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Published by Renna Media

Issue 70 • September 2021

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FANWOOD-SCOTCH PLAINS ROTARY INDUCTS NEW OFFICERS

Submitted by Maria LaMorte-Wright

On July 20, 2021, the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club held their Installation Ceremony for the 2021-2022 Rotary year. New President Deanna Dell Bene was sworn in by Past District Governor Charlie Minton. The following officers were also inducted: Al Smith, President-Elect 2022-2023; Talib Morgan, Secretary; and Don Rosenberg, Treasurer.

The evening started with a presentation by outgoing President Julie Murphy. She noted that she was honored to lead the club during a particularly difficult year. She presented a Paul Harris award to Rotarian Patty Laguna, for her outstanding work and dedication as Secretary of the club. Additionally, other Rotary members were recognized for their contributions during an unusual and challenging year. Several key initiatives were completed during Murphy's presidency, including: SPF Resource Central, led by Deanna Del Bene— a centralized Coronavirus information resource for the towns of Scotch Plains and Fanwood; and a Mask Team led by Carmela Resnick, who made fabric masks and raised \$16,000 for local food banks, from the sale of those masks. They also held their first virtual Trivia Night, led by Rotarian Wayne Zuhl. Past District 7475 Governor Ann Walko was recognized for her successful year and District conference, raising over \$50,000 for the Rotary International Foundation Annual Fund. Rotarian Mike Walko was given the District 7475 Military Service and EMT awards.

Murphy presented the Joseph Y. Qutub Service Award to two amazing Interactors from SPF High School. Interact is a Rotary service club for young people. Congratulations to Evelyn Liang and Marley Holston.

President Deanna Dell Bene will be one of FSP Rotary's youngest presidents. She began her Rotary year by reinstating in-person meetings and she hopes to bring back all of the Rotary traditions that were placed on-hold during the pandemic.

Dell Bene is "so honored and humbled to be trusted with the responsibility of leading the greatest Rotary Club in the Universe, the



(above, l-r) Pictured are new Rotary Officers Al Smith-President-Elect, Deanna Dell Bene-President, Charlie Minton-Past District Governor, and Talib Morgan-Secretary.

Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club! Past President's leadership has prepared me, and helped shape me into the leader that I want to be for our club and community. I look forward to having great members of our communities join us in our efforts. One thing is certain, our group is filled with such wonderful, dedicated, passionate leaders. It is all of us combined that make our club the greatest in the Universe. More leaders like ourselves will keep our club flourishing for decades to come. I look forward to hearing ideas on new service projects Rotary can engage in both locally and globally! I am certain that we all have it in us to be even greater in our communities, the world, our club and with each other while living the motto of "Service Above Self"

The club will continue to focus on increasing the diversity of club members, getting new members energized, and continuing to improve the club's visibility in the local community. They welcome visitors and new members who are interested in giving back to the community.

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club has been serving the community since 1938. The club meets on Wednesdays at noon at the Stage House in Scotch Plains, and also holds evening meetings on the last Thursday of the month. For a meeting schedule and further information about the club, go to fsprotary.org or visit their Facebook page: Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club. For membership information, contact Steve Goldberg at stegold94@aol.com.

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Organizations who are interested in submitting content, please email

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FANNYWOOD DAY SET FOR SEPTEMBER 19

Summer is drawing to a close but that doesn't mean that the fun has to stop! This year, rain or shine, the 24th annual FannyWood Day will return on Sunday, September 19 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in downtown Fanwood along So. Martine Ave. and South Ave.

ACTIVITIES Fanny Wood Day is much more than just a street fair. Besides the many food and crafts vendors, this year's Fanny Wood Day will host a wide array of activities including the return of kid-friendly activities in the Kids Zone with lots of fun stuff for kids to do such as a trackless train and numerous kiddie rides.

CONTESTS Back by popular demand are

many of the same contests that were offered last year such as the scavenger hunt, pizza eating, ice cream eating, bubble blowing, water balloon toss and more!

