

the Fanwoodian

Volume #19 Issue #1 March 2017

ON THE WEB: www.fanwoodnj.org



Fanwood's Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Forest Road Park will host Fanwood's annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8. The event will begin egg-actly at 10 a.m. Participation in the event is free, and parking is limited so families are encouraged to arrive early. The rain date is April 15 at the same time and place.

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

The event will also feature contests for all ages, offering a chance for attendees to win even more prizes. Some of the many contests will include a bunny-drawing contest (bring your own bunny drawing to enter), an egg-decorating contest (bring your own decorated egg to enter), "Guess the number of jelly beans", and "Guess the number of chocolate eggs".

For more information, go to fanwoodrecreation.org or call Fanwood Recreation, (908) 370-7092.

Arbor Day

The Fanwood Shade Tree Commission invites everyone to this year's Arbor Day observance Friday, April 28, 4 p.m. at Carriage House Park on Watson Road. This annual event reminds us of the importance of our trees and their place in our ecosystem. Fanwood is designated as a Tree City USA, a status granted by the National Arbor Day Foundation which recognizes our success in meeting the organization's standards of sound urban forestry management.

The Park Middle School Environmental Club will again be on hand with a short program on the Emerald Ash Borer, a pest that destroys ash trees. The kids will have some tips on how homeowners can fight the ash borer. Tree seedlings will be available to the public at no cost and Ken Blom of our Department of Public Works will give a tree pruning demonstration using Fanwood's bucket truck. Hope to see you all there!

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FANWOOD'S EMAIL
NEWSLETTER**

Be in the know about all things Fanwood with the weekly email newsletter. More than 1,700 Fanwood residents are subscribers. Go to the borough website, fanwoodnj.org, and click on the email sign up button on the homepage. You'll get timely news updates all-year-round and updated information in case of an emergency. The Union County First Alert sign up is located on fanwoodnj.org in the right sidebar. Sign up to receive additional local and regional emergency information and weather email alerts.

IN THIS EDITION

3 Arts
Fanwood arts calendar


4 Mayor's Message
Colleen Mahr's quarterly column on all things Fanwood

5 Fanwood Recreation
Fanwood Recreation Department announces their summer program schedules for children and seniors

8 Save the Date
Mark your calendar with these Fanwood events throughout the year

FANWOOD INFORMATION

 **ON EMAIL**
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LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

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Earth Day/Community Clean-Up



Fanwood is proud of its decades-long efforts to keep our environment clean and self-sustaining through renewability and recycling. We celebrate these efforts every year with our Community Clean-Up drive, this year to be held on Saturday, April 22. Beginning at 8:30 a.m., volunteers may gather at the South Avenue train station parking lot, pick up gloves and plastic trash bags, then divide into groups and head across town to pick up trash and recyclables. There will be free giveaways and breakfast donated by one of our local businesses.

This event is sponsored each year by the Clean Community Committee, The Lions Club and the Fanwood Department of Public Works. It takes a lot of preparation and coordination by these groups, and they appreciate everyone's participation. We'll see you there!

Fanwood Recreation Spring Programs for Seniors

Fanwood Recreation announces its spring program schedule for Fanwood seniors. Programs begin the week of April 3 and run weekly through the week of June 19:

Aerobics	Tuesdays, 9-10 a.m.
Zumba Gold section 1	Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Gentle Yoga	Thursdays, 9-10 a.m.
Tai Chi	Thursdays, 10:15-11:15 a.m.
Line, Ballroom & Latin Dancing	Thursdays, 12 p.m.-1 p.m.
Zumba Gold section 2	Fridays, 9:15-10 a.m.

All classes are held in the recreation building at Forest Road Park. The fee is \$15 per program for Fanwood and Scotch Plains residents, \$30 for all others.

To register online and pay by credit card, please go to 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 at 75 North Martine Avenue.

