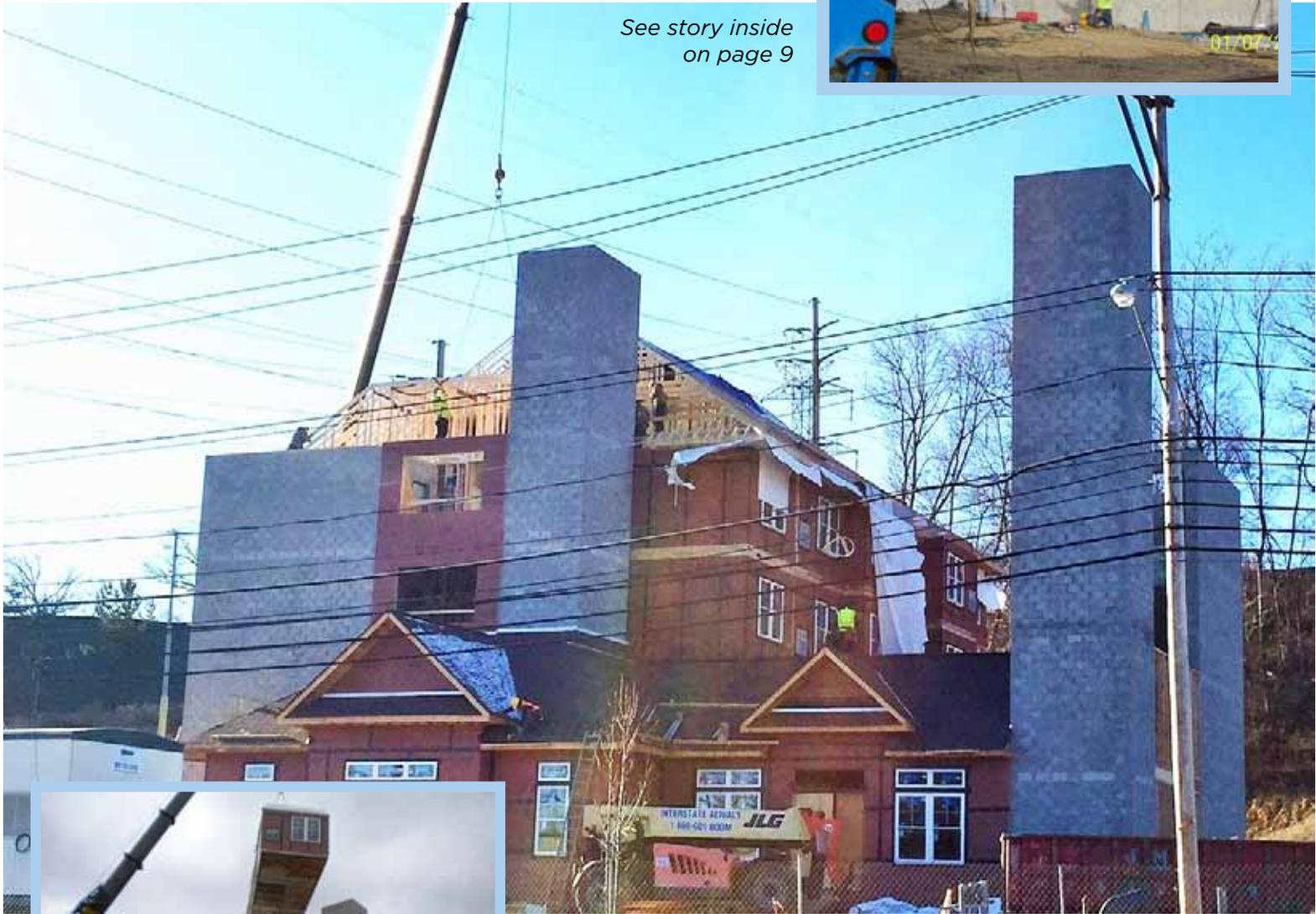


Borough of Morris Plains

PLAINS TALK

February 2016

*See story inside
on page 9*



Mayor

Frank J. Druetzler

Council President

Suzanne B. McCluskey

Councilmembers

Joseph Cecala, Jr.

Sal Cortese

Jack Doherty

Laurie Fu

Jason C. Karr

REORGANIZATION 2016



John Boudreau retires after serving 25 years as Fire Inspector for the Borough

MAYOR'S ADDRESS

Good Evening,

Tonight, my fellow citizens, as is our custom at Reorganization, we report very briefly on the results of our efforts in 2015 and some of our plans and goals for our town in 2016.

As always, we continue to work on improving our Borough infrastructure. In 2015, we paved portions of Watnong Drive and Trowbridge Road and installed the first phase of sidewalks on Central Avenue. We also continued the Speedwell Avenue Beautification Program with new lighting and brick pavers from Dayton road to East Hanover Avenue.

