

Annual Holiday Celebration



Fanwood's holiday season officially begins when Santa Claus arrives in town on Sunday, December 4th, 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 with him. And children can also enter contests and win prizes. 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.

Tiny Tim Carol Night



On Monday, December 5th carolers will once again be singing their way through Fanwood and Scotch Plains

on behalf of the Tiny Tim Fund. Carolers can collect donations and drop off their proceeds and enjoy refreshments at the Stage House Inn in Scotch Plains.

Celebrating its 28th year, 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. 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.

Fanwood Lions Club Christmas Tree Sale

The Lions Club will hold its annual Christmas tree sale for the 62nd straight year beginning on December 1st. As in the past, the sale will be at LaGrande Park and will feature a variety of Balsams, Fraziers and Douglas Firs. The sale will be held on weekdays from 6 PM to 9 PM and on weekends from 9 AM to 9 PM. Also available for purchase are plain and decorated wreaths and garlands. All proceeds

support Lions Club projects and student scholarships. If you have an interest in joining the Lions Club, see one of the members at LaGrande Park during the tree sale.



Santa Claus is Coming to Town!

Escorted by the Fanwood Fire Department, Rescue Squad and Police PBA 123, Santa Claus will be making his annual ride through our Borough on Saturday, December 17th starting at 11 AM. Santa's elves will begin taking packages at the Fanwood Carriage House (Pat Kuran Cultural Center) next to Borough Hall starting Monday,

December 5th through Saturday, December 10th from 6 PM to 9 PM. Parking is located on Watson Road. Packages may not be dropped off at the Police Department.

Since Santa has to make his list and check it twice, late gifts cannot be accepted. NO EXCEPTIONS. All packages must include the name, address, and phone number of their recipients. Gifts must be no larger than 12"x12"x12" and only one gift per child is permitted. Packages for the same address must be bundled together.

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





Meet Your New Councilman – Kevin Boris

Kevin Boris lives on Oak Court with his wife Jessica and two daughters, Emma and Bronwyn. Kevin has been a member of the Fanwood Planning Board for the last three years, serving as the board Chairman for the past year. He is an attorney with a background in municipal law and also currently serves as counsel to the North Brunswick Planning Board. Kevin is extremely proud to see the changes and improvements in our business district, and will work diligently to see the downtown renovation completed.

Light the Night with Luminaries!

The Fanwood Scotch Plains Rotary Club is sponsoring its annual luminary sale to be held on December 3rd, 10th, 11th, 17th and 18th from 9 AM to 3 PM and December 24th from 9 AM to 12 Noon. The luminary kits, which include a candle, bag and sand, can be purchased at the Fanwood Municipal Garage located on North Avenue across from the Fanwood Memorial Library. The cost for each luminary kit is 60 cents or 50 cents when purchasing over 50 kits. All proceeds from the sale will be donated to charities supported by the Fanwood Scotch Plains Rotary Club. For more information please contact Neil Schembre at (908) 889-9500.



The Fanwood BPA Has New Board

The Fanwood Business and Professional Association has a newly-elected board, led by John V. Crisafulli of Two River Community Bank on South Avenue. It is adding new business networking/social events and marketing ideas for its members, including a new Flickr photo site, Facebook page and web coupons. There are bio pages available on their website www.fanwood.biz for residents and visitors to learn more about selected BPA members and their businesses. Fanwood businesses are predominately locally owned and operated, so please support them. Membership dues continue to be very low for the region at only \$50 per year. Check out the associations website for its calendar of events, access to the Flickr and Facebook links and sign up for their e-mailed newsletter.



The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Percussion Band leads Fanwood's Halloween Parade to LaGrande Park for cider, donuts and prizes for best costumes and scariest jack o' lanterns.

