

Annual Holiday Celebration



Fanwood's holiday season officially begins when Santa Claus arrives in town on Sunday, December 5th, at 3 PM! Everyone is invited to meet Santa under the big tent on the lawn in front of the North Avenue Train Station and enjoy an afternoon of seasonal music, holiday crafts and refreshments—all for free. Children who stop by to say hello to Santa will get a free photograph of their visit. Contests will be held with prizes for the winners. The Celebration concludes at 5 PM when Mayor Mahr lights the Fanwood town tree on the train station lawn. Sponsored by the Fanwood Recreation Commission.

Fanwood Lions Club to Hold 61st Christmas Tree Sale!



Beginning December 1st, LaGrande Park will become a forest of Christmas trees and lights. Featuring a splendid array of Balsams, Fraziers and Douglas Firs, the Lions Club tree sale will be held on weekdays from 6 PM to 9 PM and on weekends from 9 AM to 9 PM. Shop early for the best selection – good quality at reasonable prices. The sale also features plain and decorated wreaths and garlands. All proceeds go to support Lions Club projects and student scholarships. The Lions Club will also be collecting unwrapped gifts for United Family and Children's Society. If you have an interest in joining the Lions Club, see one of the members on the lot during the tree sale.



Let's Light Up Fanwood This Holiday Season

The Rotary Club is sponsoring its annual Luminary Sale to be held on December 4th, 11th, 12th, 18th and 19th from 9AM to 3 PM and on December 24th from 9 AM to 12 Noon. Paper bags filled with sand and candles can be purchased at the Fanwood Public Works garage at 270 North Avenue across from the Memorial Library.

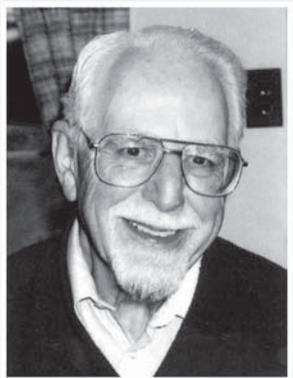


Tiny Tim Carol Night

Turn on your porch lights on Wednesday, December 8th to welcome carolers for the Tiny Tim Fund. Carolers will be traveling throughout Fanwood and Scotch Plains to spread holiday cheer and raise money for the non-profit organization. Participants can drop off their proceeds and enjoy refreshments at the Stage House Inn in Scotch Plains.

Celebrating its 27th year, Tiny Tim 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. Last year over two dozen groups took part. If you have any questions or would like to participate, contact Barbara Anilo at (908) 322-4472.





Robert Sommerich

It is with regret that the Communications Committee announces the passing of one of its excellent writers, Bob Sommerich. Bob wrote many informative articles

on the Recycling Center for *The Fanwoodian*. He could always be counted on to keep the Committee and the Borough up-to-date on what materials were being accepted by the Center and which would be rejected. In addition, Bob was a very active volunteer with the New Jersey Blood Center, assisting them with the Borough's yearly blood drives. He will be sorely missed by this Committee and by all the other organizations to which he belonged.

Chief Trigo's Open Door Policy!

Police Chief Richard Trigo invites you to help make Fanwood a better community to live and work in. Please feel free to contact him at (908) 322-5000 x 116, or stop in and take advantage of his open door policy!

Santa Claus Is Coming December 18 (Please Note the Changes!)

Escorted by the Fanwood Fire Department, Rescue Squad and the Police PBA 123, Santa Claus will be making his annual ride through our Borough on Saturday, December 18th starting at 11 AM. Due to changes within our Police Department, there is a new drop off location for the packages.

Santa's elves will begin taking packages at the Fanwood Carriage House (Pat Kuran Cultural Arts Center) next to Borough Hall; starting Sunday, December 5th through Friday 10th, from 5 PM – 8 PM. Parking is on Watson Road.