In 2016, with a \$160,000 State grant, we will pave Mountain Way from Glenbrook Road to Granniss Avenue. We will also pave Keenan Place, Burch Drive, Merchant Place, Borough Terrace and the Library parking lot. We plan to complete the Central Avenue sidewalk project and the final phase of the Speedwell Avenue Beautification Program from Hillview Avenue to West Hanover Avenue.

We are still in litigation with M&M properties which owns the site located between the railroad and Route 53. M&M has at least another year of cleanup to do there. We will continue to strive to make the best decisions for the people of Morris Plains regarding this site. However the final decision will be made by the court. Just like all New Jersey municipalities, we await the court's decision on our "Third Round" Affordable Housing obligation. The M&M site and our Third Round housing obligation are our most challenging issues in 2016.

In 2015, we started construction of 56 units of Affordable Housing on Route 53, across from the Recycling Center. You can see we are well on our way and hope to be completed by September or October. Starting in the Spring, we will begin an application listing.

In July, we have tentative plans to pick up your recycling every week. We will then also close the Recycling Center at Noon on Saturdays.

Roseland Properties will be constructing high-end apartments at 250 Johnson Road once it demolishes the office building currently on the site. Capitol Seniors Housing will begin constructing an assisted living facility on the current site of the Manor at Bretton Woods. Also, Investors Bank was granted approval by the Board of Adjustment to construct a new bank at the northern corner of Dayton Road and Speedwell Avenue.

We are thrilled that the State has demolished the old dilapidated buildings at Greystone Park. The 180 acres of surplus property will eventually be turned over to the Morris County Park Commission and it will be kept for open space and recreation. We are not happy with the slow progress on getting an access road built from Hanover Avenue to Central Park to alleviate the traffic on local roads, and we continue to push for this road.



Councilman Joe Cecala and Councilwoman Laurie Fu take the Oath of Office

On October 10, 2015 we hosted a One Day One School beautification and safety initiative at Borough School. This program was started several years ago by Hanover Twp. Committeeman, Tom 'Ace' Gallagher. It was a great success! Dead trees were removed and others were trimmed. Shrubs and flowers were planted. We thank Ace and Hanover Twp., Florham Park and East Hanover, and especially the many volunteers who made this program work for the Borough School. Our next collaboration with Hanover Twp. will be a joint Little League Baseball Clinic. Morris Plains continues to look for joint partnerships with our neighbors. 2015 marked the end of our No Net Loss Tree Planting Program. We planted over 400 trees with this State grant.

Also in 2015 we welcomed Honeywell Global Headquarters to our community. They are a great addition, and we are very pleased and thrilled. Some people are saying that Honeywell is not paying property taxes. This is not true. They certainly are paying local property taxes just like all of us!

A Community Band under the direction of Larry Ripley began in the Fall. New members are always welcome. Larry can be contacted at 973-984-2505. Our Garden Club could also use some volunteers to help plant and maintain the flower tubs along Speedwell Avenue. If interested, please call Borough

Hall at 973-538-2224. Our Beautification Committee, Municipal Alliance, Teen Center, Library, Museum, Kids Helping Kids program, Clean Communities Program, Recreation, Farmers' Market and Community Center continue to flourish.

On behalf of the Borough Council, I wish to thank the Borough employees, all of the many, many volunteers on boards, commissions, committees, and ALL citizens for your devotion to our town. Together we will face many challenges which will also present new opportunities. Our goal is to seize these new opportunities and become an even better community.

Your governing body thanks YOU for your support and we always welcome your thoughts.

HAPPY NEW YEAR AND GOD BLESS YOU!

Mayor Frank Druetzler



Above: Mayor Frank presents Dave and Barbara Visscher with the Community Service Award for 2016 for their years of dedicated service to our community in so many ways, including their 30 years of support of, and participation in, the Annual Memorial Day Parade.



Above: Presentation of Badges to the 2016 Officers of the Morris Plains Volunteer Fire Department

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Chief 1:</i> | <i>Kevin Rongo</i> |
| <i>Chief 2:</i> | <i>Bob Webster</i> |
| <i>Chief 3:</i> | <i>John Downs, Jr.</i> |
| <i>Engineer:</i> | <i>Paul Cullen, III</i> |
| <i>Asst. Engineer:</i> | <i>Don Underhill</i> |
| <i>Fire Prevention Chief:</i> | <i>Chris Shay</i> |
| <i>Battalion Chief:</i> | <i>Larry Everitt</i> |





Mayor Druetzler and Chief Kohn congratulate Police Officers (L to R): Bruce Rapp, Jeffrey Hochman, Ryan McKay, Michael Kelly, Robert Guild and Nicholas Grawehr for their recent actions taken in saving the life of a choking patron at Arthur's Tavern. Also involved in the rescue but not pictured was Hanover Twp. Police Officer James Grawehr.