Legislation: No Knock List

Ordinance 11-10-R was recently adopted by the Borough Council. It provides a "No Knock List" for residents who do not wish licensed persons (peddlers, solicitors or transient merchants) to seek contact with anyone in their home. Residents will be required to notify the Municipal Clerk and complete a form authorizing the Clerk to add their name to the "No Knock List". When this is done the resident can post a "No Knock" sign at the front entrance to his or her home to warn solicitors. The registration will last for five years.

This list will be given to all peddlers, solicitors and transient merchants when they apply for a permit to solicit in the Borough.

The Fanwoodian

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Contributions, comments and volunteers are always welcome!

75 North Martine Avenue, Fanwood

Councilwoman Joan Wheeler Retires from Council



The time has come to bid our colleague, Councilwoman Joan Wheeler, a fond farewell. For six years Joan has served our community with tireless diligence. Joan's decision not to run for re-election

to the Borough Council was sparked by her appointment as Administrator of Runnells Specialized Hospital. The demands of her new position at this fine nursing facility would not allow Joan to serve Fanwood as she desired.

During her time on council she served two terms as council president, presiding over the council meetings in Mayor Mahr's absence. Joan has a background in nursing and was a perfect fit as the Liaison to the Board of Health for many years. Over the course of her tenure on the board, Joan brought her management and administrative strengths to her liaison positions with the Historical Preservation Commission, the Planning Board and the Construction Department. Joan was proud of her work with the Borough and proud that the Borough served the public in the most cost-efficient and humane way possible.

Mayor Mahr said, "I want to thank Joan for her hard work and dedication to the Fanwood for six years. I valued her opinion and knew I could always count on her to bring keen insight into our discussions. I will miss her sitting next to me on council but know she will continue giving her time to this community."

Many thanks to Joan Wheeler for her selfless service. We wish her well in all her future endeavors.



A Message From Mayor Colleen Mahr

What a fall we've had! School began in the aftermath of Hurricane Irene and that was followed up by heavy rains and a record snow fall right before Halloween. Through it all, the true strength of Fanwood was revealed in neighbor helping neighbor, fire and rescue

volunteers putting in countless hours to keep us safe and the Police and Public Works employees going above and beyond to be responsive and helpful to so many of us who were in need.

Power outages were the most disturbing element of both events and although Chief Trigo and I were in constant contact with PSE&G, there was little we could do beyond keeping PSEG informed of outages and keeping residents informed of all developments. We relied heavily on the Union County First Alert system and the newly revamped Borough website to keep in touch with you, so please, if you haven't signed up for either one or both, go to www.ucfirstalert.com and www.fanwoodnj.org to get yourself on the distribution lists. They have proven to be effective communication tools.

I want to personally thank you all for the resounding support in the recent general election. It was a welcome confirmation that you believe we are on the right track in aggressively focusing on downtown redevelopment and investigating all the shared services opportunities that work for Fanwood. During my next term I will focus on making sure Fanwood remains the wonderful community that we all call home. Having Russell Huegel and Kevin Boris on the Council will maintain the same successful balance we've enjoyed in the recent past.

The election wasn't the only confirmation that we are on the right track. Fanwood's downtown redevelopment efforts are being featured in "The Redevelopment Handbook, A Guide to Rebuilding New Jersey Communities," compiled by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs. Fanwood's story will feature the town's repudiation of the powers of "eminent domain" in favor of working with property owners, merchants and the community. It is quite an honor to be included as an example of how to build a vibrant downtown where people are living, working and spending time.

Other recent honors bestowed on Fanwood include an Honorable Mention from the NJ League of Municipalities for "Innovation in Governance" contest. We were recognized for reinventing how we handle small infrastructure projects in

Continued on Page 4

Recycling of Fluorescent Bulbs



Fluorescent light bulbs are now being recycled by our Fanwood-Scotch Plains Recycling Association on North Avenue. Al Ebersole, Site Manager, explains that while fluorescent light bulbs are more energy efficient than standard incandescent light bulbs, they contain mercury and therefore should not be thrown into the regular trash. Our Recycling Association provides a means to immediately dispose of any used bulbs, rather than storing them for a designated Hazardous Waste Recycling Day normally held by the County. The Center is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9 AM to 1 PM.

