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FANJAM CELEBRATES FREEDOM ON 9-11 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Borough of Fanwood

The FanJam rock concert, car show and food truck festival rocked Fanwood on Saturday, Sept. 11, 2021. Perfect weather, perfect music and hundreds of people came to LaGrande Park for the return of the event that was cancelled last year due to the pandemic. The day began with a moving commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the 9-11 attacks with the Union County Sheriff's Department Honor Guard, Mayor Colleen Mahr, members of Borough Council and all of our first responder agencies. Park Middle School 6th grader Shiloh Verrico amazed the crowd with her rendition of the Star Spangled Banner followed by a set of music propelled by her powerful vocals. Food, fun, Sheelen's Beer Garden, great local bands and a vintage car show made the day memorable.



(above) Shiloh Verrico sang the National Anthem followed by a full performance.

Photos by Tom Kranz



(above) Mayor Mahr with members of Borough Council, Fanwood PD, Fanwood FD and Fanwood Rescue Squad

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FANWOOD'S CLAIRE CASSIDY HONORED BY COUNCIL

The Fanwood Borough Council and Mayor Colleen Mahr declared September 21st, 2021 Claire Cassidy Day in honor of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School student's extraordinary effort in launching a local chapter of Letters for Rose, a worldwide network of volunteers seeking to reduce loneliness among elders by sending personalized letters, art, and donations to local nursing homes.

While attending school virtually from her Fanwood home during most of the academic year, Claire's sports activities and work were halted because of COVID-19. With extra time on her hands, she researched Letters for Rose and went through the steps required to start the Fanwood/Scotch Plains Chapter, one of 400 around the world.

In the proclamation presented at the regular September Council Meeting, Mayor Colleen Mahr said it is "our good fortune at having this extraordinary young woman as a resident and a contributor to the well-being of our senior community."

Upon receiving the proclamation, Claire remarked, "I was very passionate about this project and I still am. And I'm so happy to see so many people have taken an interest in it."

The chapter's next project will be to send letters to a local Fanwood resident who is turning 100 years old.



(above) Claire Cassidy was honored for her work for 'Letters for Rose' a worldwide network of volunteers seeking to reduce loneliness among elders by sending personalized letters, art, and donations to local nursing homes.

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SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD CHAPTER OF UNICO AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Chapter of UNICO held their annual Scholarship Awards Dinner virtually on May 25, 2021. A total of \$11,000 in scholarships was awarded to six recipients this year. Our recipients are as follows: Georgio Elenis, Jade Glassman, Elisa Herstatt & Kyle Sellinger. Elisabeth Pickel & Nicholas Tittanegro both were awarded the Brian Piccolo Award. Congratulations and best of luck to all!

UNICO is the largest Italian-American service organization in the United States. The

organization's objectives are to promote the image of Italian Americans, to serve the community, and to contribute to charitable, cultural and educational organizations and projects.

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Chapter of UNICO was chartered in 1973. Our chapter has raised and donated thousands of dollars annually to support scholarship programs, organizations and individuals in the New Jersey area. Since 1974, we have co-sponsored the St.

Barts/UNICO Italian Festival, which attracts thousands of visitors over Labor Day weekend.

UNICO great pride in its rich history, cultural heritage, and dedicated membership. Our local chapter also has been recognized as "Volunteer of the Year" and has earned its place in our community for service to others and charitable contributions since its inception. For more information about Scotch Plains-Fanwood Chapter of UNICO spfunico@gmail.com or visit unicospf.org.



(above, l-r) Georgio Elenis, Elisa Herstatt, Kyle Sellinger, Jade Glassman, Elisabeth Pickel, Nicholas Tittanegro.



(above) Officer Tim Green on bike patrol

FANNY WOOD DAY

Borough of Fanwood

Perfect weather brought hundreds to the Fanny Wood Day street fair to hear day-long live music, enjoy Rogue the magician and a variety of foods and celebrate being out and about as a

community. Thanks to the Fanny Wood Day Committee, the Department of Recreation, Union County, Fanwood Police and Rescue Squad and all our local merchants who brought a small sample of their businesses to the scene.



(above) Fanwood Rescue Squad

Photos by Tom Kranz

FALL PROGRAMS FOR KIDS, SENIORS

Fanwood Recreation

Registration is now open for these Fanwood Recreation fall programs for kids, beginning in October: Shockingly Sticky Science and Babysitting Certification. And it's not too late for Seniors to sign up for these online Fall programs: Aerobics for Seniors, Gentle Yoga, Zumba Gold and Meditation.

For more info about all these programs and to register, please go to fanwoodrecreation.org.