COME HUNGRY If contests aren't your thing, grab some delicious food from one of the many food exhibitors and trucks and local eateries.

MUSIC Musical entertainment will be provided at the stage area with a DJ and live entertainers throughout the day.

This event is hosted by the Borough of Fanwood and is produced by JC Promotions, Inc. visit jcpromotions.info or call 201-998-1144 for more info.

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The College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains is hosting a zoom program on Women in Filmmaking on September 20 at 7:30 p.m. The program will be presented by Joanna Naugle, a previous College Club scholarship recipient who attended NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and is now a film, television and commercial editor.

Joanna's recent work includes the Emmy nominated show Ramy (Hulu), Big Mouth and its spin-off Human Resources (Netflix), John Krasinski's Some Good News (You Tube), and 2 Dope Queens (HBO). She has also provided additional editing for John Mulaney & the Sack Lunch Bunch (Netflix) and the film Before You Know It starring Alec Baldwin, Mandy Patinkin and Judith Light. Her work has screened at

Sundance, Slamdance, Tribeca and SXSW and she has worked with clients including A24, FX, Apatow Productions, Vice, Vevo, Nike, Reebok, Vox and Refinery 29. Joanna is the co-owner of Senior Post, an award-winning Brooklyn based post house that provides full post production services.

Joanna will explain what it is like to be an editor for film and TV while sharing the most important lessons she has learned throughout her career using specific examples from her work.

The program is free and open to the public. To receive a zoom link to view the program on September 20 send an email to tishisack17@gmail.com.



(above) Joanna Naugle will share what it is like to be an editor for film and television in her program, "Women in Filmmaking".

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HANDBAG EVENT MARKS FALL RE-OPENING

GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR NON-PROFITS

The Fanwood Community Foundation is ready to show its love for Fanwood with grant monies! Deadline to apply is Thursday, September 30th. Visit fanwoodcommunityfoundation.org for more information and to apply.

Join the list of other local nonprofits who received grants from FCF over the years:

- Caring Contact
- Fanwood Rescue Squad
- Fanwood Fire Dept
- Fanwood Memorial Library
- Fanwood Pocket Park Committee
- Fanwood Rescue Squad
- Fanwood Youth Organization
- Heart for Humanity
- IHM Food Pantry
- Resolve Community Counseling Center
- Scotch Plains-Fanwood Baseball League
- SPFHS Project Graduation
- The Center for Women and Families
- Tiny Tim
- TV35
- Donald De Nitzo Fund
- YMCA Brick Capital Campaign
- Wolves Basketball

Fanwood-Scotch Plains Thrift Shop

Tuesday, September 7 starts the annual handbag event sponsored by the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League, a local all-volunteer organization running the non-profit Thrift Shop at 1741 East Second Street in Scotch Plains. This "Designer Bag Bonanza" will feature handbags from Michael Kors, Kate Spade, Coach, Tignanello and other famous brand names. Also included are wallets for men and women and a variety of evening bags for any upcoming special event that you now can finally attend!

To prepare for the handbag event the shop will be closed from Saturday, August 28 through Monday, September 6. Store hours will then resume from Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Covid guidelines continue to be followed, with face masks expected of all patrons entering the store. Children are welcome provided they are accompanied by an adult.

Drop by the shop early in the month for the best opportunity to "bag a deal" for you or a family member. At the store you will also find a wide selection of constantly replenished clothing, shoes, bric-a-brac, linens, household goods and decor, toys, games, books, CDs and DVDs. Donating items or shopping at the store is a great way to help the environment by promoting the

use of recycled goods. It also supports our local community, as all proceeds outside of operating expenses are donated to local non-profit organizations and/or used for student scholarships. Call for more information during Thrift Shop business hours: 908-322-5420.



(above) A Designer Bag Bonanza! Upgrade your wardrobe with a great handbag during the annual Handbag Event at the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Thrift Shop.