HONORING MORRIS PLAINS' FINEST



Promotions: Officers Michael Koroski (left) and Michael Rolph (right) are pictured with their families while taking the Oath of Office of Police Lieutenant



**Rotary Club of Morris Plains
Presents**

7th Annual



Derby Night at the Races!

Saturday, April 2, 2016 - 6:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

Ukrainian American Cultural Center

60 North Jefferson Road, Whippany, NJ 07981

Join us for a fun night that includes an "All you can eat" dinner with beer, wine, soft drinks, video cast horseracing, and prizes.

For Ticket Information and Details Contact
Larry Ripley at larryripley@verizon.net or 973-539-4598

This event raises money for the Morris Plains Rotary's many community projects. Annually, the Morris Plains Rotary sponsors the Child ID and Third Grade Dictionary project; scholarships for students at Borough School, St. Virgil's School, and Morristown H.S.; Medical Alert units for Morris Plains and Morris Township Residents; Uncle Frank's Fishing Contest; Halloween Window Painting; Labor Day Block Dance; and Holiday Tree Lighting.

Morris Plains Rotary provides support to community organizations and events such as Little League, Garden Club, Memorial Day Parade, Morris Minutemen, Police, Firefighters, Employment Horizons, Community Blood Drives, Interfaith Food Pantry, and many others.

The Rotary Club has funded or built many facilities to improve the community, including the Pavilion at Community Park, scoreboards for the Little League field, playground at Simons Park, computer for Morris Plains Library, clocks for the Morris Plains Borough Hall and Merchant's block corner, Flag Pole Bases and American Flags for Speedwell Avenue, Bench for 911 Memorial, community bulletin board on Merchants Block Corner.

Morris Plains Rotary supports international programs such as Polio Eradication, Gift of Life Children's Heart Surgeries; and the Rotary international Youth Exchange.

DOES YOUR HOUSE NEED WORK?



The Morris County Housing Rehabilitation Program provides funds to income eligible homeowners to address major system failures in their primary residence.

General Requirements:	Yes	No
Are you a permanent Morris County Resident?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you own and have lived in your house for at least one year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is this your principal residence?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you fall within the income limits in the chart below?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Family Size	Gross Income
1	\$46,100
2	\$52,650
3	\$59,250
4	\$65,800
5	\$71,100
6	\$76,350
7	\$81,600
8	\$86,900

Program Requirements:

- √ Funds are to be used for major repairs or conditions related to health or safety
- √ Examples of work: Roof replacement; furnace replacement; upgrade electrical; construct new well or septic; sewer or water hook-ups; provide handicapped access, etc.
- √ Type of assistance: No interest, no payment 6-year or 10-year **forgivable** loan (term is dependent on amount of assistance).
- √ Contact Community Development BEFORE any work is done or contracts are signed.

INTERESTED?

If you have answered “Yes” to the questions above, and you are in need of help, call or write:
 Morris County Office of Community Development
 PO Box 900
 Morristown, New Jersey 07963-0900
 Telephone: 973-285-6032
 HOgorman@co.morris.nj.us.

The Morris County Community Development Program is funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This program is a cooperative effort of the federal government through the Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders and 37 municipalities to meet housing and neighborhood needs throughout the County. The Housing Rehabilitation Program is only one of the many activities receiving funding through this annual grant.





Winter Safety

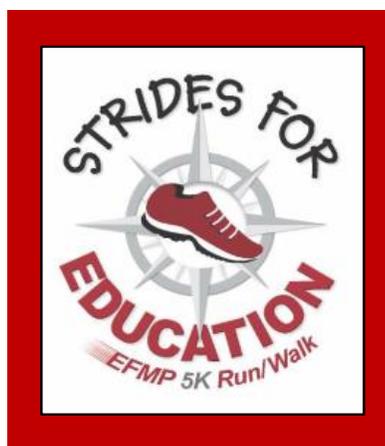
- It may still be warm outside, yet winter safety starts with being prepared. Some suggestions include:
- Winterize your home: install weather stripping, insulation and storm windows. Clean out gutters and repair roof leaks.
- Check your heating system having it serviced by a professional to make sure that it is clean, working properly and ventilated to the outside. Inspect and clean fireplaces and chimneys.
- Be prepared for weather-related emergencies, including power outages. Stock foods that need no cooking or refrigeration and water stored in clean containers. Keep your cell phone fully charged. Have an up-to-date emergency kit with flashlights, extra batteries and other items you may want to have.
- When participating in winter sports, use helmets for children when ice skating, skiing, and snowboarding.
- Have an emergency kit for your car in case you are stranded during a snow storm. Items include a warm blanket, hand warmers, snow shovel, flashlight and extra batteries, snacks, and a first aid kit.
- Wear appropriate outdoor clothing: layers of light, warm clothing; mittens; hats; scarves and waterproof boots. Limit time outside for young children. Your body begins to lose heat faster than it can be produced in cold weather.

