



## Easter Egg Hunt will feature fun, prizes March 19

Fanwood's annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place at Forest Road Park on Saturday, March 19, starting eggs-actly at 10 a.m. The rain date is March 26, same time and place.

All children 10 and under are invited to meet the Easter Bunny and join the fun. More than a thousand eggs filled with all sorts of goodies, including hundreds of prize tickets, will be hidden around the park.

Plus, even more prizes will be given out for these contests:

- Guess the number of jelly beans and the number of chocolate eggs

- Bunny drawing contest - bring your own bunny drawing to enter

- Egg decorating contest - bring your own decorated egg to enter

And, to get your egg ready to enter in the egg decorating contest, you can bring it to Be Craftful on Martine Avenue Wednesday, March 16, or Thursday, March 17, from 3-5 p.m., and decorate it with paint, markers, felt, gems and sequins for free.

For more information, go to [fanwoodrecreation.org](http://fanwoodrecreation.org) or call Fanwood Recreation, (908) 370-7092.



With a helping hand, kids race to claim the prizes at last year's hunt.

## *LaGrande Park site of a big doubleheader, baseball and Rockin' for Autism, April 16*

It will be a doubleheader for the whole family to enjoy Saturday, April 16, in LaGrande Park as the Scotch Plains Fanwood Baseball League (SPFBL) holds its Opening Day and "Rockin' for Autism," a fundraiser for Autism New Jersey, both take place in the park.

It's the first SPFBL Opening Day in Fanwood since the Scotch Plains and Fanwood baseball organizations merged in 2013. The league fields 75-80 teams in several age divisions, made up of kids from 4-16.

The "Rockin' for Autism" fundraiser is the creation of Mallory Banks, a 14-year-old Fanwood girl, in honor of her Autistic brother, Ethan. Mallory has raised more than \$10,000 in four previous fundraisers and this year's event will be her most ambitious yet. In previous years, the fundraiser has been a bake sale but this year's event will include music, food, a raffle and several activities.

Keep an eye on [fanwoodnj.org](http://fanwoodnj.org) for more details as they are announced.

## ***Sign up now for Fanwood's email newsletter!***

Be in the know about all things Fanwood with the weekly email newsletter. More than 1,400 Fanwood residents are subscribers. Go to the borough website, [fanwoodnj.org](http://fanwoodnj.org), and enter your email address in the box beneath "Get Email Alerts" in the left column. You'll get timely news updates all-year-round and updated information in case of an emergency, too. Sign up today so you'll be in the know! While you are at it, sign up for Union County First Alert at [ucfirstalert.org](http://ucfirstalert.org) to receive additional local and regional emergency information and weather email alerts.

## IN THIS EDITION

3

### MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Colleen Mahr's quarterly column on all things Fanwood

4

### RECREATION NEWS

Fanwood's Recreation Commission has a full menu of activities this spring and summer, no matter what your age is.

6

### CARRIAGE HOUSE EVENTS

Fanwood's Poetry Series and Performance Series have a full calendar planned this year.

8

### POLICE ADOPT NEW TECH

The Fanwood Police Dept. has implemented a new program using body-worn cameras.

## FANWOOD INFORMATION



### ON EMAIL!

Sign up for alerts at [www.fanwoodnj.org](http://www.fanwoodnj.org)



### ON THE AIR!

Fanwood information radio - 24/7 at 530 on the AM dial



### ON FACEBOOK!

Search Fanwood, NJ, and hit the LIKE button

## The Fanwoodian

Published quarterly by the Fanwood Communications Committee

### Chairman, Editor, Photographer, Layout

Brian Horton

### Writers

Bob Budiansky, Ethel Paoletti

### Production Coordinator

Pat Hoynes

### Council Liaison

Tom Kranz

Let us hear from you!  
Borough of Fanwood  
75 North Martine Ave.  
Fanwood, NJ 07023

## Borough celebrates the earth with Earth Day, Arbor Day

Mark April 23 on your calendar to help the borough mark Earth Day with activities for residents of all ages.