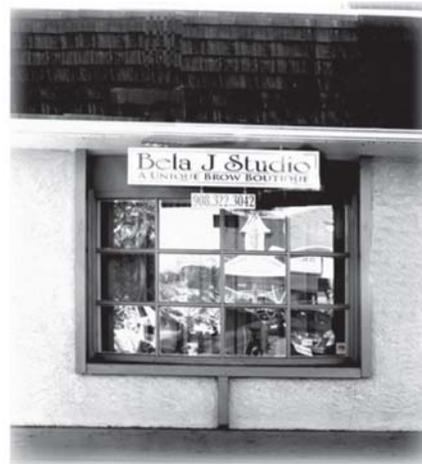
Packages cannot be dropped off at the Police Department since the lobby is now unattended.

Because Santa has to make his list and check it twice, late gifts cannot be accepted. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** All packages must include 'name – address and phone number.

Gifts must be no larger than 12" x 12" x 12". Packages for the same address must be bundled together.

Listen for the siren on that Saturday. HO HO HO!

Visit Bela J. Studio The Eyes Have It!



New in town is the Bela J. Studio which specializes in Eyebrow Artistry. Owner Julie Ferreira has been practicing her craft for over eight years and was delighted to finally open

her own place in April 2010. Drop in to 200 South Avenue and meet Julie and get her opinion on how to shape beautiful eyebrows for your face.

Annual Reorganization Meeting of the Fanwood Council

The reorganization meeting of the Fanwood Council will take place in Council Chambers on Sunday, January 2nd, 2011 at 12 Noon in Borough Hall. Appointments to commissions and committees will be made for the forthcoming year. The Mayor will deliver her "State of Fanwood" address. Anthony Parenti, who has been re-elected to a second term, and Kathy Mitchell, who has been re-elected to her fifth term, will be sworn in as Councilpersons. All residents are invited to attend.

The Fanwoodian

Published quarterly by the
Fanwood Communications Committee

Chairperson: Joan Feller

Secretary and Photographer: Sherman Feller

Writers: Rosemarie McCallion, Michael Prasad, Robert Sommerich,
Lin Vlasaty, Bob Budiansky

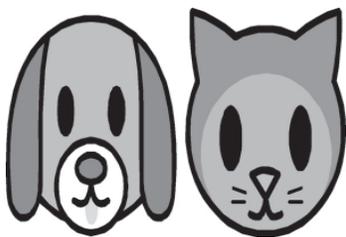
Layout: Pat Hoynes

Council Liaison: Mike Szuch

Contributions, comments and volunteers are always welcome!

75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood 07023

License Your Pets Please!



All dogs and cats in Fanwood are required to be licensed annually.

The deadline for licensing your animal, seven months or older, is January 31, 2011 or a late fee will be imposed. The license fees are \$10 per dog or cat for those spayed/neutered; \$15 for those who are not neutered. If you no longer have a cat or dog, please inform Borough officials by calling (908) 322-8236.

Licenses may be obtained in person at the office of the Municipal Clerk, Fanwood Borough Hall, 75 North Martine Avenue. The office is open daily from 7:30 AM to 4 PM. Licenses can also be obtained by mailing the proper fee, current rabies vaccination certificate and/or prior year's license and a self-addressed stamped envelope to Borough Hall.

Senior Asides

Union County has a Senior Home Improvement Program funded by Community Development Block Grant Funds, for low to moderate income seniors who live in Fanwood. The program offers a one-time grant of \$5,000 to seniors 60 and older who qualify based on their household income. This grant is awarded to the contractor at the completion of the work and satisfaction of the homeowner. There is also a zero interest loan available to all eligible homeowners with a maximum of \$24,000 additionally. Eligible repairs include replacing substandard heating, electrical and plumbing systems, repairs to correct code violations and energy-saving measures such as insulation, new windows and storm doors. For more information, please call (732) 382-8100.



A Message From Mayor Colleen Mahr



Once again we're in the season of Thanksgiving, and although recent years have been difficult for many of us, in Fanwood we have much to be grateful for – so many of you give your time selflessly to make Fanwood a wonderful place.

The community went to the polls in the general election and I look forward to working with the current council and congratulate Kathy Mitchell and Anthony Parenti. Although we sometimes disagree about methods, we rarely disagree about objectives – a safe community, well-managed infrastructure, and public and volunteer services that support and nurture our children and seniors. Although we are of different political parties, we have been a good team, and in the coming year we will continue to pursue the right choices for Fanwood.