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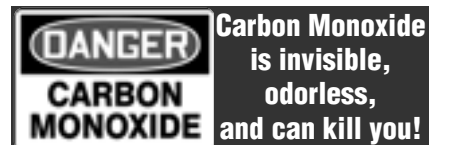
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CASA SALUTES ITS VOLUNTEER CHILD ADVOCATES AT BBQ

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Union County, the only local nonprofit advocating for youth from birth to age 21 involved in the child welfare system due to abuse, neglect and abandonment, took time-out on a recent sunny Sunday afternoon to fete its community members who are trained as child advocates and continuously give of their time to ensure the best interests of Union County's most vulnerable youth are protected and their needs are met.

Seeley's Picnic Grounds in Watchung Reservation was host to a guest list that included each of the organization's nearly 170 current volunteer advocates and their families and dogs, its funders, and court personnel with whom the organization regularly works as cases are heard by Union County Superior Court. CASA staff and several members of the Board of Trustees

served guests such grilled fare as ribs, pulled pork, hotdogs, burgers, and sides and dessert galore. Executive Director Mariel S. Hufnagel's husband Anthony was grill master.

Amid the frivolity of lunching, chatting and even competition at the cornhole and KanJam playing fields, CASA volunteers and staff still managed to make time for advocacy work, too. Each year as the summer draws to a close, the organization runs a school supply drive to ensure every foster youth served has a new backpack chock-full of needed supplies so their first day feels full of promise. The park's pavilion became backpack depot where advocates checked in to secure their foster youth's backpack, lunchboxes, and supplies.

Anne Collart, President of the Board of Trustees, was among those welcoming advocates. "It was a gorgeous day, and the

perfect setting for CASA of Union County to give its time for all those who gift their time for local foster youth, and keep the organization moving forward in its mission. Today, we wanted to be in their corner, and encourage each advocate to relax, connect and enjoy our gratitude for all they do."

Since 2005, the nonprofit has recruited, trained, supported and supervised nearly 600 volunteers to advocate for more than 900 youth, protecting best interests in the courtroom, classroom and community, and helping ensure already experienced trauma is not exacerbated as youth await permanency in a safe and loving home.

For details on the advocate experience and joining upcoming information and training sessions, email Lucia at info@casaoofunioncounty.org.



(above) Among the CASA volunteers attending were, from left, James Walker Jr. of Elizabeth, Isabella Blumberg of Springfield, Barbara Bagger of Westfield, Arlene Sumner of Linden, Carmen Iyala of Scotch Plains, Quetzali Sevillano of Rahway, Lara Gibbemeyer and Robert Bridgeman of Westfield, Flor Maria Mendez of Elizabeth, Mollie Yang of Mountainside, Fernando Porras of Clark, Katherine Romano of New Providence, Shelley Grobe of Cranford, Kristen Kim of Westfield, Rebecca Muston of Summit, Teresa Lastella of Clark, Kevin JeanCharles of Roselle, Donna Isidron of Clark, Karime Herrera of Elizabeth, Komal Nankani of Summit, Lisa Kalichman of South Orange, Sean O'Leary of South Plainfield, Carolyn Colonna of Fanwood, Cynthia Evans of Scotch Plains, and Lydia Pernia of Linden.

COATS AND COSTUMES FEATURED FOR FALL AT THRIFT SHOP


Fanwood-Scotch Plains Thrift Shop

With colder weather and Halloween fast approaching, now is the time to shop the non-profit Thrift Shop at 1741 East Second Street in Scotch Plains. Run by the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League, a local all-volunteer organization, the store is currently featuring costumes and related "spooky" accessories in all sizes for the upcoming Halloween holiday, along with lightweight jackets, warm coats, boots and a wide variety of fall-inspired home décor items you are sure to "fall in love" with.

Store hours are Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. To protect our volunteer staff and other store patrons, face masks are required of

everyone entering the store. Children are welcome provided they are accompanied by an adult.

The Thrift Shop operates thanks to the generosity of many donors who supply the store with merchandise they no longer need. The store carries a wide selection of constantly replenished clothing, shoes, bric-a-brac, linens, household goods, toys, games, books, DVDs and more. Our donors' kindness is poured back into the community, as all proceeds outside of operating expenses are provided to local non-profit organizations or used for student scholarships. To learn more about the Service League and types of donations accepted call the store during Thrift Shop business hours: 908-322-5420.



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FLINTLOCKS RUN CUB SCOUT WOOD TOOLS BADGE PROGRAM



(above) A happy family with completed bird houses.



(above) Bob Pysher instructing the scouts on tool use and safety.

Submitted by Dr. D. Michael Hart

The Flintlocks BSA, Inc. ran the Cub Scout Wood Tools Program at the Watchung Mountain District Spring Cub Family Camporee at Boy Scout Camp Winnebago in Rockaway, NJ this spring.

