

the Monroe news



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Mayor and Council Take Action to Preserve Farmland at New Jersey Training School

Task Force Named to Protect Open Space

Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro announced the formation of the "Mayor's Open Space Preservation Task Force for the New Jersey Training School" in mid-February to ensure appropriate use and continued preservation at the youth corrections facility site slated for closure.

The group is charged with formulating a long-term plan with residents, State, County and local officials regarding the 663 acres of open space and farmland preservation.

"The task force will also work to make sure that any future use of the decommissioned buildings will be to the benefit of our residents in the Township, as well as the County," said Council President Stephen Dalina.

The campus, located between



Monroe is committed to preserving open space.

Spotswood Englishtown and Spotswood Gravel Hill roads, is comprised of preserved farmland, wooded forests, flood plains and wetlands. The buildings are clustered on the western portion of the property and accessible from the main gate near Grace Hill Road.

In February, Mayor Tamburro sent a letter to Gov. Phil Murphy

soliciting his support for the Township's position.

"It is imperative that the State of New Jersey understand that Monroe's highest priority is for the 663-acre campus to remain as preserved farmland and open space, consistent with our rural character," Tamburro said. "I will fight to make certain this land can never be developed."

Inside This Issue...

- Mayor's Column 2
- Important Numbers 2
- Monroe Named Safest City 3
- Spring Engineering Updates 4
- Monroe Unveils Recycling App 4
- Council Advances Farm's Preservation. 5
- Monroe's Fields of Dreams 6
- Multicultural Festival 7
- Holocaust Memorial Yom HaShoah Observance 7
- Om Parikh: A Positive Force 8
- Special Acknowledgements 9
- Senior Services 10
- Recreation Calendar. 14
- School Happenings. 16
- Around the Town 20

Monroe 2018 Budget Invests in Public Safety and Infrastructure

Budget Under 2-Percent Tax Levy Cap

The Monroe Township Council unanimously approved a \$58.8 million municipal budget at its May 7 meeting, placing new resources into public safety and infrastructure, while Municipal State Aid continues to be flat for the ninth consecutive year from the State of New Jersey.

Public safety emerged as the Township's greatest unanticipated expense with the Mayor

and Council assigning armed off-duty officers in all eight school district buildings as an interim measure following a rash of school shootings across the nation. The community overwhelmingly voiced their concerns regarding student safety at a community meeting and this temporary solution was presented at the Board of Education meeting the following evening.

In this 2018 budget, a new \$450,000 expense was added to fund this interim action plan. Recently, the Board of Education developed their own policy to arm their security staff, many of whom are retired New Jersey police officers.

"At its very core, government is about working together for the public good and nothing is more important than protecting and serving our resi-

Continued on page 3



Monroe Police Chief Michael E. Lloyd greets Oak Tree Elementary School students with a high-five. Maintaining a police presence in the schools was a major priority for the 2018 municipal budget.

Municipal News

TOWN HALL

1 Municipal Plaza • Monroe Township, NJ 08831
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ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor:

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Council President:

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Charlie Dipierrocdipierro@monroetwp.com

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Township Main Number(732) 521-4400

Animal Control(732) 521-0222

Construction Office(732) 656-4585

Court Administrator(732) 521-4020

Township Engineer(732) 605-9440

EMS and First Aid (non-emergency) .(732) 521-1880

Health Department(732) 521-4400 ext. 192

Environmental Protection .(732) 521-4400 ext. 118

Monroe Township Library(732) 521-5000

Utilities Department(732) 521-1700

Office of Senior Services(609) 448-7140

Parks Department(732) 723-5000

Police (non-emergency)(732) 521-0222

Public Works(732) 656-4575

Recreation(732) 723-5000

Recycling(732) 656-4575

Tax Collector(732) 521-4405

Township Clerk(732) 656-4573

Traffic Safety(732) 521-0222 ext. 126

Transportation(609) 443-0511

Fighting for Fair School Funding and Homestead Rebates for Residents

By Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro

This spring, on our residents' behalf, I worked with Council members, legislators, our assembly and senate leadership and the Governor's office to fight for fair school funding and restorations of the homestead rebate act.

School State Aid

The 2008 School Funding Reform Act (SFRA) was intended to establish the "State share" of school funding with the balance or "local share" to be provided by local taxpayers. While I have some deep concerns with SFRA itself and how it treats Monroe Township residents, the current formula (SFRA Law) has never been fully funded or implemented fairly to benefit Monroe.

Unfortunately, the Governor's proposed budget only included an additional \$344,000 for our district.

I recently relayed my concerns directly to Gov. Phil Murphy by letter, excerpts from which I would like to share with you:

"Supporting the children of Monroe Township is one of my

top priorities as Mayor and it is my responsibility to advocate for the needs of our students, as well as our taxpayers.

In Monroe Township, school costs have risen each year and State support remained flat.

Last year, for the first time in eight years, new money was added to support the State side; those municipalities that have been consistently overfunded by the State finally saw some reduction. In Monroe, we received \$458,000 more in 2017, which is just half of 1 percent of the school budget. While this was not the amount we were hoping for, it was the first step towards increasing funding and promoting fairness for all New Jersey students. I applaud our Board of Education for using the additional funds for property tax relief."

I am hopeful with the legislature's cooperation and leadership, we will achieve more in new school funding.



Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro

Homestead Rebates

We also learned in April that the State's budget only partially funded the Homestead Rebate tax credit at 50 percent.

According to state-wide reports, the average homeowner in New Jersey has seen a reduction of more than \$200 as a result.

Since the news broke, I've been working closely with our legislators and State Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, a Middlesex County legislator, to restore funding.

The Speaker has publicly committed to standing up for seniors and the working class; making it a top priority.

I will continue to fight on both of these important issues and welcome your support in these efforts.

the **Monroe news**

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Monroe Township Named 29th Safest City in Nation

Monroe Township continues to climb the ranks as one of the state and nation's top safest cities, according to a recently released survey.

In late March, the National Council for Home Safety and Security named Monroe the 29th safest city in America.

The professional

security trade association also recognized the Township as the eighth safest city in New Jersey this past February, an improvement from its 2017 standing of 14th.

"Monroe has been reputed as a safest city time and again," said Council President Stephen Dalina. "Our police department is a

large part of this equation between its community outreach and crime detection and prevention programs. The credit goes to our department's leadership, all the way down to the men and women who patrol our streets."

"While our department is incredibly proud of these rankings, we are

constantly looking for ways in which we can improve through training, public engagement or preemptive planning," said Monroe Police Chief Michael E. Lloyd. "Our residents are also a part of this success. As the eyes and ears of this community, they remain one of our most vital resources for preserving public safety."



**Monroe Council
President
Stephen Dalina**

Monroe 2018 Budget *Continued from page 1*

dents," said Monroe Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro. "We are consistently recognized as one of the safest towns in the nation and this is the result of the community's investment in a highly skilled, trained and equipped police department."

With the unanticipated public safety increases and no increase in municipal aid from the State, the tax rate will be \$.476 per \$100 assessed value. This has allowed Monroe to maintain a

less than 1 percent municipal tax rate over the past five years, which remains the second lowest effective municipal tax rate in Middlesex County. For the average taxpayer, municipal services cost less than \$1,500 a year.

Despite these unexpected challenges and with responsible fiscal planning, Monroe has achieved an AA+ bond rating from Standard and Poors, the tax collection rate was almost 99 percent in 2017 and the

Township's strong municipal surplus continues.

Equally as important, the proposed County, Municipal and Board of Education budgets will be under the 2 percent cap at a combined 1.79 percent.

The budget also reflects a tightly controlled spending plan, including less staffing, a reduction in professional services and expansion of shared services.

"We continue to cut our operational expenses where ever we can," said Councilwoman Miriam Cohen. "Our capital plan is strategic, our basic residential water and sewer rates have not increased for the 27th consecutive year and we recognize our commitment to our workforce with limited



**Councilwoman
Miriam Cohen**



**Councilman
Charlie Dipierro**

healthcare premium and salary increases. We have learned to do much more, with less."

Noteworthy capital improvement projects this year focus on roads and traffic improvements. Construction will begin on road improvements at Spotswood and Ellingham Avenue; water main and road improvements on Monmouth Road; and the Township will be investing more than \$1 million for municipal-wide road improve-

ments this fall.

"Rebuilding and maintaining our infrastructure is a top priority," said Councilman Charlie Dipierro. "I think that there is certainly an emphasis on that in the annual budget."