Prolonged exposure to cold will eventually use up your body's stored energy. The result is hypothermia, or abnormally low body temperature. Body temperature that is too low affects the brain, making the victim unable to think clearly or move well. Because of this, hypothermia is dangerous, not knowing it is happening.

Frostbite is an injury to the body that is caused by freezing. It causes a loss of feeling and color in affected areas. It most often affects the nose, ears, cheeks, chin, fingers, or toes. At the first sign of redness and pain in any skin area, get out of the cold or protect any exposed skin.

Taking preventive actions is the best defense against having to deal with extreme-cold weather conditions.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



5K RUN or WALK
to Support Morris Plains Schools

Thursday, May 5th - 6:00 pm
Central Park of Morris County

Watch Our Website for Details Coming Soon!

www.educationfoundationmp.com



Morris Plains Museum

51 Jim Fear Drive, Morris Plains, New Jersey 07950
973-683-1089

2016 is Shaping Up to be a Banner Year for the Museum!

With the purchase of three new display cases, we have been able to expand the Davenport exhibit and the G. Washington Coffee Plant exhibit.



We continue to add to our “Glimpse of Greystone” exhibit. Greystone provided employment for many Morris Plains residents when it opened in 1876.

George Washington, a scientist who emigrated from Belgium, discovered how to manufacture instant coffee. He opened his plant here in 1927 - one year after our town was incorporated. It was our first industry.



These exhibits are a look back at the history of our town.

ATTENTION: MORRISTOWN HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Reminder: Applications are available in the MHS Guidance Office for the Helen H. Schnack Scholarship, which is given to a graduating MHS Senior. The application must be completed and turned into the Guidance Office by April 14, 2016. The Scholarship will be awarded at the MHS Senior Awards Night.

**The Museum is open on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Saturdays of each month
from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

We are always eager to welcome new members to our Association.

Our general meeting is on the 3rd Saturday at 11:00 a.m.



MORRIS PLAINS LIBRARY

77 GLENBROOK ROAD • MORRIS PLAINS • NJ • 07950 • 973-538-2599

New Year! New Look!



A long overdue remodel has finally taken shape at our hometown library. A fresh new porch is being built to replace the old slate porch that had become unusable. Our new porch will be available for use by those of our patrons who want to enjoy the outdoors while reading a book, using their electronic devices or leafing through a magazine. The porch area will be a quiet zone with no smoking or cell phone usage allowed. The finishing touches will take place in the spring, so please check with us to find out when the porch will be open. We hope you'll stop by and "sit a spell" and we thank you for your patience during this construction phase. A special shout-out to the Road Department for all their hard work on this project!!

Our own Steve Storgion will have his art work displayed at the Morristown/Morris Township Library thru 20 March 2016. Please stop over and view his original, unique work. A guaranteed memorable experience! Quite a talent!

Forget about the cold weather and let's get reading! Here are our Staff selections to get us through the first few cold months of a brand new year:

- Rogue Lawyer by John Grisham
- The Crossing by Michael Connelly
- Cross Justice by James Patterson
- The Magic Strings of Frankie Presto by Mitch Albom
- Tricky Twenty-Two by Janet Evanovich
- Boys in the Trees by Carly Simon
- See Me by Nicholas Sparks
- The Truth According to Us by Annie Barrows
- Dead Wake by Erik Larson

A few reminders:

Story Time with Jessica is now on Tuesday mornings at 10:30. Ages 2-5 are welcome

Our next Paper Shredding Event is Saturday 16 April 2016 -9am-12 sharp- rain or shine and \$5 per box donation

In case of inclement weather, please remember if our schools are closed- we will be closed. Thank-you in advance for your patience!

As always please feel free to call us for any further information. 973-538-2599. Be warm, Be well, and Keep Reading!!

— Camille —

January 18, 2016 to March 20, 2016

The Unique Work of Steve Storgion

Exhibition on view in the F.M. Kirby Exhibition Gallery - The Morristown-Morris Township Library, 1 Miller Road, Morristown 07960
A reception for the exhibit will take place in the Gallery on **Wednesday, February 3rd at 7:00 PM**

Artist **Steve Storgion** has a style reminiscent of Surrealism and Salvador Dali but also of illustrators of fantasy and science fiction novels who painted covers for The Lord of the Rings, Swords of Shannara and other series. Some of his images incorporate dream-like sequences involving creative creatures or the displacement of ballerinas or animals in a bleak or otherworldly setting. Yet other **Storgion** paintings almost speak like a Joseph Cornell box for the internet age given all of the figures and activity contained therein. And even with his surrealistic tendencies, **Storgion** also has done more traditional seascapes and silhouettes which follow a more traditional artistic method.