Fifty-three Cub Scouts earned a Woodcraft badge by learning about how to use wood tools, safety measures, and building a small bird house. The program starts with one of the Flintlocks explaining how to use wood tools properly and important safety measures. After the Cub Scouts build their bird house, they may practice using screwdrivers and a coping saw. The parents work with the children, and the Flintlocks offer guidance.

The Camporee has many different activities, including Archery, Batting cages, BB guns, First Aid Classes, and Fishing Derby, Climbing wall, Basketball, Volleyball, a 2-mile Hike, Rockets and Catapults. The shooting sports programs have NJ State Certified Instructors. Since it is a family camporee, and since girls may now join scouts, entire families may enjoy the fun, and the scouts earn various badges. Attendance at the camporee was 150 scouts with an equal number of parents. This was one of the first big events at the scout camp since the shutdown

over a year ago.

The Flintlocks BSA, Inc are a group of 27 retired scouters who volunteer every week all year round to help the scout camps of the Patriot's Path Council. They are incorporated as a separate 501c3. Facebook page is "Flintlocks". They do maintenance at the camps, build cabins, tent platforms, picnic tables, etc. In 2018 they built a STEM lab classroom for scientific related merit badges. The members also volunteer to help the scouts with various programs throughout the year. The Flintlocks purchase lumber from a lumber mill, then make the parts for the craft kits in their wood shop which are sold at the Council Scout shops. Bird houses have the bottoms attached with screws since a mother bird wants to build a new nest every year. The old nest needs to be cleaned out in the fall so a new family can start over again in the spring.

The Watchung Mountain District of the Patriot's Path Council, Boy Scouts of America serves the communities of: Berkeley Heights, Fanwood, Garwood, Gillette, Long Hill Township, Meyersville, Millington, Mountainside, Murray Hill, New Providence, North Plainfield, Scotch Plains, Stirling, Summit, Warren, Watchung, and Westfield.



(above) The five Flintlock volunteers Chuck Hoeckele, Bob Pysher, Jeff Huppert, Frank Wallace, and Dr. D. Michael Hart.

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COLLEGE CLUB 2021 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains

Celebrating its 88th Anniversary, the College Club of Fanwood- Scotch Plains continues its tradition since its inception in 1933: to support the pursuit of a college education for young women in the Scotch Plains and Fanwood communities by providing scholarships. To date the College Club has awarded approximately \$720,000.00 in scholarships to about 563 young women.

This past May, a total of \$31,500 was awarded in scholarships to 11 students, 5 of whom are high school seniors who graduated this June, and 5 of whom are currently attending college. These awards included a special education award donated in honor of a current College Club Member, Elaine Carmen and memorial awards in honor of two College Club Past Presidents, Marie Walford and Angela Hopes.

Among the 2021 College recipients for academic year 2021-2022 are: Aubrey Bagdonas, daughter of John and Jean Bagdonas, a rising junior at Villanova University who received an Angela Hopes Memorial Award; Olivia Barcia, daughter of Vincent and Michele Barcia, a rising senior at Lafayette College who received the Marie Walford Memorial Award; Catherine Buren, daughter of Kenneth and Susan Corrigan Buren, a rising sophomore at the University of Pennsylvania; Antoinette Chango,

daughter of David and Lisa Chango, a rising sophomore at Gettysburg College who received the Elaine Carmen education Award; and Audrey Davis, daughter of Andy and Sally Davis, a rising junior at Boston University who received an Angela Hopes Memorial Award.

The 2021 High School recipients for academic year 2021-2022 are: Tracy Ann Bagdonas, daughter of John and Jean Bagdonas, who will be attending Fordham University; Abigail Conklin, daughter of Joe and Cheryl Conklin, who received an Angela Hopes memorial award and will be attending the University of Delaware; Alexis Gutierrez, daughter of German Gutierrez and Marguerite Sahaj who will be attending Stony Brook University; Evelyn Liang, daughter of Yue Huang Liang and King Hwa Fung, who will be attending Rutgers University; and Margaret Smith, daughter of Sean and Patricia Smith, who will be attending Temple University.

The Academic Award of Excellence was also presented to Erica Schug, the top female student in the 2021 graduating class, daughter of Lorraine and Edward Schug, who will be attending Stevens Institute of Technology.

This is the 85th year that female students, seeking financial assistance to pursue a four-year college degree, have been helped by the club's fundraising efforts. Two of the club's largest efforts are the annual spring luncheon

and clothing drive in the fall.

The High School awards were presented at the SPFHS virtual annual awards assembly.

The College Club hosts monthly informative programs presented by guest speakers on the third Monday of every month September-May; free and open to the public. Anyone interested in more information about the College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains or would like to become a member please visit the club's website at fspcollegeclub.org.



