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HIGH SCHOOL REPERTORY THEATRE PRESENTS BYE BYE BIRDIE

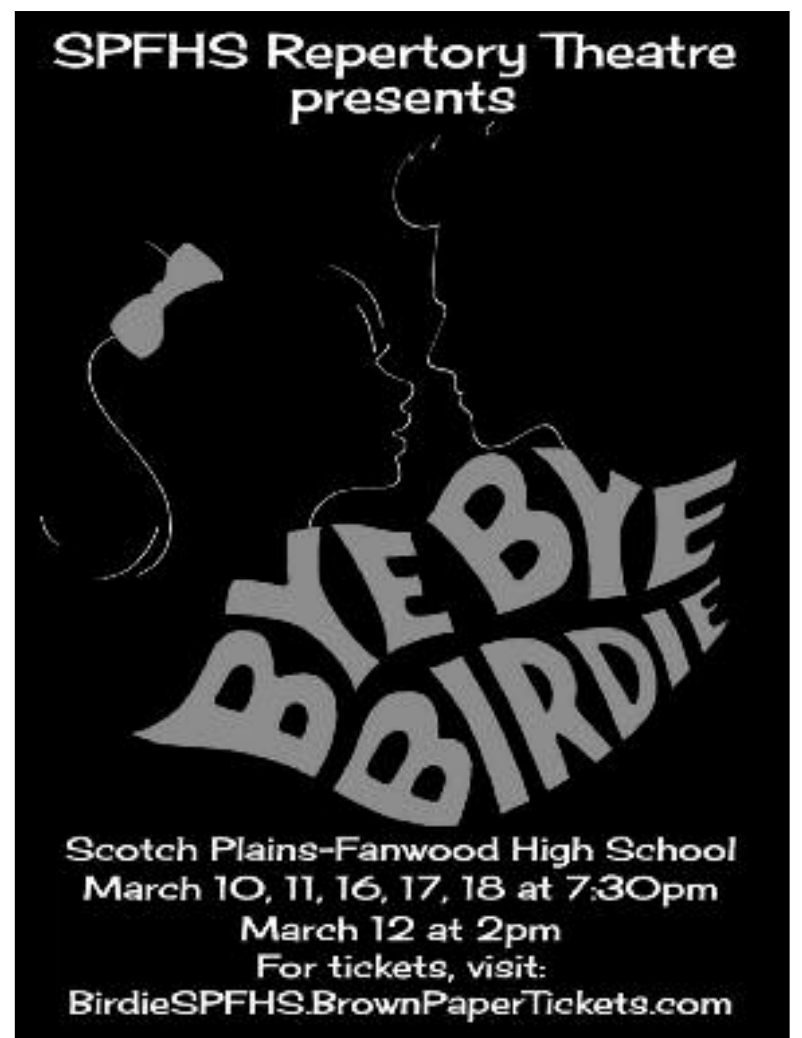
The SPFHS Repertory Theatre is proud to present this year's production of Broadway's hit musical *Bye Bye Birdie*. Performances will be held on Friday, March 10, Saturday, March 11, Thursday, March 16, Friday, March 17 and Saturday, March 18 at 7:30 pm and Sunday, March 12 at 2 pm. All shows take place at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, 667 Westfield Road, Scotch Plains.

This classic musical set in the late 1950s features rock and roll star Conrad Birdie, an Elvis Presley type, at a time when he's at the top of the charts and drafted to the US Army. Birdie's manager and songwriter, Albert Peterson, and his longtime love, Rose Alvarez hatch a publicity stunt to help sell Birdie's new song, "One Last Kiss" and save their business from going under. They arrange for Conrad Birdie to give "one last kiss" on national television to Birdie superfan Kim MacAfee, a teen from small-town Sweet Apple, Ohio, at Birdie's farewell performance on the "Ed Sullivan Show." When Birdie and his team arrive in wholesome Sweet Apple everyone is abuzz, Kim's boyfriend, Hugo, is quite jealous and both merriment and chaos ensue.

The cast features a total of 53 students, 5 of whom are seniors and is under the direction of Mrs. Courtney Nemec, Director, SPFHS Repertory Theatre, a 5th grade teacher at Park Middle School and Mrs. Jan Allen, SPFHS Choral Director, SPFHS Repertory Theatre Music Director and Producer. The show has a large stage crew and importantly, features a pit band as well.

According to Allen, "The staff are very excited to present this classic show, *Bye Bye Birdie*, to the local community and beyond. The cast has been working tirelessly to put together a delightful on-stage performance, and all of the other off-stage components, with the commitment of many other students, are coming together in an equally exciting way."