"Monroe has committed to maintaining the highest quality municipal services, including our unparalleled recreation programs, senior services and emergency medical services that you have come to expect," Tamburro said.



Engineering Updates: Infrastructure Improvements

COMPLETED PROJECTS:

Soccer Complex Turf Field and Lights: Turf field construction is complete and the lights are operational.

Library LED Lighting: New energy efficient lighting and an electric car-charging station has been installed in the parking lot.

Bus Stops on Applegarth Road: Four new stops are now active. Federal and Applegarth, Halsey Reed and Applegarth, Cranbury Station and Applegarth and Union Valley and Applegarth. Check njtransit.com for schedules.

Cricket Pitch: The cricket pitch and field at Veterans Park is ready for play.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION and DESIGN:

Monroe Sponsored:

Daniel Ryan Field Restroom and Concession: This project is scheduled for public bid opening in July 2018.

Matchaponix, Pergola & Spotswood Gravel Hill Signal: Design continues with plans to install the signal slated for late 2019.

Spotswood Ave. & Ellingham Ave. Road Paving: This project consists of new pavement, striping, concrete and drainage improvements. This project, awarded by Council in June, consists of new pavement, striping, concrete and drainage improvements. Construction is expected to begin this summer.

Veterans Park Multipurpose Fields: The two multipurpose fields are being restored with new sod.

Cedar Brook Pump Station: Construction is underway and is expected to be complete by July of 2018.

Developer Sponsored:

Spotswood English-town & Mounts Mills Traffic Signal: Signal is fully operational. Additional utility and roadway improvements to be installed throughout the summer.

County Sponsored:

Perrineville Road Closure: The bridge replacement and road widening project will be complete in December 2018.

Old Bridge-English-



town and Mounts Mills Road: Middlesex County has begun design for a traffic signal installation.

ADA & Pedestrian Traffic Signal Upgrades: Intersection improvements are planned at Prospect Plains and Perrineville roads, Rossmoor and Forsgate Drive and Schoolhouse Road and Buckelew Avenue.

State Sponsored:

Railroad Crossing Repair: Conrail has noti-

fied the Township that at-grade crossing repair will be completed this year on Federal Road and South Middlesex Blvd.

Route 33 & Applegarth/Butcher Road: Monroe is working with NJDOT to install a dedicated left turn arrow onto Rt 33 East and West.

Route 33 Paving: NJDOT has announced portions of Route 33 through the Township will be repaved and striped in 2018.

Monroe Unveils Recycling App on Earth Day

Monroe is now compacting all its recycling information into one, easy-to-use recycling application.

The Township debuted its free "Recycle Coach" app, available for download on smartphones and tablets through the App Store and Google Play, on April 22, Earth Day, via social media.

Some of the applica-

tion's features include an extended calendar, reminders for collections and special events, a search bar outlining the means for recycling or disposal, a page of auxiliary resources and a reporting tool for missed pick up, container replacement and other pertinent information.

Many of the app's features are also avail-

able to the public on the homepage of the Monroe Township website at www.monroetwp.com and through Amazon Alexa and Action for Google Assistant using "Recycle Coach Skill."

For further details, contact Monroe Township Recycling Coordinator Joe Slomian at 732-656-4575.



Monroe's Recycling Coordinator, Joe Slomian, rolled out the Enviro-mobile, a mobile environmental classroom and the first of its kind in the State, on its 10th anniversary tour this April.

Council Advances 37-Acre Farm's Preservation

The Monroe Township Council plans to add another parcel to its growing inventory of preserved farmland, approving the cost-share funding at its March 5 meeting for the acquisition of a 37-acre tract on the corner of Federal and Gravel Hill roads.

"Monroe has long prioritized farmland preservation," said Monroe Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro. "We have pledged to preserve more than 50 percent of our approximately 43-square-mile community and each year, working in concert with the County and the State, we advance that much closer to our goal."

The State is prepared to provide approximately \$596,000 toward the \$1 million purchase of the Gravel Hill Road property's development

easement.

Under the agreement forged with the State Agriculture Development Committee, Monroe will contribute 20 percent of the total acquisition cost, amounting to roughly \$198,000.

"We are incredibly fortunate to live in a State that puts such a high premium on land preservation," said Councilman Leonard Baskin. "The County continues to be an excellent partner, handling the due diligence in the pursuit of these properties. To date, our Township has preserved more than 600 acres of farmland."

The Township now awaits further action and approval from Middlesex County, which is expected to match Monroe's funding.

"Middlesex County is committed to preserving as much farmland and open space as possible," said Freeholder Director Ronald G. Rios. "My fellow Freeholders and I thank the Township of Monroe and the families we have worked with over the years for sharing our dedication to saving not only our lands, but also our agricultural heritage."

Officials anticipate the property will officially enter into the Middlesex County Farmland Preservation program, a designation prohibiting any further development on the site, by this summer.

"Support for land preservation only continues to grow in our state – from both sides of the aisle and from residents across New Jersey, including here in Monroe," said Monroe Council President

Stephen Dalina. "Our Township takes great pride in our rural landscape, one of the primary reasons it's such a popular destination for both transplants and visitors. Our preservation programs are a means to safeguard those vistas, not to mention the natural resources and habitats they provide."

Monroe officials credited local legislators, Sen. Linda Greenstein and Assemblymen Wayne DeAngelo and Daniel Benson, for their support of a measure allowing for a 2014 bond referendum that dedicated permanent funding toward Green Acres, Blue Acres, Farmland and Historic Preservation programs.

"We want our children and grandchildren to enjoy all of the beauty that Monroe Township has to offer," Sen.



**Councilman
Leonard Baskin**

Greenstein said. "When the voters in 2014 authorized using some of the corporate business tax to help protect our undeveloped lands, they spoke out loudly and clearly that they wanted to make sure these treasures are preserved for the use and enjoyment of generations to come."

With this latest acquisition, Monroe is approaching nearly 8,000 acres of total preserved property within the Township.



A portion of the 37-acre tract on Federal and Gravel Hill roads.



Dozens of local farmers and residents attended an informational farmland preservation meeting at Monroe's municipal building on March 22. A County representative headed the presentation and discussion, which prompted a number of attendees to voice their interest in joining the program.

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Monroe Township Parks: Fields of Dreams

Q&A with Virgil Caputo, Parks
Division Manager

Q. How long have you been overseeing the grounds keeping for Monroe and what was your prior experience?

A. I've been head of Parks for three years now, taking over the lead position in April 2015. Prior, I began with Monroe as Park's seasonal help way back in 1993 and continued that way working summers and weekends until 2001. I am a graduate of Seton Hall University, a certified park and recreation professional, a licensed New Jersey commercial pesticide applicator, as well as a State certified fertilizer applicator. I am also a member of the Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey, the New Jersey Turfgrass Association and the New Jersey Recreation and Park

Association.

Q. Can you quantify the amount of grounds you oversee?

A. The primary fields I'm responsible for include James Monroe Park, Thomas Allen Softball Complex, the Daniel P. Ryan field, the Monroe Township Soccer Complex and Veterans Park, all of which account for five baseball, three softball, one football, one practice, one all-purpose, two multi-purpose, one cricket and four soccer fields. Total acreage is around 100, about 28 acres of that are athletic fields. This is where the high input of work and materials go. Though we are small, I have an incredibly dedicated and hard-

Continued on page 21



Monroe Parks Division Manager Virgil Caputo and Foreman Frank Botti.

Multicultural Festival Celebrating Diversity and Unity

At the onset of this year's Multicultural Festival, a young girl stumbled through the opening stanzas to the "Star-Spangled Banner."

After a brief pause, the audience sounded off as an impromptu chorus, raising their voices in unison and with pride for country as they led her through the remaining lyrics.

The crowd's gesture is emblematic of the day, an annual celebration of diversity intended to foster unity within the community.

In its third year, the spring-time festival combines a medley of cultures, customs, costumes, music, artifacts and food – much to the public's delight.

Lisa Robinson, a former and longtime chair of the Human Relations Commission, the Township organization charged with coordinat-



**Council Vice President
Elizabeth Schneider**

ing the event, has devoted upwards of a decade to educating the community about the benefits of diversity.

"I want to thank Lisa Robinson for her outstanding leadership," said Council Vice President Elizabeth Schneider. "She has done a phenomenal job in getting this event off the ground and seeing to its success year after year."

While she's recently stepped down as chair to devote more time to her duties as a lieu-

tenant with the local police force, Robinson has been instrumental in the dawning and evolution of Monroe's Multicultural Festival.

