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Scotch Plains – Fanwood



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EAST SECOND ST., WESTFIELD & PLAINFIELD AVE.'S WOULD BE NAMED 'TOWNE CENTRE'

Downtown Development Committee's Report Proposes New Front on Municipal Building

By JEANNE WHITNEY
Specially Written for The Times

The Scotch Plains Downtown Development Committee (DDC) gave the Township Council a wish list last week that included proposals for renaming East Second Street, designing a new facade for the Municipal Building and selling township property along Park Avenue for commercial development.

According to the committee, the nine recommendations seek "to improve the business district image and make it a vital, attractive and competitive provider of services to our

community."

The committee, chaired by resident Arthur J. Grisi, asked the council for \$30,000 in "seed money" from next year's municipal budget so that a task force can begin to pursue the DDC's recommendations. The committee was appointed by Mayor Irene T. Schmidt in January.

The DDC reports that selling the township property on the edge of the Municipal Building parking lot on Park Avenue — and its subsequent development — would pay for most of the committee's other proposals.

Professional planners hired by the

township see room for six retail stores with professional offices above on the strip of property next to Fagioli Restaurant, according to the plan.

Councilman Martin Marks, Liaison to the Development Committee, said during a council conference that professional planners insist businesses must be on both sides of Park Avenue for downtown development to succeed.

Deputy Mayor Joan Papen objected to the notion of selling the strip of township property where there are now hedges and signs.

"I don't want to change the character of our downtown," she said.

Other proposed changes to the township business district include identifying it as the "Towne Centre" and adding the name "Centre Boulevard" to East Second Street and Westfield and Plainfield Avenues within the township. Banners with a new logo and motto, "Enjoy the Hometown Feeling," would be added to utility poles in the district.

Twenty-five sidewalk benches are also part of the plan.

The committee's recommendation to add a new front to the present Municipal Building took some officials by surprise.

According to the DDC report, "The architectural look of the Municipal Building is not in line with the traditional facade style we are striving for. A new facade would add to the attractiveness of the downtown and present an example to landlords and developers of the style of buildings we want to have."

Mr. Grisi told the council that, "The focal point of the district ought to be Town Hall and right now, the look of it is not appealing."

A specific historical style for the building's facade was not mentioned in the committee's report, although some have said that the township's founding in 1684 would indicate a Colonial theme. Others have said they favor, for example, Victorian-era street lamp designs.

Other DDC suggestions included looking at sign and zoning ordinances, adding outdoor directory signs in the district and signs along Route No. 22 for "Towne Centre."

Officials said \$25,000 out of the

\$30,000 needed to fund the committee's recommendations would be included in next year's municipal budget proposals and council members could then decide whether to approve it.

On a separate matter, the council said the township was communicating with private garbage haulers after the township did not buy into a 25-year contract with the Union County Utilities Authority in a deal to guarantee the financial survival — in a post waste flow controls era — of the Union County Resource Recovery Facility, commonly known as the incinerator, last month.

In other business, the council agreed during its conference session to support legislation to add public playgrounds and other recreation facilities to a "drug free school zone" law where fines and jail sentences are automatically doubled if offenders are within 1,000 feet of schools.

The council also agreed to support the South Orange Village Township in its bid for state legislation to allow "incentive zones" in municipal commercial areas. Under the plan, towns would be able to keep state sales tax funds collected that is above an annual baseline amount owed to the state.

It is thought the measure could ultimately provide funding for improvements to revitalize downtowns.

Another measure to require landlords to register the names of tenants with the township was endorsed by council members. Mayor Schmidt called the recommendation from the township Construction Department "a good idea."

During last week's regular meeting, the council withdrew an ordinance to sell township property for a minimum bid of \$10,000 at 659 Jerusalem Road, saying the property would be a buffer between commercial and residential zones.

The public hearing had been scheduled to continue from the last meeting when it was withdrawn.

Ordinances to appropriate funds totaling \$255,000 from the state Department of Transportation were approved by the council at the regular meeting. An ordinance that dovetails with state legislation to provide public defense in municipal courts also received a unanimous vote from the council.

On other matters, the council agreed to consider adding curbs and fixing potholes on Hamlette Place after residents complained. Officials said there were violations connected with two vacant lots on the street.

Two strips of property originally designated as streets named Shepards and Gables along Terrill Road between Front Street and the Green Brook will be vacated by the township since they were never developed, according to the council.