Steve Storgion, a lifelong resident of the Morristown area, was born in Morristown to Greek immigrant parents during the Depression. A graduate of MHS, he was inspired by such artists as Hieronymus Bosch, Pieter Bruegel, Salvador Dali and Pablo Picasso. A self-taught artist, he uses several mediums including acrylics, oils, watercolors and graphite in his paintings. He resides in Morris Plains with his wife, Chris.



DAVENPORT VILLAGE TAKING SHAPE ON TABOR ROAD

Construction continues at Davenport Village, 260 Tabor Road in Morris Plains. Twenty-four modular units were set in place to complete the South building. The modular units are built off site by Simplex Homes. Simplex Homes is a modern, technically advanced, nationally recognized leader in modular construction. These units were built at the Simplex headquarters in their climate controlled production facilities in Scranton, Pennsylvania. The modular units were transported to the Morris Plains site via tractor trailer, along with six tractor-trailers of roof trusses.



All of the units will be assembled and set in place by Advanced Building Concepts of Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania and Koerner Crane Company, Rockaway, NJ. These twenty-four modular units will comprise twenty, one-bedroom apartments. Each floor will have a common area and a balcony/patio. The developer for the Borough of Morris Plains is Madison Affordable Housing, Corp. and the contractor is Del Sano Contracting, Union, New Jersey. The north building will be comprised of thirty-six one, two and three bedroom units, which will be transported to Morris Plains at a later date. The two buildings will be connected by a one-story lobby, which is also under construction. Applications for residency will be available in the Spring, 2016 with occupancy estimated to be late Summer, 2016.

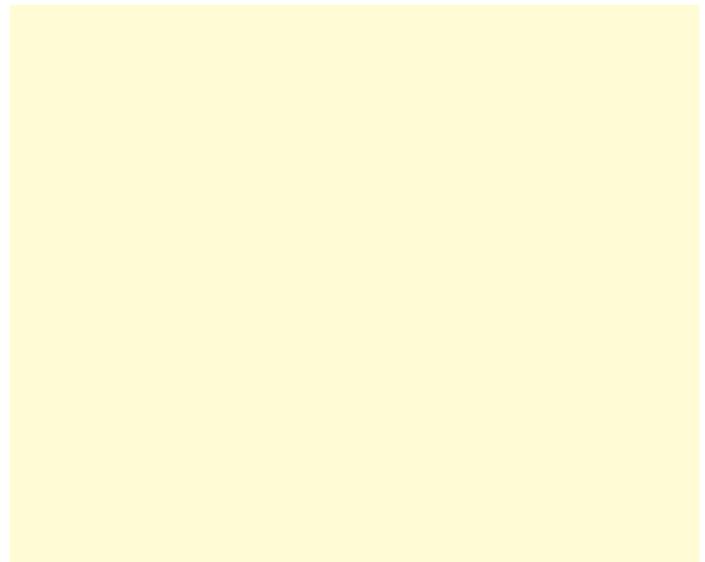


CAUTION TO RESIDENTS: VEHICLE BURGLARIES ON THE RISE IN MORRIS COUNTY TOWNS

If you keep your vehicle in the driveway or parked in the street, be sure to keep all windows closed and all doors locked. Do not store wallets, jewelry, money, electronic devices or other valuables in your vehicle. Lock your vehicle at all times to deter theft. If you observe any suspicious activity, please call 9-1-1.



The Morris Plains Library with its recently renovated front porch.





BASKETBALL OPENING DAY



Shown at right: Recreation Commission Chair Gerry Sittmann and Vice-Chair Kevin Bodnar present the 2015 Recreation Volunteer of the Year award to Kevin Newman, President of the Morris Plains Basketball Association



SOCCER TEAM PICKS IT UP!

Before heading out for trick-or-treating last Halloween, the 3rd and 4th graders of the Morris Plains State Farm recreation soccer team "picked up" a WIN and then "picked up" the trash that had been left around the turf, fields and playground at Simons Park.

**Their message is "WE PLAY HERE - PLEASE KEEP IT CLEAN!"
Thanks to the team for being a part of the Community of Caring.
We hope others will follow their lead!**

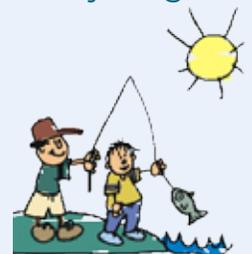
UNCLE FRANK'S FISHING CONTEST

Saturday, May 14, 2016

Community Park Pond

7:00 - 10:30 AM

ALL residents 13 years or younger



Sponsored by Morris Plains Rotary Club

Santa Claus Comes to Town



Lighting the Menorah

MORRIS PLAINS COMMUNITY BAND

The Morris Plains Community Band, under the direction of Larry Ripley, went 'on the road' to perform holiday concerts at Sunrise Assisted Living and other local venues. The Band welcomes new members of all ages and abilities. Join us Wednesday evenings in the Borough School Band Room at 7:00 pm. Follow us on Facebook!