"There are groups here that weren't here last year," Robinson said. "People are proud of their culture and their heritage and they want to share it; especially when it's celebrated."

Exotic Indian spices, ornate Portuguese garb, delicate Chinese choreography and friendly faces at the gay-straight alliance table were just a few of the day's highlights.

The event is the Human Relations Commission's mission come to life and a legacy that Robinson is proud to call her own.

"Regardless of your race, sex, gender or creed – get rid of looking at that and judging a person on that," she said. "If you get to know the quality or character of a person, you'll see you have more in common than differences. Those differences, celebrate them, because they can only enrich your culture and community."



The annual Multicultural Festival attracted a considerable crowd from all parts of the community much to the credit of MTPD Lt. Lisa Robinson, longtime Human Relations Commission chairwoman.



On May 7, the Human Relations Commission, along with Mayor and Council, honored district students from every grade level for exhibiting the six pillars of character.



Performers pose at the annual Multicultural Festival April 28.

Monroe Remembers

At the Henry Ricklis Holocaust Memorial Committee's Yom HaShoah Observance at the Marasco Center April 22, the crowd gathered for prayer, song, candle lightings and to hear the inspirational story of Master Sgt. Roddie Edmonds from the late soldier's son, Pastor Chris Edmonds. His father is credited with saving the lives of about 200 Jewish-American POWs during World War II.



Om Parikh: A Positive Force in Life and Death

While 13-year-old Om Parikh no longer walks this earth, his spirit has become an awakening force, inspiring an outpouring of support for the Om Memorial 5K Run and 1-Mile Walk.

In his final months, Om's steadfast courage was never in doubt with the spirited Monroe resident remembered for mantras like, "I'll be a two-time cancer survivor," and "This tumor messed with the wrong boy."

"Half the fight is mental," Ketul Parikh said of his son's battle with brain cancer. "Mentally, he beat that tumor...He never gave up."

After several relapses and multiple bouts of chemotherapy, Om's family laid the young boy to rest this past February.

"He was one-of-a-kind and always smiling," said Om's mother,

Krupa Parikh. "Even if he was going through such a big battle, he was always positive."

With a life cut all too short, Om's final years were surprisingly punctuated by a series of extraordinary experiences.

Sometimes those experiences cropped up in the more mundane moments, like the times Om would share his toys with fellow cancer patients or when he confronted and ultimately helped a would-be school bully change the course of his life.

Others were just plain remarkable, like when he took the stage in front of thousands as an ambassador of the Parkway Run and Walk for the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, or when YouTube sensation and positivity guru Roman Atwood made a surprise visit to his home; or even during a final pilgrimage to

India, when Om somehow mustered the energy to scale three miles up a mountainside.

Time and again, the boy who seemingly needed more help than everyone else was the first to lend a helping hand.

"I haven't seen a similar boy," Ketul Parikh said. "His heart was pure gold and that's why so many people are coming together - for a good cause to help children in community and spread awareness for cancer."

Now Om's family wants to build on the momentum, honoring his legacy with a 5K run and walk, just one small facet of a much broader mission set forth by the recently established Om Parikh Foundation.

The Foundation will have four primary goals: to foster positivity, to raise awareness and educate the public about cancer, to launch a schol-



Family honored this extraordinary boy with a 5K run and 1-mile walk on May 20. Photo Courtesy of the Parikh family.

arship fund and volunteer opportunities and to support pediatric cancer research.

"We want to promote anything that preserves quality of life," said Yashaswi Parikh, Om's sister. "Pediatric cancer research is vastly underfunded."

The Parikh family's inaugural fundraising event, the Om Parikh Memorial 5K Run and 1-Mile Walk, on May 20 at Thompson Park saw unprecedented success with organizers closing registration several

weeks early after nearly 1,500 participants registered.

"We are so humbled," Ketul Parikh said. "Less than three months have passed and everyone is coming forward to help us....this is what he would have wanted - that we give back to the community and remain positive."

For more information on the Om Parikh Foundation, search for the "Om Parikh Memorial Fund" on Facebook.



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Nearly 1,500 participants laced up for the first annual Om Memorial 5K Run and 1-Mile Walk."

Wishing Staff a Fond Farewell



As she heads into retirement, **Bonnie Leibowitz**, Director of the Monroe Township Senior Center, will mark her last day with municipality June 29. Leibowitz began her career with Monroe almost 14 years ago as an outreach professional in the municipal building's basement, which accommodated a little more than 13,000 Senior Center members at the time.

Five thousand-plus members later, she's transitioned into the Center's new Halsey Reed Road location, spearheaded a burgeoning programming schedule and recruited 174 volunteers in the process. She counts the Community Cares Thanksgiving Luncheon, as well as the Roaring 90s Club, among her greatest legacies. "To be able to work with the staff and witness how we've affected people's lives in so many positive ways has been my greatest honor," she said.



Jay Brown, a program supervisor with Monroe Township Recreation Department, retired in late April. This former New York City educator has been with the Township since 2004 and has been instrumental in the Department's expansion of both its facilities and programming. Charged with oversight of many of the senior activities, Brown has been pivotal in the organization of the Township's annual Egg Hunt, Fishing Derby, Grandparent's Day and National Night Out.

"I'm most proud of the way we've built up the Mayor's Cup...and of what we do here at the Recreation Department," Brown said. "People don't always realize the work that went into these events when they see the finished product. I've made a lot of friends here and I will absolutely miss my time with the residents and staff."

Trees Grow in Monroe

Monroe Township's Shade Tree Commission participated in the final year of the State's Tree Recovery Campaign by distributing 2,000 free seedlings at the Township library, department of public works, the community center and recreational fields April 14. The Campaign was a five-year program aimed at replacing trees damaged or destroyed by 2012's Hurricane Sandy.



Employee Accolades & Acknowledgements



Monroe Library Assistant Director Leah Wagner has been elected to serve as president of the New Jersey Library Association. Beginning this summer, her role will consist of representing the State at conferences, promoting legislative advocacy and continuing education, along with other duties required by the post.



The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs recognized **George Selah III**, Township subcode official, as the 2018 Electrical Inspector of the Year, the highest honor to be bestowed upon a code official. The Municipal Electrical Inspector's Association selected Selah for his outstanding contributions in the areas of code enforcement and electrical inspection.

Creativity on Display at Library's Makerfest

Makerfest, a celebration of creativity at the library, drew out hundreds March 10 with woodworking, experiments, 3D printing and even Star Wars characters!



Municipal Employee Opportunities

Per Diem Videographer for Weekday and Weekend Events. For a full list of municipal employment opportunities visit: www.monroetwp.com/employment.cfm or make inquiries to Monroe's Human Resources Department.

Social Hour Pairs MTHS Special Needs Students with Senior Citizens in Real-World Classroom

Each week, a large meeting room at the Monroe Township Senior Center transforms into a busy and sometimes boisterous classroom for a small gathering of special needs students.

Like any other week during the school year, these Monroe Township High School upperclassmen, part of the district's Transitioning Adult Program, filed through the meeting-room doors on April 16.

Accompanied by a team of educators and paraprofessionals and with board games in hand, they take their places alongside a select few senior citizen volunteers scattered about tables.

The students prepare to tackle the day's usual lesson plan: social interaction.

At the head of one

table sits an energetic girl on the brink of adulthood, her gaze fixed on three dice within reach as she listens to a nearby teacher noting the importance of eye contact and making general conversation.

One of the volunteers leans in to ask her, "So how was your weekend?" Organically, the group erupts with conversation, big smiles and the occasional outbursts of laughter.

It's all a part of the community-based instruction that encourages socialization among the intergenerational group, a framework and teaching model that has been tailored, lauded and adopted by District Transition Coordinator Erica Friedman.

"The social aspect can be difficult because our students think concrete-

ly and not abstractly," said Jeffrey Shanfield, a special education teacher and job coach at the high school, who has been escorting this growing roster of students to the senior center for a second year in a row.

"We work on the soft skills, like not interrupting, active listening, saying please and thank you," Shanfield said. "At the senior center, we're exposing them to other adults, who give them directions, have conversations and help them develop their independence in being able to talk to someone."

In the opposite corner of the room, Monroe high school senior, Vincent M. Baureko, banter with another group over a deck of cards, hinting at his love of the culinary arts with a few anecdotes from the kitchen.



MTHS special needs students have a lively discussion over a game of Uno with educators and volunteers at the Monroe Township Senior Center April 16.