Tickets may be purchased at BirdieSPFHS.BrownPaperTickets.com and are \$13 for students/seniors and \$15 for adults. Seniors with "Gold Cards" may contact Kathleen Sheehy at kgsheehy405@gmail.com to arrange for their ticket.



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Community service organizations, schools and sports teams are encouraged to submit news of upcoming events or highlights and photos from recent events.

**Organizations who are interested in submitting content, please email
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HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS STUDY ABROAD IN ITALY

Seventeen junior and senior Italian language students at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School recently embarked on the adventure of a lifetime when they participated in an academic-cultural exchange with the high school Liceo Statale-Vito Capialbi located in Vibo Valentia, Italy.

This authentic experience, which was organized by high school Italian teachers Mrs. Giuseppina Della Pietra and Mr. Antonio Gaetano, was unique in that it took place in the southwestern region of Calabria, an area not typically frequented by American tourists, and an area in which few people spoke English.

Students, therefore, were required to apply their Italian language skills to communicate with their host families, educators and community members during their nine-day stay, while also forging memorable bonds with their Italian peers and reaping the educational benefits of linguistic

and cultural immersion.

In the process, our students visited artistically and historically rich sites in the scenic cities of Vibo, Scilla, Pizzo, and Reggio in Calabria, as well as Monreale, Palermo and Cefalu on the island of Sicily.

While expanding cultural horizons, the students were treated to foods that expanded gastronomic palettes as well. The culinary adventures, however, were a small clip in the larger picture of local hospitality. Indeed, the SPF group was warmly greeted at many turns by school officials, mayors, journalists and curators. Additionally, the program nurtured pedagogical discourse among educators on both sides of the Atlantic.

Time was utilized to share best practices regarding scope and sequence, methodology, and use of human and physical resources.



(above) The students who travelled to Italy were Aaron Arkin, Danielle Barber, Nicole Barber, Josephine Catuogno, Callie Ann Ciarrocca, Rebecca Lynn Citarella, Sam Colao, Joseph Dietze, Claudia Gentile, Eliza Kuperschmid, Gabriella Marino, Katherine McGowan, Ryan Midwinter, Michael Szanto, Eleanor Szalc, Kelsey Werkheiser and Jordan Wheeler. Mr. Raffaele Gerace, Assistant Principal at Terrill Middle School, and World Language Supervisor Mrs. Linda Materna accompanied the group to Italy.

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SPFHS HONORS CHOIR

LIONS CLUB DONATES \$5,852 TO FIRE CO



During the February 21st Fanwood Council meeting Fanwood Lions Club President and former Councilman David Trumpp (left) presented Fire Chief John Piccola with a check for \$5,852 for the Fanwood Fire Company, proceeds of the annual Christmas tree sale at LaGrande Park that the Lions and Fire Company jointly run.

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Twelve Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School students were selected from among over 500 students from Central New Jersey to participate in the Region 2 Honors Choir.

The concert took place on January 29, 2017 in Monroe Township High School under the direction of esteemed choral directors Mrs.

Lorraine Lynch of Roxbury High School and Dr. Nicholas McBride of The College of New Jersey.

All of these students are highly involved in Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School's choral department and the school district is very proud of their accomplishments.



(above, back, l-r) Peter Canevari, Phoebe Collins, Kyle Magee, Joshua Venick, John DeMarco.
(front row, l-r) Audrey Smith, Shannon McCreesh, Kaitlin Lamendola, Rachella Carlino,
Victoria Domiciano, Lauren Barth, Allan Romero

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POLICE JOIN "PROJECT MEDICINE DROP"



Fanwood and Scotch Plains Police Departments recently announced that they have joined the New Jersey Attorney General's "Project Medicine Drop" initiative, and have installed Project Medicine Drop boxes at both police headquarters. It is easier and more convenient than ever for Fanwood and Scotch Plains residents to take an active role in the fight against the nationwide epidemic of opiate and heroin abuse, which often is fueled by the abuse of prescription painkiller.

"Project Medicine Drop" is a natural addition to our commitment to help improve the public safety and quality of life in both communities. It will encourage our residents to be fully aware of the potential for abuse presented by otherwise beneficial medications," Fanwood and Scotch Plains Chiefs Trigo and Conley. The department's new Project Medicine Drop Boxes are located at Fanwood Police Department 75 North Martine Avenue, Scotch Plains Police Department 430 Park Avenue. Residents may visit either police department at any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, to dispose of their unused or excess medications.

Both Chiefs want to thank the Scotch Plains –

Fanwood Municipal Alliance Committee and Prevention Links for their support and purchase of both drop boxes.