Two residents got the okay from the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS...The Fanwood Lions Club decorated this tree during last year's celebration with donated eyeglasses which were collected during the year. The club maintains an eyeglass drop-off box on South Avenue during the year. Pictured, left to right, are: Bob McCarthy, Paul Krzywanowski, June McCarthy and Fanwood Councilman Dr. Chester R. Lindsey. Please see a story on Page 9.

TWO FLOATER POSITIONS CONSIDERED TO CUT CUSTODIAL 'TIME AND A HALF' COSTS

McGinn 'Authors' Share Hardcover Books With BOE as Part of 'Leap to Literacy' Grant

By SUSAN DYCKMAN
Specially Written for The Times

During its public meeting on November 25, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education enjoyed a series of readings from McGinn Elementary School students who were eager to share the hardcover books they had written and illustrated as part of the "Leap to Literacy" grant obtained by teacher Joan Costello.

Students Michael Bello, Jillian and Chelsea Lusk, Laura Webb, James Alfano, and Nicole and Colleen Hagerty were featured during the meeting. Titles ranged from "The Strange Jellyfish" and "The New York Rangers" to "Can A Bear Be President?"

When Ms. Costello first applied to the Educational Enrichment Foundation for the grant, she intended to use it solely for her first-grade students.

With the support of McGinn's present and former principals, Mariana Cassidy and Barbara Newbaker; Parent-Teacher Association (PTA), teachers and staff, Ms. Costello (now a third-grade teacher) parlayed the program into a project for the entire student body — more than 500 students.

"Every student in the school had the opportunity to produce their own book," she said.

"The grant (symbolized) two things I hold dear," Ms. Costello added, "that children learn to read by reading and that reading and writing are intertwined."

In addition to presenting their creations at an "Author's Night" last June, students who participated in the program have the pleasure of having their books shelved in the school library for fellow students and parents to enjoy.

Successful in getting the grant renewed for a second year, Ms. Costello took the "Leap to Literacy" a step further by creating a buddy program between McGinn's Kindergarten and third-grade students.

The older children serve as readers, writers and editors for the younger students.

"The final product," said Ms. Costello, "is a hardcover book."

During the regular portion of the meeting, the board discussed correspondence received from Terrill Middle School regarding its lift for physically-disabled students.

"The lift was installed four years ago," said Board President Dr. Donald E. Sheldon, "to facilitate the movement of physically-handicapped children between the first and second floors."

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Carol B. Choye, added that the track record for lifts within the district (one at Terrill and two at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School) is "not very positive."

She noted that the Terrill lift had broken down three times last week alone. The high school lift is used infrequently.

While the administration is investigating the possibility of installing elevators in lieu of the lifts to accommodate special-needs students, the Superintendent said that decision would not be inexpensive, necessitating a budget question sometime in the future, and would be time-consuming — taking six months or more to install.

In the meantime, said Dr. Choye, "teachers are trying to figure out a way to keep physically-disabled students' moves (from floor to floor) to one per day." In addition, Terrill Principal John C. Foulks is trying to re-route children using other staircases. If a lift is in operation, the staircase

can not be used by students on foot.

Under the Superintendent's Report, the board voted to approve the new Technology Plan, "Structuring the Future: Advancing the New Literacy." The board also approved the Kindergarten to grade 12 Science Content Standards and Proficiencies.

To date, board members have approved content standards and proficiencies for mathematics, science, technology and world language. The next program up for review is special education.

In other business, the board approved a series of mini grants to teachers across the elementary, middle and high schools. Grants include titles such as "Battle of the Books: Grades 4 and 5," "A Study on the Constitution and Government: Grade 7," "Introducing Geometry on the Personal Computer: Grades 6-8" and "Physical Science with Computers and Universal Lab Interfaces: Grades 11-12."

"These are an excellent example of good teaching and good learning for our students," said Board member Theresa A. Larkin.

Dr. Choye added, "The quality of these programs and their focus on the importance of learning is extraordinary."

After much discussion, the board voted unanimously to approve the administration's recommended adjustments to the 1997-1998 budget for the month of July.

Finance Committee Chairman Edward J. Saridaki, Jr. said that, by allowing the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary Matthew Clarke to obtain a "hard close" on the district's financial report for the month of July, the administration and board will be able to determine where the "glitches" are in the accounting software.

He said the board's approval of these adjustments for the first month of the budget year is critical to prevent creation "of a large snowball which will be difficult to correct." Mr. Saridaki expects the budget adjustments to be up to date by January.