"If you're super shy, you get into a conversation...we talk about how our day was, what we're doing (and) who is the best at Uno," Baureko quips, revealing a warm smile that resurfaces now and again. "Socially, it's good for us."

Many of the students' counterparts are returning senior volunteers, some former educators and others, individuals with a penchant for lively conversation.

"I love interacting with the children; they're all such good kids," said Monroe resident and program volunteer Marie Valvano. "There's a satisfaction that comes from getting to know them."

On occasion, the senior center, like other area businesses, will also play a role in the district's structured learning experience program

or on-the-job training, which aims to help students develop and one day apply appropriate work habits, like self-management, workplace safety, interpersonal skills, collaboration and problem-solving techniques.

They may benefit from simple supervised tasks at the senior center like bagging nonperishables for the food pantry or helping stuff envelopes for a mailer, explained the center's Director Bonnie Leibowitz.

"They've been an integral part of our senior center and it's just plain, ordinary fun," Leibowitz added. "When they walk out of here, everyone is happy."

For more information on Monroe Township School District's Transitioning Adult Program, contact a representative at 732-521-2111 or Erica.Friedman@monroe.k12.nj.us.



Participants in the MTHS TAP Program, accompanied by educators and paraprofessionals, pose alongside Monroe Township Senior Center volunteers and representatives.

MONROE TOWNSHIP SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES

JUNE

JULY



JUNE 2018 - Center Activities

609-448-7140

LEGEND: (IP) In Progress (\$) Fee/In-Person Registration (LD) Last Day

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>Special Father's Day Treat ~ While Supplies Last the Week of June 18. Our Male Members can Receive a Bagels Bazaar Coupon. Upon Request, When They Register for a Program at the Front Desk. Only 1 Coupon per Member. Limited Quantities Issued Per Day!</p>				
<p>4 9 Bodies in Motion (LD) 9:30 Drop-In Bridge 10 Fun with Yiddish (IP) 10 Move & Groove (IP) 10:30 Energy Pathways 12:30 Graceful Aging 1 Yarn It! Games / T. Tennis 2 Matter of Balance (IP)</p>	<p>5 9 Games// 1 T. Tennis 9 M.T. Chorus 9:30 Body Works (IP) 10:30 Triple 15 (LD) 12 Chessmates 1:30 Newark Museum's Seeing America</p>	<p>6 9 H. Bones Pros (IP) 9 Total Toning (IP) 10 Exp. Trans. H2O (IP) 10:15 Bodies in Motion (IP) 10:15 Line Dancing (IP) 1 Gems / 1 Games/ 2 Ballroom 1 Parkinson's Support 2 The Longest Walk 6 Empty Bowls Auction(\$)</p>	<p>7 9 Beg. Healthy Bones Chair Yoga (Flex?) 10 Ceramics 10:30 Body Works TH (IP) 10:30 Get Your Swing Back 12:30 Mixed Watercolor (IP) 1:30 Lerner & Loewe</p>	<p>8 9 Canasta// 1 T. Tennis NEW: Zumba w/ Sarah (\$) 10 Boot Camp (IP) 10:30 Harmonica 11 UP TO BARRE (IP) NEW: Watercolor Exp. (\$) 12:30 Matter of Balance (IP) (Cooking Makeup Class)</p>
<p>11 Bodies in Motion (Flex?) 9:30 Drop-In Bridge 10 Planting for Fun 10 Fun with Yiddish (IP) 10 Move & Groove (IP) 10:30 Brain Fitness 1 Yarn It! Games & T. Tennis 1:30 David Aaron Presents 2 Matter of Balance (IP)</p>	<p>12 9 Games// 1 T. Tennis 9 M.T. Chorus 9:30 Body Works (LD) 10:30 Triple 15 (Flex?) 11 Green Thumbs 11:30 POUND Demo 12 ChessMates 1:30 Decades of Duets</p>	<p>13 9 Healthy Bones Pros 9 Total Toning 10 Exp. Trans H2O (IP) 10:15 Bodies in Motion (IP) 10:15 Line Dancing (IP) 1 Gems//Games// 2 Cribbage 1 Intro Trans. H2O (IP) 2 Ballroom Dance (LD)</p>	<p>14 9 Beg. Healthy Bones Chair Yoga (IP) 10 Ceramics 10:30 Body Works (LD) 10:30 Joint Replacement 12:15 Duplicate Bridge 12:30 Mixed Watercolor (IP) 2 iPhone Photos (\$) 2 Advanced Estate Plans</p>	<p>15 9 Canasta// 1 T. Tennis 9 Zumba (IP) 10 Boot Camp (IP) 10:30 Harmonica 11 UP TO BARRE (IP) 12:30 Watercolor Exp. (IP) 1 Friends BINGO (\$) 2 Matter of Balance (IP)</p>
<p>18 9:30 Drop-In Bridge (IP) 10 Fun with Yiddish (IP) 10 Move & Groove (IP) 10:30 Staying Hydrated 1 Yarn It! Games & T. Tennis 1 Beatles: The Solo Years 2 Matter of Balance (IP)</p>	<p>19 9 Games// 1 T. Tennis 9 M.T. Chorus Body Works (Flex?) 10:30 Flower Magnets (\$) Triple 15 (Flex?) 12 ChessMates 1:30 Cancer Support 1:30 American Operetta</p>	<p>20 9 Healthy Bones Pros 9 Total Toning (LD) 10 Exp. Trans H2O (LD) 10:15 Bodies in Motion (IP) 10:15 Line Dancing (LD) 1 Gems // 1 Games 1 Intro. Trans H2O (LD) 1:30 Drumming Circle Diabetes Support</p>	<p>21 9 Beg. Healthy Bones Chair Yoga (IP) 10 Ceramics NEW: Chair Yoga (\$) 12:15 Duplicate Bridge 12:30 Mixed Watercolor (IP) 1:30 The White Rose (IP) 2 iPhone Photos (LD)</p>	<p>22 9 Canasta// 1 T. Tennis 9 Zumba (IP) 10 Boot Camp (IP) 10:30 Harmonica 11 UP TO BARRE (IP) 12:30 Watercolor Exp. (IP) 1:30 Jerry's Travels 2 Matter of Balance (IP) (Cooking Makeup Class)</p>
<p>25 9:30 Drop-In Bridge (IP) 9:30 PILATES DEMO 10 Fun with Yiddish (IP) 10 Art of the Masters 10 Move & Groove (IP) 1 Yarn It! Games & T. Tennis 1 Bernini's Sculptures 2 Matter of Balance (LD)</p>	<p>26 8:45 Drivers Safety (\$) 9 Games// 1 T. Tennis 9 M.T. Chorus NEW: Body Works (\$) NEW: Triple 15 (\$) 12 ChessMates 1:30 Science Today Special 2 Mike & Ted Present</p>	<p>27 9 Healthy Bones Pros Total Toning (Flex?) No Bodies in Motion Today Line Dancing (Flex?) 1 Jewelry Gems 1 Games/ 2 Cribbage 2 Jimmy Givens Trio 2 Caregivers Support</p>	<p>28 9 Beg. Healthy Bones Chair Yoga (IP) 10 Ceramics NEW: Body Works (\$) 10:30 Stroke/Heart Health 12:15 Duplicate Bridge 12:30 Mixed Watercolor (LD) 1:30 The White Rose (LD)</p>	<p>29 9 Canasta// 1 T. Tennis 9 Zumba (IP) 10 Boot Camp (IP) 10:30 Harmonica 11 UP TO BARRE (IP) 12:30 Watercolor Exp. (IP) 2 American Heroines (Cooking Makeup Class)</p>