Bus Transportation for Seniors



If you are 55 years of age or older, are self-reliant or accompanied by an aide, you are eligible for free bus service. Funded by a grant from Union County, the program is offered to residents of the Borough of Fanwood to do your food shopping or go to doctors' appointments. Simply go to www.fanwoodnj.org, and fill out the form provided under "Bus Services." Then call (908) 322-5151 to make a reservation. This service is operated by the Township of Scotch Plains. Bus transportation to doctors' appointments is also available through Union County Paratransit. For an appointment call 908-241-8300.

Fanwood Recreation Announces Winter Programs for Seniors

Fanwood Recreation announces its winter program schedule for Fanwood seniors. Programs begin the week of January 2nd and run through the week of March 26th:

Aerobics	Tuesdays	9:15–10 AM
Tai Chi	Tuesdays	10:15–11:15 AM
Water Exercise	Wednesdays	11:30 AM–12:15 PM
Line Dancing	Thursdays	1–2 PM
Zumba Gold	Fridays	9:15–10 AM



All classes will be held in the recreation building at Forest Road Park, except for Water Exercise, which will be held at the JCC of Central NJ Wilf Jewish Community Campus indoor pool in Scotch Plains.

The fee is \$10 per program for Fanwood and Scotch Plains residents, \$25 for all others. To get a schedule and a registration form, please visit www.fanwoodrecreation.org on the web or pick them up at Fanwood Borough Hall, 75 N. Martine Avenue. For more information, call Fanwood Recreation at (908)370-7092.

Mayor's Message

Continued from Page 3

town. Fanwood was the first in the state to partner with out-of-work union laborers and hire them on small construction projects where the Borough in effect acted as the General Contractor. In the past the borough would publicly bid out jobs like this, but by rethinking how we provide a service without compromising quality, we saved tens of thousands of tax dollars by keeping the project in house. This relationship then allowed us to do bigger jobs than our streamlined DPW staff could handle. We were also acknowledged by the Rutgers Center for Government Services with a Special Recognition in the "Municipal Public Information Contest". Here we were applauded for our newly constructed website, along with the many ways we communicate with our residents.

Besides handling our two weather emergencies, Borough staff has been busy. We have recently approved contracts for the reconstruction of Herbert Avenue, La Grande Park and assorted curbing and sidewalks in need of replacement throughout the borough. We will also be upgrading the lighting in the Borough Hall parking lot and replacing the overhead door at the firehouse. Renovation work will also begin at the historic train station and the Pat Kuran Cultural Arts Center compliments of a Union County Historical Preservation grant. Fanwood was also a recipient of \$50,000 from the Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Kids Recreational Trust fund grant. Look for work to take place in the parks and these locations over the next year. One of the most exciting additions this

Continued on Page 6

Fanwood Recreation Fall Childrens' Programs

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



<u>Program</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>Ages</u>	<u>Contact</u>
What About Winter? for 4s and 5s (Winter crafts, stories and games)	1/23	4, 5	Mewy@comcast.net
Little Bakers Workshop	1/23	K-3	info@thecupcakeexperience.com
Junior Scientists Workshop	1/24	4-10	www.smartycatkids.com
Lego & Hero Factory Club	1/24 & 1/26	grades 1-5	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Sew What? (sewing)	1/25	9 & up	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Sports Squirts (indoors)	1/25	3-5	www.ussportsinstitute.com
Tennis Squirts (indoors)	1/26	3-5	www.ussportsinstitute.com
The Great Wizard Magic Club	1/26	5-11	jpiegaro@thehobbyquest.com

5th Annual Fanwood Family Fun Run & 5K



And they're off! This year's annual 5K Run held in October. Alan Wells of Orlando, Florida was first among top male finishers clocking in at 16 minutes, 49 seconds. The top female finisher was Donna Adamoli of Westfield who clocked in at 21 minutes, 11 seconds.

