# the Fanwoodian

Volume #20 Issue #1 Spring & Summer 2018

ON THE WEB: www.fanwoodnj.org





## Memorial Day in Fanwood

Memorial Day is a highly celebrated and observed holiday in Fanwood and this year is no exception. Fanwood is proud to announce the line-up of Memorial Day events and observances that will be taking place Sunday, May 27 and Monday, May 28. Fanwood will be the host to the annual Memorial Day Concert and Memorial Day Observance and Parade.

"Memorial Day serves as a day of remembrance for those we lost and acknowledgment of the sacrifices they made for our country," said Mayor Colleen Mahr. "I'm honored that Fanwood will be the host to so many great events this year to honor Memorial Day."

The 7th Annual Memorial Day Concert will be taking place on the northside lawn at the Fanwood Train Station, beginning at 6:30 p.m., on Sunday, May 27. The concert's theme, A Tribute to Fallen Heroes, will be recognized throughout the night as the Westfield Community Band will be playing patriotic tunes and traditional marches to commemorate all of the men and women

who lost their lives during their military service for our country. All are encouraged to bring a chair and enjoy the night, which will conclude with speeches from our local dignitaries, veterans and family members.

On Memorial Day, Monday, May 28th, all are invited to the Fanwood War Memorial in front of the library, North Avenue and Tillotson Road, for the Annual Memorial Day Ceremony of Remembrance beginning at 9 a.m. Mayor Colleen Mahr and members of the Fanwood Council will host local veterans groups and dignitaries for the placing of wreaths and the reading of the names of Fanwoodians lost in combat, followed by a gun salute.

Finally, the annual Memorial Day Parade gets underway in Scotch Plains at 10:45 a.m. and makes its way south on Park and Martine Avenues through Fanwood, ending on LaGrande Avenue. The parade's overarching theme, Remember and Honor All Those Who Sacrificed, will be celebrated through military honor guards, regional high school bands, our first responders and several community groups and they march through Scotch Plains and Fanwood

The parade will be led by Marine Corps Colonel Konstantine E. Zoganas, this year's Grand Marshal, and will be accompanied by Ed Miller and Joe Nagy of Fanwood, the 2017 Grand Marshals who unfortunately did not get to ride in the parade due to inclement weather last year. Col. Zoganas, a resident of Scotch Plains, is an Iraq War veteran and is currently assigned to the National Defense University in Washington D.C., where he provides training and exercise support to the Center for Applied Strategic Learning, and will retire on June 1.

The annual parade is funded by the Borough of Fanwood and the Township of Scotch Plains. The concert is presented through the generosity of local donors, including individuals, businesses and community organizations, that underwrite the expenses of staging the concert.

We hope to see you in Fanwood during Memorial Day weekend!

SIGN UP FOR FANWOOD'S EMAIL NEWSLETTER Be in the know about all things Fanwood with the weekly email newsletter. More than 2,000 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.

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#### **FANWOOD INFORMATION**



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#### **LET US HEAR FROM YOU!**

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### **Fanwood Community Day**

On Sunday, May 20th at 1:05 p.m., the Somerset Patriots are hosting Fanwood Community Day and Rockin' for Autism at TD Bank Ballpark for a day of community and Autism awareness. Additionally, Mayor Colleen Mahr and Mallory Banks, the organizer for Rockin' for Autism, will throw ceremonial pitches to kick off the event.

Battling against the Long Island Ducks, the Somerset Patriots are part of the Atlantic League of Professional Baseball, an independent baseball organization. In tandem with Rockin' for Autism and Fanwood, the Somerset Patriots hope to help raise funds for Autism while encouraging goodwill within the Fanwood community. Rockin' for Autism, since its start as a modest bake sale in 2011, has become an anticipated annual event in the Fanwood community where residents and visitors alike attend the festival to have fun while supporting a good cause.

Admission into the TD Bank Ballpark is \$11.50 and can be purchased through somersetpatriots.com/tickets/groupportal when you enter the code "fanwood" in the group portal before purchase.

### Third Annual Rockin' For Autism Music Festival a Success

Continuing its mission to promote Autism Awareness Month and raise funds for autism research, the Rockin' For Autism Music Festival held its 3rd annual event on April 14, 2018 in Fanwood's LaGrande Park.



Rockin' For Autism is the brainchild of 16-year-old Fanwood resident Mallory Banks, who since 2011 has raised tens of thousands of dollars in honor of her brother, Ethan, and all those affected by autism spectrum disorder. Miss Banks, an Autism Awareness Junior Ambassador for the past seven years, consistently ranks among the top young adults in New Jersey who raise money for Autism Awareness Month.