Through this initiative, the State Division of Consumer Affairs installs secure "prescription drug drop boxes" at police departments, sheriff's offices and State Police barracks across New Jersey, allowing citizens to safely dispose of their unused, excess, or expired prescription medications.

Members of the public are invited to visit the Project Medicine Drop sites and drop off any unused prescription medications anonymously and with no questions asked. Most Project Medicine Drop sites make this service available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week 365 days a year.

By giving New Jerseyans a safe and secure method to dispose of unneeded medications, Project Medicine Drop helps prevent the abuse of these drugs. This initiative also protects New Jersey's environment by keeping these drugs out of landfills and out of the water supply.

More information about Project Medicine Drop, including the full list of Project Medicine Drop locations can be found at NJConsumerAffairs.gov/meddrop.

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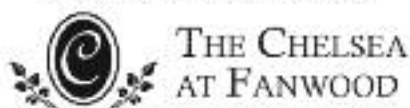
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SpeakAbility Toastmasters welcomes the community to sample a meeting at its new locations in Scotch Plains and Fanwood. Since 1924, Toastmasters International has helped millions of men and women become more confident in front of an audience. Our network of clubs and their learn-by-doing program are sure to help you become a better speaker and leader. Why pay thousands of dollars for a seminar when you can join a Toastmasters club in your community for a fraction of the cost and have fun

in the process?

"SpeakAbility Toastmasters provides a supportive and positive environment where members have the opportunity to develop their communication and leadership skills," says Oscar Ocasio, Club President for SpeakAbility Toastmasters.

SpeakAbility Toastmasters next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 15, 2017 – Regular meeting.

A regular Toastmasters meeting includes

prepared speeches, Table Topics™ (impromptu speeches) and evaluations.

SpeakAbility Toastmasters meets each 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:45p.m. at the following locations:

1st Wednesday: JCC of Central NJ, 1391 Martine Avenue, Scotch Plains, NJ

3rd Wednesday: Forest Road Park Building, Forest Road Park, Fanwood, NJ (for GPS use 158 Forest Rd., Fanwood, NJ 07023)

For more information about the club, please email Michelle Tropper at michelletropper@verizon.net, or visit the club website at www.speakabilitytoastmasters.com



(above l-r) SpeakAbility members Sumantha Prasad, Rhoda Kaufman, Patti Phillips, Michelle Tropper and Ed Cruikshank. Patti and Michelle recently received the Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) Award from Toastmasters International. The DTM award is the highest level of achievement one can earn as a Toastmaster.

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LOCAL QUILTER AND EDUCATOR FEATURED AT 34TH ANNUAL QUILT SHOW

"Anything Goes" the quilts of Elsa Gail Hahn will be showcased at the Harvest Quilters of Central NJ's 34th annual quilt show on Saturday, March 25, 2017 at Willow Grove Presbyterian Church, Scotch Plains, NJ from 8am to 5pm.

Ms. Hahn's whimsical one-of-a-kind creations defy what is typically thought of as a quilt. Art quilts and wall hangings dominate her work, which spans 12 years of exploration in the fiber arts. An original Orca whale study on silk, inspired by a trip to the San Juan Islands, will be a focal point of this eclectic exhibit. Other highlights will include a self-portrait and a unique spin on a children's book.

Visitors will be treated to a traditional New York Beauty quilt made with non-traditional fabrics of black and brights. Reaching back to her childhood in Westfield where she was born and raised, Ms. Hahn will display her childhood sewing cards, rags from a baby quilt she made at age 12 and her early needlework.

"I'm color driven when I make a more traditional quilt, but I love the challenge of trying to incorporate an item not meant for quilting, such as a dish towel or scarf."

A retired elementary music teacher, Ms. Hahn spent 34 years in the Westfield school system and directs the Children's and Bell Choirs at Cranford Presbyterian Church. She splits her time between Edison, NJ and Brewster, MA, the inspiration for her quilt "Cabins on the Beach." A horseback riding trip to the Triangle X Ranch in Jackson Hole, Wyoming in 2005 inspired her to make her first quilt to commemorate the experience.

A winner of multiple ribbons at Harvest

Quilters shows, where she is Workshop Chair and the Bayberry Quilters of Cape Cod where she serves as Chairperson of the 2017 Challenge quilt, Ms. Hahn expressed that most of all "I cherish all the dear friends I've made through quilting."

Reading, birdwatching, gardening, woodworking and spending time with her extended family enriches her life and fuels her quilting.