2017 Poetry Series Schedule

75 North Martine Avenue is home to Fanwood's Patricia Kuran Arts Center where the beloved "Carriage House Poetry Series" is run by director and award winning writer, Adele Kenny. This vibrant celebration of creativity began in 1998 and features an eclectic range of monthly poetry readings by both nationally recognized and local talents.

Performances begin at 8 p.m. and admission is always FREE to the public. Scheduled readings are followed by an intermission and open mic. Be sure to check the series' official website at carriagehousepoetryseries.blogspot.com for updates and additional details.

February 21	Amanda Berry & Tony Gruenewald
March 5	Book Launch and Reception for <i>Whatever Happens</i>
March 21	Donna Baier Stein & David Crews
April 18	John Amen & Hank Kalet
May 16	Katherine Soniat
June 20	Mary-Jane Grandinetti & Deborah Gerrish
July 18	Laura Boss & Jim Gwyn
August	Summer Hiatus, No Reading
September 19	Karen Lee Ramos and Daniel Ramos (At age 10, Daniel is the youngest poet to ever read in the Carriage House Series!)
October 17	Poets' Apocalypse
November 21	Donna Beaver
December	Winter Hiatus, No Reading

2017 Performance Series Schedule

The Fanwood Performance Series is set to kick off its 2017 season in early April with a diverse lineup of contemporary musicians. The intimate setting at the Kuran Center allows a unique musical experience for audience members. Suggested donation is \$15 (\$10 for seniors and students). Shows begin at 7 p.m.

Sponsors for 2017 include Ahrré's Coffee Roastery and Snapple Beverages. For more details on upcoming performances, please visit fanwoodperformanceseries.org.

April 8	Bobby Belfry and Sarah Donner
May 13	Jazz with Ethan Wollman Trio and Joe Traina
June 10	To be announced

College Club's "Spring Fling" to Support Local Scholarships

The College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains will host its annual "Spring Fling" fundraiser on April 23 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Plainfield Country Club at 1591 Woodland Avenue in Edison. The event will feature special guest speaker and local NJ author Eva Lesko Natiello, author of "the Memory Box". Tickets are on sale for \$50 and include lunch and entertainment. Additional opportunities to contribute will include a gift raffle, silent auction, gift baskets and a 50/50. All proceeds from the event go to local scholarships. Please email collegeclub.fsp@gmail.com to purchase luncheon or raffle tickets or if you have any questions.

Since its inception in 1933, the College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains' objectives have been to increase the interest of local young women in going to college and to provide "material aid" by way of scholarships. Over these past 83 years, the College Club has given over \$600,000 to young women in Fanwood and Scotch Plains. In 2016, the club awarded a total of \$27,750 in scholarships to 10 students.

Mayor's Message

BY FANWOOD MAYOR COLLEEN MAHR



Dear Fanwoodians,

Happily it's Spring again! We've got an extensive lineup of community activities scheduled to keep you engaged, give you the opportunity to get to know your neighbors and support our local merchants. Kicking off the spring events will be the Annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 8th, followed that same evening at the Carriage House with the first Performance Series of the season! The show features jazz artist Bobby Belfry and pop singer/songwriter Sandra Donner. On the 22nd we have Clean Communities Day scheduled then on the 29th its opening day of our Little League Baseball season along with the 2nd annual "Autism Rocks" event at La Grande Park. You'll find the calendar of these and plenty of other events at www.fanwoodnj.org and elsewhere in this newsletter. We actually have some NEW events this year from a food truck event to a Pet Fair so be sure to check out the calendar at www.fanwoodnj.org!

To change the focus from community fun to community achievement I want to share with you the success of the curbside recycling program. I am proud to announce that we have doubled our recyclable intake!! The program is even more successful than we had hoped. We are consistently taking twice as much recycling as we had at the former Recycling Center. Good for you Fanwoodians!! Taking care of our planet is more important each passing day and I am very proud that you are participating at this level. I credit the longstanding Recycling Association for instilling in Fanwoodians an understanding of this social responsibility, they helped to make recycling part of the DNA of this community and I am very grateful.

