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SIXTY CENTS

Council Awards Contract For Public Works Facility

By FRED T. ROSSI
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

SCOTCH PLAINS — The township council on Tuesday awarded a \$99,893 bid for construction of a five-bay storage facility at the Public Works facility on Plainfield Avenue that will house recently-purchased equipment shared by Scotch Plains, Fanwood and the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education. Security Structures Inc. of Basking Ridge will construct the facility on a parcel of land situated at the northern edge of the adjacent Scotch Hills Country

Club. Councilman Frank Rossi said that the township's share of the new structure's costs, which will be split among the three entities, will be about \$30,000, with state grant funds offsetting some of the expense. He said the new building is pre-fabricated and the township hopes the structure can be erected in the next several months. At Tuesday's meeting, the council also approved a \$109,000 bond ordinance to finance the facility's construction. In other business, the council gave

final approval to a police department salary ordinance in conjunction with the recent settlement between the township and the local PBA on a new four-year contract. The ordinance sets out salary ranges for various department officials and officers depending on their dates of hire.

The council approved a separate resolution authorizing the mayor to sign the four-year contract, which runs from Dec. 31, 2004 to Dec. 31, 2008.

"This was not an easy contract to negotiate," Mayor Martin Marks said, noting that police department salaries and wages are the largest line item in the municipal budget.

They approved a resolution accepting \$25,000 from the state's Livable Communities Grant Program that Councilwoman Carolyn Sorge said will be used to make improvements to the municipal building on Park Avenue.

Mayor Marks announced that, between Sept. 15 of this year and June 30, 2006, Parker Greenhouses on Terrill Road will donate 10 percent of its proceeds to the township library. Customers need to mention the library when making their purchase, Mayor Marks said, adding that the donation "will go a long way to securing funds for everyday library activities."

Councilwoman Nancy Maloolu announced that the council gave



PLENTY OF DOUGH...Construction remodeling of the Dunkin' Donuts at South and Martine Avenues in Fanwood speeds along.



HISTORY MARKED...The sign marking the Fanwood Park Historic District was unveiled on Sunday with Mayor Colleen Mahr officiating. The double-sided sign in front of borough hall on Martine Avenue is hand-carved on a mahogany background accented with contrasting colors. The steam engine symbolizes the role that the railroad played in the history of Fanwood. Dee O'Brien, chairwoman of the Fanwood Historic Preservation Commission, far right in the first row, and to her right is Mayor Mahr. A reception of light refreshments followed on the patio at nearby Patrician Kuran Arts Center.

BOE Hears Presentation of Draft SP-F Language Arts Curriculum

By MEGHAN GILL
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Scotch Plains-Fanwood school district has implemented a copy of the new draft elementary Language Arts Program curriculum, presented by Diane Kelly, supervisor of the kindergarten-to-fifth-grade curriculum.

An overview of the new curriculum was presented to the board of education last Thursday night.

The revised curriculum meets national standards that encourage reading habits, are teacher-friendly and do not involve district spending for new text books. The national standards have been drawn from a policy that emerged from the National Center for Education and Economy, University of Pittsburgh.

"These are not federal government standards, but a national standard that has been set by this group," board member Betty Woerner said. The new standards are not a "huge change from the past but rather a continuation of previous procedures," said Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Dr. Margaret Hayes.

Parents can look at the new curriculum at Hayes' office, and they will be available shortly to the public at the public school libraries. Board member Robert O'Connor suggested that the curriculum be made available to the public via the district's website, which will be considered once the binders are completed.

The board discussed a new policy in Coles and McGinn Schools ban-

ning edible treats for birthday celebrations, in response to a letter submitted to the board from Dawn Fabricatore. The measure is intended to address the issues surrounding childhood obesity, and the board plans to examine the use of vending machines, cafeteria menus and fundraising events that revolve around selling edible treats in the future in their nutrition policy.

Board President Linda Nelson said, "The board does not usually get into this policy because it is based on federal and state guidelines."

Nelson attended a press conference in Trenton on behalf of the Garden State Coalition, an advocacy group representing parents, board-of-education members and adminis-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Decision Pending on Plainfield Mayor McWilliams' Party Switch

By PAUL J. PEYTON
And CAROL F. DAVIS
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

WESTFIELD — As The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times went to press yesterday, Union County State Superior Court Assignment Judge Walter Barisonok was to hear arguments from attorneys about whether Plainfield Mayor Al McWilliams should be allowed to run as a Republican for reelection in November.

Judge Barisonok stopped printing ballots for the city's mayoral contest last week until he rendered a decision in the case. Union County Counsel Robert Barry, Attorney General Peter Harvey and the Union County Democratic Committee filed legal briefs on Monday.

Mayor McWilliams was bounced from the county's regular Democrat organization line in May and replaced by Plainfield Board of Education

President Sharon Robinson-Briggs. The mayor ran off the line but lost by 325 votes.

Phil Morin, Chairman of the county's GOP committee, based in Westfield, said Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi declared Mayor McWilliams ineligible based on a state statute that precludes candidates in a primary from running for the

same position under a different political party in the general election.

N.J.S.A. 19:13-14.1 provides that: "A person whose name appears on the ballot at a primary election as a candidate for nomination by a political party for any municipal office shall not be eligible to serve as the candidate of any other political party

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

FW Redevelopment Projects Underway on South Avenue

By ANNA GITHENS
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

FANWOOD — Several redevelopment projects are under construction or are in the advanced planning stages along South Avenue in downtown Fanwood, as illustrated by the photographs on this page.