Willow Grove Presbyterian Church is located at 1961 Raritan Rd, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076. Admission is \$7/adults and \$3 for children 12 and under.



(above) Elsa Gail Hahn will be showcased at the Harvest Quilters of Central NJ's 34th annual quilt show on Saturday, March 25, 2017 at Willow Grove Presbyterian Church, Scotch Plains, NJ from 8am to 5pm.

FANWOOD COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Founded in October of 1998, the Fanwood Community Foundation has been providing support to many local community organizations. With an endowment fund of more than \$150,000.00 the Foundation offers a vehicle for public spirited donors to use their gifts to benefit those in most need. Our grants have gone to support the Fanwood Volunteer Fire Department,

Fanwood TV-35, and Fanwood Library, the Center for Women and Families and Resolve Community Counseling.

Please consider remembering the Fanwood Community Foundation in your estate planning allowing your contributions to keep giving for years to come. You can contact the Foundation at fanwoodcommunityfoundation.org.

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Join the Greater Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, March 16th from 6:00 – 8:00 pm when our own Terry Viney will deliver an informative and interactive presentation at The Chelsea at Fanwood, 295 South Avenue, Fanwood.

Terry will discuss how changing you're thinking and approach can help you land new clients. There will also be time for networking! Pizza, wine, and refreshments will be served. Don't forget to bring your business cards. Networking from 6:00 -6:30 pm and from 7:30 – 8:00 pm. The presentation will begin at

approximately 6:30 pm. RSVP online before 3/16 at 2 pm to save! Space is limited! Admission: \$10 for members; \$15 for prospective members. Additional \$5 at the door if space is available.

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Plus Factor in Your Business, a company focused on helping organizations and people turn goals into gold. He is a Disguised Toastmaster. Among his many speaking engagements, he has been honored to share the podium with executives of NASA Space Center, Exxon and Eastman Chemical. Terry's mission is to make a difference, working with professionals who want to make a difference, doing something that makes a difference.

PRESERVATION COMMITTEE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

One of the hallmarks of this community is the active participation of our residents on the many committees and boards that work for us all to ensure a good quality of life and to provide services that support local needs.

If you have time for one meeting a month and the interest to work with your neighbors to

maintain and improve our borough, The Fanwood Historic Preservation Committee is currently looking for volunteers. If you have questions or wish to apply for a position, please contact the Mayor's Office at mayor@fanwoodnj.org or call (908) 322-8236 x 124.

GO RED WOMEN'S HEALTH FAIR

Go Red Women's Health Fair was held at The Chelsea at Fanwood and was co-sponsored by Little Hearts Big World CPR and First Aid Instruction. The third annual event featured women who have survived heart attacks. There

were healthy snacks, vendors, a mini-yoga class, and blood pressure screenings courtesy of the Fanwood Rescue Squad. February 3rd is National Wear Red Day to raise awareness of heart disease, the number one killer of women.



(above, left) Rescue Squad Captain Nancy Mustachio takes a visitor's blood pressure. (center) Pam Gabel and Annette Watson, the new Director of Community Relations and new Executive Director of The Chelsea at Fanwood. (right) Laura Madrigano, a heart attack survivor, speaks.

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FANWOOD RECREATION UPCOMING EVENTS

For more information and to register please go to fanwoodrecreation.org.

FANWOOD RECREATION SUMMER REGISTRATION BEGINS

Registration for the Fanwood Recreation Summer Park Program is now open. The camp offers structured programs tailored for specific age groups in a safe, neighborhood environment in Fanwood's La Grande Park! Experienced counselors lead children in fun-filled activities. The program begins on June 26 and continues for eight weeks. Parents can register their children for one week, all eight or as many as they want. It is open to children entering grades kindergarten through 6th in the fall.

Also, registration is now open for many other Fanwood summer camps and programs, including Tweens & Teens Travel, Lacrosse, Make Your Own Comic Book, Twisted Tales, Total Sport Squirts, Soccer Squirts, T-Ball Squirts, Golf, Pony, World of Wizardry, Back to School Prep, Writopia, Multi-Sports, Junior Scientists, Technology & Engineering, Groovy Girls, Creative Kids, Babysitting Certification, Junior First Responders, LEGOs, Advanced Robotics, Physical Computing and Child's Play Challenge Course, with more to come!

FANWOOD RECREATION SPRING PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Fanwood Recreation is offering a full slate of after-school programs this spring. Coming back are LEGO Club, Junior Scientists, Child's Play Challenge Course, Babysitting Certification, Junior First Responders and Writopia. Plus, for our youngest athletes, US Sports Institute offers Sports Squirts and Soccer Squirts. Also, during Spring Break week, you can sign up your child for Multi-Sports Camp or LEGOs Camp.

