



## The Fanwood Cultural Arts Committee

The development of the Fanwood Carriage House as a community arts center was one of Mayor Maryanne Connelly's goals when she began her term of office.

Early in 1999, the Carriage House was renamed *The Patricia M. Kuran Cultural Arts Center* in honor of former Mayor Patricia Kuran whose efforts resulted in preserving the historic building when other parts of the estate were dissolved.

In March of 1999, Mayor Connelly established the Fanwood Cultural Arts Committee with the objective of working toward full realization of cultural arts opportunities in Fanwood in addition to the long-time Philathalian Theater Group productions at the Center.

Mayor Connelly appointed Adele Kenny, a twenty-five year resident of Fanwood, to serve as director of the committee. Sharing the mayor's vision, Adele initiated programming at the Center in December of 1998 with the Carriage House Poetry Reading Series, a project designed by Adele and funded in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts through a grant administered through the Union County – **Continued on Page 2**



William A. Burke for *The Times of Scotch Plains-Fanwood*  
**SPECIAL TRIBUTE...** Family members of the late Patricia MacDonald Kuran, Fanwood's first woman Mayor, are joined by Mayor Maryanne S. Connelly, right, following the renaming of the historic Carriage House in Mrs. Kuran's honor. Pictured, left to right, are: Vincent Higgins, the former Mayor's brother-in-law; her nieces, Amy Gallagher Higgins and Tracey K. Higgins, both of Readington.

## Fanwood Foundation's Timing is Just Right



The newly established Fanwood Community Foundation made its first grant in presenting the Fanny Wood Day Clock Committee with a check for \$100.

"This grant marks the beginning of what we intend to be a substantial record of support and service to Fanwood and its residents by the Fanwood Foundation," declared Foundation President Fred J. Chemidlin, Jr.

The Foundation was established in October 1998 to help where the needs are the greatest and the benefits to Fanwood and its citizens are most substantial and to provide public spirited donors a vehicle for using their gifts in the best possible way now, and in the future, thereby providing for inevitable change.

The Foundation's endowment was started with a gift of \$5,000. The endowment is being managed by the Community Fund of New Jersey, which is matching that initial gift. Following IRS regulations for charitable foundations, the Trustees will make grants from the income produced by the endowment. The grant for the Community Clock is the first such donation.

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## New Recruitment Incentive for Emergency Service Volunteers

Hopefully, you'll never need to call 911 for a medical emergency. But if do, you'll expect the response to be swift, competent and friendly. The Fanwood Rescue Squad provides just that— swift, competent and friendly emergency medical service from volunteers who live right in the neighborhood.

Our state-certified, volunteer Emergency Medical Technicians work at NO COST to the taxpayers. The squad's operating expenses, including supplies, uniforms and building maintenance, come from donations.

Because we are all busier than ever earning a living, keeping an adequate number of volunteers on hand to answer calls 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, is getting tougher all the time. Even with our dedicated senior citizen and college student volunteers, we need more help. So, to provide a new recruitment incentive, the squad is urging the community to support a new, deferred pension plan recently approved by the state.

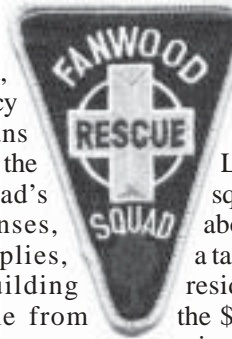
The plan's official name is

LOSAP (Length of Service Award Program). It would provide a pension payment of \$500 a year for each ACTIVE member of the rescue squad. To qualify as ACTIVE, a member must contribute a certain amount of his or her time by responding to calls, working night shifts, attending regular meetings and participating in training exercises.

Voting to approve LOSAP for the rescue squad will cost taxpayers about \$7000 a year (1/3 of a tax point), or about \$1 per resident. Compare that to the \$250,000 a year (11 tax points) it would cost for a

private ambulance service, not to mention the loss of the personalized care our residents have come to expect. There's no substitute for having your own friends and neighbors helping you in an emergency.

