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SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD, N.J., THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 1968

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## It's "Anch" "gh" at the Fanwood Station



This freight train leaves a boat-like wake as it plowed through flood waters at the Fanwood Railroad Station last Wednesday morning.

## Kitsz - Wolfe Win GOP Nomination Nixon Leads in Write-in Votes

Incumbent Committeeman William Kitsz and running mate Larry Wolfe, running as "Regular Organization Republicans", won the Republican nomination for two Scotch Plains Township Committee seats over independents Virginia Dekle and Eugene Schiller in the primary elections on Tuesday. They were endorsed by a broad group of Republican organizations. Kitsz took 1657 votes, Wolfe 1442, Mrs. Dekle 861, and Schiller 1059. In Scotch Plains' recently reformed 20 election districts, Kitsz and Wolfe were winners in 17 districts. Schiller led both candidates in Districts 2 and 3, and led Wolfe in District 4.

In Democratic ranks, there was no contest, with candidates Michael Regan and Robert Griffin receiving their party's nod, with 390 and 400 votes, respectively.

Kitsz, the former Mayor, and Wolfe will run for three-year terms on the Township Committee against Regan and Griffin. They seek seats vacated by completion of terms by Kitsz and Mrs. Edith Powers, lone Democrat on the Committee, who is not seeking reelection.

The following were elected as Republican county committeemen:

District 1 - Mrs. Judith Jamison and Herbert Wendt  
District 2 - Helen Ferrara and John Andrusky  
District 3 - no candidate

District 4 - Pauline Bruno and William Coulbourn  
District 5 - Penelope Jaczko and Raymond Reid, Jr.  
District 6 - Shirley Patton and B. Lawrence Newcomb  
District 7 - Frances Fleischman  
District 8 - Irene Hirsch and Mauro Checchio  
District 9 - no candidate  
District 10 - Veronica DeNoia and Edward M. O'Connor  
District 11 - Margaret Wilbor and George Perry  
District 12 - Laura Thomas and Elmer Dellmire  
District 13 - Ginger Heald and George Rechat  
District 14 - Janet Stuart and Frank Betz  
District 15 - Bernice Constable and Harry King  
District 16 - Anne Posquat and William Denlinger  
District 17 - Mary Davis and Richard Hatfield  
District 18 - Neva Sachar and Robert Ryan  
District 19 - Margaret Burke and Howard Snow  
District 20 - Mary Lou Beale and Donald Peterson

Democrats were elected to the Democratic county committee in ten districts:

District 1 - Robert Waugh  
District 2 - Wilcox Brandon  
District 4 - Robert Karan  
District 6 - Martha Pasquariello  
District 7 - Frances Piscitello and Joseph Messersmith  
District 8 - John Koleszar  
District 9 - Robert Griffin  
District 12 - Jeannette Dietze and Joseph Gannon  
District 16 - Thomas DeLuca  
District 17 - Veronica Kodatt and Richard Kodatt

Presidential write-in vote in Scotch Plains was particularly heavy for Nixon - 479, and for

Robert Kennedy - 305. Other write-ins were: Rockefeller - 87; Regan - 19; McCarthy - 80; Humphrey - 10; and Wallace - 9.

## Mother Saves Five Year Old in Pool Accident

Mrs. Charles Coronella of 17 Watson Avenue in Fanwood rescued her 5-year old son, "Chuckie", Tuesday, after he fell into a swimming pool in the rear of an empty home at 363 North Avenue. She applied mouth-to-mouth resuscitation on the boy, and both mother and son were taken to Muhlenberg Hospital by the Fanwood Rescue Squad. The mother was released, and the young son retained overnight.

Observers reported that the child entered the fenced pool area with two other children, through an unlocked gate, and fell into the pool which they said was filled with black rainwater. The other children notified Mrs. Coronella. One observer said she was unable to see into the water, and that the Coronella child was blue and not breathing when his mother jumped in and pulled him from the water.

Mrs. Coronella and her three children were visiting at the Nightingale home at 367 North Avenue when the near tragedy occurred being a home previously occupied by the Titus family.