Prior to the vote, several board members, including Mrs. Larkin, Richard R. Meade and August A. Ruggiero, expressed concern that they were being asked to vote on information they had received on November 21.

Mr. Meade raised the possibility of hiring temporary help to facilitate Mr. Clarke's efforts to bring the budget reports up to date as quickly as pos-

sible. In thanking Mr. Meade, Dr. Choye said, "It's good to have that suggestion come from the board if we need some extra support."

She assured board members that information would be delivered to them in a more timely fashion as the board returns to its regular Thursday meeting schedule in December.

At the conclusion of the business portion of the agenda, Dr. Choye presented an update on the under-budgeted areas in the current school budget. These include: substitute teachers, maintenance, telephone and custodial overtime.

Of greatest concern to Dr. Choye was the \$67,779 spent through the months of July, August and September on custodial overtime. The entire budget for the year amounts to \$80,000.

Dr. Choye did point out that expenditures for those months were \$11,221 less than the \$79,000 spent during the same period in 1996.

She assured the board it would be seeing the results of cost-control measures shortly.

"We will need to come back to you with a budget adjustment (in this area)," Dr. Choye said.

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CARD CATALOG WOULD BE PUT ON COMPUTER WITH 18 TERMINALS TO BE ADDED

Mayor Schmidt Urges Council to Move Ahead With Automation of Scotch Plains Library

By JEANNE WHITNEY
Specially Written for The Times

Nearly at the year's end, Scotch Plains Mayor Irene T. Schmidt encouraged the Township Council on Tuesday in a conference meeting to move ahead with plans to "automate" or computerize the township's public library, saying, "Let's make it a Christmas present to the town."

Councilman William F. McClintock, Jr., council Liaison to the library Board of Trustees, said the board — with the help of the council's Technology Advisory Committee — is satisfied with the lowest bid on a proposal to put the card catalog on computer and add 18 more terminals to the library at a cost of about \$180,000.

The so-called automation system is the same one used by neighboring Westfield, Mountainside, Berkeley Heights and others, he said.

The cost alone of converting the existing card catalog to the new system is \$47,000 and will take six months to a year and a half to do, according to the plan. Residents will be able to access the card catalog in their search for books and other materials from home computers via the Internet when it is finished.

A maintenance contract on the computer system for the succeeding four or five years will be an additional \$10,000 to \$12,000 a year, Mr. McClintock said.

"We've been gradually moving into technology at the library over the past five years," Mr. McClintock said, with returned books being scanned into a computer system.

"Even though fewer books are being checked out each year, over the past few years, library usage has gone up," he said, attributing the change to a higher use of technology for information gathering rather than books.

Township officials said 75 percent of the automation project, or an estimated \$135,000, would be funded through a bond ordinance and 25 per-

cent, or \$45,000, from private donations collected by the library over the years.

Township Manager Thomas E. Atkins said, "Once approved and in the budget, we can move ahead pretty quickly on this."

According to officials, the library board, chaired by Library Director Norbert Bernstein, also indicated that another capital improvement project in the future for the library would be overhauling the air-conditioning and heating systems for an estimated \$125,000.

On a different matter, the township is set to move ahead with an estimated

\$1.83 million project to upgrade its sanitary sewer pumping stations on the south side over the next year.

Officials indicated the \$1.7 million bond issue is in place to fund the work. In September, the council approved a separate purchase of a \$17,000 portable generator for use during the construction.

The four pumping stations scheduled for improvements — Raritan Road, Lamberts Mill Road, West Broad Street and Greenview — are part of the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority. The work will include adding new pipes parallel to the existing system to handle an increase in sewer

age flow.

Officials said there should be minimal disruption to residents during the work and they noted that Ashbrook Nursing Home, in particular, should benefit from the upgrade at Raritan Road.

In other business, the council indicated it will stick by its decision to keep the township welfare system local rather than consolidate under the Work First New Jersey plan that went into effect April 1. The council must make the decision official with a resolution by January 1.

According to township Welfare

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



CANDY FOR SALE...Brownies from Troop No. 310 at McGinn Elementary School, which enrolls students from Scotch Plains and Fanwood, recently participated in a Washington Rock Girl Scout Council fundraiser by selling candy bars in front of Irma's Hallmark, located in downtown Fanwood. The girls raised money to partially fund their trip in January to the Crayola Crayon Factory in Easton, Pennsylvania. Pictured selling their wares, left to right, are: Katie Johnson, Julia Joseph, Lisa Gattozzi and Cassie Kontur.

