the Fanwoodian

Volume #19 Issue #3 September 2017 ON THE WEB: **www.fanwoodnj.org**

Fannywood Day 2017

Fanwood's signature fall street fair is back! The 22nd annual Fanny Wood Day is going to take place on Sunday, September 17 from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., right in downtown Fanwood. Each year, this event continues to grow and gain popular attention, and we can't wait to see what this year has in store for all of the residents and visitors of Fanwood.

However, Fanny Wood Day is much more than just a street fair. It is a full-day experience for the entire family to enjoy! This community-filled event will feature a variety of food vendors and craft exhibitors along Martine and South Avenues that will provide something for everyone to enjoy. The Borough wants to continue to provide safe and welcoming events in downtown Fanwood to encourage all of our residents to participate in our community.

Returning this year will be the petting zoo, pony rides, a rock-climbing wall, kiddie rides and more! This street fair provides activities for children of all ages! Also, back by popular demand are contests and prizes for anyone to win! Including bubble gum blowing, hula hoop, pie and ice cream eating contests! It is the Borough's hope that Fanny Wood Day will help promote community positivity within our residents by engaging in this wonderful event.

Last, but not least, the stage will be alive with music throughout the event right on Martine and South.

Mark your calendars and visit the Fanny Wood Day street fair where you'll be sure to have fun with family, friends and neighbors!

SIGN UP FOR 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 Altert 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.

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FANWOOD INFORMATION

ON EMAIL
Sign up for alerts at www.fanwoodnj.org

ON THE AIR
Fanwood Information Radio 24/7 at AM530

ON FANWOOD TV
Find us on Comcast Channel 35 or FiOS Channel 24

ON FACEBOOK
Search Fanwood, NJ and hit the LIKE button

ON TWITTER
Follow us on Twitter @fanwoodborough

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LET US HEAR FROM YOU!
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Annual Halloween Parade and Costume Contest Set for October 31st

Scary times are returning to Fanwood this fall! On October 31st the annual Fanwood Halloween Parade and Costume Contest is back! The day's events will begin on the front lawn of the Fanwood Memorial Library at North and Forest Avenues in Fanwood. Come by in your costumes and bounce around in an inflatable Wacky Castle Fun Center from 4:30 p.m. until the parade steps off at 6:15 p.m!

The parade will be departing for La Grande Park at 6:15 p.m. All children and adults participating in the parade should assemble in front of the library by 6 p.m.

Once the parade arrives at La Grande Park, at approximately 6:30 PM, the Costume Contest will begin for children of all ages. Anyone who wants to enter a pumpkin in the Jack-o-Lantern Contest should bring his or her carved creation to the park and fill out an entry form by 6:30 PM. Prizes will be awarded for the best costumes and the best jack-o-lanterns! Free cider, donuts and coffee will be available. This evening of fun and festivities is presented by the Borough of Fanwood and the Fanwood Recreation Commission.

Mayor's Message

BY FANWOOD MAYOR **COLLEEN MAHR**

Dear Fanwoodians,

Happy Labor Day Fanwoodians! I do hope you all enjoyed a relaxing summer and were able to spend time away from the demands of the world. But in this part of the world Labor Day signals the return to school, a return to the office and a return to "business as usual."

The first priority this season is making sure you are registered to vote! Voting may be the most important of all citizen rights and responsibilities — one that has been won for us by the hard work and sacrifice of patriotic Americans from the earliest days. Epic struggles brought us the freedoms won through the 14th, 15th and 19th amendments. Yet despite this gift of self-rule, voting is an oft-neglected responsibility with only 55% of registered voters participating nationwide in 2016. I want to see Fanwoodians treasuring this right and exercising it at every election.

The deadline for registration is just a month away, October 17th. Registration forms can be secured at Borough Hall or you may print the form found at www.fanwoodnj.org/faq-items/register-to-vote/. Please make sure you are registered, that you secure an Absentee Ballot or that you come to the polls on November 7th!

This summer we've been highly successful in securing a number of grants for the Borough, totaling over $1 million! South Avenue from Sheelan's Crossing to Terrill Road will be upgraded with sidewalks, lighting and complete streetscaping thanks to a New Jersey Department of Transportation Grant. For the first time, Fanwood received two New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres awards! One is for recreational amenities in Forest Road Park with the second aimed at continuing to combat the overgrowth of invasive plants and enhancing walking trails at our treasured Nature Center. And lastly, we've received the Union County Senior Focus grant for repairs and upgrades to the Senior Room at Forest Road Park.

