

Lap times

Outdoor enthusiasts of all stripes are already taking advantage of the recently completed improvements at Fanwood's Forest Road Park. The upgrades include a new 3/8-mile asphalt perimeter path and high-tech irrigation to keep the playing fields green through the summer. The changes, part of the Recreation Commission's Master Plan, are set off by new landscaping, too.

the Fanwoodian

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On the web: www.fanwoodnj.org

Mark your calendars

Busy fall features Fanny Wood Day, 5K, Halloween

The 18th annual Fanny Wood Day celebration will be held on Sunday, Sept. 29, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Martine and South Avenues will be the focal point as downtown Fanwood will be transformed into a giant block party complete with music, activities and vendors.

The day will kick off with a new and vintage car show, followed by an opening ceremony.

Among the activities this year: a bubble-gum-blowing contest, a water-balloon toss, a pet parade, a hula-hoop contest and the 3rd Annual "Fotos of Fanwood" contest. Eating contests will include ice cream, hot dogs, stuffed pretzels and pizza. Prizes will be given out for all contests.

Besides eating contests, other activities include pony rides, a petting zoo, rides and a rock climbing wall. At the stage area, there will be music with a DJ and live entertainment.

If you are interested in being a Fanny Wood Day volunteer, vendor, or want more information about renting a table, visit the website at www.fanwoodnj.org, or call Jason Parker at (908) 490-0808.

For the day's schedule, see Fanny Wood, page 7

Ghosts and goblins, oh my!

Superstorm Sandy scared away last year's event, but this year's Halloween Parade and festivities promise to be bigger and better than ever!

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Annual 5K, Fun Run Oct. 20th

The Fanwood 5K & Family Fun Run returns for its 4th year on Sunday, Oct. 20, at LaGrande Park. The race day's activities begin with the Family Fun Run at 9 a.m.; the 5K Race follows at 9:30.

The entry fee for the 5K is \$22 (\$20 for USATF members). The entry fee for the Family Fun Run is \$10 with a t-shirt and \$5 without.

You can download a race application or register online at www.Fanwood5K.org.

Pre-registered runners who want to avoid the lines that morning will be able to pick up their numbers and t-shirts the day before, from 4-6 p.m., at the LaGrande Park building.

On the morning of the race, music and refreshments will await runners at the start/finish line.

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SENIORS GROUP MARKS 43 YEARS

Fanwood's Senior Citizens Club continues to be a social destination for many local residents "of a certain age."



Caroline Ross and Brendan Pierce visit with Fanwood senior Joan Kirner in her home.

SP-F High School students give seniors a "Helping Hand"

If you are a senior citizen resident of Fanwood or Scotch Plains and would like to be relieved of such chores as yard cleanup, winter snow removal, food shopping or other household tasks, there is free help available, thanks to a group of local high school student volunteers who are ready and willing to perform these tasks and others.

The students, who call themselves the "Helping Hands," are also available for one-on-one visits with seniors who may be living alone.

Since initiating the program last year, the core group of seven students, led by Caroline Ross and Brendan Pierce of Fanwood, have been busy responding to the many requests for their services and are hoping to continue the program throughout next year. Their motivation, Caroline says, is a desire to "give back" to the community for the wonderful opportunities available to them while growing up in Fanwood.

For more information, call Caroline Ross at (908) 444-1325 or Brendan Pierce at (908) 803-8044, after 4 p.m. Using their Facebook network, they'll line up someone to assist you.



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Let us hear from you!

**Borough of Fanwood
75 North Martine Avenue
Fanwood, NJ 07023**

mayor's message

by Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr



What a wonderful summer we've had here in Fanwood. Despite having some of the hottest weather on record, Fanwoodians made the most of our long, sunny days.

Many of you went "down the shore," or could be found with friends and family in a pool just enjoying some down time. Lots of our children spent time at the LaGrande Park Summer Camp, watched over by our wonderful counselors and enjoying their summer friendships and activities.

