technical Schools, located on Raritan Road, led off in a presentation by the Union County Prosecutors' Office of the Cumulative Skill Driving Course for Union County police.

The 100-by-300-foot course is being moved by the county from Linden Airport because the airport is being sold for development of that property.

As described by Director Luce, Chief David Hancock, Chief Detective in the county Prosecutor's Office, and Union County Director of Operational Services Armand A. Fiorletti, training at this course is mandated for the more than 1,700 police officers and trainees in Union County.

The program is administered jointly by the Prosecutor's Office and the Union County Police Chiefs' Association and the project has received the full support of the Board of Trustees of the Vocational-Technical Schools, where it will be located.

Chief Hancock cited the course's goal of building police driving skills in both routine and emergency situations, thereby reducing accidents and injuries of both police and civilians.

Both Mr. Luce and Mr. Hancock testified that there would be no more than two cars on the course at any given time, with allowed speeds of

only up to 30 miles per hour. The sound of sirens will be on a tape inside the participant's car, cutting down noise, and the course will be fully supervised during all times of operation.

The course, along with the entire Vocational-Technical Schools' parking area, will be repaired and repaved with protective guardrail barriers and new lighting around the perimeters. Training times will be scheduled to allow all police departments flexibility in sending their officers, so there will be some early evening and Saturday sessions. Chief Hancock reminded the board that, "We put officers behind the wheel every day, so there is a real need to improve the driving skill of all our police officers and trainees."

In response to nearby residents' concerns over possible disturbing noise and bright lights, Chief Hancock replied, "I'll give you my number. Call me if you have any problems."

Chairman George Tomkin thanked the team for their courtesy in reviewing the plan for the board, who then gave it their unanimous approval.

The hearing for the subdivision request of Jentra, Inc., 324 Stout Avenue, was postponed until the next meeting, Monday, November 4.

The board next addressed the site plan request of Dr. Robert Fallon for construction of a one-story building and 15-space parking lot for his chiropractic practice on the corner of Westfield Avenue and Forest Road. As presented by Attorney Robert Sasso for Dr. Fallon, variances for

front and rear setbacks and parking will be needed for the 3,180-square foot Colonial brick building that will house Dr. Fallon's office, examining and rehabilitation therapy rooms.

Residents near the proposed building were present in the audience to both support Dr. Fallon as a "good neighbor," and express concern over parking overflow and traffic in nearby residential streets. Although several board members seemed prepared to vote on the application, board member Dr. Martin Marks expressed his misgivings that, "We have not adequately addressed the concerns of

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DEADLINES HELP PAPER SERVE YOU

Those preparing press releases for submission to 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.

Times releases also may be mailed 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.