Deadlines Told For Submittals To The Times

Those persons preparing press releases for submission to *The Times* are reminded that copy should be e-mailed or faxed by 4 p.m. on the Friday prior to publication. *The Times'* e-mail address is press@goleader.com. The fax number is 232-0473.

Releases, pictures and letters to the editor can also be dropped off at our office located at 50 Elm Street or through our mail slot. To ensure that submittals reach our office prior to deadline, we encourage e-mail or faxed materials.

Sports stories which occur prior to the weekend must be in by the Friday deadline. Weekend sports events must be submitted by noon on the Monday prior to the publication date. Obituaries will be accepted up to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays.

All copy must be typed, double-spaced, upper and lower case, no more than 500 words in length, and include a daytime telephone number where the submitter can be reached.

For events which are planned months in advance, we encourage submission of stories as early as possible prior to the event.

Please note that in addition to making our deadlines, the publication of submittals may be delayed due to space considerations. All submittals are subject to being cut due to length, edited for style and clarification at the discretion of the editor.

Residents Urged to 'Adopt' Township to Keep It Tidy

Township officials are urging residents to "adopt" Scotch Plains and help keep the community clean throughout the holidays and the new year.

Members of the public are asked to help ensure that parks, parking lots, sidewalks, catch basins, and streams are not littered or polluted by the careless disposal of waste.

Families, school, social and service groups interested in helping will be supplied with trash bags and gloves.

Officials have also issued a reminder to residents and visitors that the township enforces the following anti-litter laws, with penalties for violations ranging from \$500 to \$1,000:

- Littering is prohibited. Litter must not be placed anywhere other than in a litter receptacle.
- Sweepings must be placed in appropriate containers. Litter cannot be swept into gutters, streets, or catch basins.
- Property owners must keep sidewalks free of litter by collecting sweepings and disposing of them in appropriate containers.
- It is unlawful to allow waste bins to overflow.
- Unsolicited material, such as advertisements, must not be placed anywhere in such a manner that it may be removed by natural forces.
- The illegal dumping of vegetative waste, garbage, or demolition or construction debris is prohibited.

For "adoption" information, please call the Clean Communities Coordinator at (908) 322-6700, Extension No. 243.

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Park Middle Tells Names Of Honor Roll Students

A total of 142 students were named to the Honor Roll for the first marking quarter at Park Middle School in Scotch Plains.

In the sixth grade, eight students, or 4.37 percent of the 183-member class, were named to the Distinguished Honor Roll which requires an "A" in all subjects.

Sixty-six students, or 36.07 percent of the class, were named to the Honor Roll which requires at least two "A's" and no grade lower than "B" in major subjects, and at least a "C" or "S" in other subjects.

In the seventh grade, seven students, or 4.52 percent of the 155-member class, were named to the Distinguished Honor Roll. Twenty-three students, or 14.84 percent of the class, were named to the Honor Roll.

Nine students in the eighth grade, or 6.04 percent of the 149-member class, were named to the Distinguished Honor Roll. Twenty-nine students, or 19.46 percent of the class, were named to the Honor Roll.

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TIME TOGETHER...The Scotch Plains Woman's Club met recently at the Scotch Hills Country Club to discuss holiday activities and other business. Pictured, left to right, are: back row, Vera Lukacovic, Program Chairwoman; Dorothy Jones, Hospitality Chairwoman; Marguerite Taylor, Club President, and Edith Czropski; in front is Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi, who was the guest speaker at the meeting.

Scotch Plains Women Hear Updates on Club Activities

The Scotch Plains Woman's Club met on November 13 at the Scotch Hills Country Club, at which time members had a light lunch served by Hospitality Chairwoman Dorothy Jones and her committee.

Marguerite Taylor, President, received reports from committee chairwomen. Doke Kamp, of the (American Home) Arts and Creative Department, stated that members had knitted lap robes and shawls, and had made side pockets for wheelchairs for delivery to community nursing facilities.

Elfrieda Bunger reported that Christmas cookies have been made by members. She will deliver the cookies to the Terrill Road facility of the New Jersey Department of Human Services' Day Care Center for the 10th year.

The Club President reminded members of their commitment to the DECA chapter at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School to supply Christmas toys

to needy children. Packages are to be marked as gifts for either a boy or a girl, and should list the age of the child.

