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the Fleetwood Flash

COMMUNITY PARK EVENTS AND MORE AROUND TOWN

NOVEMBER 2026



CELEBRATING OUR 2027 HOMETOWN HEROES

On Saturday, April 3, 2027, Friends of Fleetwood Parks will celebrate that spirit of community at its **Fleetwood's Finest Spring Gala**, honoring four extraordinary individuals whose dedication, generosity, and commitment have helped shape the community we call home.

This year's Hometown Heroes are **Ray and Betty Buss, Michael Mayer,** and **William Strause**. Each has made a lasting contribution to Fleetwood in their own special way.

Ray Buss helped put Fleetwood on the map through his legendary career as a teacher and soccer coach. With more than 500 career victories, two state championships, and induction into the National Soccer Hall of Fame, Ray built more than a winning soccer program. He inspired generations of young athletes, teaching them the importance of teamwork, dedication, and character. Although Ray passed away in 2021, his remarkable legacy continues to live on in the community he loved.

Betty Buss has devoted much of her life to caring for others. A registered nurse, longtime Sunday School teacher, Camp Fire leader, and parish nurse, Betty has spent decades quietly making a difference in the lives of countless families. From her professional nursing career to her extraordinary volunteer service, Betty represents the compassion, kindness, and generosity that make a community feel like home.

Michael "Mike" Mayer has spent nearly five decades giving back to Fleetwood through athletics, civic leadership, and community service. A Fleetwood High School graduate and U.S. Air Force veteran, Mike has served as a coach, soccer official, school board member, Borough Council member, and president of the Fleetwood Carnival. His dedication to young people and his willingness to step forward whenever his community needs him have made him a familiar and respected presence throughout Fleetwood.

William "Bill" Strause has dedicated himself to preserving the stories and history of Fleetwood so future generations can appreciate the community's remarkable past. An engineer by profession and an artist and historian at heart, Bill has helped preserve countless photographs, glass negatives, and historical records through his work with the Fleetwood Area Historical Society. His artwork, historical presentations, and passion for sharing Fleetwood's heritage have ensured that the people and places of yesterday will not be forgotten tomorrow.

The gala will also recognize **Fleetwood Bank** as the recipient of **The Fleetwood Cadillac Award**, honoring its commitment to the community and its continued role in supporting the people and organizations that make Fleetwood thrive.

The honorees will be recognized at the **Fleetwood's Finest Spring Gala** on **Saturday, April 3, 2027**, at the **Fleetwood Fire Company Social Quarters Banquet Hall**. The special evening will bring together friends, family, community leaders and supporters to celebrate the honorees and their contributions to Fleetwood. The gala will feature Red Carpet Arrivals, Dinner, Tributes, Desserts and Dancing to **Erich Cawalla and the Uptown Band,** creating a memorable evening of celebration and community pride.

Tickets and more information is available at www.fleetwoodparks.com. VIP tickets are $75 and include an exclusive Cocktail Hour with the Honorees. General admission tickets are $50. The Fleetwood's Finest Spring Gala will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at the Fleetwood Fire Company Social Quarters Banquet Hall on Franklin Street in Fleetwood.

GALA TICKETS



ERICH CAWALLA AND THE UPTOWN BAND



THE 2027 FLEEETWOOD FINEST GALA COMMITTEE

Donna Fick
Jessica Galeassi – *Fleetwood Bank*
Patty Keeney – *Friends of Fleetwood Parks*
Connie Jo Keller
Lynn Kopicz
Joel & Kelly Schaeffer
Belinda Stoudt – *Fleetwood Vol. Fire Co.*
Anita Tempesco – *ANITATrinket*

NOVEMBER EVENTS AROUND TOWN

OCTOBER 13 - LEAF COLLECTION CONTINUING
Leaf Collection will start October 13th and continue through November or until announced otherwise.



WREATH ACROSS AMERICA PROJECT

American Legion Post 625 will participate in this year's Wreaths Across America program by placing wreaths on veterans' graves at the Fleetwood and Union cemeteries on Saturday, December 19.

The cost to sponsor a wreath is $17, and the Post is seeking support from residents, businesses,and organizations to help honor as many veterans as possible. All donations go directly toward wreath purchases.

For more information or to contribute, please contact Legion Post 625 at **610-944-7201**

SAVE THE DATE!

Friday, December 11, 2026
FLEETWOOD TREE LIGHTING
Sponsored by The Rec Board

Saturday, December 12, 2026
YMCA SANTA PARADE
Check the Boro website in November for details.

GIVE THE PERFECT HOLIDAY GIFT!

Looking for the perfect holiday gift? Give someone special a night to remember with tickets to the **2027 Fleetwood's Finest Gala on Saturday, April 3!** It's an evening of celebration, entertainment, and community spirit as we honor the extraordinary people and organizations who make Fleetwood such a wonderful place to call home. Instead of another gift under the tree, give the gift of a memorable evening shared with friends and neighbors, all while supporting Friends of Fleetwood Parks and its community programs. **Make this holiday season extra special with the gift of Fleetwood's Finest!**

GALA TICKETS

To have a friend sign-up for the monthly newsletter, just send the email address to: **friendfwood@icloud.com**

FRIENDS OF FLEETWOOD PARKS

fleetwoodparks.com

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE **BREIDEGAM FAMILY FOUNDATION** AND **THE MARTIN GUITAR FOUNDATION** FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF **FRIENDS OF FLEETWOOD PARKS** IN 2026.