It was reported that Mrs. Coronella had never practiced life saving methods, but had seen one demonstration, using a dummy, at a club meeting.

Her husband was elected as a Republican County Committee member from Fanwood in Tuesday's primary election.

## Opera Theatre Auditions Set

Opera Theatre of New Jersey will hold general auditions for the 1968-69 season on Sunday, June 9, 1968 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Plainfield Trust State National Bank, 45 Martine Avenue, Fanwood.

Singers interested in auditioning for principal roles or chorus are invited to attend. For further information contact Mrs. Willard L. Marr, 145 West Dudley Avenue, Westfield, 233 7216 or Mrs. Arthur Lloyd, 831 Willow Grove Road, Westfield, at 232-1932.

## The Rains Came... and Came... and Came!

At 178 Herbert Avenue in Fanwood, a pair of pet gerbils reside in a cage, atop a basement table. Normally, they spend most of their time in a tiny wooden house inside the cage. When heavy rainstorms brought two inches of water seeping into the basement last Wednesday, the gerbils climbed to high ground atop some kiddie building blocks in the corner of their cage. They have not come down since.

Most of Scotch Plains and Fanwood has come down from its high perches, however. Mop up is the order of the day, "scrub out the silt" the motto of the weekend. Throughout the area, the record rainfall brought basements spurting and spring leaks, drains running backwards into homes, and residents watching with horror as rising waters swiftly covered bottom floors all over town.

Among the hardest hit were residents of Farley Avenue, at its end toward Green Brook. There, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas McGurk of 311 Farley Avenue were evacuated by boat when their home was completely surrounded by water. A dam at Twin Falls in the Seeley's Pond area of Berkeley Heights broke during the height of the storm, and the waters caused already swollen Green Brook, near the McGurk home to spill down the street, sending a river cascading down their driveway and into their basement. Four and a half feet of water was the reading in the basement, with their automobile in the lower-level garage a total loss. A camper-neighbor came by with a boat and rowed them down the street to high ground. Several other residents of the street also left by boat. They are now confronted with cellars filled with soggy toys, clothing, and out-of-commission appliances.

The flood level also marooned state police at their barracks on Route 22 in Scotch Plains, and caused extensive damage at

the Berg Agency, a new building housing the real estate agency on the island where the Park Avenue overpass crosses Route 22.

Flood waters reached the rafters of the lower floor, damaging all the office supplies stored there. Comedy relief was provided when the kindly realtors found a live fish swimming about, removed him, and placed him back home in the brook.

Both Scotch Plains and Fanwood police reported extensive traffic tie-ups as cars were detoured off Route 22, only to find flood conditions at practically every other corner. In Scotch Plains, flooding was worst at the intersection of Route 22 and Park Avenue, in areas bordering Green Brook, and along Westfield Road. Fanwood police reported the prime problem areas as Watson, Russell, Terrill, LaGrande, Portland, Pleasant, and Poplar. Extensive losses were sustained by businessmen on the West Side of Park Avenue, including thousands of dollars worth of restaurant stock, medical and office supplies.

The storm had its humorous stories, as is always the case in any disaster. One motorist was stranded in her car on Park Avenue, when a large trailer truck passed her, creating giant waves. The waters washed into the rear of her car, where she was carrying a giant-sized box of Tide detergent. Soapsuds filled the rear of the vehicle.

Fanwood Mayor Roland Beecham, with water up to the rafters in his own Watson Road home, was spotted wading down toward Borough Hall, carrying shoes and socks, with trousers rolled well above the knees.

On Terrill Road, a real estate agency was awash, as employees watched the waters flow in one window, through the building, and out another window.

In Fanwood, a female driver was the last one permitted through before police erected a barrier across North Avenue. Her car was marooned, and as she stepped from it, a brand new patent leather pump was lost to the rising waters. Knee-deep, she waded to the nearest house to ask for aid. A good samaritan inside the North Avenue home replied "I'm too busy. If you want a phone, try the public one at the railroad station". The Fanwood police were not as hard-hearted, she said. She deposited her new white coat in a police car, and police returned it safely to her own car when the storm abated.

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