Fanwood has always cared about its volunteers. Offering this relatively small incentive to recruit new members will help keep our service at the level our citizens have come to expect. Please vote "YES" for LOSAP in November.



# The Fanwood Cultural Arts Committee Overview

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Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs. The overwhelmingly positive response to the series led Adele to consider, with Mayor Connelly, various options for additional programming. To date, Adele has authored three successfully funded grants to support arts projects at the Kuran Center.

The most recent award is a Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders H.E.A.R.T. (History, Education, Art, Reaching Thousands) Grant.

According to Adele, "As we approach the end of this century and move forward into the new millennium, it is my hope that Fanwood will become firmly established on New Jersey's 'cultural map' and that the former Carriage House will become the site of arts activities with all the pride of place in our community that it deserves."

The Cultural Arts Committee (Dee O'Brien, Robert Chang, Maryanne Connelly, Raj Dogra, Adele Kenny, Tom Plante, Dan Weiss, and Pam Yeager) have announced that a calendar of events for the 1999-2000 season

is in place, beginning with a multi-cultural festival scheduled for October 10. The festival, like all events at the Arts Center, will be free of charge and, to demonstrate the committee members' future-mindedness will incorporate activities planned by the Fanwood Millennium Committee.



Other programs will include continuation of the Poetry Series, writing workshops, and such special events

as a holiday festival, Victorian Day, and an art show.

The committee cites, among its goals, the provision of a center where residents of all backgrounds can gather for shared arts experiences through diversified programming which will encourage and enhance cultural arts awareness, appreciation, education, and participation. Along with this goal is the objective to work cooperatively with the Council and other Fanwood committees to protect and preserve the former Carriage House for future generations.

## Fanwood Foundation

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Members of the Community are encouraged to consider the Fanwood Community Foundation in making their charitable gifts and in providing for the future through planned giving.

For further information, please call the Foundation at 908/322-6200; write to them at P.O. Box 310, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076 or contact any of the Trustee who are:

- President: Fred J. Chemidlin, Jr.
- Vice President: Theodore F. Frankenbach
  - Secretary: Carol A. Kraus
  - Treasurer: Robert H. Kraus
  - Trustees: Robert J. McCarthy
- David W. Pickering • William E. Populus, Jr.
- Candy C. Santo • Joel Whitaker

# WANTED

## 1999 Little Miss Fanny Wood

Mark your calendars! Don't miss it! Enter all young girls ages 3-12. Contestants are encouraged to dress up to portray a young Victorian girl. Judging will be held at 2:30 p.m. on Fanny Wood Day.

The new Little Miss Fanny Wood will receive a crown and a gift certificate from Enchantments. Runners-up will also receive a prize!

All contestants will be photographed and featured in our Little Miss Fanny Wood Day 1999 year book.

Stop by Enchantments at 234 South Avenue and fill out an entry form. All entries must be received by September 24.

For additional information call Helen Ling at 322-6161 or Leslie Cunningham at 322-2181.

## Ever-Changing Fanwood is Looking Towards Y2K and Beyond

With the millennium on the way there are many exciting changes taking place in Fanwood.

Recently Fanwood received \$400,000 in grant money. Union County has awarded Fanwood \$300,000 and Fanwood has also received a grant of \$100,000 from the state. This is an exhilarating time because it is the first time that the town has received money specifically designated for downtown beautification!

This money will be used for streetscaping, improving parking lots, and for general beautification of the downtown area on Martine and South Avenues.

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With two new restaurants in Fanwood, dining out can be a more interesting experience.

Many residents have already experienced the new Sun Tavern located on South Avenue in Fanwood. It is a great place for an enjoyable evening out for all.

One of Fanwood's newest restaurants, The American Bistro, located on Martine Avenue, is expanding its seating, hours, and menu.

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The Chelsea, an assisted living facility on South Avenue in Fanwood, is also undergoing

some changes.

Construction is underway to add 10 more beds for assisted living as well as adding 31 apartments for independent seniors. Elevators will also be installed over the next 8 months.