Please be aware that the Recycling Center continues to be open for those recyclables that are not accepted in curbside pickup. Check the www.fanwoodnj.org



Mayor Mahr at the Kessler Rehabilitation Center Ribbon Cutting.

fanwoodnj.org for Recycling Center dates and the list of recyclables that will continue to be accepted at the Center.

Downtown Fanwood is also fast fulfilling our hopes! We're continuing our focus on developing a vibrant "Main Street" and with the able assistance of Director of Economic Development, Liz Jeffery, we've seen continued activity. Although we bid sad farewell to such great establishments as Be Craftful, The Double Dipper and The Corner Store, we welcome others such as Rocco's Ice-Cream, Fanwood Pharmacy, Kessler Rehab, Jolie Visage, and the soon opening Fanwood Grille and Fanwood Vision Center. No better a sign of our business health is when businesses expand, like Ivy Education and Seng Couture have done. Currently, we are "crossing the Ts" on the final agreements for the two remaining open empty lots on the downtown block. In the coming months you will see shovels in the ground and progress towards additional residential and retail opportunities.

And we are thrilled to see that the "South Avenue Commercial Corridor" rezoning is taking hold so quickly. Completed in 2015, this rezoning was designed to upgrade the former Light Industrial Zone to standards that would allow that area to reinvent itself in a way that made sense to our community. Sheelen's Crossing Pub & Bistro is open for business and enjoying great success

and Houdini Pizza Laboratory is just down the block at 25 South Avenue. With Fabio's which is now under new management, and Nick's it may be time for a Fanwood Pizza Challenge! And I bet the folks at the soon-to-open Fanwood Grille will give them a run for their money with a menu that will highlight local culinary skills and a menu that has the best lobster roll I have ever eaten! These small local businesses are vital to our economic health and we've made their success a priority. These changes and the growth in Fanwood are inspiring!

The Lightbridge Academy has applied for building permits in the hopes of opening by the Fall on the site of the former Sun Tavern. Young's Paint and several other sites along the corridor have had strong interest, and discussions continue with the owners of the A&P site. While we can't impose demands on the property owners, we are encouraging them to include a retail or destination use within the expected residential project. These talks will continue, so stay tuned! "Development years" are like "football minutes", so the fact that there is a good bit of action in that zone is encouraging confirmation of strong interest in Fanwood and the likelihood of economic stability for our community.

It's an early spring this year so I look forward to seeing you all out and about at Clean Communities Day and all our fantastic town events this spring.

Fanwood Recreation Summer Camps and Programs Schedule

Fanwood Recreation presents its schedule of camps and programs for Summer 2017. All grade listings are for children entering those grades in the fall. For more information and to register, use the contact information in the right column.