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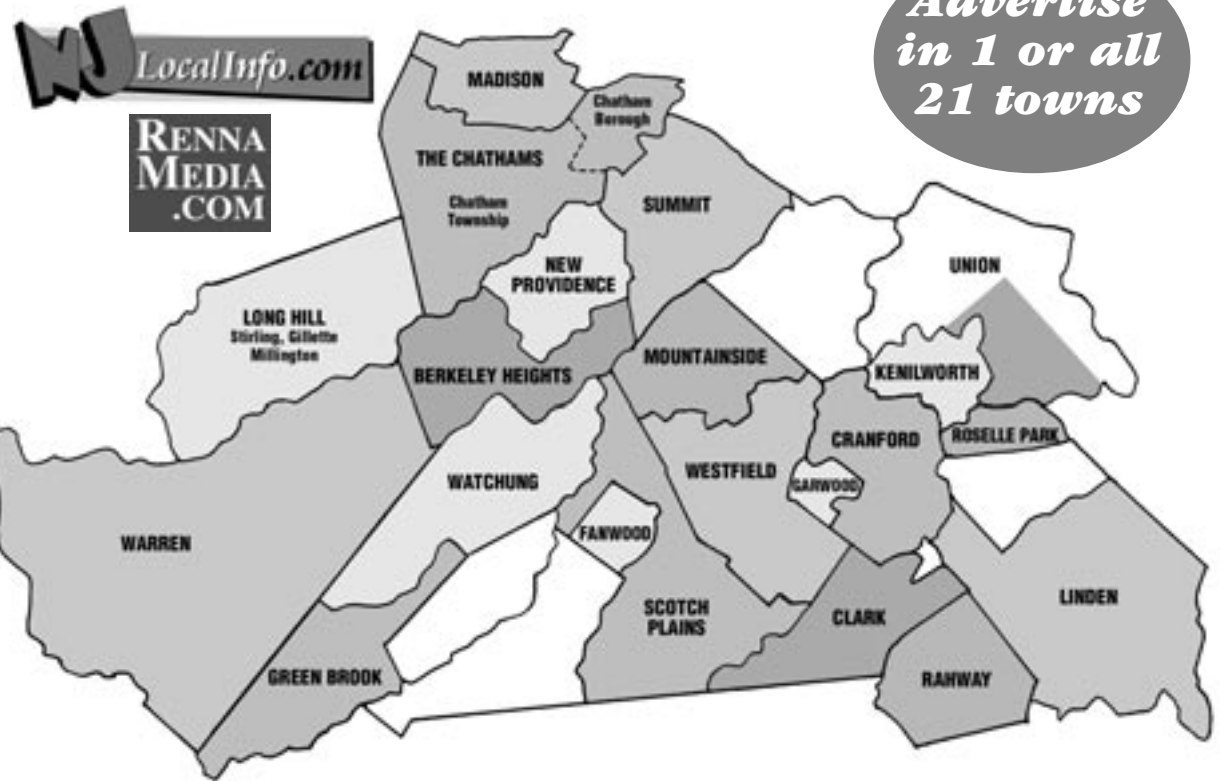
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HOMETOWN HEROES BANNER PROGRAM DEADLINE OCT. 10.

Fanwood Post • Page 11 • October 2021

Scotch Plains Township

Scotch Plains, in partnership with the Borough of Fanwood, American Legion Post 209 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10122, is once again opening the Hometown Heroes Banner Program, seeking to honor more of our local Veterans and those currently serving in the United States Armed Forces.

The program honors Veterans (living and deceased) and Active Duty Military personnel who live or have lived in Scotch Plains or Fanwood. Banners for those who were a part of previous phases will continue to be put up each Memorial Day and Veterans Day. This will be the final chance to participate in the Banner Program.

Please note that we cannot honor any requests to place a banner in a particular location. The fee

is \$150 per banner, but discounts are provided for hardship.

Veterans are eligible if they are serving or have served in any one of the following branches of the United States Armed Forces: Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, Navy, Merchant Marines or Women Airforce Service Pilots (World War II).

Applications must be completed online no later than October 10. To apply: please visit <https://hometown-pride.com/scotch-plains-fanwood-nj/>. Checks should be submitted to SPF Hometown Heroes, PO Box 627, Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076. Please put the name of the Banner Veteran in the Memo line.

For more information, please call (908) 472-6096 or email SPFheroes@gmail.com.



NEW BIKE PATROL OFFICERS

Fanwood police officers Kimara Ransom, Timothy Green, Sergeant Daniel Piccola and Officer Christopher Pinerio recently completed training for bike patrol at the John H. Stamler Police Academy. The training involves bike safety, maintenance, control in crowds, and riding

up and down stairs if necessary. Fanwood Police Department Lieutenant Daniel Kranz stated, "The bike unit has proven to be a great addition to the department and will be an excellent asset in our Community Policing efforts to serve the Fanwood community."

Photo by Fanwood Police Department



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