This year's Rockin' For Autism Festival, which also coincided with the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Youth Baseball Association's opening day ceremony, was held on a beautiful sunny day. Throughout the day, the festival featured several local bands and artists who took to the stage all day, and performances by renown special needs music therapist Jammin' Jenn and the Cindy Smith Dance Studio.

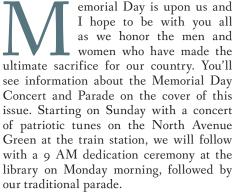
Attendees enjoyed refreshments provided by food trucks and local restaurants, including Nick's Pizza, Rocko's Ice Cream, Fanwood Grille, The Empanada Guy, The Juice House, Red, White and Que, and the annual Rockin' For Autism bake sale. A beer garden was provided by Sheelen's Crossing, and New Jersey American Water provided bottled water for the event.

Among the other main attractions included the popular Child's Play Challenge Course, the 'Chill Zone' quiet room, therapy dogs, and booths and exhibits from various nonprofits and local merchants. Thank you to all who attended!

# Mayor's Message

#### BY FANWOOD MAYOR COLLEEN MAHR

#### Dear Fanwoodians,



After what seemed to be the longest winter ever, Fanwood has come through safe and sound, but with a ton of cleanup work under our belts. A tip of the hat to the Public Works employees who spent much of March and April trimming trees and hauling the brush that Mother Nature destroyed during the March Nor'easters. Not one street was untouched by the fallen trees and other damage inflicted by high winds and ice.

Another big thank you to ALL of the volunteers working with the Fanwood Fire Company and the Fanwood Rescue Squad. On call day and night, these generous friends were called upon repeatedly during the storms to attend to downed wires and to help any medically challenged resident who had lost power. We are very fortunate that there were no injuries.

I want to thank the residents as well, for the patience you demonstrated when we had 14 roads closed and power outages throughout the Borough. I want to thank you for the good common sense you demonstrated by staying off the roads during the worst of the weather so emergency vehicles could move freely. I want to thank you all for checking in on your neighbors and giving them a hand when needed with snow removal, cutting down hanging limbs, or providing a bed or a meal.

I have served here for over 14 years now, but the kindness and warmth this community demonstrates in times of need continues to amaze me and makes me very proud to be your mayor.

The council is currently working on the budget and this year all departments have

been asked for another 10% cut in expenses. One result you may have noticed is that there will be fewer issues of The Fanwoodian. We feel that after a decade of development, our website and social media presence have grown to such a degree that we can reduce the number of issues each year from four to three and still accomplish our objective of keeping residents informed. Again, I urge you to sign up for weekly e-blasts on our website at www.fanwoodnj.org. The number of users is growing fast, and feedback has been terrific, so I am sure you will find it to be useful.

You may have been hearing talk about our new approach to the local sewers, and I want to take this opportunity to separate fact from fiction. We own the sewer system; all 147,000 feet of it. It is 90 years old and was constructed with clay pipes. With an average lifespan of 100 years, it is time to begin a regular maintenance program to assure a viable sewer system for the future. Just as American Water and Elizabethtown Gas have made a tremendous investment to maintain and upgrade their systems in order to deliver gas and water without disruption, we must do the same.

The Council has determined that the best way to fund this long-term project is to establish a Sewer Authority. Residents will be billed separately for sewer use and the funds collected will be dedicated to maintenance. I anticipate the final details to be ironed out during the summer and the initial bills to be issued later in the year. Please keep your eye on our website at www. fanwoodnj.org for updates.

Along with the welcome infrastructure improvements are the unwelcome potholes and patches that have been giving us all a bumpy ride lately. You've been tolerating a long stretch of subterranean infrastructure work and as we say goodbye to the Water and Gas companies as they wrap up these multimillion dollar upgrades we turn our attention to paving.

The utilities are obliged to pave where they have trenched, but because of the layout of the gas company trenching on most streets, this will mean they will pave only one side



of the street. However, if the entire street has been dug up, the entire street will be paved, North Avenue being an example. The Borough Engineer is developing a plan to deploy the paving to those streets most in need. Combined with our annual paving program, we hope to have most of the streets back to an acceptable state by the end of this year.

Congratulations are in order for Ron Shovlin, owner of the Shovlin Mattress Factory on South Avenue. Ron has been named Businessman of the Year by the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce and we couldn't be more proud. Ron brought his business to Fanwood ten years ago and has been a terrific neighbor ever since. We are grateful that the Shovlin Mattress Factory chose Fanwood as its home and wish them many years of continued success.

