



The Cosmos Club



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33-02 MORLOT AVE, FAIR LAWN, NEW JERSEY

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THE PRESIDENT'S POST



Nick Brancato Jr.
President

Hello Cosmos Club Member(s)!

As we enter the heart of summer, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been a truly strong and successful second quarter for our club. We have continued to build on the energy, pride, and unity that make the Cosmos Club such a special organization.

A nice highlight this quarter was our participation in the Memorial Day Parade, which was a great success. The weather stayed perfect, and our members represented the Cosmos Club with the dignity and pride that have defined us for generations. Thank you to everyone who joined us in marching or supported us from the sidelines—it was a wonderful display of community and tradition.

Looking ahead, **2026 marks the 75th Anniversary of the Cosmos Club**, a remarkable milestone that we plan to honor in a big way. As part of our celebration, we are hoping to be placed at the **front of next year's Memorial Day Parade**—a position befitting the club's long-standing role in the Fair Lawn community.

To make that a reality, we need your support. We would love to see **as many members as possible involved** in next year's parade and in all the anniversary events we plan throughout the year. Your participation makes all the difference.

In the same spirit, I would like to remind everyone of the importance of attending our **monthly membership meetings**. These meetings are where we discuss upcoming events, share ideas, and make decisions about the future of our organization. The strength of our club lies in the engagement of its people.

Please note that **there will be no general membership meeting in July, as many of our members will be spending time with their families** and enjoying summer vacations. We will **resume our regular meeting schedule in August**, and we hope to see a strong turnout.

As we approach the **Fourth of July holiday**, I want to wish each of you and your families a **safe, joyful, and patriotic Independence Day**. Let us take time to celebrate the freedoms we enjoy, reflect on the sacrifices made by so many to secure those freedoms, and appreciate the bonds we share as brothers in the Cosmos Club.

May the rest of your summer be restful, safe, and full of good memories. I look forward to seeing many of you at our August meeting, as we begin preparing for what promises to be a memorable and historic year for our club.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Brancato Jr.
Cosmos Club of Fair Lawn, Inc. President.

MEMORIAL DAY RECAP

COSMOS CLUB MARCHES AT THE FAIR LAWN MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

On Memorial Day, members of the Cosmos Club of Fair Lawn had the honor of participating in the borough's annual Memorial Day Parade—an event dedicated to remembering and honoring the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country.

Dressed in Club attire and proudly carrying the American flag, the Italian and American flags, and the Club's banner, our members marched side by side down the streets of Fair Lawn, showing our deep respect for our veterans and our continued commitment to community involvement. The parade route was lined with residents waving flags, cheering, and pausing in reflection, creating a powerful sense of unity and patriotism.

Participating in this meaningful tradition reminds us not only of the sacrifices made by so many, but also of the importance of community, heritage, and service. The Cosmos Club was proud to stand among fellow organizations, veterans' groups, first responders, and civic leaders during this solemn yet celebratory event.

We thank all who joined us and supported us along the route, and we extend our deepest gratitude to those who have served—and especially to those who gave their lives in defense of our freedom. It was a true honor to march in their memory.



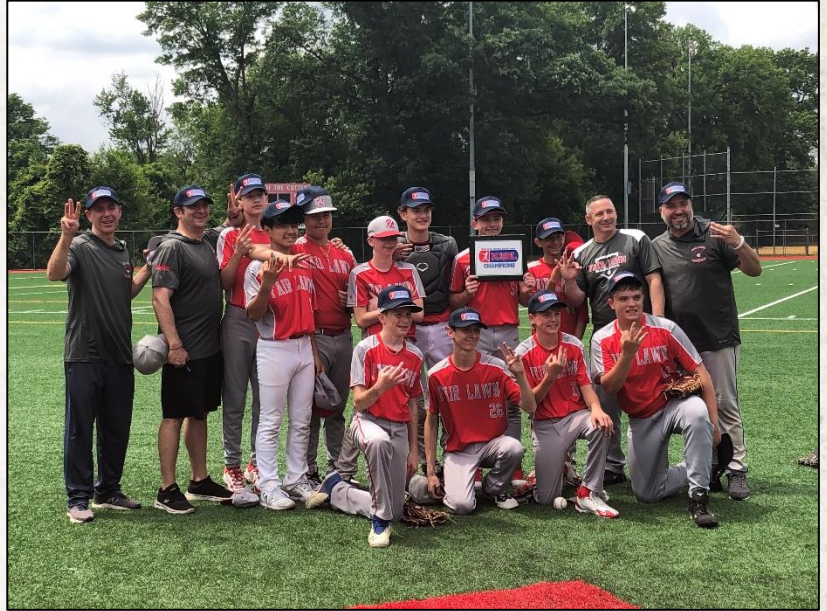
COSMOS IN THE COMMUNITY

THREE-PEAT VICTORY IN YOUTH BASEBALL WITH COACH JOHN ALLOCCA

The Cosmos Club proudly congratulates member *John Allocca* for an incredible achievement in local youth sports. Under his leadership, Fair Lawn's travel baseball team has clinched *three consecutive championships* – dominating the 12U, 13U, and now the 14U division.

Coach Allocca's dedication, strategy, and passion for the game have created a powerhouse program, helping shape not only great athletes but strong young men. His commitment to the players and the community continues to bring pride and recognition to Fair Lawn.

Congratulations, Coach *John Allocca & co.*, on a championship three-peat!



