



THE TIMES

FORMERLY
THE
SCOTCH PLAINS TIMES
AND
FANWOOD
INDEPENDENT

VOL. 9 NO. 13

SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD, N.J., THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 1968

10 CENTS A COPY

Gym Plays to Full House

On Friday night, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood parents turned out full force - 1000 strong - to line the walls of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School and watch their offspring perform in the annual Y.M.C.A. gym show. It's a study in family "togetherness," the annual show, as tiny brother and sisters fidget, parents squeeze still tighter to provide more space, and elderly grandparents gladly scale the heights of the gym bleachers for a peek at their physically-fit grandchildren.

A full-scale Olympic parade starts things off. 400 youngsters circle the gym, led by flag-bearers and twirlers. No chance of a charge of "professionalism" in this Olympic parade! Simplicity is the keynote. From tiny pre-schoolers to high school students, they're neatly turned out in their navy shorts and YMCA polo shirts, and many of the tiniest carry banners of plain white sheeting with painted letters welcoming the audience. There are shy ones among them - little people enrolled in the Pre-school gym jam program who are a bit daunted by the sea of faces but the most reluctant are carried around by their navy-skirted, white-shirted instructors.

Following the parade, it's literally a "three-ring circus" for the remainder of the two-hour program. Second graders do their flips on the trampoline while third graders show off their tumbling talents in another corner. Four-year olds stand on their hands and flip about on mats, while teenagers perform many intricate routines on uneven parallel bars and on rings. Throughout the course of the evening, cameras flashed with the frequency of an Oscar night.

Union County Young G.O.P.'s Meet Sunday

The tenth annual convention of the Union County Young Republicans will be held on Sunday, March 31 at the Mountainside Inn in West Mountainside. Connie Heatley, Chairman from Westfield, will open the annual meeting at 2 p.m. and Mayor Wilhelms from Mountainside, will present the welcoming address. Voting will be from 3 to 6 p.m. and is expected to be heavy because of close races for the offices of Third Vice Chairman, State Delegate, and Alternate State Delegate. The cocktail hour will start at 5 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7 p.m. Congressman Charles Sandman from Cape May County will be the guest speaker at the dinner and will be introduced by Freeholder Director Edward Tiller. Another highlight of the dinner will be the first presentation of the Nicholas St. John LaCorte Memorial Award by Mrs. LaCorte to the Young or Senior Republican who has exhibited fairness, honesty, objectivity, and good sense in politics. Dignitaries such as Senator Clifford Case and Richard Schoel, County Chairman of the Union County Republican Committee, have been invited and many are expected to attend.

A thinking observer of the entire performance could note the various stages of progress which could be expected during a child's YMCA years. The show opened with the little ones, and closed with the teenagers - a wide spectrum of physical talents acquired through years of activity.

The organization behind a production of this type is vast. We salute the YMCA for their extra effort, undertaken to show the community what its young are learning. And what are they learning? Rolls, flips, wrestling, straddling, yes. Also sportsmanship, team effort, self-confidence and the basics of friendly competition. From where we sit, the \$12.50 membership is the bargain of the year!

Area Mayors Cite C of C Week

Plainfield Area residents will join with others throughout the country in observance of Chamber of Commerce Week, March 24 through March 30, it was announced today by Max Bussel, President of the Plainfield Area Chamber of Commerce.

Mayors from 11 Plainfield Area communities today joined Governor Richard J. Hughes in giving official recognition to the observance in their respective communities as proclamations from Mayors Anzovino, Dunellen; Beetham, Fanwood; Brocaglia, Warren Township, Gaynor, South Plainfield; Hetfield, Plainfield; Judson, Middlesex; Novle, Greenbrook; Rutter, Piscataway; Santo Salvo, Scotch Plains; Schmidt, Watchung; and Sperry, North Plainfield were simultaneously released by the Plainfield Area Chamber of Commerce who is sponsoring the program locally. A similar proclamation had been released by the Governor earlier this week.

Purposes of Chamber of Commerce Week, Bussel pointed out are:

1. To create a public awareness and understanding of the purpose and need for a Chamber.
2. To give recognition to the Chamber's staff and to the volunteer leaders for their constructive participation in Area affairs.
3. To further strengthen relations with organizations and agencies in our communities.

We're Sorry!

Unexpectedly heavy demands for advertising space coupled with mechanical problems which prevented a last-minute increase in the size of the paper necessitated the omission of our "comics" page and some local news in this issue. Again, we're sorry.

Local Citizens Establish Children's Nursery in Italian Fatherland



PHILIP DI FRANCESCO

Kitsz to Seek Re-Election

Township committeeman William Kitsz announced this week that he will be a candidate for re-election this year. Committeeman Kitsz was appointed to the township committee in March 1966 and elected in November of that year to complete a two-year unexpired term. Kitsz, the senior Republican member of the governing body served as Mayor in 1967 and is currently the chairman of public works and public properties.