Morris Plains Recreation 2016 Summer Camp & Enhancement Programs!

Camp & Enhancement
Registration
Begins April 13th
Camp Fees Increase
May 13th

Informative Flyers &
Registration Materials
will be available
beginning April 8th @
morrisplainsboro.org



The Fun Begins June 27th - July 29th ~ Grades K-9/Fall of 2016!

Morris Plains Recreation Summer Program News!

**Morris Plains
Community Park Pool**

Pool Booklet &
Membership Form
available March 1st @
Morris Plains
Community Center &
www.morrisplainsboro.org

**Come Swim With Us
This Summer!**

Morris Plains Recreation Summer Counselor Employment



Preparations are underway for
2016 Summer Camp!

Applications for Summer Counselor Positions
available at the
Morris Plains Community Center
Monday - Thursday, 9AM-4PM

Morris Plains Recreation 2016 Spring Program News!

Winter/Spring Recreation Programs:

(pre registration required)



Yoga with Peg Clark
 Freestanding Boxing with Stacey Williamson
 Cardio Boot Camp with Theresa Myers
 Gentle Beginner Yoga with Diane Tartaglia
 Let's Dance! with April Molinare
 Mommy & Me with April Molinare
 Drawing (Adult & Youth) with John Darvie
 Painting (Adult & Youth) with John Darvie

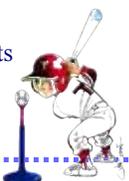


US Sports Institute Spring Programs:

(pre registration required)



Youth Tennis Tennis Squirts
 Parent & Me Total Sports
 T Ball Squirts
 Parent & Me T Ball



"Kids Helping Kids"

(pre registration required)

The Magic of Reading
 Spring Crafts
 Recess Games
 Make Believe Adventures
 Lego Builders



Senior Programs

(no fee or pre registration required)

Adult Book Club - Every 4th Wednesday at 2PM
 Morris Plains Community Center

Senior Exercise - Thursday 10AM
 Morris Plains VFW (Route 53)



MP Residents: Men's Basketball

(no fee or pre registration required)

Thursday, 8:30-10PM MP Borough School

MP Residents: Men's Soccer

(no fee or pre registration required)

Wednesday, 8:30-10PM MP Borough School



MP Residents: Young Adult Basketball

(no fee or pre registration required)

Tuesday, 8:30-10PM MP Borough School



2016 Spring Trips!

The Morris School District Community School
 is teaming up with
 Morris Plains Recreation
 to offer a variety of exciting trips this Spring!

For a complete list and details of Spring Trips
 being offered
 and to register on line:
www.msdcommunityschool.org

For more information:
 973-292-2063



save the date...
 March 19th ~ 9AM
 Morris Plains
 Community Center



Breakfast with the
 Easter Bunny!

After School Programs at
 Mountain Way School with Ms. Prisco!

Relay Races!



Mondays: March 28 to April 18
 2:50 to 3:50PM

Mondays: February 22 to March 14
 2:50 to 3:50PM



Gardening!

For additional information and registration forms, contact the
 Morris Plains Community Center at 973-538-3455
 Monday - Thursday, 9AM - 4PM
 or visit us @ www.morrisplainsboro.org

Happy New Year to our entire Morris Plains school community! It's hard to believe we have welcomed in another new year.

As we approach the midway point of the school year, it is important to reflect on our district's progress. We have implemented many new initiatives and goals, throughout the 2015-2016 school year. Our staff has been working diligently to implement and support all of these essential 21st century competencies. Our student learners have positively embraced changes to the curriculum, and they are effectively utilizing the new instructional resources as we continue to expand their repertoire of skills.

Below are highlights from the current school year:

- Successful implementation of 1:1 Chromebook program at Borough
- Continued work to update and enhance the Social Studies and Science Curriculum
- Partnership with Discovery Education designed to create staff development opportunities, network of resources and contacts, and global recognition
- Creation of Morris County Consortium with neighboring districts that produced numerous shared service opportunities
- Monthly theme-based character education assemblies at Mountain Way
- Integration of Words Their Way and Writer's Workshop into the Language Arts Curriculum
- Development of a Long-Range Facility Plan
- Creation of the Board of Education Committee – Communication Outreach
- Published first of four district newsletters
- Facilitated district-wide and Borough School Parent Forum Meetings
- Launched Enriching Minds program
- Festive and artistic chorus and band performances
- Competitive and successful interscholastic sports teams

As a district, we are resolved to continue to offer a wonderful, safe, and nurturing learning environment for all of our students. And we look forward to our continued partnership with our community.