IN-THE-WORKS: Senior Center's July Activities

For Details, Call 609-448-7140 or Visit www.monroetwp.com for an Online Newsletter.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>2 Join Us for Drop-In Bridge Mondays at 9:30 a.m. Table Tennis at 1 p.m. Monday Afternoons Are Open Game Days</p>	<p>3 Monroe Township Chorus Meets on Tuesdays at 9 a.m. One-on-One Computer Support Provided By Appointment: Tues./Wed./Thurs.</p>	<p>4 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>5 Ceramics Studio Every Thursday at 10 a.m. Duplicate Bridge On Thursdays at 12:15</p>	<p>6 Monthly Bagels Plus: "Schmear & Discover" Up to Barre in Progress Table Tennis at 1 p.m. Every Friday</p>
<p>9 Presentations on Fall Prevention Strategies & Heart Health & Cholesterol</p>	<p>10 Houseplant Lovers Unite every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 11 a.m. Lecture on Back Pain and Neuropathy Free Blood Pressure Scr.</p>	<p>11 Total Toning Starts Today! Wednesday Afternoons Are Open Game Days! Tribute to the Bee Gees!</p>	<p>12 Chair Yoga and Body Works are in Progress Movie Musical Love Affair!</p>	<p>13 ☆☆☆ Post July 4th Celebration Featuring Abe Lincoln ☆</p>
<p>16 Pain Management Talk Talk About Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew"</p>	<p>17 Body Works and Triple 15 are in Progress Collage with Karen Cancer Support Group</p>	<p>18 Diabetes Support Group Parkinson's Support Group Scheduled on the 1st Wednesday of the Month</p>	<p>19 Mixed Watercolor Starts Historical Lecture, Pt 1 Free Transportation Available to Activities!</p>	<p>20 Zumba Starts Today! Harmonica Enthusiasts Meet on Fridays at 10:30 Eyes on America</p>
<p>23 Move & Groove Starts Today! Design Your Own Coasters With Alcohol Inks! Enjoy MUSIC BINGO: Bingo with a Musical Twist!</p>	<p>24 Musical Lecture (TBA) Different Lectures, Movies, Classes, & Entertainment Offered Monthly</p>	<p>25 Boardwalk Bonanza Special Event! Caregivers Support For Alzheimer's</p>	<p>26 Historical Lecture, Pt. 2 Outreach Services Offered Throughout the Year: Info & Referrals Counseling</p>	<p>27 Boot Camp Starts Today! Pizza Plus (Movie TBD)</p>
<p>30 Art of the Masters: Focus on Copper Relief Wellness Workshop</p>	<p>31 Presentation on Samuel Morse: 19th C Renaissance Man ChessMates Meet On Tuesdays at Noon</p>	<p>ALL Special Programs for the Month Require Registration. Register in Advance to Get These Perks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guaranteed Seat • Easy Admission • Courtesy Call Regarding Program Updates 		

There's a New Medical Transport Bus in Monroe



In February, Monroe's Department of Transportation, along with Mayor and Council, welcomed a new medical transport bus dedicated to transporting seniors and physically-challenged residents to nearby medical appointments. Paid for by an NJDOT grant, this wheelchair

accessible, 20-passenger 2017 Ford F-450 is equipped with two ambulatory seats and is the third of its kind in the Township. For more information, contact Monroe's Department of Transportation representative at 609-443-0511.



Resident Dr. Kenneth Sable, president of Hackensack Meridian Health Jersey Shore University Medical Center, joined Mayor Tamburro and Councilwoman Cohen at the podium during a May 7 Township Council meeting to promote "Paint the Town Pink," an initiative encouraging women to schedule their annual mammograms to increase early breast-cancer detection.

Mayor's Show



In May, the Mayor Tamburro Show featured local members of the Police Benevolent Association representing Monroe's Unity Tour riders (pictured below), a team of Township police officers, who bike down to Washington, D.C. each spring to honor officers from around country, who've died in the line of duty.



Bring Your Child to Work Day

The municipality invited employees to bring their children to work on April 26 as part of an annual event that included appearances by local officials, games and other fun activities, like touch-a-truck.



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HackensackMeridianHealth.org/UrgentCare

888-878-1503, option 7

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Weekends 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

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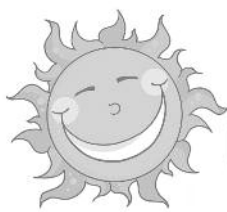


Recreation Calendar of Events

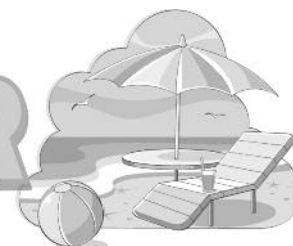
The Recreation Events Calendar will no longer be mailed out separately at the beginning of each year and will now be included in The Monroe News. It will also be available online at www.monroetwp.com.

June 2018

Monroe Township Department of Recreation
120 Monmouth Road • Monroe Twp., NJ 08831
732-723-5000 • monroerec.com



SUMMER



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Summer Rec Camp and MTSEPA Camp June 26–July 26						
3	4	5 MAYOR'S CUP WOMEN'S GOLF, Concordia, 8 AM	6 PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB Community Center, 7 PM	7	8	9 WRESTLING TOURNAMENT Community Center
10	11 SENIOR LUNCH & LEARN Community Ctr, 11 AM RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING Community Ctr, 7 PM	12	13	14 MAYOR'S CUP WOMEN'S PICKLEBALL, Community Center, 6 PM	15	16
17	18 MAYOR'S CUP MEN'S GOLF, Concordia, 11 AM MTGSA Board Meeting Community Ctr, 7 PM	19	20 PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB Community Center, 7 PM	21 FIRST DAY OF SUMMER MAYOR'S CUP PICKLEBALL Community Center, 6 PM	22	23
24	25 Jr. Falcon Football Camp Future Falcon Soccer Camp	26 First Day of Summer Rec Camp & MTSEPA Camp Jr. Falcon Football Camp Future Falcon Soccer Camp	27 Future Falcon Soccer Camp	28 Future Falcon Soccer Camp	29	30

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The Recreation Events Calendar will no longer be mailed out separately at the beginning of each year and will now be included in The Monroe News. It will also be available online at www.monroetwp.com.

Recreation Calendar of Events

July 2018

Monroe Township Department of Recreation
120 Monmouth Road • Monroe Twp., NJ 08831
732-723-5000 • monroerec.com



**CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY
AT THOMPSON PARK**
JULY 4, 2018
FESTIVITIES BEGIN AT 5:00PM
FIREWORKS AT DUSK



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 JULY 4TH CELEBRATION, Thompson Park, Festivities begin 5 PM, fireworks at dusk Community Center Closed	5	6	7
8	9 Lady Falcon Volleyball Camp Girls Lacrosse Camp Boys Lacrosse Camp	10 MAYOR'S CUP BASKETBALL, Comm. Ctr., 6 PM Lady Falcon Volleyball Camp Girls Lacrosse Camp Boys Lacrosse Camp	11 Lady Falcon Volleyball Camp Girls Lacrosse Camp Boys Lacrosse Camp	12 Lady Falcon Volleyball Camp Girls Lacrosse Camp Boys Lacrosse Camp	13 Boys Lacrosse Camp	14
15	16 Girls Lacrosse Camp Beginner Golf Camp Farm Camp	17 Girls Lacrosse Camp Beginner Golf Camp Farm Camp	18 PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB Community Center, 7 PM Girls Lacrosse Camp Beginner Golf Camp Farm Camp	19 Girls Lacrosse Camp Beginner Golf Camp Farm Camp	20 Beginner Golf Camp Farm Camp	21
22	23 Lady Falcon Field Hockey Camp Lil' Squirts Sports Camps	24 MAYOR'S CUP TABLE TENNIS, Comm. Ctr., 6 PM Lady Falcon Field Hockey Camp Lil' Squirts Sports Camps	25 Lady Falcon Field Hockey Camp Lil' Squirts Sports Camps	26 LAST DAY OF SUMMER REC CAMP & MTSEPA CAMP Lady Falcon Field Hockey Camp Lil' Squirts Sports Camps	27 Lil' Squirts Sports Camps	28
29	30 Falcon Basketball Camp Jr. Falcon Basketball Camp Intro Karate Summer Camp Mini Ninjas Summer Camp Mad Science Camp	31 Falcon Basketball Camp Jr. Falcon Basketball Camp Intro Karate Summer Camp Mini Ninjas Summer Camp Mad Science Camp	TENNIS LESSONS 8 CLASSES: DAYS & TIMES VARY DATES: JULY 2-AUGUST 9 TIME: MORNINGS WHO: STUDENTS GRADES 4-12, ADULTS 55+ WHERE: MTHS TENNIS COURTS FEE: \$25, \$30 OR \$15 BASED ON CLASS CHECK PAYABLE TO: MONROE RECREATION DIRECTOR: JIM KUSHNER		MONROE FALCON ICE HOCKEY CAMP DATES: JULY 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26, 31, & AUG. 2 TIME: 7:15PM-8:45PM GRADES: 5TH-12TH WHERE: PRO SKATE 1000 CORNWALL RD, MONMOUTH JUNCTION NJ 08852 FEE: \$125 CHECK PAYABLE TO: MONROE MIDDLE SCHOOL HOCKEY DIRECTORS: COACHES JERRY MINTER AND BRIAN CONOVER	

August 2018

Monroe Township Department of Recreation
120 Monmouth Road • Monroe Twp., NJ 08831
732-723-5000 • monroerec.com