I know many have had the opportunity to enjoy the recent improvements over at Forest Road Park. With a new walking/fitness path, refreshed landscaping and improved watering system, we've maximized our hard-won County of Union grant dollars.

Several Fanwoodians, I know, also enjoyed the great tradition of going to "Movies in the Park" on Tuesdays, or taking part in the wonderful library programs and the annual "National Night Out" celebration in August, sponsored by our Police and Fire Depts. and the Rescue Squad.

What struck me this summer was the increased foot traffic I saw downtown. I am thrilled to see the activity at all of our local businesses, old and new. This summer I've had the honor of officially welcoming to Fanwood so many who have invested in our town: Mara's Cafe, Be Craffful, Rosati Family Chiropractic, 25 South Brick Oven Pizza, TKO Kickboxing and Cavtro Electric.

Although summer is traditionally slow for business, Fanwood is really taking off with an interesting mix of retailers and service establishments, and for the first time in decades, we have many great choices of where to eat! Soon, we will be welcoming to town a tutoring center and a ballroom dancing venue!

In June, the Planning Board approved construction of Fanwood Crossing II, the final retail and residential project to fill in the gap on South Avenue facing the train station. A key component of this next phase will be creating the pedestrian plaza between Fanwood Crossings I and II.

By the time you read this, the reconstruction of the interior municipal parking lot will be well underway. We ask for your patience. Parking lot construction will take place in several phases to try to minimize the strain on all the users of the lot. The work schedule, and updates, will be posted at www.fanwoodnj.org.

Until the parking lot is complete, there will be some inconvenience for us all, but the outcome will make it all worthwhile.

During this time, it is important to remember that the Train Station main parking lot on South Avenue offers FREE PARKING after 3 p.m. on weekdays and all day on Saturday and Sunday! So please, when you hear someone say they are having trouble parking while visitng

downtown during construction, remind them to park in the train station during those hours.

I want to congratulate our Fanwood Rescue Squad members – this year marks their 65th anniversary of dedication to the Borough and our neighbors! It is a testament to all squad members that this group continues as a volunteer organization supported solely by community fundraising. There is no more important work than helping our neighbors when they're in need and the Rescue Squad epitomizes this philosophy. They are seeking members, and you don't need to have any formal experience to help out the Squad - they will teach you everything you need to know. So, please, think of joining, we need you.

But, I cannot mention the Rescue Squad without mourning the loss of John Oatis, who passed away in June. John joined the squad in 1978 and served this community well. We will miss our friend and pray that his wife Bonnie and their children can rejoice in the richness and caring that was such a part of John's life.

Volunteers continue to be the heart of this community. Many of the wonderful programs and assets that we love about Fanwood are here because of volunteers. The Recreation Commission, Performance Series and Shade Tree Commission are just a sample of the many boards and commissions that contribute so much to our quality of life. If you are interested in joining this committed and diverse group, we have some current openings. Please call my office at (908) 322-8236 or contact me at mayor@fanwoodnj.org for more information.

This year, New Jersey has a special election for the U.S. Senate to fill the term of Sen. Frank Lautenberg, who passed away recently while in office. Mark your calendars for the special election on Wednesday, Oct. 16.

Then, less than three weeks later, you will be heading back to the polls for the regularly scheduled General Election on Tuesday, Nov. 5. Besides going to the polls to vote for the next Governor, there will be School Board, state, county and local council races to pay attention to. The last day to register to vote in the November General Election is Oct. 15.

If you are unsure of your status, call Joanne Rajoppi, Union County Clerk, at (908) 527-4996. The last day to apply by mail for an absentee ballot is Oct. 29. Again, don't forget to vote! For more information, visit our website at www.fanwoodnj.org.

Last, but not least, Fanny Wood Day is on the calendar for Sunday, Sept. 29, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be fun activities as usual and, of course, plenty of food! It's a great opportunity to get back in touch with the community. I hope to see you there.

A happy and healthy fall to you all!