Volunteers should meet at the south side train station at 8:30 a.m. to help with spring cleanup at the nature center or picking up trash and litter along the streets and railroad tracks.



Seedlings distributed in 2015

For additional information regarding this event, please call the Dept. of Public Works, (908) 322-7404.

The Fanwood Shade Tree Commission will celebrate Arbor Day in Carriage House Park on Watson Road, Friday, April 29, at 4 p.m..

The program will feature a free tree give-away sponsored by the commission and the Park Middle School Environmental Club.

There will also be a presentation about the Emerald Ash Borer, which is an invasive pest threatening local ash trees.

The winners of the Arbor Day Poetry Contest, sponsored by The Carriage House Poetry Series, will be announced, too.

Longtime Fanwood resident Earl Phillips, who is retiring from the Shade Tree Commission after 35 years of volunteer service, will also be honored.

## Property tax relief available for disabled, vets, seniors

Seniors, disabled persons and veterans may be eligible for property tax relief programs.

If you are over 65, or disabled, with annual income of less than \$10,000 (not including Social Security), you may qualify for a \$250 deduction on your property taxes.

If you are over 65 and your combined income, including all sources, does not exceed a certain threshold (in 2015, it was \$70,000), you may qualify to have your taxes frozen.

If you are a veteran who served during active wartime, you also may qualify for a \$250 property tax deduction. In addition, veterans who are 100% disabled as a result of service-related injuries may be entitled to be 100% exempt from property taxes.

For more information on these and other state programs, and to obtain applications, contact the borough Tax Collector at (908) 322-8236 x126.



# Mayor's message

by Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr

The harbingers of spring are in the air! Sprouts are pushing out of the earth, daylight savings is upon us and as of March 20 we'll be done with the winter season. Let's just hope Mother Nature agrees with the calendar!

We recently hosted a "Town Hall on Recycling" at Forest Road Park, and I hope you were able to attend. Due to a sharp decline in the prices paid for recyclables, the Recycling Center is now operating in the "red." The Recycling Association is a private, non-profit 501c3 that leases borough land for \$1 year and has required financial assistance from the municipality to continue operation. Three options are being considered – keeping the recycling as is, going to a curbside-only program, or a mixture of the two. If you were unable to join us at the meeting, please let me know your feelings and reach out to [mayor@fanwoodnj.org](mailto:mayor@fanwoodnj.org) with your comments.

I also want to thank the hundreds of you who attended the Dec. 8 commemoration of the tragic Sandy Hook Elementary School shootings that happened three years ago. I was touched that so many of you care about this issue. I am continuing to work with Everytown for Gun Safety and Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America and recently hosted a gun-safety event for all mayors and police chiefs of Union County. It is my hope, that by taking measured steps, we can help reduce the gun violence that plagues our nation. I thank you for your support in this effort.

As usual, we're busy at Borough Hall working on the 2016 budget and planning ahead for this year's road improvements, park upgrades and facility maintenance.

By now, you may have seen the improvements at the Patricia Kuran Cultural Arts Center on Watson Road, known as the "Carriage House." Part of a long-term rehabilitation program directed by the Fanwood Historical Preservation Commission and funded through grants, this gem of a building is home to our Poetry Series, Performance Series and local fine arts associations. It's a charming little building that is well-used and is an unquestionable asset to the quality of life in Fanwood. Check page 6 for the Spring Performance and Poetry series dates and get on over to the "Carriage House" for a fun night of quality entertainment!

Coming up next month, we have a variety of events planned, starting with the April 16 "Autism Rocks" event at LaGrande Park (see page 1), followed the next day with a Vintage Goods Show at the train station. Then, we'll wrap up the month with our Earth Day celebration.

Details for all events can be found on the borough website at [fanwoodnj.org](http://fanwoodnj.org) and on the community message board at the north side train station.



