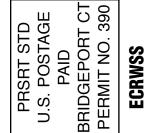


#### Published by Renna Media

## **NEW BASKET & PICKLEBALL COURTS AT FOREST ROAD PARK**







#### Borough of Fanwood

Mayor Colleen Mahr recently cut the ribbon to officially reveal the new and improved Forest Road Park, the first phase of a renewal project which includes a new regulation basketball court and two pickleball courts.

Brand new basketball and pickleball courts are the main features of these first improvements, which also include repaved walking paths, new lighting and landscaping and a new bike rack.

The pickleball courts are a first for Fanwood. The growing sport, a kind of cross between tennis and squash, is played on a smaller version of a tennis court. The courts are built on high grade concrete with a painted surface to delineate the playing fields. Popularity of pickleball is taking off nationwide with tournaments being broadcast on ESPN.

The new basketball court is an upgrade over the old one. It is now regulation size with special high-impact paint on the playing surface, new baskets and new nets.

The next phase of improvements will include the demolition of the old tennis courts, damaged over the years by poor drainage. They'll be replaced with new grass and a gazebo to form a passive park area.

"We had a lot of support," said Recreation Director Bob Budiansky, who noted that the Recreation Department's brand new summer basketball camp began just in time to play on the new court.



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Photos by Tom Kranz



(above) Group photo at the basketball court, Mayor Mahr cutting ribbon with above-mentioned VIP's and children from the Recreation Department's new basketball camp

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Joe Renna at 908-447-1295 email: JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com



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## PROMOTE YOUR COMMUNITY EVENT

Community service organizations, schools and sports teams are encouraged to submit news of upcoming events or highlights and photos from recent events.

Organizations who are interested in submitting content, please email editor@rennamedia.com

## RESCUE SQUAD GETS HAPPY UPDATE OF BABY BORN IN AMBULANCE 23 YEARS AGO

Submitted by Tom Kranz

Among the treasured moments for Fanwood Rescue Squad members is the privilege of assisting with the birth of a baby. In 1998 there were two ambulance births within two months. Born in July was Haley Knudsen, whose family moved away some years later. Then in September, Lisa Kline couldn't wait for parents Sue and Stuart Kline to get to the hospital.

Over the years, the Klines, who still live in Fanwood, have kept in touch with the squad. And during the July 4th fireworks in Scotch Plains this year, Mrs. Kline showed Captain Ian Lewis a photo of Lisa today, 23 years later, on her graduation from Rutgers University where she graduated this spring with a Bachelor's degree in accounting.

The story of Lisa's birth is one mom won't ever forget. Strong contractions had caught Mrs. Kline home alone on September 15th, 1998 and forced her to call 911.

"I actually had to crawl to the phone and then all I could say was, 'I'm having a baby!" she later told the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times.

It was about 11 a.m. when squad members Bob Kruthers, Steve Siegal, Ruth Wegmann and Bill Crosby arrived. Stuart Kline, a Borough Councilman at the time, returned home just in time to see his wife being loaded into the ambulance. But there wasn't even time for the rig to pull away from the home. With two pushes, Lisa Kline was born in the parked ambulance.

"It was just amazing," said Mr. Kline of his daughter's birth at the time.

"We've helped with several other childbirths

over the years," remarked Capt. Lewis. "It's one of those moments you might never see in an entire EMS career. But when you do, it's unforgettable. We wish Lisa all the best and a bright future as a college graduate."

Lisa is already working as a senior accountant at Prevention Links in Roselle.



(above) Lisa and Susan Kline at a block party in 2001

Photo by Tom Kranz



(above, l-r) Lisa Kline in cap and gown, a new Rutgers Graduate, spring 2021 and as a baby, hours after birth on 9/15/1998.

Photos courtesy Susan Kline

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Reserve space in the next issue. Call Tina today at 908-418-5586 or email info@rennamedia.com





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## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO MAINTAIN GARDENS**

Volunteer Opportunity for Service groups, Scout groups, Work groups, families, Individuals and any Committees or Organizations.

Want to get outside and enjoy the fresh air? Help improve our environment one small space at a time? Get creative using nature?

We are looking for volunteers to help maintain gardens at Borough Hall and other areas around Fanwood. The gardens or areas to be maintained already exist - no new ground will have to be cleared. The Environmental Commission will provide guidance, advice and know how (and garden tools if needed). If interested, please send us a note at fanwood.ec.1895@gmail.com. **AREAS UP FOR GRABS:** 

Flag Pole garden in front of Borough Hall Rain garden at the side of Borough Hall Carriage House (front and sign areas) Area around the Ambulance HQ Welcome to Fanwood Signs and others...

