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Butterflies are free...in Fanwood

Pictured above, left, are Fanwood Environmental Commissioner Margaret Chowdhury and daughter Moenika pitching in with Scout Troop 33 at the Fanwood Nature Center, Butterfly Garden filled with black-eyed Susans, zinnias and purple coneflowers all favorite nectar plants for butterflies. See page 3.

If You Plant It, They Will Come
A butterfly garden grows in Fanwood

FANWOOD — Amid the vestiges of a wildflower meadow abutting the Fanwood Nature Center, a new horticultural gem has been taking shape over the past few months: a 600-square-foot butterfly garden.

Established near the Center's entrance off Cray Terrace, the garden was created by SP-F High School junior Andrew Van Haastereen, and the many volunteers and donors who supported him in this Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project. Andrew is a member of Fanwood's Boy Scout Troop 33.

Certified as an official Monarch Butterfly Waystation by MonarchWatch, an environmental organization, the garden contains attractant and nectar plants such as zinnias, purple coneflower and Joe Pye Weed, as well as three varieties of milkweed — the exclusive food source for monarch larvae.

Visit the garden midday when you are most likely to spot butterflies, moths and many kinds of bees and insects, or in the cooler evening hours, when you

might see the resident deer family grazing across the meadow. For more information about this and other Environmental Commission projects visit its website at <http://www.fanwoodec.org>.

Supporters include individuals and families gave plants and monetary donations, the Union County Master Gardeners, and local businesses Double Dipper Café, Fanwood Bagel, The Fanwood Corner Store, Miele's Greenhouses, Parker Gardens and Tom the Greengrocer.

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Borough of Fanwood
Environmental Commission