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Hometown Newspaper

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Upper Saddle River

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Thursday, February 15, 1990

Allendale says plug leaks before regionalization talks sink

Marsha Stoltz

ALLENDALE — Citing the need to create and follow written procedures during regionalization talks, Allendale's K-8 school board temporarily halted its involvement in those talks with neighboring Upper Saddle River and the combined high school board.

Board president Maureen Rosenthal declined to elaborate on the reasons for the board's actions at its regular session Feb. 12.

However, the board's action follows the appearance of a Feb. 7 article in The Record using information from closed session minutes of the committee's Jan. 11 meeting with Bergen County School Superintendent M. Ray Kelly.

Those minutes contain a final paragraph indicating that the committee agreed to limit their distribution to board members and "...to confine all other comments at public meetings and to the

press to general statements concerning on-going discussion with no conclusions at this point."

The board's action underscores the fragile nature of regionalization talks, viewed by many residents of both towns as critical to curtailing future property tax hikes in the three-district area where 2,300 K-12 students will cost a combined \$20.6 million to educate in 1989-90.

Stumbling block

Allendale board members have repeatedly protested the appearance of information from the two closed sessions in the press as premature and confusing to the public.

"The regionalization committee has encountered some difficulties in the area of procedures," Mrs. Rosenthal read from a prepared statement. "We feel there is a need at this time to suspend regionalization discussions until the problems with

the process can be worked out."

Mrs. Rosenthal explained that "the three boards involved in this investigation of regionalization need to be unified

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Magical mystery tour

The school bus route from HHK to MPHS

Laura Graf

HO-HO-KUS — Board of education secretary Steven Paurelsky's narrative entitled the "bizarre bus incident" enlivened the board's Jan. 31 meeting.

A substitute driver, Mr. Paurelsky said, from Arcola/Laidlaw Transit, unfamiliar with northern Bergen county, was sent to Ho-Ho-Kus to pick up students who attend Midland Park High School. It appeared the driver had difficulty locating the school, and problems in communicating with the students. Midland Park High School had recorded the 25 students as "absent."

After an unexplained ride to the bus garage the bus, including the absent 25, arrived at M.P.H.S. at 10:30 a.m. The students are picked up 8-8:05 a.m. and

See BUS ROUTE page 4

Making it the old-fashioned way



When the Wulster Barn is raised behind the Hopper-Goetschius House the beams will be held in place with trunnels made by Martin Knudsen of U.S.R. The volunteer carpenter says that hundreds of the wood pins used for fastening will be needed to secure the beams.

photo by Ruth Skovron

Black History Month, the third in a series:

THE LANDSCAPE.

A COUNTRY NEWSPAPER.

Vol. 8, No. 9, FEBRUARY, 1890 Alfred P. Smith, Editor.

Suzan Erem

"LOOK OUT FOR THE LOCOMOTIVE!"

The following from the Hackensack Republican is so good that we cannot help sharing it with our readers:

STILL, SOME PEOPLE WANT IT

The Landscape, printed at Saddle River by A.P. Smith, does not think a railroad necessary through that beautiful valley, the railroad facilities afforded by the Erie at Allendale being deemed sufficient for present accommodations. There are, however, people who hold a view different from The Landscape, and the time may not be far distant when Editor Smith can see the iron horse snorting and cavorting past his office door fifty miles an hour.

One hundred years ago this month, a Hackensack newspaper was ridiculing opinions expressed and held dear in Saddle River. Like shopping malls and low-income housing today, the railroad was the issue of the times in 1890, and the man to express his thoughts and those documented in his modest newspaper was Alfred P. Smith.

Mr. Smith's newspaper was the first to be published for any duration in Saddle River. What began as "A.P. Smith's Paper. Devoted to local news, topics of the day," for private circulation only,

evolved into "The Landscape, A country newspaper," at 50 cents a yearly subscription and 75 cents per inch for advertising. Mr. Smith published his monthly newspaper from 1881 to 1901, between the printing jobs he used to support himself and his mother. Of his subscribers, the majority were white, which was an amazing thing in the 1890's; Mr. Smith was Black.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

THE POPULATION of Bergen County is: - white, 34,800; colored, 1,990.

HON. A.W. CUTLER is visiting the West on personal business.

THE BEST place in Hackensack, for a cigar or a shave, is Mr. T. Williams' shop on Main St.

A NEW TRANSLATION of the Bible will soon be issued. Those who cannot afford the expense, will still have to take chances on the old.

A.P. Smith was born in Saddle River in 1832 in what is now known as the Ackerman-Smith house at 171 East Allendale Road. His father was a laborer who later acquired some farm land. Mr. Smith was crippled from boyhood, but was educated in the public schools and also taught school himself. Before publishing his own paper, he worked as a reporter for the Paterson Guardian. He moved home in 1876 to care for his mother after his father's death. When A.P. Smith's Paper began publishing in 1881, its salutation was informal.

See LANDSCAPE page 6.

New police tactic: Targeting the traffic law violator

Judy Skelton

QUAD-BOROUGH -- For the next six months police forces in the quad-borough area and throughout Bergen County won't be messing around with drivers who roll through stop signs, or take an easy route around traffic jams down a shoulder on Route 17. Nor will speedsters, tailgaters, left-lane hogs or right-lane passers find driving in Bergen County a cup of tea. Operation Domino is in effect.

A combined effort of the Bergen County Office of Highway Safety and the Bergen County Traffic Officers' Association, Operation Domino was launched Feb. 1 and its creators mean business.

Each month during the next six months, a specific traffic violation will be targeted for crackdown by local patrolmen.


"We hope the program has a domino effect," said County Executive William McDowell. "A motorist who doesn't want to get caught violating one law may be reminded that the others are equally to be obeyed."

The program was instituted, said Police Lt. John Pescatore, the head of the Office of Highway Safety, in response to a motoring public who is fed up with paying for bad drivers. Good drivers are mad as h--- and won't put up with sitting in 5 m.p.h. traffic anymore while they watch someone else zip by them down the shoulder of the road or being pushed to drive faster

than the speed limit because of a tailgating speeder. "They (the good drivers) are tired of higher insurance premiums because of accidents caused by careless drivers," said Lt. Pescatore.

During February, stop sign violators will be enemy number one. Just try a

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