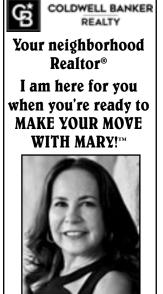


**PARTY IN THE PARK DRAWS BIG CROWD** 

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#### Borough of Fanwood

Fanwood's Party in the Park brought kids of all ages to LaGrande Park on Tuesday, June 28th, with a variety of contests, fun activities, food and the first of the free summer movies.

The Fanwood Recreation Commission and Director Bob Budianski worked tirelessly to bring the fun to hundreds of folks from across our community. Many families came to have hot dogs, pizza and lemonade, play Extreme Musical Chairs, enjoy the bounce house, the train and the obstacle course.

The evening was capped by a free showing of the Disney film Encanto on the giant screen on the ballpark. A free movie will be shown every Tuesday night into August.

Thanks to the Fanwood Public Works Department for their hard work in setting up and trouble-shooting technical issues. Thanks to the Fanwood Police Department and Rescue Squad for standing by. And thanks to the volunteers of the Recreation Commission, Borough Council members Trisha Walsh, Jeff Banks and Anthony Carter for helping out.



(above) Recreation Director Bob Budiansky recruits musical chair kids Photos Tom Kranz



(above) Recreation Commissioners Neil Pierce and Scott Sinclair cooking hot dogs



(above) YMCA craft table in the park pavilion







(above) Alex Uy of Fanwood with daughters Mikaela and Harper in the Rescue Squad ambulance



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# **DRIVERS REMINDED TO STOP FOR PEDESTRIANS**

Borough of Fanwood

Those signs in the middle of crosswalks that say 'Stop For Pedestrians In Crosswalk' really mean it, as 89 drivers found out recently on Midway Avenue in Fanwood.

Fanwood Police have launched an education program to remind drivers that they have to stop when pedestrians are trying to cross the street in a marked crosswalk and must wait until they have completely crossed before proceeding. The state crosswalk law took effect in 2010. Violators may incur two points and a \$200 fine. More information can be found at: nj.gov/oag/hts/pedestrian.html

"Right now, this is an education program," remarked Lt. Dan Kranz who took part in the special detail. "We're not writing tickets today. We are here to remind drivers about the law."

The detail consisted of a "decoy" pedestrian--Sgt. Phil Ugone who was specially trained--crossing at the marked crosswalk on Midway Avenue at Willow Avenue. Cars that failed to stop or didn't wait until he was completely across were stopped a block away by uniformed officers who reminded drivers of the law and handed them a pamphlet. No violations were issued. One individual was arrested on unrelated, outstanding warrants.

"Everyone's been very friendly," remarked Officer Rob Jastrezbski, one of the officers handing out pamphlets.

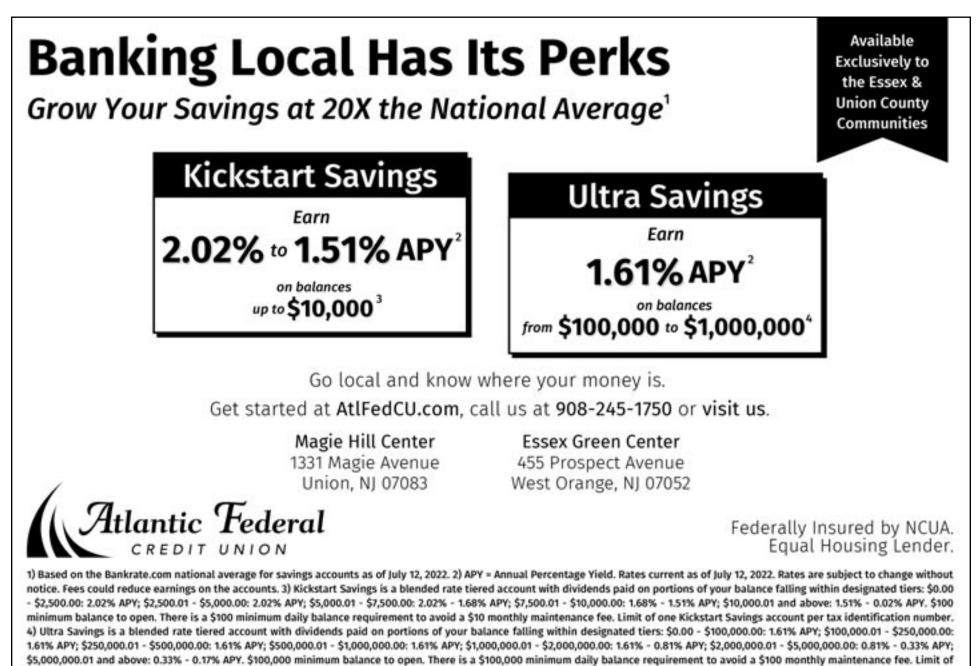
"We'll be doing more of these in the future," said Lt. Kranz.