During the election season I was privileged to walk door-to-door and spent a lot of time hearing from you. Not surprisingly, local taxes top the list of concerns, so the agenda for 2010 will be led by a hard look at the SPF Shared Services Report. Although the cost-savings outlined in the report affect only about \$2,000 of the average total property tax bill (20% is controlled by Fanwood; the schools account for 62% and the County 18%). We will closely study reducing costs while maintaining services you expect.

I urge you to visit the website at scotchplainsnj.com/shared-services/index.html and review the report yourself so you can be familiar with the kinds of issues that will be coming up in the next year. I would love to hear your ideas and suggestions so please contact me at (908) 322-8236, x 124 or at mayor@visitfanwood.com. I am always happy to hear your ideas.

We have not been waiting around for the results of the Shared Service Report to take action. The process of developing this report revealed some obvious cost-cutting measures that we immediately acted upon. We have cut staff throughout the Borough and recently entered into an arrangement with Union County to provide dispatching services. This will generate a savings of \$240,000 over the 3-year life of the contract. I am happy to report that the changeover has been seamless.

In order to improve our availability to the public, we've changed office hours at Borough Hall. Now open Monday through Thursday from 7:30 AM to 4 PM, Thursday evening from 5:15 to 8 PM and Fridays, a traditionally quiet time at Borough Hall, we

Fanwood Recreation Winter Programs for Children

Fanwood Recreation announces its schedule of Winter 2011 programs for children. For more information about all these classes and to register, use the contact information below, go to fanwoodrecreation.org or call Fanwood Recreation, 908 370-7092.

<u>Program</u>	<u>Ages</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Fashion Illustration	12-17	1/25	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
SmartyCat Kids Junior Scientists Workshops	3 1/2 - 11	1/25	info@smartycatkids.com
Sports Squirts	3-5	1/26	www.ussportsinstitute.com
Lego & Bionicle Club	Grades 1-5	1/26	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Kickboxing for Kids	Grades 1-5	1/31	www.fanwoodrecreation.org



Fanwood Seniors enjoyed a train ride, a boat ride on the Connecticut River and a tasty lunch at a country inn on a bus trip to Essex, Connecticut in October.

Fanwood Recreation Wants YOU!

The Fanwood Recreation Commission already provides many terrific recreational services for the residents of Fanwood. However, we're always looking to do more! And to do that, we need the help of people like you!

At the moment, Recreation has a few Commissioner vacancies that we're looking to fill, and we're always looking for more volunteers to help run the many community events that we stage throughout the year. So if you'd like to apply your public spiritedness to a good cause, join us! Get involved in the Holiday Celebration at the Train Station; the Easter Egg Hunt; the Training Wheel Toss; the Summer Party in the Park; the Halloween Parade & Costume Contest; the brand-new Fanwood 5K & Family Fun Run; creating programs for children, adults and seniors; planning the design and construction of new recreation facilities and more! Email us at rec@visitfanwood.com or call us at (908) 370-7092. We would love to hear from you!

Fanwood Recreation Announces Winter Programs for Seniors

Seniors, make physical fitness your New Year's resolution! Fanwood Recreation announces its winter program schedule for seniors. Programs begin the week of January 3rd and run through the week of March 21st: Aerobics (Tuesdays, 9:15–10 AM), Tai Chi (Tuesdays, 10:15–11:15 AM), Line Dancing (Thursdays, 1–2 PM), and Water Exercise (Fridays, 11–11:45 AM). The registration fee for Fanwood residents for each program is \$10. All programs are held in the recreation building at Forest Road Park, except for Water Exercise, which is held at the JCC of Central NJ Wilf Jewish Community Campus indoor pool in Scotch Plains. Space is limited.

Program schedules and registration forms may be picked up at Fanwood Borough Hall, 75 N. Martine Avenue, or downloaded from www.fanwoodrecreation.org. For more information call Fanwood Recreation at (908) 370-7092.

