



**READY...AIM...**An honor guard comprised of Union County Sheriff's Officers and Corrections Officers fire a salute on the steps of the Union County Courthouse in Elizabeth during Union County's annual remembrance ceremony honoring prisoners of war and those missing in action (POW/MIA). National POW/MIA Recognition Day is observed each year on the third Friday of September.

## SP Council Approves Former Club Malibu Liquor-License Transfer

By FRED T. ROSSI  
 Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

**SCOTCH PLAINS** — The township council on Tuesday approved a liquor license transfer from the owner of the former Club Malibu nightclub, thus ending years of legal and bureaucratic wrangling that will now allow a dessert and coffee shop on Park Avenue to open for business.

World Entertainment Group, which is opening the shop at 375 Park Avenue, will be the new owner of the license formerly owned by Rayric Corp. In June, the council, in its role as the local alcoholic beverage commission (ABC), held a hearing to consider the license transfer but took no action because certain paperwork required by the state ABC was not yet in order. In July, the state ABC extended the life of the Rayric liquor license while waiting for the council to take final action.

During the June 14 hearing, an individual spoke in objection to the transfer, saying he was the owner of a \$150,000 judgment against Rayric Corp. that he had purchased from former Rayric principal Lawrence Ray. Officials had pointed out at that time that in 2003, a court — after a dispute over the license's ownership with Mr. Ray — had ruled that Rayric owner Dominic Caruso was the sole owner of the license and was free to do whatever he wanted with it.

In other business, Township Manager Thomas Atkins said the town received eight bids this week for the milling and paving of a section of Westfield Road. He said the council would discuss the bids for the project, which involves the section of the roadway between Westfield Avenue and Mountain Avenue, at its conference meeting next week. The council also rejected two bids for the township's fall leaf pick-up program. Mr. Atkins said he hopes to have new bids within the next two weeks.

Councilman Jeffery Strauss announced plans for the annual Scotch

Plains Weekend on October 19 to 21. Sponsored by the recreation commission, the Lion's Club and the Scotch Plains Business and Professional Association, the weekend will kick off with a bonfire and pep rally at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School on Friday night. On Saturday, the Lion's Club will hold a craft fair in the parking lot adjacent to the municipal building. The weekend will conclude on Sunday with a street fair on Park Avenue featuring amusements and live music.

Stewart Weiss, chairman of the Edison-based Inman Railroad Committee, spoke to the council about plans to reactivate multiple rail lines in central New Jersey. He said beside the second track being activated on the Lehigh Valley Line that runs just south of Scotch Plains, there are plans to revive a rail line from Scranton, Pa., to Morristown, another line from the Bayway refinery area in Elizabeth to Cranford and one from the Newark/Elizabeth ports to Summit.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



**RACING FOR SCIENCE...**Evergreen School third- and fourth-grade winners compete for championship with puffmobiles during Friday's Science in the Classroom program. Dupont and the U.S. Conference of Mayors co-sponsored the event.

## Evergreen Elementary School Races For Science Education

By WAYNE BAKER  
 Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

**SCOTCH PLAINS** — Drinking straws, Lifesavers, paper, cellophane tape and paper clips were the materials provided to third- and fourth-grade students at Evergreen School for construction of Puffmobiles last Friday. The project was part of Science in Our Schools, a project jointly sponsored by Dupont and the U.S. Conference of Mayors with a goal of building interest in math and science through a fun engineering lesson. The event concluded with students racing within their classes, and then class champions racing each other to determine grade and overall champs.

Dawn Parker, a chemical engineer working for Dupont in Wilmington, Delaware, who laid out the basic format, spoke to the children. In her introductory talk, Ms. Parker described Dupont's business as manufacturing "intermediates," then explained that Dupont-branded products rarely arrive in the hands of consumers.

Ms. Parker mentioned one of the products Dupont makes, titanium dioxide, noting that it is used to make things white. She said Nabisco uses it to whiten the filling for Oreo cookies, and paper makers use it to whiten paper.

Evergreen teachers, along with

Colleen Haubert, Evergreen principal, Margaret Hayes, superintendent of schools, Scott Bortnick, the district's science coordinator, and Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr, vice president of the New Jersey Conference of Mayors, assisted the students.

Ms. Parker described the idea of the program as "getting students excited about science." She said the exercise — getting children away from book learning — could help highlight different learning styles for teachers. Puffmobile designs ranged from axles with Lifesaver wheels to flat cars to well-developed sail cars with four wheels and rigid frames.

Each class raced under its teacher's direction, determining a classroom champion. The third-grade winners then raced to determine a third-grade champion, a position claimed by Michael Raphael. The fourth-graders also raced, and Brianna Becker bested her competitor.

Cheering for their favorite competitor, the students watched as Michael prepared to race Brianna. After the countdown, both students blew their cars towards the finish line. Michael's car crossed the line ahead of Brianna's, earning him the overall title and a toy car as a reward. Each student will receive a certificate of participation.