## VOLUNTEERS BRING FANWOOD POLLINATOR AND MONARCH BUTTERFLY GARDENS TO LIFE

Borough of Fanwood

The beauty of nature is helped along in a big way by volunteers in Fanwood, specifically members of the Fanwood Environmental Commission and helpers who've been planting, weeding and watering gardens around Borough Hall.

"The Pollinator Garden provides the basic food source for our native pollinators," explained Sandy Redder, Environmental Commission member. "Bees, moths, butterflies, even birds, like hummingbirds."

The Pollinator Garden, located directly in front



(above) Sandy Redder at the Monarch garden Photo by Tom Kranz

of Borough Hall, is the work of Ms. Redder and other volunteers who planted specific species, most native to New Jersey. It also acts as a fourseason garden, providing winter homes for native bees and wasps.

Other projects by volunteers include the monarch butterfly garden under the flagpoles in front of Borough Hall, the new garden surrounding the Carriage House, once overrun by English ivy, and the entrance to Carriage House Park on Watson Road, recently refreshed with new paint and plantings. The key to the Monarch butterfly garden is milkweed.

"Milkweed is the host plant for the Monarch butterfly," said Ms. Redder. "It's the place where they lay their eggs and where they hatch." There are at least two kinds of milkweed in the Monarch garden, along with other perennials.

While not yet on the endangered species list, Monarch butterflies are becoming rarer due to several factors, most man-made, contributing to the destruction of milkweed and natural habitats.

The volunteers who've made all this possible are: Environmental Commission members Sandy Redder, Margaret Chowdhury, Eric Gaulin and his daughter Katelyn; Carol Hartner, Sally and Howard Drewes, Karen Ruffner, Cherri and Peter Worthington, The Hayes Family (Allison, John and Maggie), Patty Weinstock and Joan Pagano. Thanks to everyone for your time and green thumbs.







50+ exhibitors FREE Admission Sun. August 8 • 9AM-5PM Fanwood NJ Train Station 256 South Ave. side, (park on 238 North Ave side) 201.998.1144 www.jcpromotions.info



## **NATIONAL NIGHT OUT - AUG 7TH**

Calling all residents to come out and enjoy a great night of community building with the Fanwood Police Department, on Tuesday, August 3, 2021 from 7 p.m. to dusk at LaGrande Park.

National Night Out is an annual community building campaign that promotes policecommunity partnerships and neighborhood

camaraderie - to make our neighborhood a safer and more caring place to live. It provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

This free event will feature games, food, tours of emergency vehicles, a demonstration from the Union County K9 Unit, a featured movie, and much more!

## JOB OPPORTUNITY: PART-TIME CHEF MAKE A DIFFERENCE EVERY DAY!

Mobile Meals of Westfield is looking for a part time chef. Come join our dedicated team as we provide nutritious meals to members of our community in need.

The job is located in Westfield, NJ. The hours are 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., Monday through Friday with hourly pay and paid time off. Must be able to cook a variety of hot foods in large quantities; must have excellent time management skills and dependability. Minimum of 5 years experience and serve safe certification preferred.

Submit cover letter and resume to: mobilemealswestfield@hotmail.com.

## **FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP – AUGUST 17**

Are you feeling stressed and alone in trying to cope with the effects of a loved one's mental illness?

NAMI Union County's Family Support Group is for family members and caregivers of persons with mental illness.