Fanwood Recreation launches online program registration

Fanwood residents can now register and pay for Fanwood Recreation programs using CommunityPass, an online service that provides 24 hours a day, seven days a week access to Recreation's programs on a secure site.

Residents can create a Community Pass account, at no cost, by going to register.communitypass.net/fanwood and following the simple instructions. If you already have a CommunityPass account through Scotch Plains or another municipality, you'll be able to use that username and password to log onto the Fanwood CommunityPass site. Residents can also connect to the service through www.fanwoodrecreation.org.

Once logged in, residents will be able to review most current Fanwood Recreation program listings, including children's after-school programs, senior programs and summer camps, choose the ones they want to register for, and pay online with a credit card. Waiting on

registration lines will become a thing of the past!

Fanwood Recreation will continue to accept paper registrations (along with payment by check), available from www.fanwoodrecreation.org, via emails, and at Borough Hall.

Senior Rec programs set for fall

Fanwood Recreation announces its fall program schedule for Fanwood seniors. Unless otherwise noted, programs begin the week of September 23 and run weekly through the week of December 16.

Aerobics	Tuesdays, 9–10 a.m.
Tai Chi	Tuesdays, 10:15–11:15 a.m.
Water Exercise	Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m.–12 noon
Zumba Gold section 1	Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
Tennis	Wednesdays, 11–11:45 a.m. (begins 9/18, ends 10/30)
Line Dancing	Thursdays, 1–2 p.m.
Zumba Gold section 2	Fridays, 9:15–10 a.m.

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, and Tennis, which will be held at the Hilltop Tennis Club, 330 North Avenue in Fanwood.

The fee is \$15 per program for Fanwood and Scotch Plains residents, \$30 for all others.

You can now register online and pay by credit card. Just go to www.fanwoodrecreation.org. Or, if you prefer to pick up a paper schedule and registration form and pay by check, please go to Fanwood Borough Hall, 75 N. Martine Avenue.

Children's programs open for signup

Fanwood Recreation's lineup of fun fall programs for children mixes in some exciting new offerings with some old favorites.

Coming back are Lego Club, Junior Scientists Lab, Little Bakers Workshop, Make Your Own Comic Book, Young at Art and Fall Into Tennis (tennis lessons), plus US Sports Institute's Total Sports Squirts and T-Ball Squirts for our youngest athletes.

And, we're adding Jewelry Design, where children can create their own jewelry and accessories; Tech-Gineering Workshop, where

children get to design and build their own engineering projects using toys like K'Nex and Magnetix; Passport to Art and Architecture; and Drawing and Painting.

For more information about these programs, including detailed

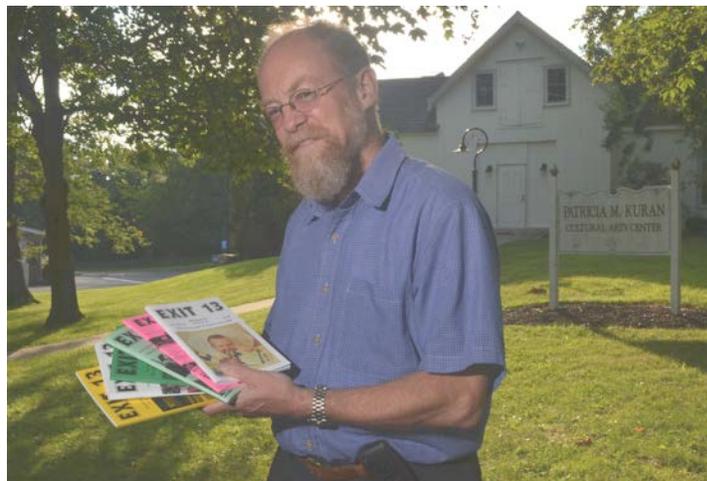
descriptions, dates, times, price, and age group, go to www.fanwoodrecreation.org, where you can also register and pay for these programs online or download a registration form and pay by check.

