



Seasons Greetings!



Annual Holiday Celebration

Winter is just around the corner and it comes with some of our favorite events and traditions that make Fanwood such a great place to live.

Every event is made possible through the hard work of committed community volunteers. Your continued participation not only supports these good causes, but much of the money raised is returned to the community through services and programs provided year round.

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Giving Tree

Help our local residents and those in neighboring communities by participating in the Fanwood - Scotch Plains Giving Tree Program.



Holiday trees will be set up in several locations listed below, and will contain "wish

tags" from needy residents identifying gifts they and their families would appreciate over the holidays. Gift tags can be removed starting on Tuesday, November 28th and will continue through Tuesday, December 19th or until all "wish tags" are removed.

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Santa Schedules Visit on December 16th

Santa Claus will be doing some early deliveries to the good little girls and boys of Fanwood on Saturday, December 16th, 2006, when he makes his 31st annual house-to-house visit escorted by his honorary 'elves' of Fanwood's emergency services groups.

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Lions Club Christmas Tree Sale

Beginning on December 1st

through Christmas Eve (or until all the trees are sold) the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Lions Club will be hosting their annual Christmas Tree sale at LaGrande Park. Volunteers from the Lions Club will be on hand weekday evenings from 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. and weekends from 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.. A variety of tree types and sizes are available at a price that everyone can afford. Monies raised support several local charities and provides for scholarships to at least three local high school students.



Tiny Tim Carol Night

Carolers for the Tiny Tim Fund will be singing their way through Fanwood and Scotch Plains on Wednesday, December 6th. Residents are asked to put their porch lights on to let the carolers know they are welcome.

Founded in 1983, Tiny Tim is a non-profit organization that provides financial assistance to medically needy local children up to age 18 when care cannot be provided due to temporary or long-term financial difficulties. The annual carol night is the group's only fundraiser. If you have any questions or would like to have your organization participate, contact Barbara Anilo at (908) 322-4472.

Luminary Sale

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary will be hosting the annual Luminary Sale beginning the first weekend of December and continuing every weekend through Christmas Eve. Specific dates are December



9th, 10th, 16th, 17th, 23rd and 24th. Sale hours are 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Fanwood Municipal Garage located on Manfra Drive just opposite the Fanwood Library.

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To Be A Councilperson In Fanwood

By Jack E. Molenaar

Why would anyone want to dedicate at least six nights a week, for no money, for three

years? Well, that's not exactly true, we do get "paid" one dollar a year. Regardless, the tradition of Fanwood has been that the elected officials of this Borough actually receive a check of one dollar each year for their services. So, at the end of my term, my bank account is richer by three dollars. Well, at least that is what the ledger states. But, in actuality, I believe I am far richer than my bank account.

Over the past three years, on Council, I have had the privilege to work with the Rescue Squad, the Police Department, the building department, the zoning officer, public works, and the planning board. I have also worked on budget, personnel, construction, school issues, etc. Fanwood is driven by, and for, its volunteers and the personalities that they bring to the table. In my three years on Council I have met many more dedicated and diverse volunteers than I ever thought that I could meet in a lifetime. These personalities and views have enriched me more than any monetary value ever could. For that I am a richer person.

I am most proud of my work on the downtown issues. Since I moved to this Borough, I have been intimately involved in the redevelopment efforts. I first served as the Chairman of the Downtown Revitalization Committee working with volunteers, and no budget, to install benches, planters and banners as a very small start to beautify the environs. As a planning board member I voted against the first downtown redevelopment plan because I knew that the citizens of Fanwood had not had the opportunity to put their imprint on the plan. After which I ran for Council and won. With the charge that the downtown plan needed some Fanwood input, I was able, with my fellow Councilpersons and Mayor, to revise it. That plan for Fanwood is now what is being implemented by private developers without the use of eminent domain.

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Santa Schedules Visit!

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If you would like Santa to bring a gift to your home, here's what you need to do:

➤ Gifts will be accepted at Fanwood Police

Headquarters on Martine

Avenue from Saturday, December 2nd through 9:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 10th. Because of Santa's very tight schedule (making his list, checking it twice, etc.), late gifts will not be accepted.