**As part of the "Go Red for Women's Health" initiative, a good crowd gathered at the Chelsea in Fanwood Feb. 5 for an evening of health tips, food and fellowship. Among the participants were Melissa Padulsky, Little Hearts, Big World CPR Instruction; Danielle Fisher, Director of Community Relations, Chelsea; Councilwoman Kathy Mitchell; Jennifer Ricci, Executive Director, The Chelsea; Councilwoman Erin McElroy Barker; and Laura Parizeau, Chelsea concierge. (Photo by Tom Kranz)**

Continuing through the spring and summer we'll be bringing several weekend Flea Markets and Arts & Crafts events to the train station.

If you haven't yet, I urge you to go to [fanwoodnj.org](http://fanwoodnj.org) and sign up for our e-blast. You will receive a weekly email with important news and the most up-to-date information on dates for local events.

I'm very proud to announce that Fanwood resident Margaret Chowdhury will be recognized by Union County as a "Woman of Excellence" on March 18! Margaret's work with Sustainable Jersey, combined with her long history of good work on the local Environmental Commission, have earned her this recognition. Margaret has been instrumental in earning grant funds to bring the poison ivy-eating goats back to the Nature Center! And, yes, the goats are coming back! They should be here shortly to begin gobbling down invasive plants on the north side of the Nature Center. I expect them to stay the entire summer to catch any stragglers.

I want to acknowledge the long career and dedicated service of Tony DelMonte of the Dept. of Public Works. On Jan. 31, Tony ended his 36-year career with the borough. When he woke on Feb. 5 and saw snow on the ground, he thanked his lucky stars he wasn't out plowing and turned over in bed! Best of luck to you and your wife Tony. I know you will enjoy many happy years with your grandchildren and the freedom that retirement brings!

And, finally, a warm welcome to Councilwoman Erin McElroy Barker, who was sworn in to the Fanwood Council on Jan. 1. Erin has hit the ground running and I am grateful to have her on the team.

## Time to sign up for youth Summer Park Program & camps

Led by certified teachers and experienced counselors, the Summer Park Program in LaGrande Park offers structured, fun-filled activities tailored for specific age groups in a safe environment for eight weeks, Monday-Friday, starting June 27.

The cost is \$45 per week (\$36 for the week of July 5-8) for morning (9 a.m.-noon) or afternoon (noon-3 p.m.) sessions. You can save \$10 by signing up for both AM and PM sessions of the same week for \$80. Information contact in right column.