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PATRICIA CELARDO APPOINTED FANWOOD'S CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER



(above) Patricia Celardo

Borough of Fanwood

Patricia Celardo, a 15-year employee of the Borough of Fanwood, has been appointed Chief Financial Officer to replace Fred Tomkins who is retiring.

Ms. Celardo is currently the Borough's Bookkeeper, Assistant Treasurer and Deputy



(above) Fred Tomkins

Registrar. She earned her degree in finance from Wagner College and her certification as a Certified Municipal Finance Officer at Rutgers University. She is a Fanwood resident and has two grown children.

Ms. Celardo will succeed Fred Tomkins, who has been CFO for the past 18 years.

"I am very grateful to have had Fred for 18 years, as long as I've been mayor," said Mayor Mahr. "He has helped navigate Fanwood through its most transformative period of redevelopment while always understanding that at our core, we are a small, suburban community. He is a consummate professional who has set an example for the next generation of public officials, including Tricia. She will be an outstanding CFO for us. I'm so happy she'll be our guiding financial force going forward." Ms. Celardo begins her new job October 1, 2021.

Photo by by Tom Kranz

COLLEGE CLUB SEEKS COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR SCHOLARSHIP FUND RAFFLE

Due to CDC guidelines, restrictions and Covid-19 concerns at the time the planning for their annual fundraising luncheon would have begun, the event has been postponed until 2022. The College Club is seeking community participation for two raffle drawings that will take place on October 3, 2021 at Brookside Park in Scotch Plains. Winners need not be present.

Raffle tickets are available for a 50/50 drawing with three cash prizes and the other is for a \$500 Shop Rite gift card. 50/50 tickets are \$2 per ticket or a book of ten for \$20. The ShopRite tickets are \$5 per ticket with 500 tickets available.

All proceeds will go directly into the club's

scholarship fund. The College Club has been awarding annual scholarships to young women in our community for over 80 years. The club recently awarded \$31,500 in scholarships to eleven young women for the upcoming 2021-22 school year.

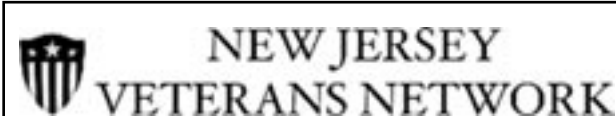
Please consider supporting this very worthy cause since the College Club has not been able to hold fundraising events due to the pandemic.

Anyone interested in purchasing ShopRite raffle tickets can contact Dorothy Lusk at 908-230-4917

or email dorothyculleylusk@gmail.com.

For 50/50 tickets contact Sue Spirko

at 908-472-8515 or email sslkt@verizon.net.



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The Golf Outing proceeds will benefit our Council supported Charities and Programs. We will also be making special donations to the New Jersey Veteran's Network and Cranford Front Line Appreciation Group (FLAG for Cranford) in recognition of all of the great work both organizations have done and are doing in support of our Veterans and First Responders during these trying times.

For More Information about Sponsorships, Playing or to get involved, please contact:

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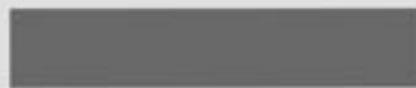
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MICHAEL BRAMHALL NAMED POLICE DIRECTOR

Borough of Fanwood

The Fanwood Borough Council passed a resolution during its regular monthly meeting August 16, 2021, to hire Michael Bramhall as Police Director.

Director Bramhall is the former chief of the West Caldwell Police Department where he served for 27 years, starting as a patrolman and rising through the ranks. He most recently was training officer for the Essex County Prosecutor's Office and worked for a year as Special Assistant to the Newark Public Safety Director. His official start date was Monday, August 23rd.

Director Bramhall has described himself as a

builder of relationships between police and the community, an important quality as Fanwood's Police Department strives to do the same. He visited Fanwood during the National Night Out held in August and got his first taste of the town and some of his officers. He told the Council that his first impression of Fanwood and its citizens is overwhelmingly positive.