FAIR LAWN WELCOMES SERGEANT LUIS VASQUEZ

FAIR LAWN, NJ – He knows Fair Lawn because he has lived and breathed it. Cosmos Club member *Luis Vasquez*, a 1999 graduate of Fair Lawn High School, has been promoted to sergeant with the Fair Lawn Police Department.

Vasquez began his service with the Fair Lawn Auxiliary Police in 1998, later working as a corrections officer with both the NJ Department of Corrections and Bergen County Sheriff's Department. He joined the Fair Lawn Police Department in 2004 and has served in patrol, traffic, and the honor guard.

Now a shift supervisor in the patrol division, Sgt. Vasquez continues to serve the town he proudly calls home.

Congratulations, *Sergeant Luis Vasquez!*



NICK BRANCATO JR. HONORS THE EAGLE SCOUTS OF FAIR LAWN

On a proud day for both the local community and the Cosmos Club of Fair Lawn, President *Nicholas Brancato Jr.* was invited to speak at the Eagle Scout Court of Honor held in town this past June. During the ceremony, President Brancato presented awards to Fair Lawn's newest Eagle Scouts, recognizing their outstanding achievement in earning the highest rank in Scouting.

In his remarks, he spoke about the importance of leadership, integrity, and service—values that align closely with both the Boy Scouts of America and the journey of life. He commended the young men for their dedication and hard work, noting that the Eagle Scout rank is not only a personal accomplishment, but a reflection of the positive impact these individuals will continue to make in their communities.

A particularly meaningful moment came when one of the honorees, the son of Cosmos Club member and Fair Lawn Police *Sergeant Luis Vasquez*, was recognized.

The event served as a powerful reminder of the value of mentorship, family, and civic involvement—principles that the Cosmos Club continues to uphold as it approaches its 75th anniversary.



SMOKE-OUT SUCCESS

The Cosmos Club's annual Smoke Out was a resounding success, raising \$13,000 and bringing members together for an evening of brotherhood, generosity, and remembrance.

New member *Nick Kantor* launched a special scholarship in honor of his brother, *Douglas Kantor*, whose life was tragically taken in Texas in 2021. The Kantor family not only attended the event but generously donated half the cost of the evening, helping ensure the night had both meaning and impact.

The crowd was treated to incredible Texas-style smoked BBQ prepared by our amazing chefs: *Giovanni Perrotta*, *Tim Murray*, *Vin Ramundo*, and *Mark Ramundo*. *John Battista* came through in a big way, supplying all the liquor and



coordinating an outstanding tasting from *Woodinville Whiskey Co.* that was a hit with attendees.

New member *Michael Herklots* also played a key role, supporting the event with his high-end cigar brand *Ferio Tego*, vended by *Leafs Cigar Lounge* in New Milford—where fellow Cosmos members *Ron Silvestri* and *Jesse DeLuca* proudly work.

We also thank all the volunteers, members, and supporters behind the scenes who helped make the night seamless and successful—from setup and breakdown to raffles, music, and cigar service. It was truly a team effort and a night to remember.

Thank you to everyone who made this year's Smoke Out one of our best yet!

PLANNING BEGINS FOR 75TH ANNIVERSARY



As we approach a monumental milestone—our Club's 75th Anniversary—we are beginning to lay the groundwork for what promises to be a truly unforgettable celebration. To make this momentous occasion as special and meaningful as possible, we're inviting our members to get involved in the planning process.

Whether you have ideas for events, want to help organize, or simply want to lend a hand behind the scenes, your input and energy are welcome! This is a chance to honor our Club's rich history, celebrate our present, and help shape the future—all while having fun and building memories together.

If you're interested in joining the 75th Anniversary Planning Committee, please reach out to *Alessandro Bruno*. Let's make history together!

NEWS & REMINDERS

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS CEREMONY & DINNER

We invite all members to attend our annual Scholarship Awards Dinner on **Friday, July 11th at 6:30 PM**. Before our traditional Friday night dinner, we'll be honoring this year's outstanding scholarship recipients.

Let us come together as a club to show our support and celebrate the hard work and achievements of these deserving students. Your presence will make the evening even more meaningful for the recipients and their families. Don't miss this special night!

SAD NEWS – NELLA BRANCATO PASSES AT 101 YEARS OLD

We are saddened to share the passing of *Nella Brancato* on June 29, 2025, in Fair Lawn, NJ.

Nella was in the women's auxiliary for quite a few years. Her husband was Vincent Brancato (long time Cosmos member). She always loved being a part of the organization and seeing her family members *Salvatore, Nicholas Sr., Joseph, Nicholas Jr, and Ron Brancato* show pride in their heritage.

Services were held at Vander Plaat Funeral Home in Wyckoff, NJ, with burial at Mount Hebron Cemetery in Montclair.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Nella's memory to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (www.stjude.org).

DO WE HAVE YOUR CORRECT INFORMATION?

Please ensure we have the correct information for you on our roster. It is important for us to keep these records accurate so we can keep you up to date with all Cosmos News!

If you see an issue, please address it to cosmosclubfairlawn@gmail.com!

WORDS FROM THE EDITOR



Hello Cosmos Club!

I hope you enjoyed this edition of *The Cosmoscope*. I look forward to working with all our Cosmos Club members in the future! If you have anything that you would like featured, please send an email to:

thecosmoscope@gmail.com

Alessandro Bruno

New Membership Applicant Chairman

The Cosmoscope Chief Editor

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