Terry Sidun reported on the plans underway for a fashion show at Nordstrom's department store in Menlo Park, on Wednesday, April 8. The proceeds of this show will benefit the club's nursing scholarship fund.

Program Chairwoman Vera Lukacovic introduced the speaker, Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi, who enlightened the audience on the many ways the county is served.

Among the services offered by Ms. Rajoppi's department are passports, various election services, absentee voting, municipal maps, computer services and document services, as well as services to veterans, among other categories.

A Christmas party will be held at the next meeting on Wednesday, December 10.

SCOTCH PLAINS POLICE BLOTTER

- TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25**
- A teacher at St. Bartholomew the Apostle School on Westfield Avenue reported the theft of a leather jacket and a cellular telephone from a classroom. The incident occurred during the afternoon hours.
- WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26**
- An East Second Street business reported that someone had moved a garbage dumpster onto the street from behind the business.
- THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27**
- An area resident reported that the street sign for Hetfield Avenue and Shawnee Path was twisted and lying on the ground.
- SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30**
- A motorist reported the front windshield of his vehicle was cracked. He said he observed a vehicle stopped on the roadway which then sped off. The incident occurred on Martine Avenue. It could not be determined what caused the damage.

FANWOOD POLICE BLOTTER

- WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26**
- Michael Graham, 29, of Fanwood was charged with driving while intoxicated following a motor vehicle accident which occurred on Martine Avenue, according to police. He was released on his own recognizance.
- THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27**
- Russell Shults, 45, of Scotch Plains was charged with driving while intoxicated following a motor vehicle stop on Terrill Road, authorities said. He was released on his own recognizance.
- SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30**
- David Briceno, 18, of Bound Brook, was charged with driving while intoxicated after a motor vehicle stop on Terrill Road, according to police. He was released on his own recognizance.

Santa Claus Coming To Fanwood Dec. 20

Santa Claus will be coming to Fanwood on Saturday, December 20. Gifts can be delivered, for distribution by Santa, to the Fanwood Police Department from Tuesday, December 9, to Monday, December 15. Packages must be no longer than 12x12 and must be clearly labeled with name and address. Several parcels for the same address must be tied together securely. Santa will leave the Fanwood Firehouse at 4 p.m. and will take the same route as usual. Parents and children are asked to be at curbside as Santa will not come into homes. Vehicles will arrive to announce Santa's arrival. The event is being sponsored by the volunteers from the Fanwood Volunteer Fire Department, Volunteer Rescue Squad and the Fanwood Policemen's Benevolent Association Local No. 123.

Mayor Schmidt Urges Council To Move on Library Automation

Director Maria Santo, the Union County municipalities of Summit, Roselle, Kenilworth, Linden, Mountainside, New Providence, Rahway, Roselle Park, Springfield, Westfield and Winfield have all decided to go it alone under the options offered by the state. Berkeley Heights, Cranford, Elizabeth, Garwood, Hillside and Union have opted to turn their local assistance programs over to the county, Mrs. Santo said in a recent letter to the council.

Some have said that towns with larger welfare bills welcome the opportunity to write assistance expenses out of their budgets. Council members insist its system keeps expenses low and fraud to a minimum while providing a personal touch. Last April, township officials said Scotch Plains spends under \$40,000 a year for local welfare assistance.

The current legislation requires municipalities that do not join the county to provide at least 15 hours of service to recipients and have 24-hour emergency service.

Other major changes in the state's welfare reform measure include a 60-day drug treatment program for recipients convicted of a drug felony and a five-year residence requirement for legal immigrants. The food stamp program now requires 20 hours a month of community service on top of the 28 hours required for welfare grants.

The county has a September 30, 1998 deadline to put the consolidated system into effect.

In other business, the council heard a request from Recreation Director Laura Sanson Botto to raise fees at the Scotch Hills Country Club golf course for the first time in three years.

"We plan to keep these rates for the next two or three years," she said.

Even though membership rates for non-residents rises from \$40 to \$60, "this is still low in comparison to other comparable nine-hole courses," Mrs. Botto said.

Membership fees for all others will go up five dollars and greens fees will go up one, two, three and five dollars (depending on the day and time of the week) if the measure is okayed.

Officials said the town does not make a profit from the golf course fees because of the expenses of maintaining the course.

Fees for the township tennis courts would not change, Mrs. Botto said.