Fanwood poetry review marks 25th anniversary

Back in 1988, Tom Plante decided to launch a poetry review, naming it Exit 13 Magazine in reference to the turnpike exit to Elizabeth, N.J., where he lived at the time. Before the first issue hit the presses, though, Plante moved to Fanwood and he and the magazine have called Fanwood home since then.

Fast forward. On Oct. 15, Exit 13 Magazine will be celebrating its 25-year anniversary at the Patricia Kuran Arts Center.

Plante's interest in poetry began several years earlier as a high school student growing up on Long Island. After high school, he attended the University of California at Berkeley where he developed his love of poetry even further, eventually becoming involved with a poetry magazine called Berkeley Works. He assisted with the development of four issues of Berkeley Works before moving to New Jersey and starting Exit 13 Magazine.



"Exit 13" publisher Tom Plante

recognize several contributors to past issues, including Charles Bukowski, Lynn Lifshin and Gerald Stern. In fact, Stern was the first reader at the Carriage House Poetry Series that began in Fanwood back in 1998.

The 25th Anniversary Celebration at the Kuran Center will feature readings by nine of the New Jersey poets published in the latest issue: Juditha Dowd, Gail Fishman Gerwin, Tony Gruenewald, Charles H. Johnson, Laine Sutton Johnson, Nancy Lubarsky, Wanda S. Praisner, Kenneth Ronkowitz and John J. Trause.

In addition, Plante, as the founder and 25-year editor of the publication, will talk about the history of the magazine. For more information about the celebration, Exit 13 Magazine or to purchase a copy, send an email to Exit13magazine@yahoo.com.

Arts Scene

Exit 13 Magazine showcases approximately 50 poets in each annual issue. Typically, half of the poets featured in each issue are New Jersey residents but the review has also featured poets from as far away as Israel, Scotland, and Ireland, which is appropriate as the magazine's poems focus on travel and geography.

Throughout the publication, photographs of different exit 13 signs are featured. Poetry buffs will

DPW prepares for annual bulk waste pickup

Wondering how to dispose of your broken air conditioner? Or gas grill? Or old mattress?

It's easy. Go to www.fanwoodnj.org, print and fill out the bulk recycling form and send it in to Borough Hall no later than Sept. 2, along with a check for the \$65 fee.

You will be issued a placard to place in your window and a permit/sticker to place on a curbside item. Pick ups begin Sept. 16.

The maximum amount of weight per permit is 750 pounds. Bear in mind, a queen mattress weighs approximately 60 pounds, a gas grill is around 70 pounds and an air conditioner can be about 100 pounds. Last year, the DPW picked up 43.81 tons of material.

According to DPW Director Clint Dickson, some of the more unusual items placed at the curb over the years have been a truck cap, a car engine and a piano.

The DPW began the permit process in 2008 with 459 issued; last year, that number had dropped to 235. Several neighboring towns also charge a permit fee for this service.

Building or construction materials, hazardous materials and regular household garbage are not permitted. Residents should check the recycling section of the Public Works Schedule (<http://www.fanwoodnj.org>) to see if any item qualifies as bulk waste before placing it at the curb.

FROM PAGE ONE

Fanny Wood (cont'd)

Returning this year is the 3rd annual "Fotos of Fanwood" photography contest open to photography buffs of all ages!

Open to residents and non-residents alike, the contest is for new or vintage photographs of the people places or things that make Fanwood special.

The entry deadline is Sept. 20. Judging will take place Sept. 28 at the Patricia Kuran Cultural Arts Center. For more information, go to the borough's website: www.fanwoodnj.org.

This year's Fanny Wood Day sponsors include Unity Bank, K9 Resorts, Elite Properties, Double Dipper, Two River Community Bank, Provident Bank and Nick's Pizza & Deli.