(above) Car fails to stop for decoy pedestrian



(above) Officers Tyler Flowers and Chris Pineiro speak with driver Photos by Tom Kranz



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## **CHESS FOR FUN CELEBRATES 50 YEARS**

Chess for Fun is a casual group of chess players who have been meeting for roughly 50 years. The group's players come from all over, and in the case of Larry Morse, as far away as Whitehouse Station. The most senior player, at 98 years old, is still playing strong.

It their earlier years the group met at the Rahway Public Library when it was located on St. Georges Avenue. In 1999 a flood destroyed the library. Chess for Fun has been meeting in the Clark Public Library every Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. And at Max's Pizza & Bistro in Scotch plains on Monday mornings at 11 a.m.

There are no formalities to the group. It is not an established club with officers or membership. Everyone of any ability is welcome to participate. Regulars bring their own board to share so it is not necessary to bring a board, but it would be helpful if you can.

#### SOPHIA GALLO SELECTED FOR INTERNSHIP



Sophia Gallo, a student from Scotch Plains Fanwood High School. has been the selected for Student prestigious Enhancement in Earth and Space Science (SEES) summer internship to be held at The University of Texas at Austin's Center for Space Research.

Courtesy photo

(above) Sophia Gallo at Sr

Sophia will work with scientists and engineers to conduct authentic research from data received from NASA's earth observing satellites as well as designing Mars habitats, Lunar Exploration, and analysis of images from the International Space Station.

This nationally competitive program is sponsored by NASA's Texas Space Grant Consortium in collaboration with The University of Texas Center for Space Research and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

#### DOGS ARE NOW ALLOWED IN PARKS

On July 18, 2022 the Fanwood Borough Council voted to reverse a 20-year old ordinance that banned dogs from Borough parks. The amended ordinance takes effect immediately. There are numerous requirements for residents who wish to walk their dogs in LaGrande Park, Forest Road Park and Carriage House Park. The dogs must be visibly licensed and owners must follow the existing ordinance requiring them to pick up any dog waste. They are prohibited from playing fields, basketball courts, tennis courts, the pickleball court and the skateboard area. Dogs are also prohibited from the children's play areas.



(above, standing, l-r) Players and hometowns: Larry Morse, Whitehouse Station; Mark Shoengold, Colonia; Jack Rothstein, Edison; John Foy, Scotch Plains; Bodre. (seated, l-r) David Goldstein, South Plainfield; Neil Landau, Edison; Matthew Bistis, Mountainside.

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### STUDENT CHAMPIONS RECOGNIZED

Borough of Fanwood

July 20, 2022, the Fanwood Borough Council and Track & Field, and men's Volleyball teams, for for pictures with the Mayor.

Mayor Colleen Mahr recognized the Scotch high achievements during the past school year. During a Fanwood Council meeting held on Plains Fanwood High School lacrosse, girls Team members received certificates and posed Photos by Tom Kranz



(above) Track and Field coach Jeff Kogel spoke of the team's (above) Men's Volleyball coach Brock Hor had praise for what he termed the best three state championships in both indoor and outdoor events. season the team had in recent memory including their first ever state championship.



(above) Lacrosse coach Nick Miceli spoke in praise of the team's state championship and individual achievements of many players.



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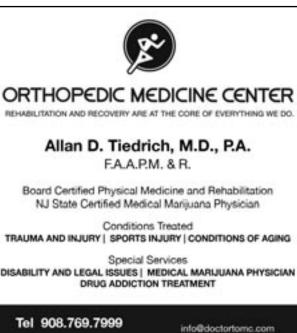
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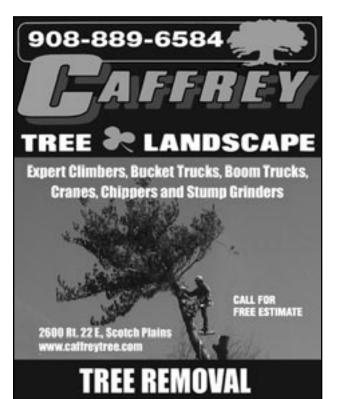
(above) Emcee Marklyn Johnson and event coordinator Aimee Nuzzo



(above) Event sponsor, Dental Care Associates



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### **THE SUN SHONE BRIGHTLY ON FANJAM 2022**

#### Borough of Fanwood

revelers attending the annual FanJam live music festival in Fanwood's LaGrande Park on Sunday, July 10, 2022.

Featured bands provided music for all generations-Elvis impersonator Jim Barone, rock cover band Mushmouth, funk and soul band Funktion Band and Eagles tribute band Winslow. All appeared on the stage under shade trees just off the main ballfield at LaGrande. Master of ceremonies was local comedian and impresario Marklyn "MisterDirect" Johnson.

Just a stone's throw away was a beer garden sponsored by Sheelen's Crossing bistro and a midway featuring local and regional vendors, games, face-painting, rides and a collection of

food trucks which has grown over the years. A perfect summer day greeted thousands of And behind the bandstand was a vintage car show that wrapped around three sides of the park including regional car clubs and their beautiful vehicles.