- Santa asks that the gifts for this special delivery be no larger than 12 by 12 by 12 inches, because of space limitations on his "sleigh".
- Each item must be wrapped tightly and clearly labeled with the child's first and last name and address. It is extremely important that the label is securely attached to the package. If there's more than one child getting a gift at the same address, the gifts must be bundled together.
- Santa will deliver the gifts on Saturday, December 16th beginning around Noon with the help of the Fanwood Fire Department and Fanwood Rescue Squad. Listen for the siren!
- So that Santa can see all of Fanwood's children, please wait at the curb when you hear the siren. Unfortunately, Santa will not have time for milk and cookies or to stop inside your home during this special visit, but he welcomes any treats that you may want to leave for him on Christmas Eve.

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Annual Holiday Celebration

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Starting on Sunday, December 3rd, at 3:00 p.m., Santa Claus will arrive in town to greet children and adults alike and kick off the holiday season. The Community

House (located on the North side of the Train Station) will be filled with holiday excitement. Refreshments, arts & crafts, music, and other activities will be provided as youngsters await the opportunity to visit with Santa. A free Polaroid picture will be provided to everyone that participates.

At dusk the Mayor will officially launch the holiday season with the lighting of the Fanwood Christmas Tree. Come and join us in this annual celebration!

Santa Visit

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The annual Santa visit is a joint effort of the Fanwood Volunteer Fire Department, Fanwood Rescue Squad and the Fanwood Police Benevolent Association Local 123.



Volunteers gather the gifts, organize them into routes, and then help Santa load them up onto a fire engine and ambulance. The trip through the borough takes about six hours, beginning at Noon and ending around dinnertime. If you have any questions or need more information, please call the Fanwood Fire Department at (908) 322-7020.

Winter Weather Safety Tips

As the weather turns colder and snow starts to accumulate on the roads and sidewalks, residents are reminded to shovel their sidewalks of snow and ice "within 12 hours of daylight after the snow has fallen or formed thereon." You are also responsible for keeping the area clear around any fire hydrants you have in front of your property. If you have elderly or homebound neighbors, please give them a hand in keeping the area around the hydrants clear.

A Message From Mayor Colleen Mahr



Well it is indeed hard to imagine that another year is coming to a close. 2006 was overall a good productive year in Fanwood: improving LaGrande Park, numerous street and sidewalk programs, construction along South Avenue and the the business façade program along Martine Avenue. I am proud of the hard work that everyone associated with the Borough has done in addressing the infrastructure and quality of life issues that face us on a daily basis.

My sincere thanks also go out to all those residents that have taken the time and energy all year to serve on our numerous volunteer Boards and Commissions. These individuals meet every month, some more than once, to focus on a specific area in the Borough that is important to them. If you would like to be an active part of your community by volunteering your time to serve on a community committee/commission, please contact me. A listing of some of the various opportunities can be found further in this issue.

I would also like to thank the Fanwood - Scotch Plains Recycling Association for its generous donation to the Borough of Fanwood that allowed us to design and erect a new sign on the front lawn of Borough Hall. This new sign replaced the one donated many, many years ago by the Lions Club. Once again, the great spirit of our community groups shines through to benefit all of our residents.

The end of the year also brings with it the departure of Councilman Jack Molenaar from the Borough Council. Jack has served for the last three years with a passion and dedication that I will personally miss. Jack was very instrumental in re-shaping the Downtown Redevelopment Plan and helped to guide the numerous community visioning sessions which has resulted in a plan now under implementation. Thank you, Jack, for a job well done!

I hope to see everyone at our annual Holiday Celebration which will take place on Sunday, December 3rd at the North Side of the Train Station, beginning at 3:00 p.m. It's one of my favorite times of the year, so don't forget to bring your children and grandchildren to this free event.

On a personal note, I will be taking some time in December and into the New Year as my husband George and I await the arrival of our third child. So, I extend my very best wishes to all of you to have a happy and safe holiday season.

The Fanwood Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) website www.FanwoodCERT.org has links to local school closing information, National Weather Service forecasts and weather alerts, plus links to local traffic and transit websites including NJ Transit

and airport information for all three local airports. The CERT recommends you obtain a Weather Alert radio with S.A.M.E. coding to be alerted in the event of a storm or other non-weather emergency. Our S.A.M.E. code is 034039. To learn more about weather alert radios, please visit the CERT website.