ANNUAL FISHING DERBY
at Thompson Park
9:00 AM, August 14th
FREE FUN FAMILY EVENT

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB Community Center, 7 PM Falcon Basketball Camp Jr. Falcon Basketball Camp Intro Karate Summer Camp Mini Ninjas Summer Camp Mad Science Camp	2 Falcon Basketball Camp Jr. Falcon Basketball Camp Intro Karate Summer Camp Mini Ninjas Summer Camp Mad Science Camp	3 Falcon Basketball Camp Jr. Falcon Basketball Camp Intro Karate Summer Camp Mini Ninjas Summer Camp Mad Science Camp	4
5	6 Future Falcon Soccer Camp Lady Falcon Basketball Camp Mad Science Camp Pre-K Mad Science Camp	7 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT Thompson Park, 6 PM Future Falcon Soccer Camp Lady Falcon Basketball Camp Mad Science Camp Pre-K Mad Science Camp	8 Future Falcon Soccer Camp Lady Falcon Basketball Camp Mad Science Camp Pre-K Mad Science Camp	9 Future Falcon Soccer Camp Lady Falcon Basketball Camp Mad Science Camp Pre-K Mad Science Camp	10 Lady Falcon Basketball Camp Mad Science Camp Pre-K Mad Science Camp	11
12	13 Hip-Hop Gymnastics Camp Twirling Camp Children's Theatre Camp Creative Writing Camp Falcon Basketball Camp Jr. Falcon Basketball Camp Jr. Engineering for Kids Camp Apprentice Engineering Camp	14 FISHING DERBY, Thompson Park, 9 AM Hip-Hop Gymnastics Camp, Twirling Camp, Children's Theatre Camp, Creative Writing Camp, Falcon Basketball Camp, Jr. Falcon Basketball Camp, Jr. Engineering for Kids Camp, Apprentice Engineering Camp	15 PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB Community Center, 7 PM Hip-Hop Gymnastics Camp, Twirling Camp, Children's Theatre Camp, Creative Writing Camp, Falcon Basketball Camp, Jr. Falcon Basketball Camp, Jr. Engineering for Kids Camp, Apprentice Engineering Camp	16 THEATER CAMP PERFORMANCE TBD, 7 PM Children's Theatre Camp Creative Writing Camp Falcon Basketball Camp Jr. Falcon Basketball Camp Jr. Engineering for Kids Camp Apprentice Engineering Camp	17 Falcon Basketball Camp Jr. Falcon Basketball Camp Jr. Engineering for Kids Camp Apprentice Engineering Camp	18
19	20 Summer Art Camp Bricks 4 Kidz Lego Camp Healthy Lifestyles Camp Jr. Golf Camp	21 Summer Art Camp Bricks 4 Kidz Lego Camp Healthy Lifestyles Camp Jr. Golf Camp	22 Summer Art Camp Bricks 4 Kidz Lego Camp Healthy Lifestyles Camp Jr. Golf Camp	23 ART CAMP EXHIBIT Community Center, 7 PM Summer Art Camp Bricks 4 Kidz Lego Camp Healthy Lifestyles Camp Jr. Golf Camp	24 Bricks 4 Kidz Lego Camp Healthy Lifestyles Camp Jr. Golf Camp	25
26	27 Future Falcons Baseball Camp Film Camp	28 Future Falcons Baseball Camp Film Camp	29 MAYOR'S CUP DUPLICATE BRIDGE, Senior Center, 11 AM Future Falcons Baseball Camp Film Camp	30 Film Camp	31	

Footlights Club Impresses with Legally Blonde, The Musical

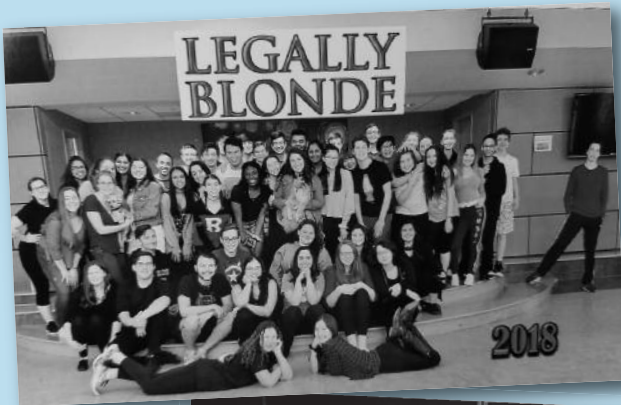
The Monroe Township High School Footlights' spring musical brought a touch of Broadway to a Monroe stage in late April.

Under the leadership of Director Robert Byrnes and choreographer Candice Theinert, the showcase, "Legally Blonde, The Musical," aimed to impress, leaving audiences saying, "Omigod."

Adapted from the Broadway production, as well as the highly celebrated novel and film, the musical centered around Elle Woods, a fashion merchandising major and quintessential sorority girl. The storyline develops when Woods attempts to salvage her relationship with a Harvard-bound ex-boyfriend by enrolling in the Ivy League's law school.

Along the way, Woods discovers friendship, self-worth, a newfound confidence, as well as a new love interest.

Monroe's own high school students awed crowds with energy-filled performances and even featured two dogs, playing Woods' own canine companions, Bruiser and Rufus.



The Monroe High School Footlights Club debuted "Legally Blonde, The Musical" on a local stage April 26.

Photos Courtesy of the Monroe Township School District.

Applegarth's Own "Certified Kind" Classroom

At Applegarth Elementary School, Melissa Evans' fifth-grade class recently participated in a nationwide challenge to "fill a jar with kindness."

The activity was inspired from a famous quote in the children's novel "Wonder" by R.J. Palacio: "When given the choice between being right or being kind, choose kind."

Upon reading "Wonder," the class discussed the theme of the

book and how they could live their life by choosing kind.

For the challenge, students had to find acts of kindness that their classmates completed in the classroom or while at school.

Every time they saw someone from their class complete an act of kindness, they put a pom-pom ball in a jar.

The class eventually filled the jar twice, as they witnessed 100 acts of kindness.

The objective of reading "Wonder" and participating in this challenge was for students to learn the importance of kindness and that every small act can make a difference.

The school has since submitted a photo of the filled jar to the R.J. Palacio, who has deemed Evans' students as a "Certified Kind" classroom for the 2017-18 school year.

Escape to America: An Adventure Through Ellis Island

By Danielle Mazza

The year is 1904.

Twenty-four "immigrant" students eagerly hold their boarding passes in the air, ready to depart their home countries in search of a better life.

After several days at sea, the Ellis Island processing center is in view.

Students are greeted by the voice of an Irish immigrant, as feelings of hope and excitement rush through their bodies.

This scenario was a reality for the fourth graders of Room 25 as

they recently took on the "Escape to America" challenge.

Students used Scholastic's Ellis Island Tour, a virtual simulation, to answer questions and earn clues.

These clues would be useful in unlocking a four-digit combination lock to escape to America. In addition, students were required to pass psychological and physical tests to proceed through Ellis Island.

Immigrants deemed unhealthy were marked

with a chalk letter, denoting a specific illness, and temporarily detained at the Ellis Island hospital.

The adults in the classroom actively participated in this experience, assuming the role of either an immigration officer or a nurse.

The final task was a citizenship test, which assessed the students' knowledge of U.S. history and government.

The activity has surely been an adventure the students will remember forever.

Winter Sports Highlights

Boys Basketball

- (7-17) lost to St. Joe's in 1st round of GMC Tournament as #16 seed.
- States - #16 seed lost to #1 Colts Neck in overtime.

Girls Basketball

- (7-16) Lost to Bishop Ahr as #14 in GMC Tournament.
- State game – #15 seed lost to #2 Montgomery.

Boys Winter Track

- Jordan Kaplan finished 8th in State in the 800.
- Finished 4th in Red Division.

Girls Winter Track

- Finished 4th in Red Division.

Ice Hockey

- (15-9-1) beat Woodbridge as #4 in GMC to win Conference title.
- #10 seed in State. Beat #7 Hillsborough and then lost to #2 Seed Hunterdon Central in State Quarter Finals.

Wrestling

- (18-5) Finished 3rd overall at GMC's. Andy Lombard 138-pound GMC Champ.
- #4 seed in State. Lost to #2 Hunterdon Central in State Semi-final.
- Finished 2nd in District Tournament –

8 wrestlers advanced to Regionals with 4 district champs – Joe Fiodaliso, Mike Bilardo, Kaylon Bradley, Justin Hopmann.