2011 Summer Park Recreation Program Counselor Jobs

Fanwood Recreation is now actively planning its 2011 Summer Park Recreation Program. The 8-week program, which runs from 9 AM to Noon, Monday–Friday at LaGrande Park, provides children ages 5 to 12 with structured, fun-filled activities under the supervision of experienced counselors. If you or someone you know would like to apply for a counselor job, please go to www.fanwoodrecreation.org and click on the "Job Applications" button to download an application. Submission of an application does not guarantee an interview or a response. Registration for the program will start in March or April.

Fanwood Memorial Library Children's Department Upcoming Events

Family Storytime the first Monday of each month at 7 PM:

December 6th, January 3rd, February 7th.

Stories for all ages, children are seated with an adult.

Book Bingo on the first Friday of the month:

Dec. 3rd, Jan. 7th, Feb. 4th from 3:45-4:15 PM

Children must be able to read or willing to share with someone who can. Everyone wins at Book Bingo. A parent or caring adult must remain in the Children's area during this program.

Holiday Pre-School Storytime & Craft

Wed., December 8th 10:30 AM

For children 3-5 years.

Holiday Craft Jam

Friday, Dec. 10th, 3:45-4:30 PM

For kids grades K-5

Winter Storytimes

Begins Tuesday Jan. 11th.

Watch the library events calendar online for more information.

Kindergarten Math Storytimes

Begins Jan. 13th and end Feb. 17th

Prior registration is required.

Start your own book group!

Friday, Jan. 21st from 3:45 to 5:30 PM

For kids in Grades 3-5

Learn about resources and ideas to get your own book group Started.

REMINDER!!! Don't forget to check our web page: www.fanwoodlibrary.org for links to great school assignment help that you can access from home by simply typing in your library card number. See World Book Online and AtoZ Maps for information on the states (outline maps, state symbols and more!) and the world.



Fanwood Memorial Library's Website is Available 24/7/365 Days a Year!

Even when we're closed, you can make very effective use of the library from home. Just visit the website at www.fanwoodlibrary.org to access your own account where you can renew books, place holds and more. You'll find a wide assortment of online databases to satisfy every age, interest and question. Although the web is easy to browse and search, not everything is available through Google. Follow the link on the homepage to our **Online Resources** and log in with your library card number. Here are a few of the resources you can make use of:

AtoZ Maps—the world's largest database of proprietary, royalty-free world, continent, country, and state maps that you can view, download and print. Included in the *Amazing 60,000+ Maps are political, physical, outline, population, precipitation, climate, antique, and other thematic maps.*

AtoZ the USA—offers extensive information on the entire USA including all 50 U.S. states, 5 territories, and the District of Columbia and includes state reports and articles ready to download, royalty-free image collections of flags, vintage postcards, panoramic photos, license plates, and much more. Map collections include thousands of modern and antique maps. Dozens of other categories feature data on geography, government, history, and society and culture.

World Book Online—an amazing online encyclopedia with articles, links, photos and more. It is a powerful reference tool for students of all ages which can be customized for any grade level. See all that the World Book has to offer.

Jersey Clicks provides access to a variety of databases and a wealth of information, including full-text access to thousands of magazines and newspapers through EbscoHost as well as Custom Newspapers, Science Reference Center, the ERIC database and much more.

Participants of All Ages, Enjoying the Cool Autumn Weather



Annual Halloween parade of ghosts and goblins and witches crosses South Avenue on its way to LaGrande Park



A witch congratulates a ghost on receiving an award.

Fanwood's First Annual 5K and Family Fun Run



Like father, like son marching to LaGrande for cider and doughnuts.



Ready, set, go and they're off and running, starting Fanwood's first annual 5K and Family Fun Run presented by the Fanwood Recreation Commission



Eager runners lined up, waiting for the starting siren. The race was fully sanctioned by the United States America Track and Field (USATF) and was part of the New Jersey Grand Prix as a 500 point race.

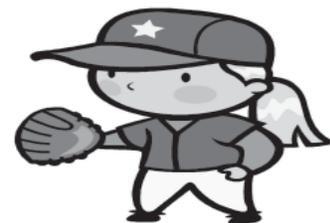
Fanwood Youth Organization Baseball

Registration for the 2011 spring baseball season is currently underway! Now celebrating our 50th anniversary as a league, FYO is dedicated to providing affordable baseball programs and instruction to the youth of Scotch Plains and Fanwood.