\*\*\*\*\*

Exciting news for commuters; New Jersey Transit has purchased and closed on the Scotchwood Automotive property. They will be meeting with Borough officials early next spring to discuss expanding the existing commuter parking lot.

\*\*\*\*\*

Fanwood is also in the process of developing a Web site that will be full of information about local events, businesses, and organizations. The site is scheduled to debut in time for Fanny Wood Day at [www.fanwoodnj.com](http://www.fanwoodnj.com). Be sure to check it out.

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Fanny Wood Day will be a great time for all residents to find out more about the Web site including the Web address.

These are only a few of the exciting changes that are occurring in Fanwood. As we approach the millennium Fanwood is taking strides to stay on the front line in technology, appeal, and accessibility.

# A Fanwood Recycling Association Special Report

## A Record of History and Achievements

Way, way back in the mid 1970's and early 1980's the word "recycle" was just entering our thoughts. In our area only a few special groups put thought into action. Some Boy Scout troops and the High School Music Boosters held old newspaper drives.

Around 1983 the Fanwood Junior Chamber of Commerce started taking old newspapers at the Fanwood Railroad Station and then added old bottles.

It became clear as support for recycling was growing, an organized operation was needed.

Due to the efforts of then-Councilman David Pickering, the Fanwood Borough Council applied to Trenton for a grant to establish a recycling center at the Department of Public Works (DPW) site on North Avenue.

A grant of some \$2,500 was awarded and the work began.

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Recycling Association was incorporated in 1986 with the Recycling Center opening in 1987, well before recycling became State law.

At that time processing was only for newspapers and glass bottles and the Center was open only one day per week.

It soon became evident that

Fanwood cares and is strongly behind the recycling effort. As more items were added for recycling it became necessary to open 2 days each week and to appoint a site manager to assure efficient operation and speedy processing for persons bringing material.

The original plans as a joint operation with Scotch Plains had come to an end quickly when Union County established a county-wide curb-side pick up operation.

The cost of curb-side services is paid by each community joining the operation or using separate contractors. It is usually a part of the community budget paid for by the taxpayers.

Fanwood elected to continue with the Center and avoid these recycling expenses.

Remarkably, Fanwood is the only municipality we know in which a municipal service, mandated by law, is performed at no cost to the town's taxpayers.

It has been estimated that the cost of curb-side recycling in Fanwood would be \$56,000-\$60,000 per year – a sum normally in the town budget and paid by tax money. This equates to about 2½ to 3 points in the local tax rate.

The Fanwood DPW consistently lends assistance to the Association but due to efficient planning this help has not required more personnel or overtime.

Association organizations are community oriented, tax exempt groups, primarily from Fanwood, Scotch Plains and Westfield whose personnel come from a wide area.

Among the Association members are:

- Boy Scout Troops 33,104,203, Cub Pack 277, and Flintlocks
- Girl Scout troop 751 and Cadettes #01
- Willow Grove Episcopal

- Church (Scotch Plains)
- Fanwood Presbyterian Church
- First United Methodist Church (Westfield)
- Fanwood Lions Club
- Fanwood College Club
- Union Catholic High School Environmental Club
- SPIN High School German Club
- ROTC
- Learning Disabilities Asso.
- Scotch Plains-Fanwood Cobras (athletic team),
- Precisely Right Precision (athletic team)
- St. Bartholomew's Church Home School

In the years of Recycling Center operation the groups have received some \$135,000 for their Saturday work.

Since the groups are all local, each community benefits as the funds are spent locally for group activities and charitable efforts... We recycle money!

In addition to the money earned by the groups, the Association has made many donations. Some examples are:

- Benches for our downtown and parks
- Stretcher boards for the Rescue Squad
- Carbon monoxide detector for the Fire Department
- Shrubs and trees for beautification at the Recycling Center

- Electronic equipment for Channel 35 so Borough Council meetings could be broadcast
- Paved the Recycling Center
- Provided a band for the Centennial Parade
- Donations to the Department of Public Works including tires for the front end loader, a portable generator; an asphalt tamper, commercial "weed whackers", a "SAWZALL" and a contribution of \$1,000 towards the DPW's budget

When the \$16,000 in donations is added to the \$135,000 paid to the participating organizations, the Center has enhanced the community's well being by \$151,000!