On another matter, the township received a copy of a letter sent to the Borough of Fanwood Recreation Commission from American Legion Community Post No. 209, asking the borough to cancel its plans for a carnival in La Grande Park on Memorial Day next year.

"A festive event such as a carnival is incongruous with the solemnity of Memorial Day," according to the letter.

The council agreed to double up on its Tuesday, December 16, council meeting in order to avoid meeting on Tuesday, December 23.

McGinn 'Authors' Share Hardcover Books With BOE

During executive session, the board planned to consider Dr. Choye's recommendation to create two floater positions to help alleviate the "time and a half" costs incurred by full-time custodians who need to fill in for absent colleagues or are called to work off-hours for building checks and special events.

Telephone costs are also well on their way to exceeding the 1997-1998 budget, despite the fact that an additional \$30,000 was piped in from general administrative accounts, bringing the total telephone allocation to \$112,000.

Telephone expenditures were over \$43,000 for the first three months of the budget year. While Mr. Clarke is continuing to speak with other providers to find more cost-effective service, Dr. Choye acknowledged that "we're going to have to find additional moneys."

The Superintendent also reported that \$28,200 of the \$356,700 allocated for substitutes had been used during September.

Mr. Saridaki asked if a historical perspective was available to indicate in which months, if any, substitute use was heaviest.

"It would give us a better feel for where we stand," he said.

Board member Albert J. Syvertsen reported that the New Jersey School Boards Association recently passed a resolution calling for the Education Commissioner to explain why public school districts should be required to fund county magnet schools which "offer courses that are duplicative of district courses."

The resolution is scheduled to go to New Jersey legislators for consideration.

Prior to the close of the meeting, the board agreed to hold a Parent Teacher Association Listening Post on Monday, January 5, the first school day after the winter recess.

From the audience, PTA President Diane Cameron agreed to ask school PTA Presidents to gather parents' questions and forward them to the board

Downtown Committee Proposes New Front On Municipal Building

township to sell Christmas trees grown on their Maine property from a local amusement park lot on Route No. 22, East.

Council members announced the middle school winners of the annual Halloween store window decorating contest sponsored by the Scotch Plains Business and Professional Association during the regular meeting.

Santa will arrive downtown this Sunday, December 7, to kick off the holiday shopping season.

Scotch Plains Library Continues Book Drive

The Scotch Plains Public Library has launched its annual "Books for Kids" donation drive. Book donations will be accepted through Monday, December 15.

Last year, thousands of disadvantaged children from all across New Jersey were given the chance to own a book of their own through this statewide program, according to Library Director Norbert Bernstein.

Area residents are asked to bring a new book or books to the library's collection box. Books for children from preschool through age 14 are needed. The library is located at 1927 Bartle Avenue.

Started in 1991, "Books for Kids" is sponsored by the New Jersey Library Association's Children Services Section.

For more information, please call the Scotch Plains Public Library's Children's Department at (908) 322-5007.



SHARING THEIR BOUNTY...Third-grade students at St. Bartholomew's School in Scotch Plains, portraying pilgrims and Indians, share a traditional meal during the fifth annual Thanksgiving Prayer Service which was held November 25 at the school. Teachers, students and staff celebrated together, with each class responsible for some aspect of the meal. Father Michael Merlucci, Pastor of St. Bartholomew, led the assembly in prayer, while Sister Louise Lauretti, Principal, thanked each grade for their participation.



COLONIAL CHRISTMAS...The Osborn Cannonball House, located at 1840 Front Street in Scotch Plains, will be the scene of the museum's 25th Colonial Christmas Celebration on Sunday December 7, from 2 to 4 p.m. A recorder group will play music of the holiday season, and displays such as the one pictured above will be included. Refreshments will be served and visitors are welcome. There is no admission charge. This will be the final event for this year. The house will reopen on Sunday, March 1, 1998.

Here's Where to Buy

The Times

WALT'S MOUNTAIN DELI
2385 Mountain Avenue, Scotch Plains

QUICK CHEK FOOD & PHARMACY
1928 Westfield Avenue, Scotch Plains

WALLIS STATIONERY
441 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains

QUICK STOP
1819 East Second Street, Scotch Plains

FANWOOD CORNER STORE
34 Martine Avenue, Fanwood

FANWOOD TRAIN STATION
South Avenue, Fanwood

QUICK CHEK
572 North Avenue, Fanwood

SHOPPERS EXPRESS
190 South Avenue, Fanwood

SEVEN ELEVEN
1200 South Avenue West, Westfield