2012 Summer Counselor Jobs

Fanwood Recreation is planning its 2012 Summer Park Recreation Program and Tweens & Teens Travel Camp. The Program, which runs for eight weeks from 9 AM to 3 PM, Monday-Friday at LaGrande Park, provides children ages 5-12 with structured, fun-filled activities under the supervision of experienced counselors. The Travel Camp runs for two weeks from 9 AM-5 PM, Monday-Friday. If you or someone you know would like to apply for a counselor job, please go to www.fanwoodrecreation.org and click on "Job Applications" to download an application. Submission of an application does not guarantee an interview or a response. Registration for the programs will start in March or April.

Up, Up, and Away!



Redevelopment in Fanwood keeps going! The latest building to go up is on the corner of Martine and South Avenues. This project, which will feature store fronts for small businesses on the first floor and rental apartments on the second third and fourth floors, should be finished in about a year. Next time you are downtown, stop by to check out the site's progress.

Fanwood Launches New Website

Want to learn the latest news on what is happening in and around town? Go to www.fanwoodnj.org. There you will find our newly designed website with up-to-the minute articles and pictures on the latest events occurring within Fanwood's borders. To the left of the homepage, you can click on the "Fact Finder Columns" which contain links to Permits and Forms such as Alarm Registration, Block Parties, Government Record Requests or a Landlord ID Statement. There are also links to Recreation, Library News, the latest issue of The Fanwoodian, Senior News, Fire and Police Departments, the Rescue Squad and Recycling. At the bottom of the page, there is a link to the pickup schedule from the Department of Public Works as well as links to other articles interest.

You can also access information on Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools, Scotch Plains-Fanwood Patch, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times and the Newcomers Club, FYO Baseball, Fanwood Scotch Plains Rotary, Union County and the State of New Jersey.

In addition to the above, residents can sign up for weekly email alerts and updates.

The website is intended to be a source of pertinent and timely information. It is hoped that Fanwood residents will find it useful in their daily lives.

Mayor's Message

Continued from Page 4

winter will be bringing back ice skating to LaGrande Park. Having grown up going to LaGrande Park, I know that a new generation of kids will love spending a day of skating in town. Look for details to follow from the Recreation Commission.

On January 1st at noon I will be sworn in to continue to serve as your Mayor. I extend an invitation to all of you to join me. I am now in the process of gathering residents to the various boards and commissions that do so much of the work of the town. If you are interested in becoming involved, please contact me at mayor@fanwoodnj.org, and I'll try to match you to something that suits your interests. We have amazing volunteers here in Fanwood and I think you would enjoy working with them.

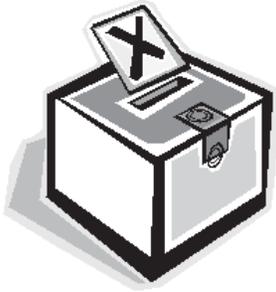
Don't forget that January is pet licensing month! We have hundreds of beloved pets in Fanwood and we don't want to lose any of them, so be sure to get them licensed. It's the law! Have a wonderful holiday season. I hope to see you all at the Holiday Celebration on Sunday, December 4th!

Did You Know?

You can get ticketed by one of Fanwood's finest if you park your car in the street going in the wrong direction even if it's in front of your own house! Cost of ticket: \$56.00.



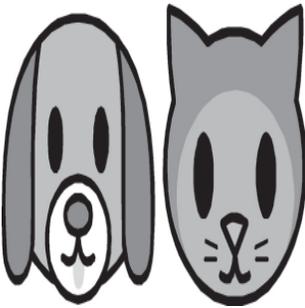
Election Workers Needed



Poll workers are needed to work the Fanwood polls at the School Board election, Primary Election and General Election. If you would like to sign up, please contact Eleanor McGovern, Borough Clerk at

(908) 322-8236, ext. 123

Time to Renew Pet Licenses



All dogs and cats in Fanwood, seven months or older, are required to be licensed annually. The license fees are \$10 per dog or

cat who are spayed/neutered; \$15 for those who are not spayed/neutered. The deadline for obtaining the license is January 31st, 2012 or a late fee will be imposed. If you no longer own a dog or cat, please inform the Borough officials by calling (908) 322-8236.