Luminary Sales

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Candles, bags and sand will be available at a cost of 50¢ per set or 10 for \$5.00. Monies raised will benefit the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary programs including restoration of the historic Betty Frazee House.

Who is This Fanwoodian?

Our person this issue has been a resident of Fanwood for 39 years. Married for 45 years, she's the mother of two daughters and one son and has four grandchildren, two girls and two boys.

Her years as a Fanwoodian have meant a lot to our town. A partial list of some of her activities shows she has been an active volunteer from 1971 to the present:

- Past President and currently on the Board of Resolve Community Counseling Center, her major interest right now;
- Trustee of the Fanwood Community Foundation since it's founding in 1998;
- Scotch Plains 2002 Female Volunteer of the Year;
- Charter Member and First Treasurer of the Fanwood Scotch Plains Service League;
- President of the Fanwood Scotch Plains Jayceettes;
- Service on the Fanwood Assessment Committee;
- Worked with the Scotch Plains Fanwood Board of Education as a member of the Comprehensive Planning Committee and the Facilities Committee;
- Serves on the Scotch Plains Fanwood PTA Council, as President, Union County Liaison and currently the Resolves Liaison;
- Past President of the PTAs at Brunner School and the Scotch Plains Fanwood High School where she took on additional committee responsibilities.

She still finds time to indulge in a few recreational activities and enjoys bridge, sports (particularly Rutgers basketball and football,) cooking, gardening and travel.

Her husband, Robert, has been a Director and Trustee of the Fanwood YMCA for 30 plus years. He was a founder of the Fanwood Community Foundation in 1998 and is a past President of the Rotary Club.

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Originating in Mexico, this uniquely Fanwood tradition of lighting candles and placing them along curbs and sidewalks on Christmas Eve is an admired and cherished event. Why not organize your neighborhood and light up the whole block? If you plan to be away on Christmas Eve, ask a neighbor to light your candles for you - it's such a great sight!



Department of Public Works Seasonal Reminder

The fall leaf program ends on December 4th. Leaves will not be picked up again until spring. Please place any leaves in your garden/yard until that time.

The next brush and stick pickup will begin on January 2nd in the NE and NW quadrants, and on January 8th in the SE and SW quadrants.

- In accordance with the New Jersey Stormwater management regulations, brush may not be placed in the street more than 7 days prior to the scheduled first pick-up.
- Only brush, sticks and Christmas Trees will be picked up at that time. Please remove all plastic bags and ornaments from trees prior to pick-up.



Winter Snow Reminders:

- Please remove cars from the streets when snow is in the forecast.
- Shovel your driveway by placing snow to the right so the Borough plows will carry the snow away from your driveway.
- Please wait to shovel the last 10 feet of your driveway until the snowstorm is over and the streets have been plowed curb to curb.
- Do not blow or shovel your snow into the center of the road as this will freeze and cause a hazardous condition.
- Residents are responsible to shovel all sidewalks adjacent to their property within 12 hours of daylight after the snow has fallen to avoid receiving a fine.

For additional information please contact the Department of Public Works at (908) 322-7404.

To Be A Councilperson

(Molenaar, From Page 2)

Fanwood has always shown a streak of independence, and I am glad I was able to add to that colorful history.

Now that the downtown is moving in the direction that is right for our future, I am looking forward to seeing new volunteers step forward to put their mark on Fanwood. I appreciate all the help I have received from all the volunteers and paid staff that makes this Borough great.

Make your opinions not only heard but a reality – Volunteer! I'm glad I did.

Historic Items Wanted

Do you have old pictures of Fanwood?
Do you have Fanwood memorabilia?
Do you have unwanted Victorian style furnishings?

Why not donate them to The Fanwood Museum?

The Historic Preservation Commission's archival collection has been moved from the library to the historic north side train station building and will soon be open to the public! We are looking for donations (or loans - if you can't bear to part with your items) to add to the collection.

Contact Commission Chair Dee O'Brien at 908-322-5281 or bring your donation to Borough Hall.



Public Notice

Fanwood's Welfare Director is retiring on December 31, 2006. Starting January 1, 2007 anyone needing welfare assistance should contact:

Division of Social Service
Union county Plainfield Office
200 West Second Street
Plainfield, NJ 07063
(908) 791-7000

Volunteers Wanted

Fanwood's greatest strength is its people! In fact, if it were not for the dedicated volunteers on many of our commissions, committees and squads – we would be forced to employ a much larger and more expensive workforce. Help keep Fanwood this great place to live **and** keep your taxes low by offering your time to serve.