The Fanwood Police Department entered a transitional period last August when Chief Richard Trigo retired and his two Lieutenants did the same shortly thereafter. Since then, the Union County Prosecutor's Office has been in charge of the department.

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(above) Director Bramhall with wife Sandra, daughter Samantha and Fanwood Police Lt. Dan Kranz during Fanwood's National Night Out community event.

Photo by Tom Kranz



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FRAZEE HOUSE SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER FESTIVITIES

The ancient Frazee farmstead, now progressing toward the second phase of renovation, will host September and October festivities on its site.

“We’re excited to once again host activities at the Frazee farmstead, home of Aunt Betty Frazee, a brave woman who stepped onto her porch to defy the British on their march past her house in 1777,” said Andy Calamaras, president of the Rotary Frazee House committee. The committee has spearheaded a 14-year project to rescue the house’s structure and ready it for restoration to the American Revolutionary period. Last year,

the external renovation of the Frazee House was completed and this year the internal renovation is scheduled to begin.

All three events, besides providing engagement to county residents and lovers of history, will benefit the “Save the Frazee House” project, an effort to complete the renovation of the historic house.

First, the Frazee House Ghost Walking Tour will take place at the site during the weekends of September 18-19 and October 9-10. The 90 minute tours will be led by renowned psychic-medium Jane Doherty and will begin with a short

orientation at the restored Frazee homestead, including details about the spirit world. It will proceed with a walk along the property, stopping at each “ghost hangout” to reveal the stories and secrets there. The Frazee House Committee is excited to introduce this new event. Tickets are \$25 per person and must be purchased in advance. Additional information can be found on the Frazee House website, frazeehouse.org.

Second, the Great Pumpkin Patch is ongoing from October 5 through 31. During this event, pumpkins of all sizes will be sold every day, from 11 a.m. to dusk at the Frazee site. The location will be decorated for Halloween and is the perfect setting for fall photos.

Finally, the Rotary Frazee House committee and the Township of Scotch Plains will host the 5th annual Harvest Festival at the Frazee Farmstead. Activities will entice every age group: live music, games, pony rides, a petting zoo, food trucks, pumpkin tossing, a haunted trail and the Great Pumpkin Patch. “We’ve made amazing progress on the Frazee renovation,” said Calamaras. The Harvest Festival is another opportunity for the community to visit the site and see for themselves — rain or shine at the Frazee House site, 1451 Raritan Road in Scotch Plains, Saturday October 16, from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

More information about the Frazee House and events can be found at frazeehouse.org.

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FANWOOD NIGHT OUT DRAWS LARGE CROWD

Borough of Fanwood

Fanwood’s finest were out in force for fun on Tuesday night, August 3, at the National Night Out celebration in LaGrande Park. The National Night out is a community-building event held across the country that brings police and first responders together with citizens to foster better understanding.

“That’s what really makes a community strong, if we know each other,” remarked Mayor Colleen Mahr. “Thank you for bringing your kids, your parents, thank you for coming out tonight.”

Absent last year due to the pandemic, Fanwood’s Night Out event returned with more kid-oriented events than ever including a bounce house, giant slide, baseball and basketball contests and free food. Union County Sheriff’s Detective Anthony Gialanella presented a K9 demonstration with his dog Rocco. The Fanwood Rescue Squad and Fanwood Fire Department hosted tours of their apparatus. The Union

County Prosecutor’s office and Union County Corrections Department had giveaways.

The most popular events were the new pie eating contest and the dunk tank with Sgt. Dan Piccola as the dunkee. Donated items included raffle prizes of a boy’s and girl’s bike, a goody bag including movie tickets and kids’ bicycle helmets.

The event was made possible by donations from many local businesses and the Fanwood PBA, and was supported by the Mayor and Borough Council, Fanwood Public Works and Recreation Departments and Social Justice Matters, a local non-profit committed to active inquiry into matters of race and to working towards an equitable community.