- Kaylon Bradley 195-pound Region Champ.
- Kaylon Bradley, Andy Lombard and Joe Fiordaliso advanced to States.

Boys Bowling

- (12-2-2) – beat Edison.
- Beat Edison for GMC Championship.
- Lou Folgore finished 3rd in County.

Girls Bowling

- (11-4-1) Beat Old Bridge.
- Lost in GMC Semifinals. GMC Tournament #5 seed.
- Victoria Stasicky finished 2nd in the County
- Won Central Jersey Group IV Championship.
- Finished 3rd in State Group 4 Championships.

Cheer

- Went undefeated in regular season.
- Won State Championship.
- Won National Title.



Ice Hockey - Greater Middlesex Conference Champions



Competition Cheer - State Championship and National Champions



Girls Bowling - Central NJ Group 4 State Sectional Champions

Congratulations to MTHS Class of 2018

Albany College	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University	Marywood University	Saint Francis University	University of Maryland
Albright College	Emory University	Michigan State University	Saint Joseph's University	University of Massachusetts
American University	Fairfield University	Middlesex County College	Saint Louis University	University of Miami
Arcadia University	Fairleigh Dickinson University	Millersville University	Saint Peter's University	University of Michigan
Arizona State University	Fashion Institute of Technology	Monmouth University	Salisbury University	University of Minnesota
Auburn University	FIDM	Montclair State University	San Diego State University	University of Mississippi
Baldwin Wallace University	Florida Atlantic University	Moravian College	Seton Hall University	University of Nebraska
Baruch College	Florida Gulf Coast University	Mount Ida College	Shippensburg University	University of New England
Baylor University	Florida Institute of Technology	Mount Saint Mary College	Southern Utah University	University of New Hampshire
Bentley University	Fordham University	Mount St. Mary's University	St. Bonaventure University	University of New Haven
Bethune-Cookman University	George Mason University	N.J.I.T.	St. John's University	University of New York
Binghamton University	George Washington University	N.Y. Institute of Technology	State University of New York	University of North Carolina
Bloomsburg University	Georgia State University	New England College	Stetson University	University of Pennsylvania
Boston College	Georgian Court University	New Jersey City University	Stevens Institute of Technology	University of Pittsburgh
Bridgewater College	Gettysburg College	New York Institute of Technology	Stevens University	University of Rhode Island
Brookdale Community College	Hampshire College	New York University	Stony Brook University	University of Scranton
Brooklyn College	Hartwick College	North Carolina Central University	SUNY College at Old Westbury	University of South Carolina
Brown University	High Point University	North Carolina State University	Suny College at Cobleskill	University of South Florida
Cabrini University	Hofstra University	North Greenville University	SUNY College at Cortland	University of Southern California
Caldwell University	Howard University	Northeastern University	SUNY College at Potsdam	University of Tampa
California State University	Indiana University	Northwestern University	Syracuse University	University of Tennessee
Canisius College	Ithaca College	Nova Southeastern University	Temple University	University of the Arts
Case Western Reserve University	James Madison University	Ohio State University	Texas A&M University	University of the Sciences
Centenary University	John Jay College of Criminal Justice	Oregon State University	Texas Christian University	University of Texas
Christopher Newport University	Johns Hopkins University	Pace University	Texas Tech University	University of Toledo
Clark University	Johnson & Wales University	Pennsylvania College	The Catholic University of America	University of Virginia
Clarkson University	Kean University	Pennsylvania State University	The College of New Jersey	University of Wisconsin
Clemson University	Kent State University	PrattMWP	Thomas Jefferson University	Ursinus College
Coastal Carolina University	King's College	Princeton University	Towson University	Vanderbilt University
College of Charleston	Kutztown University	Purdue University	Tufts University	Villanova University
College of William and Mary	La Salle University	Queens College	University at Buffalo	Virginia Commonwealth University
Colorado State University	Lehigh University	Quinnipiac University	University of Alabama at Birmingham	Virginia Tech
Cornell University	Lesley University	Radford University	University of Arizona	Wagner College
Delaware College	Liberty University	Ramapo College	University of Bridgeport	Washington College
Delaware University	Long Island University, Post University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of California	West Chester University
DePaul University	Loyola Marymount University	Rider University	University of Central Florida	West Virginia University
DeSales University	Lynchburg College	Ringling College of Art & Design	University of Colorado	Western New England University
Drake University	Manhattan College	Roanoke College	University of Connecticut	Widener University
Drew University	Marist College	Robert Morris University	University of Delaware	Wilkes University
Drexel University	Marymount Manhattan College	Roger Williams University	University of Denver	William Paterson University
Duke University		Rowan University	University of Florida	Xavier University
Duquesne University		Rutgers University	University of Hartford	York College of Pennsylvania
East Carolina University		Sacred Heart University	University of Illinois	
East Stroudsburg University			University of Maryland	
Elon University			Washington	

County Awards



Pictured here (Left to Right): District Superintendent Dr. Michael Kozak, school board President Kathy Kolupanowich, students Sam Tenenbaum and Kiera Sears, along with school board member Patty Lang. All attended the Middlesex County School Boards Association's 2018 Student Recognition Program in March, when Sam was recognized for his work with the Junior Falcon PALS Program and Kiera for teaching younger girls coding and other technology.

Through the Eyes of Lenni Lenape

Fourth graders at Applegarth Elementary School worked harder than ever as they built a Lenape longhouse at Huber Woods Park this spring.

Students thought like a Lenape child by understanding human needs for food and shelter in the woodlands of New Jersey.

The importance of settlement near a water

source was evident in the park's location, which sits close to the Navesink River.

Students learned how to build a structure by digging with clam shells, wrapping, frapping and using only natural resources.

Teamwork was important, along with patience and communication, to complete a successful life-size shelter.

The instructors, known as naturalists, helped guide the students by teaching them the customs and appreciation of the Lenape Way of life in the 1600s.

The trip proved insightful in understanding how the influence of Native Americans have manifested throughout the region and the State.

Kids! You'll Move Mountains



Officer George Olynyk reads "The Sneetches and Other Stories" by Dr. Seuss to a group of second graders at Oak Tree Elementary School on March 2 as part of the Read Across America initiative.

In its 2018 rankings, *U.S. News and World Report* named the Monroe Township High School the 57th best high school in New Jersey.



The Monroe News is now accepting ads for the Next Issue...

call (908) 789-0700



A Look Back...

Teacher Lenora Applegate poses behind students at Monroe's one-room schoolhouse in 1908.

Rabies Clinic



Nearly 400 attendees participated in this year's rabies vaccination clinic, hosted by the Township Clerk's Office, in cooperation with the municipal DPW and Animal Control Division, at Monroe's Recreation Center on March 3.

It's Time to Splash!

Monroe's Spray Park

Now – Labor Day
7 Days Per Week/10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

FREE & OPEN TO PUBLIC

More Info at Rec Dept. 732-723-5000

Monroe Recreation Department's Annual Fishing Derby

Free Event on Tuesday, Aug. 14, 2018 in Thompson Park
Begins at 9 a.m. • Call 732-723-5000 for details.

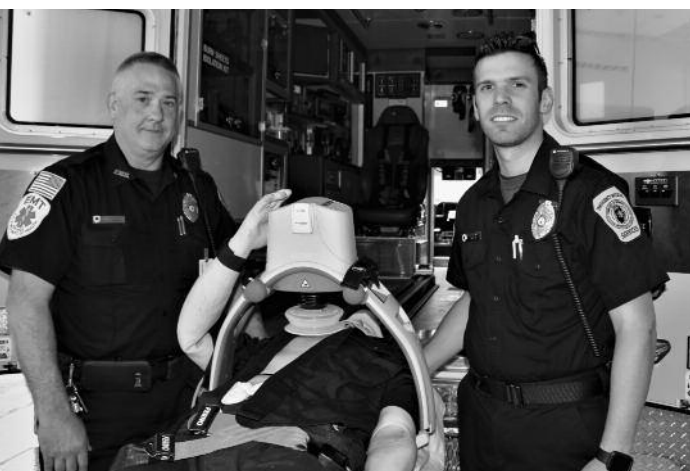
Monroe's National Night Out

Community-Based Police Awareness Event
Tuesday, Aug. 7, 2018 • 6 p.m.-9 p.m. in Thompson Park

12th Annual Stream Cleanup



The 12th Annual Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association's Stream Cleanup saw a great turnout at the Township's Community Garden on Earth Day, April 22.