Fanwood Recreation Summer Park Program	grades K-6	6/26-8/18 (weekly)	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
LEGO Camp	ages 5-11	6/26-6/30	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Raiders Basketball Camp	grades 1-7	weeks of 6/26, 7/10	coachewingk@gmail.com
Fanwood Soccer Camp	ages 5-10	weeks of 6/26, 7/24, 8/7	coachewingk@gmail.com
Weekly Total Sports Squirts (intro to sports)	ages 3-5	6/27-8/15 (Tuesdays)	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Weekly Soccer Squirts	ages 3-5	6/27-8/15 (Tuesdays)	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Weekly Total Sports Squirts Parent & Me	ages 2-3	6/30-8/7 (Thursdays)	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Weekly Soccer Squirts	ages 3-5	6/30-8/7 (Thursdays)	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Weekly T-Ball Squirts	ages 3-5	6/30-8/7 (Thursdays)	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Tweens & Teens Travel Camp	grades 6-9	weeks of 7/10, 7/17, 7/24	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Make Your Own Comic Book Camp	ages 8-13	7/10-7/14	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Lacrosse Squirts	ages 4-5	7/10-7/14	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Lacrosse Camp	ages 6-8, 9-12	7/10-7/14	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Child's Play Challenge Course	ages 5-8	weeks of 7/10, 8/14	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
SPF Baseball Camp	grades K-7	7/17-7/20	tombaylock@gmail.com
Golf Squirts	ages 4-5	7/17-7/21	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Golf Camp	ages 6-10	7/17-7/21	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Advanced Robotics Camp	ages 5-11	7/17-7/21	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
World of Wizardry: Art, Writing & Games	ages 8-13	weeks of 7/17, 7/24	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Physical Computing Camp	ages 5-11	7/24-7/28	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Pony Camps	ages 3-6, 7-13	7/31-8/3	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Technology & Engineering Summer Program	grades 1-6	7/31-8/4	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Junior Scientists Summer Program	grades K-5	7/31-8/4	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Multi-Sports Camp (over 15 different sports)	ages 5-11	7/31-8/4	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Total Sports Squirts (intro to sports)	ages 3-5	7/31-8/4	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Twisted Tales: A Story & Art MashUp Camp	ages 8-13	8/7-8/11	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Creative Kids Summer Program	grades K-5	8/14-8/18	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Groovy Girls Summer Program	grades 1-6	8/14-8/18	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Smart Fun Back to School Prep	grades K-4	8/21-8/25	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
LEGO Camp	ages 5-11	8/21-8/25	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Writopia: Creative Writing Workshop	ages 6-18	TBD	www.writopialab.com
Fanwood Junior Tennis Lessons	ages 4-18	TBD	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Babysitting Certification Program	ages 11-15	TBD	www.fanwoodrecreation.org
Jr. First Responders Program	ages 11-17	TBD	www.fanwoodrecreation.org

Fanwood Recreation Spring Programs for Children

Fanwood Recreation is offering a full slate of after-school programs this spring. The programs coming back are LEGO Club, Junior Scientists, Child's Play Challenge Course, Babysitting Certification, Junior First Responders and Writopia. Plus, for our youngest athletes, US Sports Institute offers Sports Squirts and Soccer Squirts.

Most of these programs will begin in early April. For more information about programs, including detailed descriptions, dates, times, prices and age groups, go to fanwoodrecreation.org, where you can also register for them.

Spring Break Camps

Are you looking for something fun and exciting for your kids to do over Spring Break, April 10 - 14? Fanwood Recreation is offering two great choices. Bricks 4 Kidz All Around Lego Academy allows children, ages 5-11, the opportunity to get creative with LEGOS. Participants will build Star Wars, Minecraft, Pokemon and superhero-themed structures, some motorized. For children looking to play outside and enjoy the early spring weather, the US Sports Institute offers Multi Sports Camp in Forest Road Park. For ages 5-11, this camp gives children the opportunity to play up to four different sports each day including baseball, basketball, soccer, flag football and many more. For more information and to register for these programs, go to fanwoodrecreation.org.

Fanwood Recreation Tweens & Teens Travel Camp

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 three consecutive weeks, beginning the week of July 10, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost has not been finalized yet, but will be over \$300 per week for Fanwood and Scotch Plains residents, and an additional \$50 per week 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. Space is limited and registration ends on April 21, so don't delay!

Fanwood Recreation Summer Park Program

Led by experienced counselors, the Summer Park Program offers structured, fun-filled activities tailored for specific age groups in a safe neighborhood environment for children ages 5-11. This year the program is adding new activities, including giant inflatable water slides, laser tag, squirt tag and more.

The program begins the week of June 26, Monday-Friday, and continues for eight consecutive weeks in La Grande Park. The cost is \$45 per week (\$27 for the week of July 5-7) for morning (9 a.m.-12 p.m.) or afternoon (12-3 p.m.) sessions. You can save \$10 by signing up for both morning and afternoon sessions for a discounted price of only \$80. The morning sessions sold out last summer and are already over 80% full, so don't delay!

For more information about the Summer Park Program and to register, go to fanwoodrecreation.org.