It was just about a year ago that the Borough made the leap to curbside recycling, and I want to share the results. Although for the first six weeks of implementation we had a steady stream of issues to address, such as missed pickups or accommodations for residents in need of assistance, the experience has been relatively stress-free, and well worth it. Our collection totals have increased between 20 and 100 percent per month, making Fanwood a much greener community and moving us closer to our goals of being a Sustainable Community. I thank you all for your impressive participation and dedication to recycling.

Notable this summer were the transit challenges we all experienced in one form or another. Dubbed the "Summer from Hell" by New York Governor Cuomo, Fanwood commuters dealt with crowded trains, changing schedules, regular delays and for some, a new acquaintance with the bus system! But however you travelled this summer, you were certain to come across some of the many road jobs throughout the community.

We had American Water and Elizabethtown Gas working on infrastructure upgrades. New Jersey Department of Transportation repaved all of South Avenue/Route 28, and added two roads, new handicapped ramps and curbing. It's been a busy summer of infrastructure improvements and we appreciate all the patience from our residents. Ultimately, we'll have a solid infrastructure that should serve us for many decades.

Summer 2017 was another roaring success! We made a particularly big splash with our latest new tradition, FanJam! Thanks to our own Aimee Nuzzo and her work with the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce (of which Fanwood is a member) we enjoyed a beautiful summer day filled with music, games, vendors and food! Thousands of folks shared the day at LaGrande Park and we're already planning to re-create the event in 2018.

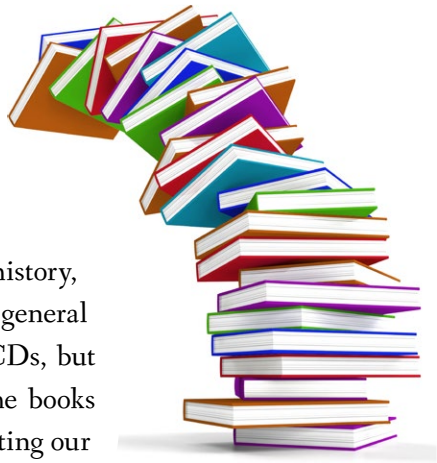
Mayor Mahr attends the long-awaited ground-breaking for the Station Square townhome project located at 2nd Street and LaGrande Avenue.

As usual, the 11-year-old summer recreation program was a hit again this year. With full registration and oodles of fun, this self-supporting program provides fun for pre-teens, adventure for teens and summer jobs for many of our high schoolers. It really is a terrific group of people, many of which return year after year. And of course, Movies in the Park, including a night for adults were another highlight of the summer rec program, kudos to the Recreation Commission!

Mark your calendars, Sunday, September 17th is Fanny Wood Day! Once again we'll have a fun day of vendors, games, contests, food and entertainment. You'll find all the information elsewhere in this newsletter and on the web at www.fannywoodday.com. I always love this celebration, seeing you all as we start a fresh season of school and work is a wonderful kick-off to the Fall.

I wish you all a wonderful start to the school year, and look forward to seeing you all on Fanny Wood Day!

FRIENDS Host 31st Fall Book Sale



The FRIENDS of the Fanwood Memorial Library will host its 31st annual Fall Book Sale beginning on September 14th through September 17th. Donation days to drop off your gently used books will begin on September 8th.

Browsers at the sale can easily find a variety of books, all sorted by subject matter: history, romance, classics, art, cookbooks, politics, crafts, science, parenting, children, and general fiction. In addition to hardbacks and paperbacks, the FRIENDS collect DVDs and CDs, but not toys or games. This book sale provides an opportunity for residents to recycle the books that they've already read and allows others to find a new story to enjoy! All while benefiting our library.

President Carol Campell said, "We plow every penny from the sale back into the library. Plus, the sale is great fun. Spread the word!"

With funds from the sale, the FRIENDS keep the library moving forward with programs, materials, and equipment that enrich and educate people of all ages. From the kids' summer reading program, hands-on animal shows, book clubs and concerts, the FRIENDS keep the library's offerings flowing throughout the year for residents to enjoy. Library visitors depend on the fax machine, audiovisual system, and fireside furniture provided by the FRIENDS.

To join the fun and volunteer for the fall book sale, contact fmlbooksales@gmail.com.

The FRIENDS book sale would not be possible without the quality and quantity of materials provided by Fanwood residents and any donation is greatly appreciated. All donations, sorting, and selling occur at Forest Road Park, 153 Forest Road, in the redbrick building:

DONATIONS DAYS:

Friday, September 8	1 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Saturday, September 9	9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Sunday, September 10	12 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Monday, September 11	9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Tuesday, September 12	1 p.m. – 7 p.m.