Continued savings and benefits to our local communities depends on the volume of recyclable materials processed.

The Center is open to all – even non-Fanwood residents! We urge everyone to help our local towns, our environment and our Association members in their goals by bringing recyclable materials to the Center.

For more information please call Bob Sommerich (908)-889-1891 or Alan Ebersole(908)-889-8347

## The Mayor's Message Let's Meet Under The Clock

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became a lunch time pastime for many. A former Fanwood resident, Dominick is also contributing the landscaping for the area and has volunteered in the past, providing significant help during last Labor Day's violent storm.

Thank you.

So many people helped with this millennium clock – it is a tribute to Fanwoodians of yesterday, today and tomorrow. I hope you will join us on September 26 at 2 pm. I'll meet you downtown under the clock!

### Published Quarterly by

**Fanwood Communications/  
Volunteer Committee  
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fanwood@fanwoodnj.com**

The Fanwood Communications/Volunteer Committee is always looking for individuals and organizations interested in providing manpower, money or expertise. We also welcome material and suggestions for inclusion in the next newsletter.

## Election Day 1999 is Sooner Than You Think

Just an early reminder that you should VOTE this November 2nd – Election Day! This years election is particularly important in Fanwood and everyone of voting age should make an extra effort to get out and vote.

Remember that, if you are not already a registered voter you must register to vote by October 4th. Forms are available at the post office, the Borough Clerk's office in Borough Hall and at most State and County offices.

If you are going to be out of town, or simply are unable to make it to the polls during the day, be sure to contact the Borough Clerk's office for an absentee ballot.

On this years ballot there is not only the race for Mayor and two Council seats, but two very important ballot questions.

First, there is the question whether or not the Borough should consider buying the Dean Oil property. This is the chance to voice your opinion about this hotly debated piece of property.

Second, there is the question about whether the Borough should reward EMS volunteers with LOSAP. Please see the Page 1 story for full details.

As Election Day draws nearer you are sure to hear more about the candidates and these important ballot questions. The local papers and TV-35 will be presenting important information about the election, so be sure to read and watch in order to make an informed decision on November 2nd.

Remember, register today, keep an eye on your mail for your sample ballot in late October and, above all else, VOTE on November 2 – its not just your right, its your patriotic duty!

## A Message from the Mayor Let's Meet Under The Clock

Hold that date! September 26, 1999 at 2pm the long awaited dedication of the millennium clock will take place at the corner of South and Martine Avenues. This is the fourth annual Fanny Wood Day and it is fitting to celebrate on this day because the Fanny Wood Day committee is responsible for raising the money for the clock.

Thanks to over 250 residents and merchants, the committee has raised over \$30,000 to pay for the millennium clock with a carillon and split rock wall that gives one the feeling of a plaza at this location.

The Fanwood Scotch Plains ROTC will participate in the dedication ceremony along with the many people who are responsible for actually designing and building the plaza and installing the clock.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Ray Manfra, Director of Public Works, and his crew for the extraordinary effort they contributed in making this occasion possible. We are so fortunate to have a Public Works Department as talented and dedicated as we have in Fanwood.

Our engineer, Rick Marsden, designed the beautiful plaza incorporating existing structures and added some new ideas that truly enhance the area so you can say "I'll meet you at the clock."

Finally, I thank Bravo Construction, in particular Dominick Mastroianni the artist who designed the wall and is installing the pavers.

Many people have stopped at the site to watch the wall being built. It is a craft, an art, that you do not see too much any more and watching Dominick's father, uncle and young assistants

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Fanwood Borough Hall  
75 North Martine Avenue  
Fanwood, NJ 07023

# Fanwood Community News

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Our Neighbors  
Fanwood, NJ 07023