New business development is coming along very nicely, and we enjoyed Grand Openings for Lightbridge Academy at 15 South Avenue, Monks Home Improvements at 246 South Avenue and Sheelan's Fish Company, at 383 South Avenue.

And I am delighted to report that Station Square and Joe Ponzio are running neck and neck to complete their development projects on 2nd Street and La Grande Avenue. These will be the final projects in our Downtown Redevelopment program and I hope you are as pleased with the result as I am. We were able to develop the entire downtown by working with current owners, without displacing any business and without resorting to eminent domain.

Simultaneously we are working with local merchants and at-home businesses to lay plans for the future. This group meets regularly and have been able to brainstorm and share ideas that lay the groundwork for success for them all.

I believe our house is in good order and I am very confident that the Borough is in a good position to weather the unknown challenges of the future.

Best wishes to you all for a relaxing and safe summer, look forward to seeing you at Memorial Day!



## 2018 Poetry Series Special 20th Anniversary Schedule

Celebrating its 20th year, the beloved Carriage House Poetry Series is back with a packed schedule of poets and events for 2018. The Patricia Kuran Arts Center, located at 75 North Martine Avenue will be boasting an impressive lineup this season featuring nationally acclaimed as well as locally treasured talents!



Adele Kenny, director of the program since inception circa 1998, invites all to celebrate 20 years of imagination, creative spirit, contemporary vision and the delicate beauty of communicative art through poetry!

Admission is always graciously FREE to the public. Scheduled readings begin at 8 PM after which the mic opens to audience members who may like to share a piece or two in fellowship with a friendly and receptive community.

Always make sure to double check the series' official website: carriagehousepoetryseries.blogspot.com for updates and additional details!

May 15, 2018	Maria Mazzioti Gillian & Edwin Romond		
May 20, 2018	(SUNDAY) Book Launch: Michael T. Young's Turpentine (Terrapin Books, 2018) 3-5 PM, Reading by author & Refreshments. All Welcome!		
June 19, 2018	Joe Well		
July 17, 2018	Tiferet Journal Reading featuring: Ray Cicetti, Diane Lockward, Priscilla Orr, Tom Plante & Donna Baier Stein		
August	SUMMER HIATUS, NO READING		
September 18, 2018	Nicole Cooley & Matthew Thorburn		
October 16, 2018	MONSTER MASH! Further Details TBA!		
November 13, 2018	20th Anniversary Celebration! Special Details TBA Please Note: This reading will be held the week BEFORE Thanksgiving (the 2nd Tuesday)!		
December	WINTER HIATUS, NO READING		

## 2018 Performance Series



Set against the cultured, mellow and inviting backdrop of the Kuran Center, contemporary musicians of all varieties stop by to share their unique gifts with audience members select Saturday evenings this fresh 2018 season!

Shows begin at 7PM. Suggested respectful donation is \$15 (\$10 for seniors and students).

2018 Sponsors include Ahrre's Coffee Roastery, Snapple Beverages and Nick's Pizza! Light refreshments may be available courtesy of these generous vendors.

Please visit www.fanwoodperformanceseries. org for additional details as well as information on the fascinating talents and their unique stories and styles.

May 12

Rachel Marie with Debra Cowan

June 9

Ryan Harris Brown with Lara Herscovitch

## Recreation



## Fanwood's 2nd Annual Summer FanJam

Save the Date for the Second Annual Summer FanJam! This exciting event brought thousands of people together last year and will be held this year on Sunday, July 8, from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. in LaGrande Park. The Summer FanJam will feature live music, food trucks, classic cars and numerous crafts vendors! A beer and wine garden will be open for adults and a KidsZone filled with rides and activities will be available for children of all ages. Bring a blanket or folding chairs and spend the day!

Show your Fanwood spirit by joining us for this fun community event. FanJam is being brought to you by the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce. Hope to see you there!

## Summer Kick-off Party in La Grande Park

The Fanwood Recreation Commission invites you to Fanwood's eleventh annual Party in the Park! This annual summer party will take place on the first Free Movie Night of the summer, at La Grande Park, Tuesday, June 26th, from 6–8:30 pm (rain date is Wednesday, June 27th).

Enjoy food, music, beverages and more! There will be rides, other amusements, and contests inspired by the free movie of the evening, Despicable Me 3, which will begin at dusk. For more information, please check fanwoodrecreation.org. Please note, small fees will be charged for rides and some food items. Bring the entire family to enjoy the kick-off to summer!



The Fanwood Recreation Commission announces its 2018 Free Summer Movie Series at La Grande Park. Enjoy a night under the stars watching one of Hollywood's latest family-friendly flicks on Fanwood's state-of-the-art, 16 foot-wide outdoor movie screen!