(above) K9 Sheriff’s Detective Gialanella with Rocco



(above) Pie contest



(above) Fanwood Rescue Squad hosts tour



(above) Dunk tank 2, Sgt. Piccola in the water



(above) Lt. Dan Kranz with Shelby, winner of the girl’s bike



(above) Fanwood firefighters at the hot dog griddle



(above) Mayor Mahr surrounded by Fanwood police officers serving food

FANWOOD SUMMER FANJAM – SEPT. 11

Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce

On Saturday, September 11 from 11 a.m. – 7 p.m., the community will come together in Fanwood's LaGrande Park for the first major local event since New Jersey lifted Covid restrictions. The date is also special because it marks the 20th anniversary of the September 11th attacks. In addition to the signature combo of live bands, food trucks and classic cars that bring people to the festival, this year's Fanwood Summer FanJam, with major sponsors Dentalcare Associates and the Fanwood Animal Hospital, will feature tributes to First Responders, including an honor guard, to mark the somber anniversary. Because of the pandemic, the event

hasn't been held since summer of 2019, making this the 4th Annual.

"We didn't know if we were going to be able to bring FanJam back in 2021, and once we got the green light, we had to move quickly to organize everything," said Aimee Nuzzo, event director and Fanwood resident. "We are blown away by the positive response we're seeing from the community and from our sponsors."

The free festival is run by the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce (GWACC), with contributions from additional local sponsors OceanFirst Bank, Northfield Bank, The Soho at Fanwood Station and

Sheelen's Crossing.

"I'm overjoyed about the return of the FanJam! This has always been an exciting event for our town," said Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr. "This year we have the added element of honoring our local first responders and commemorating the 20th anniversary of the 9-11 attacks. Please bring your family to LaGrande Park on September 11."

Gene Jannotti, CEO of GWACC, stated, "The Chamber is very happy to once again be able to bring this community event to Fanwood where everyone can come together for a day of music, fun and relaxation while at the same time not forgetting that terrible day in our nation's history, 9-11."

This year's music lineup will feature double headliners: The Funktion Band mixes Funk, Soul, Pop & R&B to play favorites from Motown to today. Black Dog, the popular local Led Zeppelin Tribute band that headlined the 1st Fanwood Summer Fan Jam will return to rock the stage at LaGrande Park.

Other local acts will include Bored of Ed (hard rock), Velvet Jones (Grunge Rock / 80s & 90s) and up and coming young singer/actress Shiloh Verrico. All of the acts are New Jersey based and most have roots in Fanwood or Scotch Plains.

For 21 & Over: Adults 21 & older with ID can enjoy a front-seat view of the show from the Sheelen's Crossing Beer and Wine Garden.

For Kids: A centrally located Kids' Zone will feature children's rides and attractions within the park, with the purchase of tickets.

For Car Enthusiasts: The festival will draw more than 100 vintage and classic cars as part of a car show hosted by Hot Rod Mike. Portions of Helen Street, 2nd Street and LaGrande Avenue will be closed to traffic for the car show, which is open to all. Cars register upon arrival on a first-come basis for a fee of \$10.

FanJam goers can sample a diverse cuisine from food trucks and local restaurants.

Bring your lawn chairs, picnic blankets and the whole family.

Free Parking is available at the South Side lot of the Fanwood train station.

Please note that pets, skateboarding and rollerblading are prohibited in the festival area. For further information, please contact the GWACC, 908-233-3021, or visit the website gwaccnj.com and look for Street Fairs.

Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce For over 70 years, the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce (GWACC) has been connecting commerce and community. The GWACC promotes the economic prosperity of businesses primarily in Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Scotch Plains and Westfield. It is the largest association of businesses and nonprofits in our area. Members include business owners, professionals, managers and operators. Membership cultivates the opportunity to build relationships, partner, make referrals, increase business, attend lunch and learns, and support the community. For more information visit gwaccnj.com.