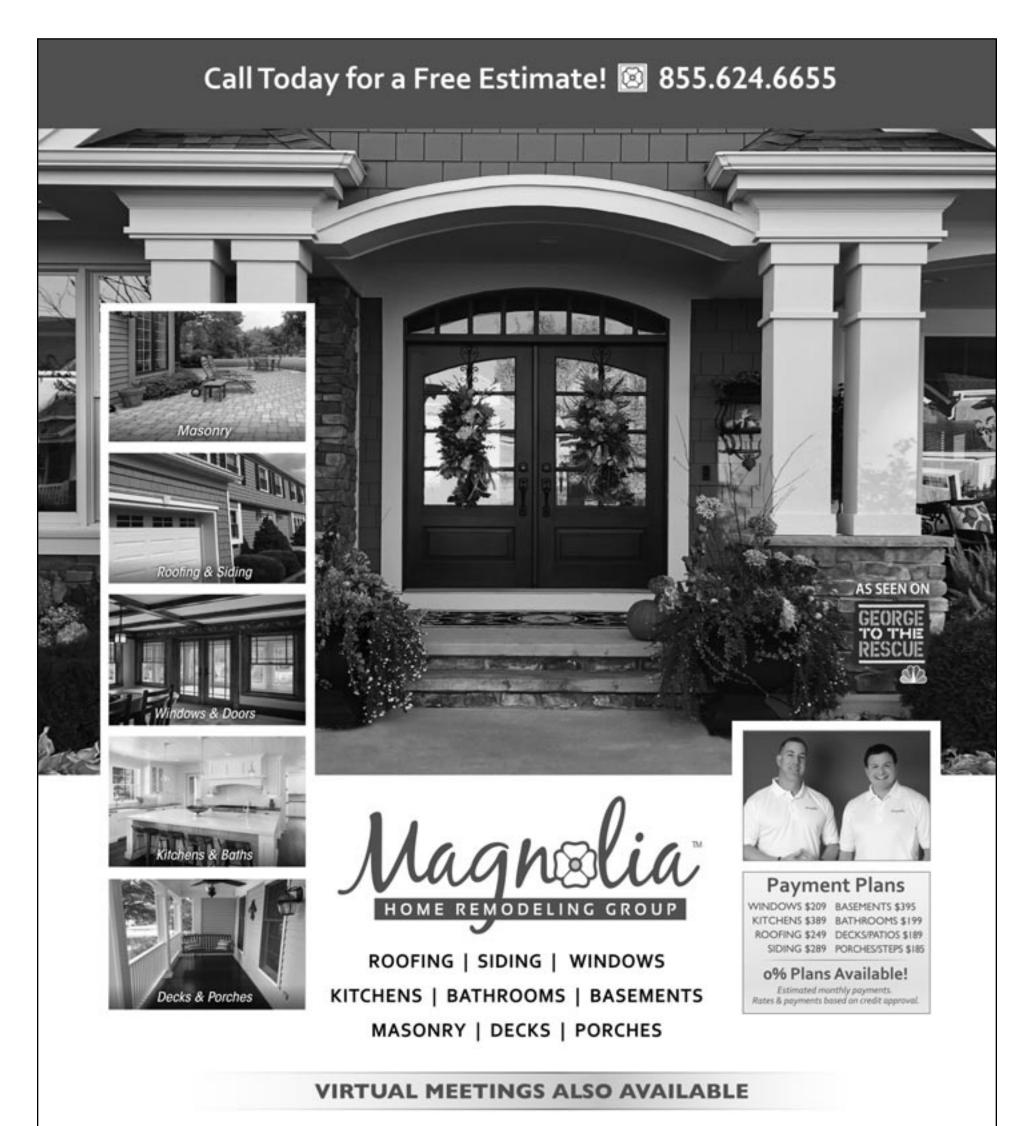
Join our peer-led group meetings and gain insight from others facing the same challenges. Zoom sessions are held on the 3rd Tuesday of

every month from 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

To register, email Denise at: namiunioncounty@yahoo.com with your name, town, and phone number.







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## **TREE AND GRANITE PLAQUE MEMORIALIZES KEN BLOM**



(above) Ken Blom in bucket truck in 2017

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#### Borough of Fanwood

Fanwood's Mayor, administrators, Council members, Department of Public Works employees, first responders and friends and family of late DPW employee Ken Blom were on hand for today's dedication of a tree in Ken's name on the front lawn of Borough Hall.

The tree and an accompanying granite plaque inscribed in his honor will provide a lasting memory of the town's beloved employee who died suddenly in April. The ceremony was attended by Ken's entire family and many friends and coworkers.

Mayor Colleen Mahr spoke of Ken's impact on the town as not only a great worker, but a caring individual, adding he touched many lives in his 21 years with the Borough. Clint Dicksen, Public Works Director, and John Piccola, Public

Works Foreman, related stories about Ken's legendary work ethic.

In attendance were Ken's wife Lisa, daughters Rachel and Kelly, granddaughter Anastasia and father Al. Many other family members and friends were in attendance along with Council members Francine Glaser, Kathy Mitchell and Trisha Walsh.

The Green Mountain Sugar Maple Tree was selected by the Fanwood Shade Tree Commission whose chairman, Steve Falco, was in attendance. The granite plaque was made possible by donations from borough employees and mounted on stone by DPW employees. Behind the tree sat the DPW's bucket truck, Ken's favorite piece of equipment which he used to trim trees and provide a show-and-tell at the annual Arbor Day observance.



(above) Blom family

## **FANWOOD RECREATION AUGUST EVENTS**

#### **FREE SUMMER MOVIE SERIES**

Free Summer Movie Series Under the Stars finishes up with these movies in August: Aug. 3: Toy Story 4 (2019) G

Aug. 10: Momma Mia! (2008) PG-13

Aug. 17: Guardians of the Galaxy (2014) PG-13

All movies are scheduled for Tuesday evenings at La Grande Park and will begin around 8:15 or 8 p.m. The rain date for each movie is the following day. Moviegoers should bring blankets or low beach chairs to sit on. **AUGUST PROGRAMS** 

There's still time to register for these August camps and programs offered by Fanwood Recreation: Fashion Design Camps, Summer Park Program (day camp), Junior Tennis Lessons,

TGA Junior Golf Camp, Multi-Sports Camp, Junior First Responders Program, Olympic Sports Drawing Workshop, Babysitting Certification and Algebra Review.