The series begins on Tuesday, June 26th and continues every Tuesday evening (with the exception of Monday, July 2nd) for eight consecutive weeks. The movies will begin at dusk (approximately 8:30 PM at the beginning of the schedule, 8 PM towards the end). Be sure to bring a blanket or a beach chair! And maybe some bug spray too.

Tuesday, June 26	Despicable Me 3	
Monday, July 2	The LEGO Batman Movie	
Tuesday, July 10	Beauty and the Beast (2017)	
Tuesday, July 17	The Incredibles (2004)	
Tuesday, July 24	Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle (PG-13)	
Tuesday, July 31	Coco	
Tuesday, August 7	Spider-Man: Homecoming (PG-13)	
Tuesday, August 14	Cars 3	

\*Rain date for all movies is the following evening except for the July 2nd move; rain date is Thursday, July 5th. For more information, go to fanwoodrecreation.org or call (908) 370-7092.



## Fanwood Recreation Summer Camps & Program Schedule

Fanwood Recreation presents its schedule of camps and programs for Summer 2018. 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	6/25 - 8/17 (weekly)	fanwoodrecreation.org
Brick City Engineers LEGO Camp	ages 5-11	6/25 - 6/29	fanwoodrecreation.org
Fanwood Soccer Camp	ages 5-10	weeks of 6/25, 7/9, 7/23	coachewingk@gmail.com
Fanwood Junior Tennis Lessons	ages 4-18	weeks of 6/25 thru 8/6 (no 7/2)	fanwoodrecreation.org
Weekly Squirts Multi Sports	ages 3-5	6/27 - 8/1 (Wednesdays)	fanwoodrecreation.org
Weekly Soccer Squirts	ages 3-5	6/27 - 8/1 (Wednesdays)	fanwoodrecreation.org
Weekly Parent & Me Sports Squirts	ages 2-3	6/31 - 8/2 (Thursdays)	fanwoodrecreation,org
Weekly Soccer Squirts	ages 3-5	6/31 - 8/2 (Thursdays)	fanwoodrecreation.org
Weekly T-Ball Squirts	ages 3-5	6/31 - 8/2 (Thursdays)	fanwoodrecreation.org
Fashion Sewing	grades 3-8	7/2 - 7/6 (no 7/4)	fanwoodrecreation.org
Tweens & Teens Travel Camp	grades 6-9	weeks of 7/9, 7/16, 7/23	fanwoodrecreation.org
Mining & Crafting w/ Minecraft LEGO	grades K-5	7/9 - 7/13	fanwoodrecreation.org
Lacrosse Squirts	ages 4-5	7/9 - 7/13	fanwoodrecreation.org
Lacrosse Camp	ages 6-8, 9-12	7/9 - 7/13	fanwoodrecreation.org
SPF Baseball Camp	grades K-7	7/16 - 7/19	tombaylock@gmail.com
Golf Squirts	ages 4-5	7/16 - 7/20	fanwoodrecreation.org
Golf Camp	ages 6-10	7/16 - 7/20	fanwoodrecreation.org
Advanced Robotics Camp	ages 5-11	7/17 - 7/21	fanwoodrecreation.org
World of Wizardry: Art, Writing & Games	ages 8-13	7/23 - 7/27	fanwoodrecreation.org
Pony Camps	ages 3-6, 7-13	7/30 - 8/2	fanwoodrecreation.org
Junior Scientists Summer Program	grades K-5	7/30 - 8/3	fanwoodrecreation.org
Multi-Sports Camp (over 15 different sports)	ages 5-11	7/30 - 8/3	fanwoodrecreation.org
Multi-Sports Squirts (intro to sports)	ages 2-3, 4-5	7/30 - 8/3	fanwoodrecreation.org
Creative Kids Summer Program	grades K-5	8/6 - 8/10	fanwoodrecreation.org
Smart Fun Back to School Prep	grades K-4	8/13 - 8/17	fanwoodrecreation.org
Myth Masters: Art, Writing & Games	ages 8-13	8/20 - 8/24	fanwoodrecreation.org
Challenge Island Superhero Camp	grades 3-6	8/20 - 8/24	fanwoodrecreation.org
Babysitting Certification Program	ages 11-15	8/20 - 8/24	fanwoodrecreation.org
Jr. First Responders Program	ages 11-17	8/20 - 8/24	fanwoodrecreation.org

## 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 includes giant inflatable water slides, squirt tag, a game truck and more.

The program begins the week of June 25th, Monday–Friday, and continues for eight consecutive weeks in La Grande Park. The cost is \$45 per week (\$36 for the week of July 2nd–6th, no camp on the 4th) for morning (9 AM–12 noon) or afternoon (12 noon–3 PM) session. You can save \$10 by signing up for both morning and afternoon sessions of the same week for 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.