Message from the Chief of Police

CITIZEN/BUSINESS SECURITY PROGRAM

The Fanwood Police Department wants to partner with residents and business owners to help solve crime and keep our community safe. Registering your business or personal surveillance camera may help deter crime and assist the Police Department in its overall crime prevention strategy. Help the Fanwood Police protect our community by registering your surveillance cameras with the Citizen/Business Security Program.

How does it work?

The Fanwood Police Department is committed to our partnership with residents and business owners. Many residents and business owners currently operate surveillance systems at their homes and/or businesses. As crimes occur nearby, they are not always aware that their system may have captured information that could help solve the crime, thus keeping our community safer. In turn, the police are also not always aware who may have this potentially vital information.

The Fanwood Police Department is asking residents and businesses throughout town to register their privately owned surveillance camera systems. As the Police Department responds to criminal incidents in our community, we may be able to use the information or footage gathered from the security cameras to assist in the apprehension and prosecution of the criminals involved.

What are the benefits of registering your camera?

The Citizen/Business Security Program will help the police department quickly identify nearby cameras that may have captured criminal activity. After registering your camera, you would only be contacted by the Fanwood Police if there is a criminal incident in the vicinity of your security camera. Police personnel, if necessary, may request to view your camera footage in order to assist in the investigation. Help make Fanwood an undesirable place for criminals to commit crime and keep our entire community safe!

Keep our town safe!

If your residence or business has a security camera system, you can help the police investigate and solve crimes by registering your camera with the Fanwood Police Department. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this initiative please contact Chief Richard Trigo at (908) 322-5000 ext. 510. To register your system please visit www.fanwoodpolice.org, the registration form will be available under the tab Citizen/Business Security Program.

The Fanwood Community Foundation

Founded in October of 1998, the Fanwood Community Foundation owes its inception to four prominent Fanwood residents, Bob and Carol Kraus, Fred Chemidlin and Ted Frankenbach, whose vision was to better the Fanwood community through initiative and generosity.

For the past 18 years, the Foundation has been providing support to many local community organizations. With an endowment fund of more than \$150,000, the Foundation offers a vehicle for public-spirited donors to use their gifts to benefit those in need. Our grants have gone to support the Fanwood Volunteer Fire Department, Fanwood TV, the Fanwood Library, the Center for Women and Families and Resolve Community Counseling.

The Foundation continues to grow through wise investment decisions, charitable remainder trusts and memorial gifts. Please consider remembering the Fanwood Community Foundation in your estate planning, allowing your contributions to keep giving for years to come. We are always looking for new members from the Fanwood community to join us as we continue our mission to grow the culture of giving. You can contact the Foundation at fanwoodcommunityfoundation.org.

Mark your calendars and get ready for some fun in Fanwood for 2017. Here are some of the exciting events coming your way...

April 8	Easter Egg Hunt at Forest Rd. Park, presented by the Fanwood Recreation Commission
April 29	Autism Rocks/ FSP Youth Baseball League Opening Day, presented by the Banks Family and Fanwood Borough
May 13	Fanwood Craft Fair, presented by JC Productions
June	Ladies Night, sponsored by the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce
June 27	Fanwood Party in the Park, sponsored by Fanwood Recreation
July 9	Summer FanJam in La Grande Park, presented by the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce
July/August	Weekly Movie Nights, sponsored by Fanwood Recreation
July 27	Fanwood Pet Fair, presented by JC Productions
August	National Night Out, sponsored by the Fanwood Police Department
September 17	Fanny Wood Day, sponsored by the Borough with JC Productions
October	Fanwood 5k, sponsored by Fanwood Recreation
October 22	Vintage Marketplace at the South Ave train station, presented by JC Productions
October 31	Halloween Parade, sponsored by Fanwood Recreation
November 25	Small Business Saturday, sponsored by American Express and Fanwood merchants
December	Holiday Tree lighting, sponsored by Fanwood Borough

Around Fanwood A postcard from our town



On the morning of Thursday, February 9 Union County plows work to clear South Martine Avenue during a winter storm event.