There are over 20 different committees or commissions, each with no fewer than five members. If you have a special skill or interest and would like to be a part of what makes this great community so special, contact Mayor Colleen Mahr at Borough Hall (908) 322-8236.

A few Committees and Commissions in particular need of volunteers are:

- Recreation
- Environmental
- Shade Tree
- Library Board
- Historic Preservation
- Cultural Arts
- Communications
- Community Events (Easter, Halloween, Fanny Wood Day, etc.)
- Board of Health



Licenses Due for our Furry Friends

Dog and cat licenses need to be acquired or renewed at the clerk's office in Borough Hall between January 1st and January 31st. An unexpired rabies inoculation certificate is required

along with a fee of \$7.00 for neutered dogs and \$6.00 for neutered cats. For animals not neutered the cost is \$10.00 for dogs and \$9.00 for cats.

Mail requests are honored as long as a stamped, self-addressed envelope is enclosed along with the appropriate fee and a copy of the certificate of inoculation. Include the animal's name and address. Send to the attention of the Clerk's Office, 75 N. Martine Avenue in Fanwood.

For late licensing, there is a \$2.00 penalty per month for a maximum of \$10.00.

In early spring, Fanwood conducts a free rabies clinic. The date will be announced in the next issue of "The Fanwoodian."

KIDS KORNER

Fanwood Recreation has a new phone number: (908) 370-7092. Check www.visitfanwood.com/recreation for the latest information about recreational activities happening around town.



BOOK BINGO

Fanwood Memorial Library
Friday, January 5th
3:45 to 4:15 P.M.

Join in the fun and play book bingo for book prizes. Everyone is a winner. Children must be able to read, or be willing and able to share with someone who can. A parent or caring adult must remain in the library during this program. For more information, call the Children's Department at (908) 322-4377.



VIDEO GAME CREATION WORKSHOP

Wednesday, January 17th

Due to the overwhelming response to the first workshop in the fall, Fanwood Recreation is again offering a Video Game Creation Workshop, starting Wednesday, January 17th. Sponsored by Children's Technology Workshop, these classes will teach kids programming skills so they can create fun, non-violent games to call their own. The class will meet weekly for eight sessions. There will be three sections: 3rd-4th graders, 5th-6th graders, and 7th-8th graders. To pre-register and for more information, email bob@visitfanwood.com.

Annual Fanwood Council Reorganization



The Annual Reorganization of the Fanwood Council will take place on Monday, January 1, 2007 starting at 12:00 Noon in the Council Chambers at Borough Hall. The swearing in of council members Donna Dolce and David Valian will take place at that time. The Mayor's Annual "State of Fanwood" address will be delivered and annual appointments to commissions and committees will be made. A reception will immediately follow the program at the Chelsea on South Avenue in Fanwood from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. All Fanwoodians are invited to attend.

2007 Parking Permits Notice of Change

Because of the change in the New Jersey State Sales Tax, there is now an additional 7% charge to the cost of a yearly parking permit.

For Fanwood residents, the cost is now \$256.80. For residents of all other towns, the charge is \$536.44.

Permits can be purchased at Fanwood Police Headquarters, 75 N. Martine Avenue 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Checks or money orders only, no credit cards accepted.

For further information, please contact Sgt. Howard Jarvis of the Fanwood Police Department at 908-322-5000, ext. 153.



Meet Your New Recreation Director, Bob Budiansky

I grew up in the Bronx and my wife, Angela, from Connecticut, but 14 years ago we decided Fanwood, New Jersey was the right place for us. Since we arrived, so have two others: our daughter Emma and son David.

After many years of working at Marvel Comics and Scholastic in various editorial and creative capacities, I now have my own graphic design business. I also occasionally dabble as an illustrator and writer.