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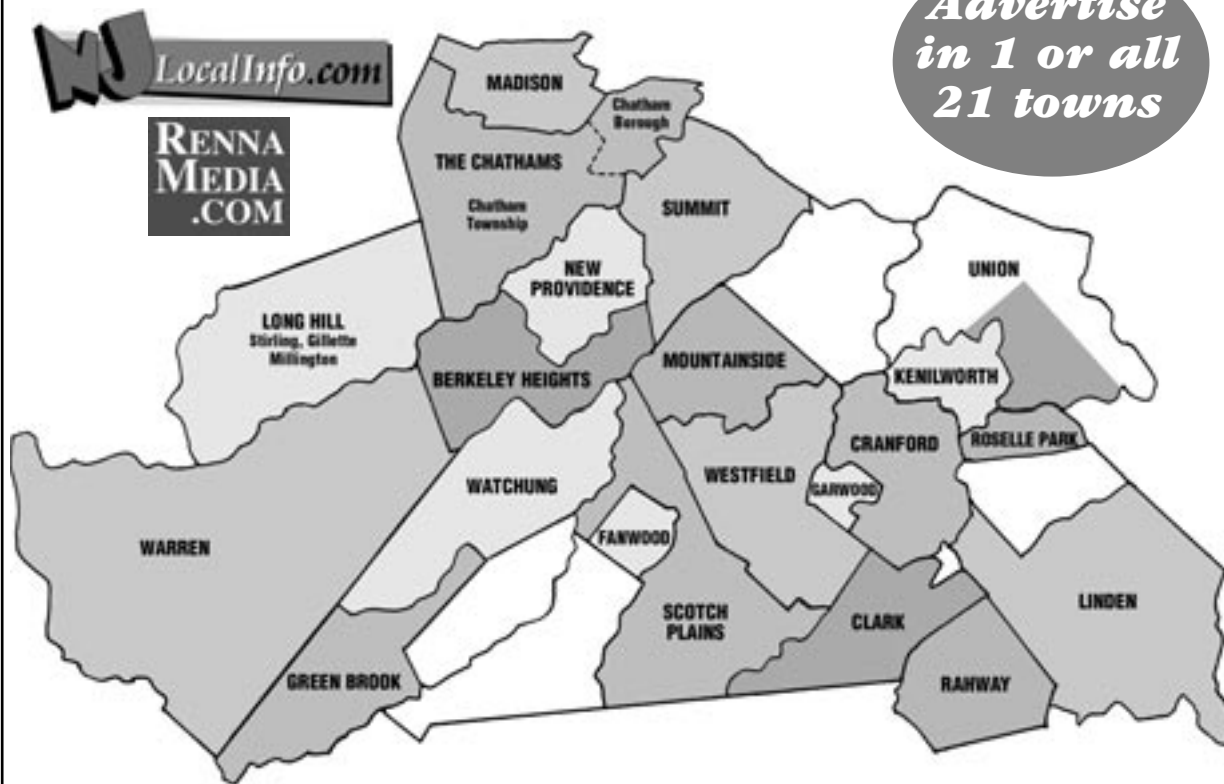
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SHADY LANE BLOCK PARTY

Borough of Fanwood

The Shady Lane block party returned Saturday, July 31, after a year's absence due to the pandemic. Thanks to great neighbors for their contributions and friendship and to Ian and Nita of the Fanwood Rescue Squad for bringing an ambulance to delight the kids. Perfect weather was a huge help.

Photos by Tom Kranz



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BOOK DONATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED ON THE FOLLOWING DATES AND TIMES:

Friday, September 17, 9am - 4pm;

Saturday, September 18, 9am - 4pm;

Sunday, September 19, 12pm - 4pm;

Monday, September 20, 12pm - 7pm;

Tuesday, September 21, 9am - 4pm

SALE DATES AND TIMES:

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Friday, September 24, 10am - 5pm;

Saturday, September 25, 9am - 4pm;

Sunday, September 26, 11am - 4pm

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