The Borough of Fanwood is a fully developed residential town of 1.3 square miles and slightly more than seven thousand inhabitants. The borough has virtually no industry in its tax base. In its business district, redevelopment is aggressively underway.

With the approval of three major projects, one currently underway (across from Chelsea Assisted Living Home on the corner of First Street and South Avenue), the borough is pioneering many improvements that it hopes will forever change and enhance future prospects.

The Mattress Factory on South Avenue has a new facade that holds a new factory and showroom inside.

K-9 Resorts Daycare and Luxury Hotel is a recent addition to the borough.

The old Dunkin' Donuts on the corner of Martine Avenue and South Avenue will soon be replaced by an improved, larger one (pictured above) so it can better serve its ever-growing clientele.

The renditions shown to the left depict three separate projects on South Avenue that have advanced within the approval process. Upon completion, these three-story structures will serve as multi-use developments that will provide commercial, residential and retail opportunities. The project at 300 South Avenue is currently under construction with demolition of the old building now accomplished.

The artists' renderings shown are of the future projects scheduled for 222, 234 and 300 South Avenue. All are within two blocks of each other. The borough expects these redevelopments to fully enhance the appearance of the downtown, especially since this is some of the first major new construction the borough has seen in 30 years.

For further information, please see Mayor Colleen Mahr's letter to the editor on page 4 of this edition of The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times.



SOUTH AVENUE VISION...Artist renditions illustrate redevelopment plans for South Avenue in Fanwood. Pictured, from top to bottom, are: 222, 234 and 300 South Avenue.

Tenth Fanny Wood Day on Tap Sunday in Borough's Downtown

By SUZETTE F. STALKER
Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

FANWOOD — An autumn tradition will return this Sunday, October 2, with the 10th annual Fanny Wood Day celebration, to be held from noon to 5 p.m. along South and Martine Avenues in downtown Fanwood.

Named for the community's own folklore heroine, the festival this year will be part of Fanwood's celebration of its 110th year since being incorporated as a borough. The rain date is next Sunday, October 9.

Fifty-one vendors are scheduled to take part in the street fair, in addition to local businesses that plan to hold sidewalk sales, said Jennifer Ricci, executive director of The Chelsea at Fanwood and co-chairwoman of the Fanny Wood Day committee. The festival also will feature an eclectic blend of entertainment, food, contests and activities for all ages. Additionally, a classic car show will be held in the south side Fanwood train station parking lot to benefit Children's Specialized Hospital.

"We're having new entertainment as well as an expanded children's amusement area and a variety of contests, so there's something for everyone," Councilwoman Donna Dolce, co-chairwoman and governing body liaison to the Fanny Wood Day Committee, told The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times last week. "I think it's really become a community event."

The festivities will kick off at noon with a presentation of colors by the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School ROTC, as well as the opening of the car show for viewing and judging.

At 1 p.m., Mr. and Mrs. Fanwood will be introduced, and at 1:30 p.m., the winner of this year's poetry contest will be announced. Both events will take place on the center stage at the intersection of South and Martine

Avenues.

There will be a center-stage performance by the Deirdre Shea Irish Dancers at 1:45 p.m., followed by a pie-eating contest sponsored by the Double Dipper Café on South Martine Avenue at 2 p.m. and a 50/50 drawing at 2:30 p.m. Sargent's Elite School Of Gymnastics also is expected to have representatives at the street fair.

The day's itinerary will continue on the center stage at 3 p.m. with a best beard contest, while at 3:30 p.m. the Sweet Adeline quartet "Escape" will give a barbershop-style vocal

This year, the children's entertainment area will be broadened to include an even greater scope of activities, sponsored in part by Independence Bank. Among the highlights will be Undersea Adventure, the Goofy Gator Obstacle Course, Moonwalk, Sea Bounce, Slide Fun House and Sports Zone Games.

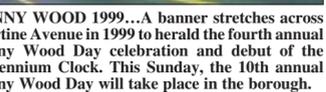
Less-physical offerings will be available for youngsters as well, including pony rides and traditional arcade games with prizes awarded to the winners. According to the Fanny Wood Day Committee, certain activities will have age limitations so younger children will not have to compete with older ones for play space. Youngsters will have an opportunity to play all day for a \$10 fee, excluding pony rides.

Adding to the fun will be Oopside Daze the clown, who will circulate among the crowd crafting her balloon designs.

"It's very exciting," Ms. Ricci remarked to The Times on Monday about co-chairing the Fanny Wood Day Committee. "Most of the committee members have lived in the community for many years, and they really love Fanwood and want the community to shine."

The borough's 110th birthday celebration week also will include the "Fanwood Concert in the Park" on Saturday, October 1, from 3 to 5:30 p.m. featuring The Fabulous Greaseband. It will take place at the north side train station park on Martine Avenue.

Participants are invited to bring lawn chairs and blankets, snacks and beverages. Birthday cake will be served during intermission.



FANNY WOOD 1999...A banner stretches across Martine Avenue in 1999 to herald the fourth annual Fanny Wood Day celebration and debut of the Millennium Clock. This Sunday, the 10th annual Fanny Wood Day will take place in the borough.

performance. An additional 50/50 drawing will be held at 4:30 p.m. Tickets for the drawings will be sold throughout the day.

Various non-profit agencies and community groups will be on hand during the celebration to provide information about services and activities they offer to the community. There also will be a blood drive.

PAGE INDEX

Regional	2-3	Obituary	10	Real Estate	13-19
Editorial	4-5	Education	11	A&E	21-22
Community	6-9	Sports	13-18	Classifieds.....	20