

Fanwood Rescue Squad 60th Anniversary!



Charter Members of the Rescue Squad on April 6, 1948, including founder Bill Mathews (kneeling in the center of the first row with the dark hat)

With no formal training, a used ambulance and a garage shared with the fire department, the Fanwood Rescue Squad was born on April 6, 1948. The squad began with 29 charter members at a time when there was no such thing as 911, CPR or any certification other than a driver's license. By its second year, the squad answered 100 calls for assistance.

By 2008, the Fanwood Rescue Squad has answered tens of thousands of calls, now averaging 54 a month, a jump of about 25%

from just five years ago. Aging baby boomers and a growing population are often cited nationally as the reasons for the increase and the numbers are still climbing.

Today, the Rescue Squad's volunteer members are the most highly trained responders in the history of emergency medical services. Mandatory training includes CPR/defibrillation, advanced first aid, incident command management, hazardous materials awareness and, since 9/11, training for possible chemical, biological and nuclear incidents. Our EMTs receive additional intensive training and are certified by the state of NJ.

In May, we were pleased to offer free CPR training to our citizens, both to equip them for cardiac emergencies and to give them a taste of what we do. Thanks to the generous and civic minded local

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A Message From Mayor Colleen Mahr

Without doubt, the 2008 municipal budget has proven to be the most challenging in recent history. The situation we're experiencing has been called a "perfect storm" of municipal budget writing. In 2007 the state imposed a 4% spending cap, followed this year by a 4% cap on the tax levy. If costs only rose by 4% and state aid remained the same, we could meet those limits.

But costs do rise faster than 4%, as each of you are painfully aware every time you gas up your car or stop for groceries at the supermarket. Borough costs for fuel and utilities have risen too, as have a myriad of other expenses we have no control over. One example is a 36% increase in Fanwood's mandated state pension payment this year. That increase alone is approximately \$200,000.

And state aid does *not* remain the same. In February we learned that Governor Corzine's proposed budget targeted all 323 small towns (populations less than 10,000) with aid reductions totaling \$37 million! Fanwood's State Municipal Aid would be drastically cut, by 17%; another \$200,000.

It is important to acknowledge that the state is waging an assault on small towns in New Jersey. The state incorrectly accuses us of being fiscally inefficient, despite substantial data to the contrary. Based on this false premise, the state is exerting financial pressure on small towns to merge.

The state should examine the facts closely before continuing
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News from the Fanwood Business and Professional Association

- The Annual Street Fair will be on Sunday, June 8th along South Avenue from 11am until 5 pm.
 - The Fanwood BPA welcomes new members and businesses along South Ave: The Goddard School and The Town Bank. Both are open for business now.
 - Classic Car Shows in the Municipal Lot between South Ave. & LaGrande on Tuesday evenings between 6 pm and 9 pm on June 24th, July 15th and August 12th.
- Please see our web site www.Fanwood.biz for more details on these and other events.

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businesses that sponsored those classes.

The Fanwood Rescue Squad is always looking for new volunteers. No previous medical experience is required. We provide all training, free of charge. Our members come from all walks of life; students, retirees, sales people, teachers and even computer geeks.

If you have a sincere desire to help your neighbors in this vital way, please email us from our website at www.visitfanwood.com/rescue, or call (908) 322-9000 and leave a message.

Who is This Fanwoodian?

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Pam Sayles!

**Fanwood Borough Hall
75 North Martine Avenue
Fanwood, NJ 07023**

Fanwood Community News

**Our Neighbors
Fanwood, NJ 07023**

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