

Santa Claus Schedules Visit

Continued from Page 1

Volunteers organize more than 700 gifts into the route Santa will follow. He will start his six-hour journey through the Borough at noon making about 300 stops. He will follow the same route as in previous years. Santa should arrive on each street at about the same time as last year. Listen for the sound and watch for the lights on the patrol car that heralds the arrival of Santa in your area. This is intended to allow enough time for the children to meet Santa at the curb. For more information, call the Fanwood Police Department at (908) 322-5000.

All the members of the participating organizations wish all Fanwoodians a joyful Holiday Season and a safe and Happy New Year.



Nancy D'Ambrosio, Fanwood Volunteer, New Rescue Squad Captain for 2003

Nancy D'Ambrosio doesn't stay in any one spot for very long. Between her full time job as a respiratory therapist, her weekend job on the ski patrol in the Poconos and her volunteer service to the Fanwood Rescue Squad, she's always on the move. And it's all about helping people.

Nancy is one of the squad's top responders. Her vast experience with patients and her caring ways made her a natural to become Captain, effective January 1, 2003.

"I really like moving around, seeing patients," she says.

In her job as director of respiratory therapy for a home care company, Nancy makes a lot of house calls. She'll do less of that once more therapists are hired.

"It'll be with mixed feelings that I make fewer home visits because I really enjoy it," she says.

An experienced emergency medical technician, Nancy has seen a lot in her 29 years on the squad, from the birth of a baby in the rear of an ambulance to the carnage of teenagers killed in an automobile accident. She was in the very first

EMT class ever given in New Jersey in the early 70's. Before there were EMT's, there were rescue squads of caring volunteers with little more than first aid training.

"There was a lot of resistance to the first EMT's from some of the veterans. They didn't like the idea of carrying stethoscopes and taking blood pressures. They were afraid we'd be going around, acting like doctors," she remembers.

Today, EMT's are the first line of defense in the system of emergency medical care that begins when someone dials 911. While not doctors, EMT's are specifically trained to stabilize patients who may be in life-threatening situations and get them safely to the hospital.

As Captain of the Fanwood Rescue Squad, Nancy will be the top line-officer in charge of the 30 or so volunteers who respond 24 hours a day to ambulance calls in the borough. She will work closely with the police chief and fire department on safety issues and training. She is currently the squad's training officer, responsible for members being up to date in their certifications and their ongoing training as EMT's. In addition to being one of New Jersey's first EMT's, she is a certified CPR instructor and an outdoor emergency care instructor. This explains her weekend duty on the ski patrols at Jack Frost Mountain in the Poconos.

"Phil and I go to Tobyhanna every weekend during the winter," she says, speaking of her husband who is also a squad member. "It's a lot of fun."

She is a big believer in volunteerism and that remains one of her primary missions as the incoming Captain.

"Recruiting new volunteers will be one of our priorities," she says.

Anyone interested in joining the Fanwood Rescue Squad may call (908) 322-9000 or log on to <http://www.VisitFanwood.com/rescue>.



Special Meeting To Discuss Downtown Redevelopment

On Monday, December 16th at 8:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers the Mayor and Council will hear a presentation by the Review Committee For the Selection of the Downtown Developer.

The Committee will explain the reasons for their choice from among four candidates. The meeting will provide time for comments from the public and will be televised live on TV-35.

**Monday, December 16th
8:00 p.m. - Borough Hall**