Licenses may be obtained in person at the office of the Municipal Clerk, Fanwood Borough Hall, 75 N. Martine Avenue. The office is open Monday-Friday from 8 AM-4 PM and on Thursday evenings from 5 PM-8 PM. Licenses can also be obtained by mailing the proper fee, current rabies vaccination certificate and/or prior year's license with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Borough Hall.

Annual Reorganization Meeting of the Fanwood Council

The reorganization meeting of the Fanwood Council will take place in Council Chambers at Borough Hall on Sunday, January 1st, 2012, at 12 noon. Appointments to commissions and committees will be made for the coming year. The Mayor will deliver her "State of Fanwood" address. Russell Huegel, who has been re-elected to a second term, and Kevin Boris, newly elected, will be sworn in as Councilpersons. All residents are invited to attend.

Library News



If you haven't seen our newly renovated Children's Library, come down for one of our upcoming programs.

Paws for People: Read to a volunteer therapy dog. It is a perfect way to build up confidence for new readers. Call ahead and sign-up for a five minute reading spot.

Wednesday, Dec. 28th from 11- Noon
Saturday, Jan. 28th from 2-3 PM

Family Storytime and Winter Craft: For ages 3 and up. One parent or grandparent can attend while another heads to the mall for holiday shopping! Children under 7 must be seated with an adult.

Monday, December 12th at 7 PM

Winter Storytimes Begin January 10th.

Tuesdays: Ages 4 & 5 at 10:30 AM
or 1:30 PM
Age 3 at 11:15 AM.

Wednesdays: Nursery Rhyme Time, Age 18 months to 35 months accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

Thursdays: Math storytimes for those in kindergarten. (Sign-up required.)

LaGrande Park Improvements

Before the end of the year, LaGrande Park will be undergoing some major changes... for the better! The most noticeable improvement will be the installation of a 30-foot by 44-foot wooden-arched, open-air pavilion, including tables and benches, among the trees along the path near the rink area. The pavilion will offer residents the opportunity for family picnics, our town a focus for town-wide events and our schools a resource for field trips. Also, Fanwood Recreation's Summer Park Program will be able to use the pavilion for arts and crafts activities, and more. Nearby, a new basketball court will replace the current one, which, as anyone who has played there recently knows, is in poor condition. The new court will feature two new backboards and supports, a bi-colored painted playing surface, and two new benches.

The circular rink area will be fully resurfaced. Long-time residents remember when ice skaters were able to circle the rink on cold winter days. In recent years,

the rink's surface developed cracks, preventing it from holding water long enough to freeze. The new surface should remedy that, allowing ice skaters to return to

LaGrande Park once the temperature falls below freezing. Lastly, a large area in front of the LaGrande Park recreation building will also be resurfaced. The loss of a few large trees in recent years has left this area pockmarked with cutouts in the asphalt. The resurfacing will smooth out this area, making it safer to walk across. And by the Spring, painted children's games such as hopscotch and four square will be imprinted on parts of the new surface. Combined with the addition of a ring of planters in front of the building, this area should become an attractive

centerpiece for the entire park.

Park visitors may have already noticed the recent addition of an electronic scoreboard, standing off to the side of the baseball fields. Donated by the Fanwood Youth Organization Baseball (FYO), the scoreboard will be available to all leagues using the park. Non-FYO leagues will need to contact FYO to arrange for its usage.



Fanwood
Community News
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Our Neighbors
Fanwood, NJ 07023

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