### 2016 Fanwood Recreation Summer Camps & Programs

Recreation Summer Park Program	grades K-6	6/27-8/19 (weekly)	fanwoodrecreation.org
Fanwood Junior Tennis Lessons	ages 4-18	weeks of 6/27, 7/11, 7/18, 7/25, 8/1	fanwoodrecreation.org
"Galaxy Far Away" Space Camp	ages 5-11	6/27-7/1	fanwoodrecreation.org
Raiders Basketball Camp	grades 1-7	weeks of 6/27, 7/11	kewingcoach@gmail.com
Fanwood Soccer Camp	ages 5-10	weeks of 6/27, 8/1, 8/8	kewingcoach@gmail.com
Writopia: Creative Writing Workshop	ages 6-18	weeks of 6/27, 7/11, 7/25, 8/8	writopialab.org
Weekly Total Sports Squirts (intro to sports)	ages 3-5	6/29-8/10 (Wednesdays)	fanwoodrecreation.org
Weekly Soccer Squirts	ages 3-5	6/29-8/10 (Wednesdays)	fanwoodrecreation.org
Weekly Total Sports Squirts (intro to sports)	ages 3-5	6/30-8/11 (Thursdays)	fanwoodrecreation.org
Weekly Soccer Squirts	ages 3-5	6/30-8/11 (Thursdays)	fanwoodrecreation.org
Weekly T-Ball Squirts	ages 3-5	6/30-8/11 (Thursdays)	fanwoodrecreation.org
Remote Control Mania	ages 5-11	7/5-7/8	fanwoodrecreation.org
Golf Squirts	ages 4-5	7/5-7/8	fanwoodrecreation.org
Golf Camp	ages 5-10	7/5-7/8	fanwoodrecreation.org
Secret Agent Lab	grades 2-5	7/11-7/15	fanwoodrecreation.org
Fitness in the Sun	grades 1-5	7/11-7/15	fanwoodrecreation.org
Pony Camps	ages 3-6, 7-13	7/11-7/14	fanwoodrecreation.org
First Play Lacrosse Clinic	ages 5-8, 9-14	7/11-7/15	fanwoodrecreation.org
SPF Baseball Camp	grades K-7	7/18-7/22	tombaylock@gmail.com
Babysitting Certification Class	ages 11-15	7/18, 7/20, 7/22	fanwoodrecreation.org
Junior First Responders Program	ages 11-17	7/18-7/22	fanwoodrecreation.org
Tweens & Teens Travel Camp	grades 6-9	weeks of 7/18, 7/25	fanwoodrecreation.org
World of Wizardry: Art, Writing & Games	ages 8-13	7/25-7/29	fanwoodrecreation.org
Multi-Sports Camp (over 15 different sports)	ages 5-11	7/25-7/29	fanwoodrecreation.org
Total Sports Squirts (intro to sports)	ages 3-5	7/25-7/29	fanwoodrecreation.org
Creative Kids Summer Program	grades K-5	8/1-8/5	fanwoodrecreation.org
Groovy Girls Summer Program	grades 1-6	8/1-8/5	fanwoodrecreation.org
Technology & Engineering Program	grades 1-6	8/8-8/12	fanwoodrecreation.org
Junior Scientists Summer Program	grades K-5	8/8-8/12	fanwoodrecreation.org
Mining & Crafting Camp using Lego Bricks	ages 5-11	8/15-8/19	fanwoodrecreation.org
Mystery Camp	ages 8-13	8/22-8/26	fanwoodrecreation.org
Back to School Prep	grades 1-3	8/22-8/26	fanwoodrecreation.org
String Orchestra	ages 8 and up	TBD	fanwoodrecreation.org

# Senior spring programs set to begin week of April 4

Fanwood Recreation announces its spring program schedule for Fanwood seniors. Programs begin the week of April 4 and run weekly through the week of June 20, except Water Exercise which ends June 8.

All classes are held in the recreation building at Forest Road Park with the exception of Water Exercise, which is held at the JCC of Central NJ Wilf Jewish Community Campus indoor pool in Scotch Plains. The fee is \$15 per program for Fanwood and Scotch Plains residents, \$30 for all others.

To register online and pay by credit card, go to [fanwoodrecreation.org](http://fanwoodrecreation.org). Or, if you prefer to pick up a paper schedule and registration form and pay by check, go to Fanwood Borough Hall, 75 N. Martine Ave.

## Spring Rec programs set

Fanwood Recreation is offering a full slate of after-school programs this spring.

Coming back are LEGO Club, String Orchestra, Child's Play Challenge Course, Babysitting Certification, and Writopia. Plus, for our youngest athletes, US Sports Institute offers Sports Squirts and Soccer Squirts.

Also, in partnership with Fanwood Recreation, Mad Science asks aspiring scientists to check out its Crazy Chemworks program.

Most of these programs will begin in April (String Orchestra spring session begins March 21). For more information about them, including detailed descriptions, dates, times, prices, and age group, go to [fanwoodrecreation.org](http://fanwoodrecreation.org), where you can also register and pay for them.

## Travel camp is the answer for kids seeking adventure

Do you have kids looking for a little adventure this summer? Sign them up for Fanwood Recreation's Tweens & Teens Travel Camp, and tell them to bring a friend! Open to children entering grades 6-9 in the fall, this program will take campers on a fun-filled field trip every day, Monday through Friday, in a supervised and safe environment. Destinations will include water parks, amusement parks, beaches, IMAX movies, outdoor laser tag and more!