FANNY WOOD SCHEDULE

- 11:00 - Classic Car Show opens; Vendors & Children's Area opens
- 12:00 - Opening Ceremony and Remarks
- 12:15 - Photography contest winners announced
- 12:30 - Best Dressed Pet Parade
- 1:00 - Musical Entertainment
- 1:30 - Ice Cream Eating contest
- 2:30 - Water Balloon Toss
- 2:30 - Musical Entertainment
- 3:00 - Hula-Hoop Contest
- 3:30 - Pizza Eating Contest
- 4:30 - Final Announcements

Back-to-school time means safety review time!

Fanwood Police Chief Richard Trigo reminds Fanwoodians that it is back-to-school time and that means it is time to review safety rules.

Going over a few of the most important back-to-school safety tips with your children will help ensure their safety as they begin the new year.

Please remind children, whether they are walking or riding their bikes, of the basics of crossing the street: Look to the right, then to the left and then to the right again and only cross when there are no cars approaching from either direction. If children are

Library book sale set

Mark your calendars for the weekend of Sept. 19-22 as the Friends of the Fanwood Memorial Library hold their 27th annual book sale to benefit the library.

The sale will once again be held at Forest Road Park, three blocks from the library, at the end of Forest Road, across Midway Avenue.

MEMBERS-ONLY PREVIEW

Thursday, Sept. 19 - 4-8 p.m. Open to members of the Friends of both the Fanwood and Scotch Plains Libraries. No dealers or scanners.

PUBLIC SALE - Sept. 20-22

Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday [\$5 bag day], Noon-4 p.m.

DROPOFF SCHEDULE - Sept. 13-18

Volunteers will be collecting books and other items for the sale at Forest Road Park.

Friday, 3-8 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Monday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Tuesday, 3-8 p.m.; Wednesday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

The sale includes recent fiction, hardcover and paperback, for all ages; children's books at all levels; current or relevant non-fiction in all subject areas; and CDs and DVDs.

The sale cannot use toys, games, puzzles, textbooks, video or audio cassettes, encyclopedias, or old, dated fiction and non-fiction. Please do not bring musty, mildewed or damaged goods.

For more information, email Thena at fanwoodbooks@gmail.com. Or, call the library at (908)322-6400 or Thena at (908) 477-5497.

crossing at an intersection, it is important that they watch for cars making right turns.

Explain to your children that bicycle riders must pay special attention to their surroundings and ride their bikes as far as possible to the right side of the road to avoid contact with cars. Helmets should always be worn to prevent head injuries that can occur if your child is thrown from the bicycle.

Visit the police department's website at www.fanwoodpolice.org, to view more safety tips.

Fanwood seniors group marks 43rd year

The Fanwood Senior Citizens Club, which will mark its 43rd year with an anniversary luncheon on Sept. 10, continues to be a social destination for many local residents “of a certain age.”

The group got its start in 1970 when a small group of like-minded individuals decided to organize and meet on a regular basis to share their experiences, concerns and opinions on everything from recipes to world affairs.

Two long-time members, Stella Walczuk and Rose Badala, recently shared some recollections of the early days of the club, which initially held meetings at the Fanwood Presbyterian Church but had to move several times for more space before settling in its present location, the Recreation Building at Forest Road Park in Fanwood.

A relative newcomer to the club, 98-year-old Laura Teste, says she “loves Fanwood” and “loves the club,” adding that the members are so much more fun to be with than those of other seniors clubs she has belonged to.

The present membership consists of 110 residents of Fanwood and other towns in Union County. The minimum age is 55. General meetings are held twice a month from

Sept. to June, at which the members enjoy not only the camaraderie of friends new and old, but also programs providing entertainment and information of interest to members and their families and keeping them up to date on local, state and national current events.

The club sponsors several trips each year, such as to Broadway shows, Oktoberfests, historical sites, formal gardens and other places of interest, with an occasional cruise added to the mix.



For further information, call Joe Bruno at (908) 889-7262; Bob Keenan at (908) 322-1631; Mike Venezia at (908) 889-2135; or Ethel Paoletti at (908) 889-4126.



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