There are many new and exciting changes in store for the 2011 season including: new and expanded player divisions, playing opportunities for 9th grade

students, in-house baseball clinics, expanded travel baseball, and the return of the extremely popular Rookies program designed to introduce children of pre-school age to the game of baseball.

In addition, FYO will also once again commemorate Opening Day by hosting Major League Baseball's



Pitch, Hit & Run skills competition at LaGrande Park. Also returning is the league-wide outing to see the Somerset Patriots. Don't miss what promises to be another terrific season of baseball!

To learn more and register online for the 2011 season, please visit us at: www.fyobaseball.org and click on the 'registration' tab. If you have general questions, please call (908) 325-5050.

Please Note:

Change in Borough Hall Office Hours

Administration, Tax Office, Construction,
Municipal Court

Monday through Thursday: 7:30 AM to 4 PM

Thursday Evening Hours: 5:15 PM to 8 PM

Friday: 7:30 AM to Noon

Mayor's Message

Continued from Page 3

close at Noon. We're trying to use our dollars creatively to improve service. It is our hope that these changes will allow you more access to Borough Hall.

A big thank you Chairman Joe Valente and his 5K Race Committee for the October 24 5K Race and Family Fun Run. They spent countless hours to make the race the terrific success that it was! Not quite the marathoner, I ran in the Family Fun Run with my son Dan, and it was wonderful to see so many of you out there either running or cheering us on that beautiful Sunday morning. And of course I am happy to report that all the monies raised, after paying the bills, will go directly to subsidize our self-sustaining recreation programs.

By now you've all noticed the demolition at the corner of Martine and South Avenue. This heralds the construction of a lovely mixed-use building to be erected by Elite Builders. The first of a three-phase construction project, Elite is currently moving through the planning, zoning and construction approval process and hopes to break ground for the first building in 2011. Once the first building is up on the corner the second

phase will be a two story-residential building on La Grande Avenue, followed by the final phase, the erection of a mixed use building directly across from the train station on South Avenue. This project should be a terrific fit for the Borough, and we wish Elite great success!

Finally, I invite you to join us at the December 5th Holiday Celebration from 3 to 5 PM. Featuring fun activities for the kids, there will also be a Volunteer Sign-Up-Table. We ask you to consider volunteering for Fanwood, please visit the Sign-Up-Table and discuss the possibilities. There are myriad opportunities, and your talents will be welcome among our dedicated volunteers.

Mentioning volunteers I must take a moment to offer condolences to the family of the late Bob Sommerich. I hope you take the time to read about Bob on Page 2, maybe his story will inspire you to get involved with us. Please carry on his legacy of volunteerism and join us to help Fanwood continue to be the wonderful place that we all love!

My best wishes to you all for a safe and happy holiday season!

Please Join Us and Volunteer!
December 5th, 3-5 PM at the Train Station

Mayor Colleen Mahr is planning to hold a Volunteer Sign-Up on Sunday, December 5th at the Holiday Celebration Event. While you are meeting Santa and enjoying the festivities, please stop by our table and consider signing up to be one of those wonderful Fanwoodians who help plan and stage the events and programs that make our town such a wonderful place in which to live.

Volunteer opportunities range from Communication (*The Fanwoodian*), Cultural and Performing Arts, Environmental, Recreation and Fanny Wood Day to the Volunteer Fire Department, Rescue Squad, TV 35, Historic Preservation and much more.

If you can't make the event but are interested in volunteering, let us know the areas you are most interested in. Contact us via e-mail, to phoynes@fanwoodnj.org, by telephone to Pat at (908) 322-8236 x 121, or mail this form to "Volunteers" 75 North Martine Avenue in Fanwood 07023. We'll be in touch.

Mayoral appointments must be made in January, so please respond soon!

FANWOOD NEEDS YOU!

I am interested in _____ Please contact me about the opportunities that are available!

Name _____

Phone: _____

e-mail: _____



Fanwood
Community News
ECRWSS
Our Neighbors
Fanwood, NJ 07023

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