The camp will run for two consecutive weeks, beginning the week of July 18, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The cost is \$315 per week by April 3, and \$330 after, for Fanwood and Scotch Plains residents and \$50 per week extra for non-residents. The cost includes transportation, admission fees and a camp t-shirt. Registration and more detailed information can be found at [fanwoodrecreation.org](http://fanwoodrecreation.org). Space is limited, and registration ends April 22, so don't delay!

## Senior spring programs

Aerobics	Tues., 9-10 a.m.
Tai Chi	Tues., 10:15-11:15 a.m.
Water Exercise	Wed., 11:30 a.m.-12 noon
Zumba Gold #1	Wed., 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Gentle Yoga	Thurs., 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Line, Ballroom & Latin Dancing	Thurs., noon-1 p.m.
Zumba Gold #2	Fri., 9:15-10 a.m.

## Develop your artistic talents!

Members of the Life Drawing Studio Group (LDSG) are celebrating their fifth year of conducting free community art workshops in Fanwood.

Classes take place on most Monday evenings at the Patricia Kuran Cultural Arts Center. The majority of workshops are for ages 16 through adult.

A partial schedule of upcoming workshops includes: March 14 — Observational Drawing; March 28 — Logo Design; April 25 — Collage/2D design. A special Comic Book Illustration class, taught by former Marvel Comics artist Bob Budiansky for ages 12-adult, will be held on Saturday, March 5, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

As space is limited, advance registration is required. Those interested in attending any of the workshops should email [artforallworkshop@gmail.com](mailto:artforallworkshop@gmail.com). Please include your name, age, phone number and the date you wish to attend. Join us and explore your creativity!

## Looking for spring break fun?

If you don't have any plans for the kids during spring break, Fanwood Recreation is offering two great choices.

LEGO Camp offers children, ages 5-11, the opportunity to get creative with LEGOS, building Star Wars, Minecraft, amusement park and superhero-themed structures, some motorized. Parents can choose to sign up their children for one, two, three or four days of the camp.

And, new this year, the Junior First Responders program teaches children, ages 11-17, valuable skills in CPR, first aid, and fire safety. Those who successfully complete this program will receive 2-year certification cards and manuals in CPR and basic first aid and a certificate of completion in fire safety.

For more information and to register for these programs, go to [fanwoodrecreation.org](http://fanwoodrecreation.org).

# Arts Scene

## AT THE KURAN CENTER

### Poetry series has a full schedule

Fanwood's Parricia Kuran Arts Center, on Watson Road by Borough Hall, is the home to the borough's Poetry Series and Performance Series.

The free monthly poetry readings, which begin at 8 p.m., are open to the public. The featured readings are usually followed by an intermission, then an open reading session in which audience members may read a poem if time permits.

#### 2016 poetry series

March 15	John McDermott and John Richard Smith
April 19	Diane Lockward and Bernadette McBride (Celebrating Food in Poetry)
May 17	Ed Romond and B.J. Ward
June 21	Amy King and Melissa Studdard
July 19	Deborah LaVeglia and Mary Redus
August	summer break

### Wide range of music on tap at Fanwood's historic venue

Fanwood's Performance Series kicks off its 2016 season with a classical guitar artist, Loren Fortna, Saturday, April 9, at 7 p.m. The intimate setting at the Kuran Center makes for a great experience for the artists and for the audience, too. Suggested donation: \$15 (\$10 for seniors and students).

#### 2016 performance series

April 9	Loren Fortna; Gracie and Rachel
May 14	PetroGrass Blue Grass; Bryan Hansen
June 11	Shauna Caspi; Rebecca Pronsky
July	summer break
August	summer break
Sept. 10	Claude Bourbon
Oct. 8	Brian Dunn; Kenn Moore
Nov. 12	Rupert Wates

## It's a busy spring for local authors

Three Fanwood writers, two poets and a journalist chronicling a major story from the past, have new books coming out this spring.

Adele Kenny, Tom Plante and Tom Kranz have a wide range of writing experience and their books show their different approaches to storytelling.