Drafting the 2016-2017 Budget

We are working intensely on the preparation of the proposed budget for the 2016-2017 school year. Building the school budget is one of the most important tasks of the district administration and the board of education each year. In creating the annual budget, we conduct a challenging balancing act between two, often competing interests: providing the resources necessary to maintain excellence in education, while exercising fiscal responsibility in order to minimize the impact on our taxpayers.

Our 2016-2017 school budget will address some of the following areas:

- An increase in student devices at Mountain Way
- The integration of STEM and Innovation courses at Borough School
- Expansion of classroom libraries
- Reading intervention programs (K-8)
- Security and safety
- Hallways and classrooms
 - Flooring
 - Painting
 - LED lighting
- Construction and capital projects
- Continued support in professional development



A board presentation on the proposed 2016-2017 school budget is scheduled for February 23, 2016 at 7pm in the Borough School Library.

New Board Members

At the Re-Organization meeting of the Board of Education on January 5th, we welcomed new Board of Education member Ken Wilbur, and swore in returning board members Lucia Galdi and Terri Kaag. Maria Manley was elected to serve as board president. Lucia Galdi was elected to serve as vice president. Congratulations to all of our Board members for their commitment and ongoing service to the community of Morris Plains.

PARCC Update

Last year, Morris Plains' Borough students in grades 3 – 8 participated in the first administration of the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) test. The PARCC test aligns with Common Core standards and requires that students read digital text, write analytically, provide reasoning for math solutions, and think deeper about math and literacy content.

Results from the 2015 assessments can be found on the district's website, under "Quick Links." PARCC test results for Literacy and Math show that our students outperformed their peers at the state level at every grade level by as much as 25 percentage points. Additionally, our scores were extremely competitive against high-achieving districts. These are outstanding results for our students and for the dedicated teachers who work with them every day. As a first year assessment, our baseline will be high!

This year's PARCC test will consist of only one cycle of testing this year, unlike two from last year. The 2016 PARCC test will be administered in early May.

Inclement Weather Decisions

Although the winter thus far has been unusually warm and dry, we recognize that February and March are known to produce fierce winter storms. When icy and snowy weather is forecasted, weather closings and delays may be required. Decisions about delays and closings are made in consultation with our local Police Department, the area superintendents, and our Plant Manager. In addition, I receive weather updates from the Morris County Department of Emergency Management. It is my intention to make a decision early, so parents and families can plan accordingly.

Notifications to parents and staff are sent via email, text, and phone call through Honeywell, and posted on our district website (www.mpsdk8.org). Announcements are also made on school voicemails, and New Jersey News Channel 12.

Our children benefit a great deal when we practice the philosophy, "Together we can make a difference!" Please continue to make sure our youngsters read each night, practice their mathematical skills, and write daily.

Best,

Mark Maico



Board Members Wilbur, Kaag and Galdi

Morris Plains Public Schools will hold our annual
KINDERGARTEN SCREENING & REGISTRATION
on April 5, 6, and 7 at Mountain Way School.

Any parents who have Kindergarten age children should contact Mrs. Cristie Bruhn at Mountain Way School (973 538-0339 or cbruhn@mpsdk8.org) to be added to the registration list.

Registration packets and appointment times will be mailed out in March.

Children must be residents of Morris Plains and five years of age on or before October 1, 2016, to be eligible for a September entrance into kindergarten. A birth certificate, proof of residence and health information are required at the registration.



MORRIS PLAINS PARKS & PLACES

Y G V Z F M B Y G S B X S O A M R U F C
 L R L F U U Z F C X T B S K O U E A R L
 O B A T W N C V Q Z O H I A R E T B K E
 O M T R W I P J Q V H X M T U S N O R X
 H W J M B C M M W F J Q O E D U E R A R
 C K D L E I F N W O R B N O R M C O P C
 S Z O K Y P L N H U F Z S S U S Y U D P
 Y D Q O C A T S E P N U P K U N T G A Q
 A K R Z R L N H N D S B A Q K I I H O M
 W I L G M B H F O I R J R J O A N S R E
 T A F C Q U G B S M A A K E B L U C T M
 M C R B C I D N P O P L G G Z P M H R O
 I X P D N L M T O G S S P S Q S M O U R
 O I C R V D O O H N I E O S T I O O O I
 N C B U O I L T T Z T O Q N I R C L C A
 W A T N O N G V F W W A S N P R E H J L
 B O R O U G H A N N E X W B Y O R B Y P
 T E E N C E N T E R H O U S E M N O O A
 C O M M U N I T Y P A R K P O O L D M R
 D L E I F Y R U E L F N A I R B T E W K

Word Bank

- Community Center
- Morris Plains Museum
- Roberts Garden
- Simons Park
- Watnong Brook
- Ron Brown Field
- Mt Way School
- Borough School
- Memorial Park
- Community Park Pool
- Morris Plains Library
- Teen Center House
- Watnong VFW
- Municipal Building
- Borough Annex
- Thompson Pond
- Court Road Park
- Brian Fleury Field

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR FIRE OFFICIAL

You can assist firefighters by being sure that the fire hydrants near your home can be accessed during heavy snow. Please take a few moments to shovel snow away from hydrants. Thank you!