Working for myself gave me the time to volunteer for the Fanwood Recreation Commission two years ago. I was at least partly inspired to do this by my children; over the years they've enjoyed the sports leagues, the free Movies in the Park and the Halloween Costume Contest, among many other local recreational activities, and I wanted to see

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LaGrande Park Revitalization

Fanwoodians who live near LaGrande Park may have been wondering recently what was happening. Why had the ball fields been torn up and replaced by a large mound of dirt? Was Spielberg in Fanwood remaking "Close Encounters"? The real story is not quite so exciting, but still of interest. Since early August, Dumor Contracting Inc.

has been working to reconstruct the ball fields. This was necessary to help improve the playing surface, but more importantly to increase safety at the adjacent playground.



In the mid 1990's, the playground was expanded and moved to an area behind the left field fence of the ball field. The distance to the fence was approximately 220 feet at the left field foul line. According to Borough Engineer Joe Pryor, "Balls were sometimes hit over the fence into the playground area. Netting was installed above the fence, but failed to solve the problem."



The field is being shifted and reoriented to increase the distance from home plate to the outfield fence to 265 feet. Other changes include new fencing, new backstops, grading, and adjustments to

the existing drainage system. The majority of the work should be completed this fall, but in order to give the new sod time to set, people are asked to avoid walking on the fields. Residents can also be assured that the fields will not be illuminated and no new lighting will be installed.

This project, along with recent improvements to the tennis courts, has been funded in part by grant assistance. Fanwood has also received a grant to resurface Marian Avenue, which abuts the ball fields. That construction will take place next spring after the park improvements are completed.

SENIOR SIDELIGHTS

The Fanwood Senior Citizen Club is planning their Holiday Luncheon for December 12th at Cafe Vivace on South Avenue in Plainfield. All members are invited to celebrate the beginning of the Holiday Season. Hope to see you there.

The Club is planning many, many events for 2007. Not to be missed is the April trip to Washington, D.C. for four days and three nights. Join the Seniors Club to learn more!

The Forest Road Park Senior Center is going to receive an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) from the County of Union. The County plans to install the unit and provide training to a few residents of the Borough. The Fanwood Rescue Squad has volunteered to provide demonstrations to the Seniors at one of their Monday Meetings. We are very grateful to the County for this service. Many lives have been saved following the use of the AED.

The new enrollment period for MEDICARE D is beginning on November 15th and will run through December 31st, 2006. Please evaluate your current plan to ensure appropriate coverage for 2007. There are at least 50 MEDICARE D Plans in New Jersey from which to choose. Contact your current provider to discuss on-going coverage of all your prescription medications. Also, you may be contacted by individuals trying to scam seniors with programs and plans. Never give out your Medicare number, Social Security Number, or Bank Account Numbers over the phone or offer to pay cash. Legitimate plans will never request this. Contact the Medicare Hotline at (800) 772-1213. For the hearing impaired the TTY number is (877) 486-2048, or visit www.medicare.gov with questions related to the new enrollment period.

Feel free to contact me, Joan Wheeler at joanw@visitfanwood.com for any further information related to life as a Senior in Fanwood.

Contributions, suggestions
and comments are welcome

THE FANWOODIAN

The Fanwoodian
75 North Martine Ave.
Fanwood, NJ 07023



Giving Tree

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Wrapped gifts must then be returned to the Scotch Plains Tax Assessor's Office or Fanwood Borough Hall no later than Tuesday, December 19th with the wish tag attached to the gift.

If a wish tag is removed and the individual cannot honor the request, please return the tag to the tree. Individuals may also donate undesignated monetary gifts or gift checks that can be used to purchase food and other necessary items. Trees will be set up in the following locations:

Fanwood Municipal Building
75 North Martine Avenue

Scotch Plains Municipal Building
430 Park Avenue

Scotch Plains Library
1927 Bartle Avenue

Fanwood Borough Hall
75 North Martine Avenue
Fanwood, NJ 07023



Recreation Director

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what I could contribute to keeping these kinds of programs going. In September of this year, I became the Recreation Director. Now I look forward to not only continuing the many recreational programs that Fanwoodians have enjoyed over the years, but also to expanding the recreational choices available to everyone.

If you need information about recreation in Fanwood, feel free to contact me by email bob@visitfanwood.com or phone (908) 370-7092, or check our web-site: www.visitfanwood.com/recreation.



Who is this Fanwoodian?
It is Carol Kraus.

Happy Holidays!

Fanwood Community News

Our Neighbors
Fanwood, NJ 07023

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
FANWOOD, NJ
PERMIT NO. 16