Kenny's latest publication is a book of Haiku, *Not Asking What If?*, her 24th book in a collection that ranges from poetry to antiques and collectibles to educational volumes.

She's been writing poetry since she was a child but didn't begin publishing her work until 1981.

Kenny, Fanwood's Poet Laureate, was asked by the publisher, Muse-Pie of Passaic, N.J., to assemble the newest collection. She says most of her books, "are put together over a period of time. The poems are individual pieces that become collections."

Plante is publishing his third book of poetry, this time through Finish Line Press. The book, *Atlas Apothecary*, is titled after one of the poems in the latest collection.

Plante, who had his first work published when he was in high school, says it is a long process to pull together a collection. "I sit down and write a poem," he says. "If I am satisfied with it, that's a good thing."



Plante and Kranz

A new collection begins to come together over time. "These are the poems I keep going back to and reading," he says. They become your favorites."

Kranz's book, *Liveshot: Journalistic Heroism in Philadelphia*, is the story behind the 1985 MOVE occupation in a neighborhood in Philadelphia, which ended when police bombed the house and a resulting fire leveled the whole block, killing eleven members of the MOVE group, including five children.

Kranz was a television news producer at the time, assigned to the story which unfolded over several days. He followed up with interviews of journalists and others who were there and viewed hours and hours of television news coverage to tell the story of what was one of the biggest stories of many journalists' careers.

Kranz's book is available as an electronic book in the Kindle format on Amazon.

# Borough of Fanwood emergency contact form

The Fanwood Police Department is seeking information for Fanwood senior citizens and disabled residents in case they need special attention in the event of an emergency. The form may be completed by the person seeking assistance or by a friend, family member or neighbor. Fanwood residents are encouraged to submit forms for anyone they know in the borough who might need assistance. All information will be kept confidential.

**Fanwood resident's name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip** Fanwood, NJ 07023

**Home phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cell phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency contact #1** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cell phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency contact #2** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cell phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Special circumstances (guide dog, wheelchair, walker, hearing or sight impairment, etc.)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Mail,  
or hand-deliver,  
survey to:*

Fanwood Police Dept.  
75 North Martine Ave.  
Fanwood, NJ 07023  
Attn: Neighbors in Need



CLIP AND RETURN

# Fanwood Police add cameras to their crime-fighting tools

Fanwood Police are on the street now with new tools in their crime-fighting arsenal. And, Chief Richard Trigo says, the tools will “promote safety, professionalism and accountability.”

The new tool is a 3.5-ounce body video camera which each uniformed Fanwood Police officer wears while on duty.

The initiative is part of a three-year pilot program among eight of the 21 police departments in Union County. Using a mix of state and county funds derived from money forfeited during criminal investigations, the county is buying the cameras and will pay for the first year of associated maintenance and fees. Fanwood will pick up the costs of the fees, estimated at \$670 per camera, for years two and three of the project.

A camera is assigned to each uniformed officer. The officer activates the camera, which can retain up to nine hours of audio and video, when making traffic stops, vehicle searches, arrests and handling other incidents. At the end of each shift, the officer places the camera in a docking station at headquarters to

charge and to download data to a cloud-based server.

Fanwood has had on-board cameras in its police cruisers for 15-20 years, Trigo said, but this will be the first time that individual officers will be equipped with body cameras. “This is the way to do police work,” he said. “If a picture is worth a thousand words, imagine if you have audio, too.”

Trigo calls the project, “a win-win situation” for everyone involved - the police and the public.



**A Fanwood Police body camera**

## **AROUND FANWOOD** A postcard from our town



John Piccola of Fanwood’s Dept. of Public Works clears snow from Watson Road after a massive blizzard buried the borough in more than two feet of snow in January. The storm, which lasted 24 hours and produced near whiteout conditions at times, set snowfall records across the state. Within 24 hours of the end of the storm, Fanwood DPW crews had all primary roads open and had most of the secondary roads passable, too.