> The FanJam is a production of the Borough of Fanwood and the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce with a lengthy list of business sponsors including the event's Official Sponsor, Family Investors Company, as well as Fanwood Pharmacy, The Soho at Fanwood Station, Sheelen's Crossing and the Presenting Sponsor, Dentalcare Associates.

> Supporting the event was the Fanwood Police Department, Fire Department and Rescue Squad, along with the Fanwood Department of Public Works.



(above) Fanwood Rescue Squad with Bruce and Melissa Padulsky of Little Hearts, Big World Safety instruction Photos by Tom Kranz

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## RECREATION'S AUGUST MOVIE SCHEDULE

Free outdoor Tuesday night Summer Movie Series:

#### AUG 2 GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY (PG-13) AUG 9 LUCA (2021) AUG 16 PADDINGTON 2

All movies will be shown in La Grande Park and begin at dusk—approximately 8:15 p.m. or earlier. We recommend that all movie-lovers bring blankets or low beach chairs so they can sit back and enjoy the show on our 16-foot movie screen! The rain date for each movie is the following Wednesday.

# **NEW PARK EQUIPMENT**



(above) Recreation Director Bob Budiansky shows rendering of new playground equipment during a July 18, 2022 council meeting. A resolution providing \$215,367 for new playground equipment for LaGrande Park was approved.

Photo by Tom Kranz

### **REGISTER FOR AUGUST PROGRAMS**

There are still some spots left for several August programs for children and adults, including Summer Park Program, TGA Premier Junior Golf Camp, Tennis Lessons, Pickleball Lessons, Multi Sports Camp, Basketball Camp, Babysitting Certification, Junior First Responders and Fashion Design Camp.

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

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### **COLLEGE CLUB OF F-SP ELECTS OFFICERS**

The members of the College Club of Fanwood learning opportunities. Scotch Plains completed another year of serving the communities by electing the executive board officers for 2022-23 on June 23rd.

The new slate of officers are: Jean Naugle and Joan Skubish, Co-Presidents; Ellen Harrison, Vice- President; Liz Murad, Recording Secretary; Kathy Egenton, Corresponding Secretary; Joanne Sheffield, Treasurer and Tish Isack and Dorothy Lusk, Co-Directors

The College Club holds monthly meetings for members that include interesting and entertaining programs that are open to the public. Members participate in monthly community outreach projects and invite members of the communities to support fundraisers that will enable the College Club to continue to empower women through education by awarding scholarships. This past May, \$30,500 was awarded to five college students and six graduating high school seniors which included an academic excellence award to the top female student.

The College Club also offers its members interest groups that provide socializing, fun, and

Without skipping a beat, members have begun working on the 59th edition of the well-known and well -received Community Calendar for 2022-23 which will be available at the end of August. Community Calendar sales support scholarships.

The current ongoing fundraiser is a Shop Rite gift card raffle. The first prize is a \$500 Shop Rite Gift Card and the second prize is a \$250 Shop Rite Gift Card. Prizes have been generously donated by The Cloverleaf Farm which produces The Farmer Hen's eggs. The donation makes it possible for all proceeds from the ticket sales to be designated for the club's scholarship fund. Tickets are \$5 each and only 750 are available. The drawings will be held at Brookside Park, Scotch Plains, on October 9th. Winners need not be present. Tickets can be obtained by contacting Dorothy Lusk at dorothyculleylusk@gmail.com or call 908-230-4917.

Membership inquiries can be directed to the College Club of Fanwood Scotch Plains by mail: PO Box 32, Fanwood, NJ 07023 or email at: Collegeclub.fsp@gmail.com



(above, 1-r) Ready to lead the College Club of F-SP into the club's 89th year of service to the community are newly elected officers: Co-Directors Dorothy Lusk and Tish Isack, Vice-president, Ellen Harrison, Co-Presidents Jean Naugle and Joan Skubish, Corresponding Secretary Kathy Egenton Recording Secretary, Liz Murad and Treasurer Joanne Sheffield.



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#### FORMER FANWOOD **COUNCILMAN JOE HIGGINS DIES**

Borough of Fanwood



Mayor Colleen Mahr and the Fanwood Borough Council expressed their condolences on the passing of Joseph Higgins, a former member of the Fanwood Council who

coached baseball alongside his son at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School. Mr. Higgins died on July 1st at age 75 at his home in Woodbridge, NJ.

Joe was a military veteran, minor league baseball player and a 25-year employee of New Jersey Transit.

While on the Council from 2005-2007, Joe served as Chair of the Recreation and Community Services Committee; as Council Liaison to the Land Use and Historic Preservation and Shade Tree Commissions; as Council Liaison to the Planning Board; and as Fire Commissioner. In addition to serving on the Fanwood Council, he was a volunteer assistant baseball coach at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School from 2010-2019 alongside his son Joseph, Jr. who is still the baseball coach there. In the early 90s he was inducted into the Union County Baseball Hall of Fame.





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