#### **NEW BASKETBALL AND PICKLEBALL COURTS**

If you haven't been to Fanwood's Forest Road Park lately, you haven't seen Fanwood's beautiful new basketball and pickleball courts! And if you're wondering how to play pickleball, Fanwood Recreation is offering lessons, which will take place on Thursday evenings, begin on August 5th and continue for four weeks. Space is limited.

For more information about this program and to register, please go to fanwoodrecreation.org.





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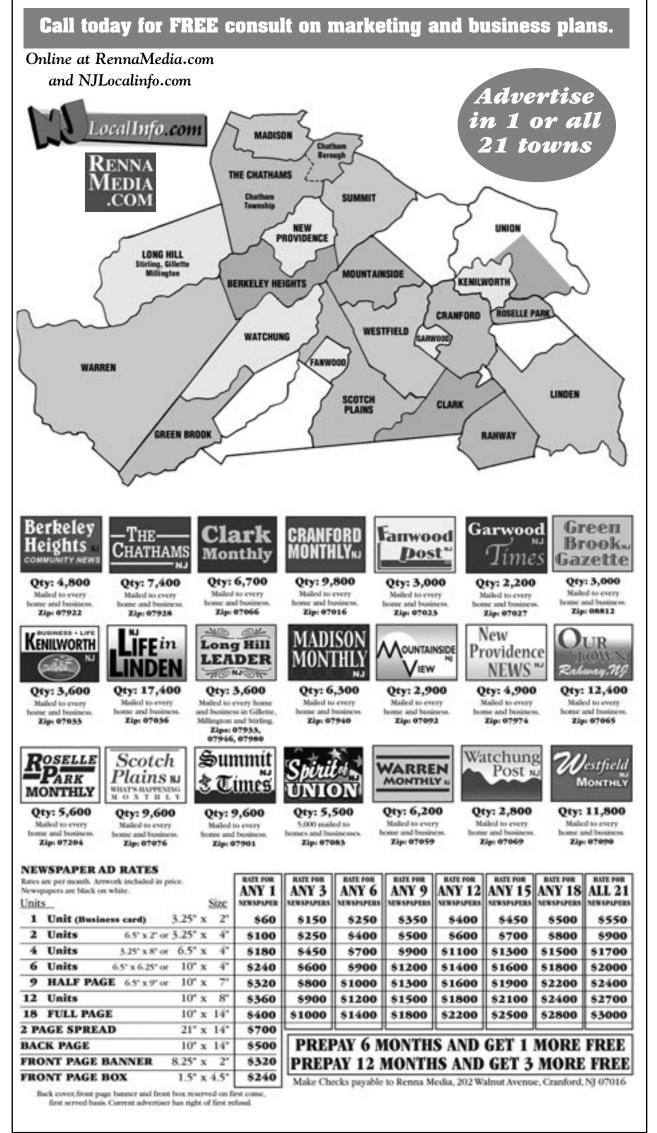
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## **FANWOOD PARTY IN THE PARK 2021**

#### Borough of Fanwood

After a year's absence due to the COVID pandemic, the Party in the Park returned to Fanwood's LaGrande Park on Tuesday, June 29, 2021, drawing several hundred happy participants, many of them children.

Despite temperatures in the low 90's, local residents of all ages enjoyed festivities organized by the Fanwood Recreation Commission and Recreation Director Bob Budiansky. Kids climbed a rock wall, bounced down the giant slide and had train rides. The Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA offered free kids' crafts in the shade of the park pavilion. And the American Family Martial Arts Center, located at 34 South Avenue, presented a karate demonstration. Low cost food included hot dogs and ice cream, served by Recreation Commissioners, Mayor Colleen Mahr and Councilwoman Trisha Walsh. The Fanwood Rescue Squad had a first aid station and



(above) Mayor Colleen Mahr flanked by Recreation Commissioners Scott Sinclair and Ivan Solomahhin

one of the most popular attractions of the evening, a mist fan.

The event was capped off by the first of the Tuesday night movies shown in the park's ballfield at dusk. Tuesday night movies in LaGrande Park are free all summer. Bring a folding chair, blanket and bug spray!





(above) Recreation Commissioner Bruce Zakarin, emcee Photos by Tom Kranz



## WEBSITE AUDIT/ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATION PLAN

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- WEDSITE UREATION/UPDATE: \$2,400 Cost for average website: 12 pages, contact form, SEO friendly, responsive design
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**ONE TIME** 

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Joe Renna at 908-447-1295

email: JoeRenna@RennaMedia.com



(above) Kiddie train



(above) Rock climb



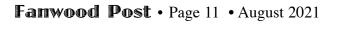
(above) Cooling at the Rescue Squad's mist fan



(above) Karate demonstration



(above) YMCA's craft station



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