SALE DAYS:

Thursday, September 14*	4 p.m. – 8 p.m.

**Members' Night -- Join at the door*

Friday, September 15	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Saturday, September 16	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sunday, September 17	12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Fanwood 5K Superhero Run & Family Fun Run

NEW DATE & TIME: Saturday, October 21 at 3:30 p.m.

For the eighth year in a row, the Fanwood Recreation will host our community's favorite running event! This year, all runners are invited and encouraged to reveal their true selves and come dressed as their favorite superhero! The Fanwood 5K Superhero Run & Family Fun Run will take place on *Saturday, October 21st,* at La Grande Park in Fanwood. The 5K Superhero Run will begin at 4 PM. Before that, the one-mile Family Fun Run will begin at 3:30 p.m. at La Grande Park. All children are welcome to dress up as their favorite costumed characters. Plus, all participating Fun Run children will receive a superhero cape and mask. Music and free refreshments will await all finishers.

Pre-registered runners will be able to pick up their numbers and t-shirts the day before, October 20th from 6pm–7:30 PM at the La Grande Park building.

The entry fee for the 5K is $25, $20 for USATF members and $30 after October 20th. The entry fee for the Family Fun Run is $10 with a t-shirt and $5 without. Save $5 by inviting three friends to run the 5K. If three friends you referred register online, you are eligible for a $5 refund. Online registration only. You can download a race application or register online at *Fanwood5K.org.* The race is fully sanctioned by the United States of America Track and Field (USATF) and is part of the New Jersey Grand Prix as a 500 point race.

All proceeds from the event go to the Fanwood Recreation Department. It will help to purchase new playground equipment, build new recreational facilities and expand recreational programs for local residents.

The event is accepting sponsorships; please visit *Fanwood5K.org* for details on becoming a sponsor.

Come out and be a part of the day: enter the 5K Superhero Run or the Family Fun Run with your children, cheer on the runners, become a sponsor or volunteer to help. Visit *Fanwood5K.org* or contact Joe Valente at (201) 725-2032 for more information.

Please be aware that roads will be closed along the race route approximately between the hours of 3 - 5 p.m.

Fanwood Recreation Fall Programs for Seniors

Fanwood Recreation announces its fall program schedule for Fanwood seniors. All programs will begin the week of September 18th and run weekly through the week of December 18th:

Aerobics	Tuesdays, 9–10 AM
Zumba Gold section 1	Wednesdays, 11:30 AM–12:15 PM
Water Exercise (Aquajam)	Wednesdays, 11:30AM–12 noon
Yoga	Thursdays, 9–10 AM
Tai Chi	Thursdays, 10:15–11:15 AM
Zumba Gold section 2	Fridays, 9:15–10 AM

All classes will be held in the recreation building at Forest Road Park with the exception of Water Exercise, which will be held at the JCC of Central NJ Wilf Jewish Community Campus indoor pool. 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 registration form and pay by check, please go to Fanwood Borough Hall, 75 N. Martine Avenue. Forms will be available after Labor Day.

Listen Up! The Fall Performance Series Schedule Is Here!

Mayor Colleen Mahr and The Fanwood Arts Council are excited to announce that the Fanwood Performance Series is back after their summer hiatus. The line-up of extremely talented performers will close out the final months of the year with their one of a kind artistry. The performances will take the stage at the historic Patricia M. Kuran Cultural Arts Center also known as "The Old Carriage Center House", directly adjacent to Borough Hall. This series is made possible in part by the HEART (History, Education, Arts Reaching Thousands) Grant from The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders. Be sure to mark your calendars!

These talented performers are singers and songwriters who focus their art in the genres of indie, folk, americana and alternative blues. All of these performers have performed all around the country to share their unique voices and original song, these performers have had nominations as well as have played at major music festivals. Some of the artists have also had the opportunity to perform and share the stage alongside well known artists.

There will be refreshments available for sale during the intermission. Various baked goods and finger foods are donated by volunteers and regular attendees.

Coffee, beverages, as well as some food is provided by our sponsors Ahrre's Coffee Roastery, Snapple and Nick's Pizza and Deli.

Great performances in a historic setting right in your own backyard!

Suggested donation is $15, $10 for seniors and students.

Additional information can be found on our website at www.fanwoodperformanceseries.org and on our Facebook page Fanwood Performance Series.