Unlike manual CPR, the automated chest-compression system, seen here, delivers compressions with precision in depth and frequency. Monroe's EMS is expected to have 10 of these systems distributed to its four stations by May's end.

Monroe's Occupational Health & Safety Program Offering: CPR & First Aid Training at Town Hall

Course Times Vary & Fees Range from \$60 to \$90

Contact Clinical Coordinator
Bill Gardener at 732-521-4400
or bgardener@monroetwp.com

Monroe Township Parks *Continued from page 8*

working team. In particular, Foreman Frank Botti goes above and beyond, working to elevate our operation every day.

Q. What are some of the major differences between Monroe's fields?

A. The main differences are in purpose or usage. The care of a baseball field has little in common with the care of a soccer field. Each complex requires a different approach, tailored to the field's intended usage and how much is going to be demanded of the field over the course of the year. There are differences in each facility's physical characteristics as well. For example, the Thomas Allen Softball Complex has soil with extremely high clay content, while Veterans Park and Daniel Ryan Field have very sandy soils. James Monroe Park has a lot of shade, while the Soccer Complex does not. Physical attributes such as these make a big difference when it comes to turf management.

Q. Describe some of the maintenance involved in grounds keeping.

A. While there are many aspects to the job, I'm primarily a sports field manager. Each day my team preps five baseball and three softball fields, the infields must be groomed and appropriate lining takes place. All grass is cut once per week, athletic fields are cut twice per week during periods of vigorous growth. Fields which require painted lines, such as soccer and football, are laid out to proper dimensions, and then painted weekly. Turf management operations, such as seeding, fertilizing, and aeration, are carried out as required throughout the year, half by schedule and half by reacting to need.

Larger jobs such as mulching or infield resurfacing, are scheduled

in as required. Facilities need to be maintained in regard to cleanliness as well. Litter and restrooms are serviced daily, trash and recycling are removed weekly. Time also needs to be allotted to keep our equipment serviced, to support the Township's many special events, as well as to complete any larger projects we take on. For example, we recently installed two new scoreboards at James Monroe Park and we are building a new cricket pitch at Veterans Park.

Q. Any fun or unique facts about your job or the grounds that you can share with us?

A. Monroe Parks is a past recipient of the Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey's "Field of the Year Award." We received that honor in 2008 for one of the fields at our softball complex.



Thomas Allen Softball Complex



Daniel Ryan Field



James Monroe Park

Think Locally, Act Globally



Using costumes, dances and skits, the Girl Scouts of Central and Southern New Jersey took the public around the globe on Feb. 24 during their annual World Thinking Day performances at the Monroe Township High School auditorium.

Stay in the Know!

Sign up for the Township's Constant Contact Email Subscription Poised to Launch in Summer 2018

Sign-up on Township Website www.monroetwp.com Or by Emailing mprato@monroetwp.com



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Another Egg-cellent Hunt

Between the egg hunt, spoon race, Peep dioramas and bonnet parade, it was wall-to-wall fun at the Community Center on March 24 for Monroe's Annual Egg Hunt. Monroe's Recreation and DPW staff orchestrating yet another "Egg-cellent" event.



Spring into Recycling

Monroe's Free Bulk Pick Up Program

Runs April 1 to November 1

Log onto www.monroetwp.com for details or contact 732-656-4575 to book an appointment.

Monroe's Paint Recycling Program

Every 3rd Saturday of the Month

Drop-off Paint-Filled Cans at Monroe's DPW Yard, 76 Spotswood Gravel Hill Road
Between 8a.m. – 11:30a.m. Call 732-656-4575 for information.

Middlesex County's Upcoming Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off

Friday, July 20, 2018 at East Brunswick Vo-Tech (12p.m. – 6p.m.)

Sunday, Oct. 21, 2018 at Old Bridge Department of Public Works (8a.m. – 2p.m.)

Visit www.MiddlesexCountyNJ.gov or call 732-745-4170 for a full list of events/details on items collected.

Middlesex County's Paper Shredding Collection

Friday, Sept. 7 in Thompson Park from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. or until shredding truck is filled.

Visit www.MiddlesexCountyNJ.gov or call 732-745-4170 for further information.

Dey Farm Gets Modern-Day Makeover with ADA Upgrades

Renovations that will allow visitors with physical challenges to access the full range of tours at Monroe's historic Dey Farm are currently underway.

To complete work, the Township tapped into a portion of a \$300,000 grant earmarked for projects bringing sites up to modern-day standards set by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The upgrades include the addition of a handicap-accessible ramp at the farm house, an ADA-compliant bathroom and barn entry and an extension of pathways that will now traverse the property – looping from the parking lot to the barn to the farmhouse and back.

"Now everyone can enjoy this historic site, made up of a one-room school house, a refurbished barn and a homestead dating back to the



ADA upgrades are underway at the Dey Farm, which will allow physically-challenged visitors full access to the historic site's tours.

founding of this community, circa 1838," said Township Historian John Katerba. "Each of these structures displays a trove of antique treasures and a window into the lives of Monroe's

earliest residents."

Improvements to the property began in November. Township officials anticipate the project's completion by June.

Join Us!

League of Women Voters of Monroe Celebrates 30th Anniversary

Sunday, July 8 at Historic Dey Farm • Noon to 4 p.m.

Pack a Picnic, Tour the Old School House
and Attend Lecture on Monroe's Early Female Educators

Rain Date: Sunday, July 15



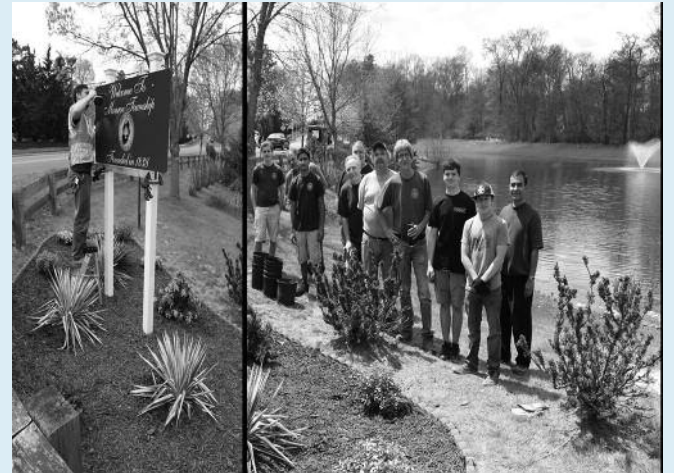
Forever Tina!

Monroe Township Cultural Arts Commission drew a sizeable crowd during Forever Tina! A Tribute to the Legendary Tina Turner on April 29 at the Marasco Center.

Photos courtesy of Alessandro Graziano.



Welcome to Monroe



Eagle Scout prospect Kushal Negi, with the help of his fellow Boy Scout Troop 3 volunteers, spearheaded the installation of a welcome sign and evergreen garden at the corner of Matchaponix and Texas roads.



Monroe Township League of Women Voters honored civic leaders on May 20, including Monroe's Library Director Irene Goldberg, Township Historian John Katerba and former Council President, now Freeholder Leslie Koppel, along with the group's current Vice-President Ruth Banks.

Library Hosts "First Friday" Program

Between Now and October/
The First Friday of Each Month
At the Monroe Township First Aid Building,
47 Monmouth Road

Open to Kids of all Ages

Library's Bookmobile on site from
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Questions? Contact 732-521-5000 x 116.

Scouts Race to the Finish Line

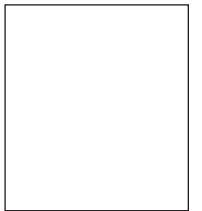


Monroe's Recreation Center hosted the Pack 3 Pinewood Derby racing event on March 11, when local scouts' hard work and creative miniature wooden cars were on full display for the Mayor, Council and the public.

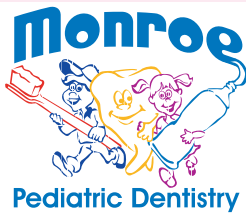
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Mayor Tamburro & Council Present Independence Day Fireworks Spectacular

July 4th at 5 p.m. in Thompson Park

Music, Vendors, Kids Activities and More

Fireworks Kickoff at Dark

Parking & Shuttles at Fir Drive,
Near Softball Fields

Contact Recreation Department
at 732-723-5000 for Details



Opening Day – Play Ball!



Crowds were greeted with beautiful weather, first pitches and parades during the opening-day ceremonies for Monroe's softball and baseball leagues on April 14.

CENTURY 21

About Town Realty

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EYE OUT...

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