**BORN LEADER...**Mohammed Alzobaae, center, of Scotch Plains traveled to Washington, D.C., last Thursday as part of the National Young Leaders Conference, which teaches young people from across the nation about government and the law. As part of his capital visit, Mohammed, 15, met with Congressman Mike Ferguson (R-7th), left, on the steps of the U.S. Capitol Building. Mohammed, an incoming sophomore at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, is the son of Faiz and Moha Alzobaae of Scotch Plains. At right is student Richie Weslock, 16, of Roselle Park.

## Redevelopment, Shared Services Top List for Fanwood Democrats

By PAUL J. PEYTON  
 Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

**FANWOOD** — Borough Mayor Colleen Mahr and her election running mates, council members Kathy Mitchell and Bill Populus, discussed issues ranging from downtown redevelopment to shared services and senior services during an interview at the offices of *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* last Thursday.

Mayor Mahr, who defeated incumbent Republican Lou Jung to capture the mayor's office in 2003, is unchallenged in her bid for a second four-year term. Her uncontested campaign follows a decision by Republican Patricia Lindsey, wife of former councilman Chester Lindsey, to drop out of the race.

"I am running unopposed, which is a nice endorsement of what we have been doing for the last four years," the mayor said.

Mr. Populus, who recently replaced Joseph Higgins after the councilman resigned for personal reasons, said he brings expertise to the council from his 38 years in the line of real-estate appraisal, as well as his previous seven years as a councilman. He said, "I call myself the kind of guy that watches the tipping point, to give advice on 'are we doing too much or are we doing enough?'"

If elected, he said he wants to "help keep the taxes down." "Colleen has been successful in getting grants, and when I was around [on council] I was successful too. And that is something we should always pursue," he said. "Because all you have to do is the math. If you get money back from the state you're ahead of the game, and if you get it from other sources, you are still ahead."

Fanwood recently received an extraordinary-aid grant from the state. Mayor Mahr said the borough's ap-

plication focused on its success in attracting new development for its business district.

"That is sort of our last bastion of ratables for the Borough of Fanwood, because now it's about 90 percent of the taxes [for municipal services] that

"We're going to finish economic development so that we can get all those ratables on line. We're going to put a great face on the downtown," the mayor said.

She said construction on The Mews is expected to commence by the end of the year.

She said both Bath Works, which is opening its third showroom in the state in the borough, and the Fanwood Cleaners are both improving the facades of their buildings on Martine Avenue. Also, the borough is replacing old trash containers behind Martine businesses with two centralized "trash castles" to enhance aesthetics.

"It's just all the little things that are going to make Fanwood a brighter, shinier place and that's really our goal," Mayor Mahr said.

Ms. Mitchell, in her ninth year on the governing body and a borough resident for 50

years, said she is excited about the soon-to-arrive historic train caboose, to be situated near the new Fanwood Museum, located on the first floor of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

## County Dems Focus on Open Space, Shared Services

By PAUL J. PEYTON  
 Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

**COUNTY** — Union County Freeholder Dan Sullivan and Freeholder Chairman Bette Jane Kowalski are pointing to open-space acquisitions and shared-services initiatives in their bid for re-election. Plainfield City Council President Rayland Van Blake joins them on the Democratic freeholder ticket.

Mr. Van Blake, now in his fifth year on the Plainfield council, said he ran against the political "machine" at the time in the city in 2002 but now is "very much entrenched" in the local Democratic organization and is "looking forward to contributing as part of the county-wide team." He has said if elected, he would resign from city council.

Mr. Sullivan, the chairman of the board's open-space committee, said the freeholders' goal when the program began in 2001 was to preserve 100 acres over the course of the 20-year life of the Union County Open Space, Recreation and Historic Trust Fund. With a half-million residents and just 100 square miles, Union County is the second most densely populated county after Hudson County in the state, Mr. Sullivan said.

"I think what we found, once we started making purchases, was that more land became available. More people were interested in working with the county in preserving open

### FW Holds Fanny Wood Day This Sunday

By SUZETTE F. STALKER  
 Specially Written for The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

**FANWOOD** — Autumnal festivals will welcome the season in Fanwood and Westfield this Sunday, September 30, offering visitors food, music, arts and crafts, vendor wares and activities. Both events will be held rain or shine.

In Fanwood, the 12th annual Fanny Wood Day festival will take place from noon to 5 p.m. at South and Martine Avenues. Named for a Victorian-era folklore figure whose vivid writings were said to have helped attract residents to the fledgling community in the late 19th century, this event will feature offerings for all ages and palates.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



**DELAYED OPENING...**Due to construction inside the halls of Governor Livingston High School, students in grades 9 through 12 from Mountainside and Berkeley Heights enjoyed an extra week of summer vacation. School began on September 10.

PAGE INDEX					
Regional .....	2-3	Obituary .....	8	Education .....	18-19
Editorial .....	4-5	Sports .....	11-16	Classifieds .....	20
Community ...	6-8	Real Estate .....	11-19	A&E .....	21-22

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10