SEPTEMBER 9

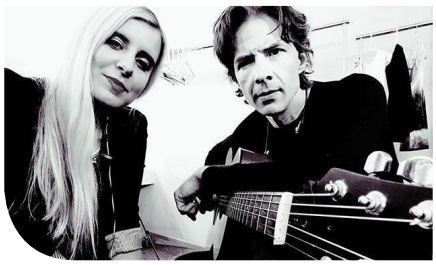
Rorie Kelly

Jessy Tomsko Duo

OCTOBER 14

Diana Jones

James Dalton



NOVEMBER 11

Milkweed

Swearingen and Kelli

Fanwood Redevelopment Updates

The Borough of Fanwood, Mayor Colleen Mahr and Director of Economic Development Elizabeth Jeffery are excited to announce the latest updates in regards to Fanwood's Redevelopment projects. The projects have been a combination of new residential and retail units as well as curb appeal updates to the town.

STATION SQUARE

Located on La Grande and Second Street, the Station Square project has begun preliminary site work on the 35 residential unit building. Of the 35 units, 28 will be market rentals and 7 will be affordable units. The first aspect of construction will be the building piles. The developer has changed the pile design from timber to helical piling in order to minimize noise and vibration. Site improvements including clearing & grading, utilities, site capping, and building pad construction will be done over the next 6 months. Then, vertical construction will begin. The five buildings will take approximately 16 months to complete.

FANWOOD CROSSINGS

The Fanwood Crossings project is a combination of retail and residential units that are located on South Ave. The residential units in Fanwood Crossings I, II, and III have all been rented, including the affordable units. Elite Property Management continues to seek tenants for the openings in the retail space below. The newest tenant, Fanwood Eye Care, opened in July. Monks Home improvements recently signed a lease for the corner plaza space.

PONZIO TRACT

Work has begun on the Second Street Ponzio Tract project. The project consists of a three unit residential building with 2,900 sq. ft. of commercial space below. The twelve month construction has begun with the foundation work, and the vertical construction is expected to follow shortly after.

FANWOOD GRILLE

Fanwood Grille opened its doors for business on July 7th. The newly renovated restaurant is located on 34 South Martine Street and has reported business to be booming.

THE BATH CONNECTION BUILDING

The owner of the building is looking for a new tenant for the space located at 44 South Martine Street.

ROCKO'S ICE CREAM

Rocko's Ice Cream celebrated their 1 year anniversary on July 1st.

PUBLIC PLAZA

The plans for the Public Plaza, next to Mara's Cafe, include expanding and continuing the paver walkways behind the Martine Ave. stores from South Ave. to La Grande Ave. The project is expected to begin late August with minimal disturbance to Borough parking and rear entrances to Martine Ave. stores.

A&P BUILDING

The previous A&P building located on South Ave. has been demolished. Site preparation is occurring and the property owners are in the planning process. Over the coming months, the owners will be submitting plans for the site which will consist of a combination of residential units and retail spaces.

SUN TAVERN BUILDING / LIGHTBRIDGE ACADEMY

The site has begun its transformation into Lightbridge Academy, a preschool and Child care facility. Construction began in May and Lightbridge hopes to open in late fall.

SOUTH AVE. CORRIDOR

Fanwood is delighted to be the recipient of an $820,000 grant from NJDOT which will allow decorative street lamps and sidewalk and other streetscape improvements to be added to South Ave. from the train station to Terrill Road.

The Fanwood Redevelopment projects continue to add high quality residential units and retail locations to the Borough as well as adding many aesthetic improvements to the town. The projects hope to benefit all residents by keeping Fanwood a stable & thriving community.

These updates are as of July 2017.

Fanwood Voters

This November, Fanwood voters will be heading to the polls on Tuesday, November 7th to participate in this year's general election. All registered voters will be able to select candidates for municipal, county and state level offices. Polls around town will be open from 6 a.m. - 8 p.m. Specific polling places for Fanwood's seven voting districts are listed and can be viewed at www.fanwoodnj.org/departments/administration/. Registered voters may also vote by mail in the general election. Applications to receive your vote by mail ballot can be found at that same website.

Please note, if you have not registered to vote before October 21, you will not be able to vote in the general election this year. If you have any questions about this process or how to register to vote, please be sure to contact the Municipal Clerk at 908-322-8236, extension 123.

This year, there will be a local race held for seats on the Fanwood Borough Council. Russ Huegel is running for his fourth term as a Democratic Councilman. Anthony Carter, a member of the Fanwood Recreation Commission and well known youth sports coach in the community, will also be running as a Democrat for a seat on the Council. Brian Walter, Fanwood chef and former local business owner, will be running for Council as a Republican. Be sure to come out and exercise your right to vote on November 7th!

Around Fanwood A postcard from our town

Zooming through the air at FanJam!