A lifelong resident of Scotch Plains, Kitsz resides at 2214 Evergreen Avenue with his wife Harriet and daughters Linda and Leslie. He is a former member of the Board of Education, a Trustee of the Scotch Plains Baptist Church and has been active in many civic and charitable causes.

In an accompanying statement, Mayor Thomas Santo Salvo announced that he and Republican Township Committeeman Raymond Schnitzer and Albert Theurer endorse Kitsz's candidacy. Santo Salvo further stated that a broadbased screening group consisting of members from all local Republican groups will be formed to select a running mate for Kitsz and will hold its first meeting on April 9 to consider candidates. He urged that names of potential candidates be submitted to him or to any member of the following organizations, Republican Club, Republican Womens League, Republican Citizens Committee, Republican Municipal Committee or to any Republican member of the Township Committee.

Set Up Trust Fund to Insure Continued Maintenance

"Our promise has been fulfilled - the Children's Nursery has been established in our Fatherland and its maintenance has been assured through a trust fund set up for this worthy benefit stated Paul DiFrancesco, President of the Committee for Montazzolesi Children's Welfare at the organization's annual dinner-dance this past weekend at Martinsville Inn. DiFrancesco accepted a check representing the proceeds from the affair from Philip DiFrancesco, Chairman of the dance.

For more than a decade, Scotch Plains citizens of Italian ancestry have been supporting the establishment of a nursery in the town of Montazzolesi, whence many of the local Italian families originated. Their annual dance has become a social landmark of each year with a turnout of 700 Friday night.

In 1955, Reverend Nicola Masciuli, the pastor of the church in Montazzolesi, visited Scotch Plains under the sponsorship of the late Reverend John S. Nelligan, then Pastor of St. Bartholomew the Apostle Church in Scotch Plains. At that time, the Italian community announced their intention of providing a nursery for pre-school children of parents who must work on the farms to earn their living.

On Friday night, Mauro A. Checchio, former Mayor and Toastmaster of the dinner, announced names of all Committee members and thanked them.

Present Mayor Thomas J. Santo Salvo welcomed those attending, and appealed to the younger generation to also become involved in worthy charities, civic and public activities.

Senator Harrison A. Williams, Jr. expressed his praise for the involvement in the cause "to bring youngsters out of poverty-some of these youngsters who may yet become the biggest contractors in New Jersey!"

Thomas L. Perrucci, President of the Italian-American Mutual Benefit Society of Scotch Plains, translated a letter received from Rev. Nicola Masciuli, Pastor in Montazzoli, Italy and the Administrator of the Nursery. In his letter, Rev. Masciuli noted that "were it not for the love emanating from the Committee Members and their devoted friends as manifested by this wonderful assemblage, many, many children would not be spending happy hours under the guidance of good Sisters." He blessed and thanked all for their participation.

Louis J. Dughi, prominent attorney from Westfield, and one of the founders of the Committee who drew up the incorporation papers for the organization was the main speaker for the evening. He briefly reviewed the history of the Committee and its goals.

"This happy family spirit," he said, "produced the best kind of foreign aid encouraged by all including our Government, for it is in this spirit that love prevails and accomplishes wonders." He also cited a saying by Abraham Lincoln. "A person should be proud of the place he lives, and live so that place will be proud of him." "This," he said, "applies to all you wonderful people here assembled for this noble cause."

Mary Kanane, Surrogate of Union County offered the Invocation and Benediction. Rev. Vincent P. Sprouls, Pastor of St. Bartholomew the Apostle Church of Scotch Plains and Fanwood was unable to attend due to illness.

Mr. Checchio read congratulatory telegrams sent by Senator Clifford P. Case and Congresswoman Florence P. Dwyer and then introduced other honored guests on the dais, Ralph E. Oriscello, Sheriff of Union County and Assemblyman Peter J. McDonough.

Dance Music was provided by Phil Denitzio.

Youngsters in the Swim!

There are those fortunate ones among us who spend Easter week amidst the sheltering palms, dipping their tootsies in the Florida surf. However, for the less affluent, Easter week vacation can still provide a meaningful swimming program!

The local YMCA would like to see every girl and boy in town able to handle himself well in the water. Consequently, they are sponsoring an Easter bargain unequalled even by the bunny's generous handouts. A swim lesson each day for five days will cost \$1 - or 20¢ per swim session. The lessons are for beginners only.

The sessions will be held at five different times during the days, starting with a 9 a.m. roundup for the 9:30 class. The children will be delivered to the YMCA a half-hour before their lesson. They'll be transported by bus to the Garden State Pool in Berkeley Heights, and will be returned by bus to the YMCA for pickup by their parents.