### Libraries Rock! - Summer Reading Programs 2018

Readers will explore all things musical during the Summer Reading Club. This summer will be filled with concerts, karaoke, Book Clubs & Book Blogs, Maker sessions, storytimes and more to keep kids reading and learning all summer long. Teens and adults will also find plenty to enjoy.

Summer Reading Club kicks off with Monday Night Family Concerts & More on Monday, June 25th at 7 p.m. and continues each Monday at 7 p.m. on the Library Front Lawn through July 30th.

Two of the summer's highlighted programs will "Brady Rymer and the Little Band that Could" who will get the summer series off to a rockin' start on June 25th. Rymer's rootsy, pop and rock music regularly wins critical acclaim and national awards including three Children's GRAMMY nominations as well as numerous Parents' Choice Gold and NAPPA (National Parenting Publications) Gold Awards, and has garnered him a growing fan base of enthusiastic families. Brady performs rockin' live music for kids and families across the country at Performing Arts Centers, concert halls, clubs, outdoor festivals, schools and libraries. When he's not playing with his own band, Brady plays bass guitar with the Laurie Berkner Band -Catch him for free outside on the library lawn.



And be sure to catch "Richard Reiter's Drum Circle" on Monday, July 16th. It's family fun for all ages as participants drum together in this exhilarating and unifying activity. Drums and percussion instruments will be available for everyone to use (but feel free to bring your own instruments or noise-making items such as pots and pans). Richard Reiter is a nationally acclaimed jazz musician and Emmy Award-winning composer.

All programs are free of charge and are sponsored by the Friends of the Fanwood Memorial Library.

### Fanwood Library Improvement Project (FLIP)

The enthusiastic passage the NJ Library Construction Bond Act last November was welcome news! The project has been progressing for years with the 2014 resident survey, 2016 public presentations, and the 2017 petition drive and council resolution. And now, our architect John Veisz of FVHD Architects & Planners, is working closely with the board's Building Committee and Borough Council to produce all the materials required to be ready to apply for the state's matching funds. Stay tuned for new developments!

## FRIENDS of the Library Membership Drive

One hundred new or renewing members by July 4th is the goal set by the Friends of Fanwood Memorial Library Membership Committee for 2018.

Card-carrying Friends members receive discounts at fifteen local merchants, first pick at the book sale, and free DVD rentals.

Residents may join the Friends online (fanwoodlibrary.org/friends), at the library, or by mailing in the newsletter form scheduled for delivery to every household in early April.

The Fanwood Friends raises money for and distributes funds to the library for the MuseumPass and other programs, for equipment, and for materials beyond the library's budget. Membership dues and the fall book sale are the two main sources of the Fanwood Friends funds.

#### **eServices**

Stay cool at the library this summer while you explore our eServices. We have free Wifi for your own devices, or feel free to use one of ours. We have iPads, Kindles, a Mac and PCs. Check out Kanopy, our new movie streaming service, or download your favorite author from elibraryNJ or rbdigital—apps for both these audio/eBook collections are on our website.

## Little Free Libraries in Fanwood Parks



Don't forget to visit one of the Little Free Libraries next time you're in La Grande or Forest Road Park. Grab something to read, or leave something you've enjoyed for your neighbors.

## 7th Annual Ladies Night Out

The 7th Annual Ladies Night Out will be held on Thursday, June 7, 2018 beginning at 6 p.m. throughout downtown Fanwood! Last year, hundreds of women lined up to register and pick up a goody bag filled with coupons for local businesses and tickets to win prizes at a tricky tray raffle. Join us at the plaza between Fanwood Crossing I and Fanwood Crossing II Buildings on South Ave. in Fanwood to enjoy music, mingling and shopping to support our local merchants!

The annual event, sponsored by the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce which represents Fanwood businesses, will feature most of Fanwood's downtown businesses plus some visiting businesses. The evening will culminate in a monster Tricky Tray and champagne reception, that will cap off this fabulous evening!

The goal each year is to bring walk-in business to Fanwood's downtown which has enjoyed significant growth over the past several years. You're invited to join us on June 7th and enjoy a night out downtown!





## **Rabies Clinic**

The Borough of Fanwood will be hosting a free rabies clinic for dogs & cats, scheduled for October 24, 2018 from 5:30 to 6:30 a La Grande Park.

## Around Fanwood A postcard from our town



Some of Fanwood's finest with the Easter Bunny at the annual Easter Egg Hunt at Forest Road Park