FANWOOD RECREATION SPRING PROGRAMS FOR SENIORS

Fanwood Recreation announces its spring program schedule for Fanwood seniors. Programs begin the week of April 3rd and run weekly through the week of June 19th and include Aerobics, Zumba Gold, Gentle Yoga, Tai Chi and Line, Ballroom & Latin Dancing. All classes are held in the recreation building at Forest Road Park. The fee is \$15 per program for Fanwood and Scotch Plains residents, \$30 for all

others. If you would like to pick up a paper schedule and registration form and pay by check, please go to Fanwood Borough Hall, 75 North Martine Avenue.

FANWOOD'S ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT SET FOR APRIL 8TH

Forest Road Park will host Fanwood's annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8th, which begins eggs-actly at 10 AM. The rain date is April 15th, same time and place. No registration is required. All children 10 and under are invited to meet the Easter Bunny and join the fun! Over a thousand eggs filled with all sorts of goodies—including hundreds of prize tickets—will be hidden around the park! Plus, even more prizes will be given out for these contests:

- Guess the number of jellybeans!
- Guess the number of chocolate eggs!
- Bunny Drawing Contest
 - bring your own bunny drawing to enter!
- Egg Decorating Contest
 - bring your own decorated egg to enter!

NEW FIRE TRUCK



(above) The Fanwood Fire Department's new Engine 7, a 2017 KME pumper, replaces the old Engine 7, a 1983 Mack. The borough is grateful to the taxpayers of Fanwood for this necessary capital improvement.

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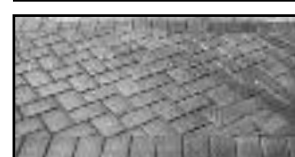
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COLLEGE CLUB WELCOMES EDIE ELKAN, HARPIST AND FOUNDER OF BEDSIDE HARP MONDAY MARCH 20TH, 7:30-8:30 PM

The College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains welcomes musician, Edie Elkan, founder of Bedside Harp, a hospital-hosted educational and service company dedicated to promoting the therapeutic use of the harp in healthcare. Edie founded this service company fifteen years ago, in February 2002.

She and her team of harp therapist professionals and interns have now offered over 90,000 patients a one-on-one-harp therapy session, played over 22,000 hours at the seven hospitals in New Jersey and Pennsylvania that have hosted Bedside Harp programs, and taught nearly 800 adults and children how to play the harp for their own healing, empowerment and enjoyment and trained and certified over 100

harp therapists hailing from all over the US, Canada and Ireland. At about the same time she launched Bedside Harp, Edie began practicing mindfulness meditation, and she incorporates it in all of her teaching. She and Bedside Harp have appeared on "The Today Show," and have been featured in The New York Times, The Star Ledger, and many other local newspapers and print media.

Please come and join us for this free program open to the public. The College Club's mission is to support education of our youth, local community and we encourage you to join us on March 20th at The Fanwood Presbyterian Church located at 74 South Martine Ave, Fanwood, NJ. The program starts promptly at 7:30pm.

DEAN TALCOTT HONORED



During the February 21st Fanwood Council meeting Councilwoman Kathy Mitchell presented a proclamation honoring Dean Talcott, the longtime caretaker of the Fanwood Nature Center, who is retiring from that position. Mr. Talcott, who lives adjacent to the Nature Center, was one of the original builders of many of the trails and the footbridge that have made the place user-friendly over the past 20 years.

6TH ANNUAL FANWOOD IRISH FESTIVAL

Sheelen's Crossing presents the 6th Annual Fanwood Irish Festival on Saturday, March 11 from 12 to 10 p.m. and Sunday, March 12 from 12 to 5 p.m. The event will be held on the South Side of the Fanwood Train Station and will include:

- Irish themed food, drink and vendors
- Irish Dancers
- Irish Bagpipers and Bands
- Activities for the kids
- All day 50/50 drawings

Individual and Family advance tickets can be purchased in person at Sheelen's Crossing. Advance tickets are \$5 for an individual or \$20 for a family. Dorr Tickets are \$7 for an individual or \$25 for a family. For more information, visit sheelencrossing.com.

EARTH DAY CLEANUP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Borough is seeking volunteers to serve on the Clean Communities Committee. Interested parties would help plan and coordinate the annual borough-wide cleanup event on Earth Day in April. Please contact Clint Dicksen, Director of Public Works at (908) 322-7404 if you are interested in serving on the committee.

We appreciate everyone's patience and understanding during this important project.

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