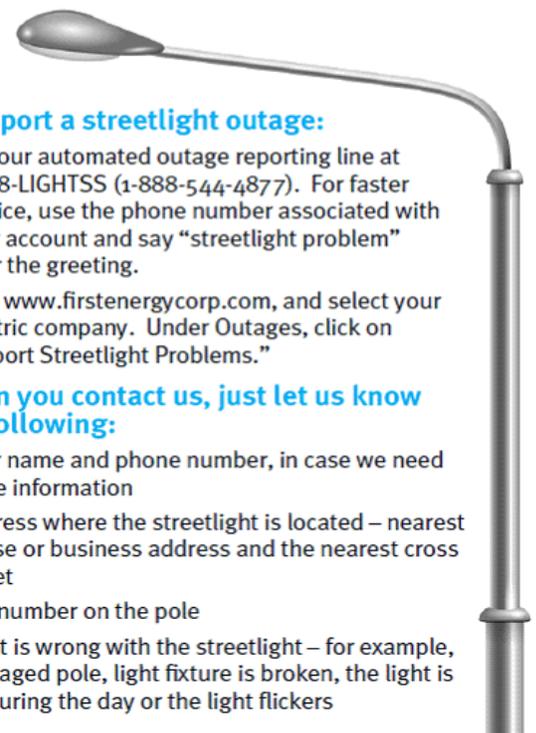


SIDEWALK SAFETY

Residents are reminded to trim trees, bushes, hedges and shrubbery adjacent to sidewalks, and to remove snow and ice from the sidewalks, so that pedestrians can pass safely. Trees and other vegetative growth located near intersections must also be trimmed in order to provide sufficient line of sight for vehicles and pedestrians. Thank you!

Streetlight on the Blink? Tell Us.

Streetlights brighten up a community and help keep it attractive and safe. Help us keep streetlights working as they should by letting us know when lights are in need of repair. If you see a streetlight out, please contact us so that repairs can be made.



To report a streetlight outage:

- Call our automated outage reporting line at 1-888-LIGHTSS (1-888-544-4877). For faster service, use the phone number associated with your account and say "streetlight problem" after the greeting.
- Visit www.firstenergycorp.com, and select your electric company. Under Outages, click on "Report Streetlight Problems."

When you contact us, just let us know the following:

- Your name and phone number, in case we need more information
- Address where the streetlight is located – nearest house or business address and the nearest cross street
- The number on the pole
- What is wrong with the streetlight – for example, damaged pole, light fixture is broken, the light is on during the day or the light flickers

TROOP 39 83rd EAGLE SCOUT - JACK THRAEN

Boy Scout Troop 39 of Morris Plains recently held a Court of Honor to recognize its 83rd Eagle Scout: Jack Thraen of Morris Plains.

Eagle Scout is the highest rank in Boy Scouts. It requires completing a service project that demonstrates project planning and leadership. For his Eagle project, Jack led a team that designed, built, and installed bicycle racks in the Simons, Watnong, and Community Parks.

With Troop 39, Jack has had the opportunity to participate in extensive outdoor and community service related activities. Jack has spent 48

days and nights camping, a week at sea in the Florida Keys, and hiked roughly 50 miles. He has spent close to 90 hours on service projects and contributed over 300 hours of his time serving as a volunteer DenLeader and Camp counselor at our local Boy Scout Camp. Jack is a Senior at Morristown High School.

Troop 39 meets every Monday at 7:15 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church in Morris Plains. For more information, visit the troop's website at: www.troop39bsa.org.

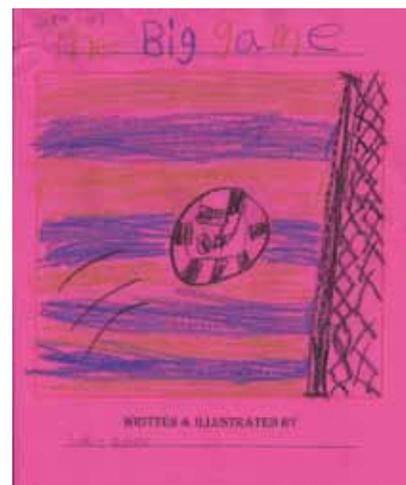


At left, Mayor Frank Druetzler presents Jack with the Key to the City. At right, Councilwoman Suzanne McCluskey appears with members of Troop 39 who helped Jack to complete his project building the bicycle racks.

THANK YOU WASH N' WIGGLE

Please allow me to share a wonderful experience about myself, Wash N' Wiggle and a beautiful young girl, Sophie. I received in the mail last week, a wonderful story dedicated to Wash N' Wiggle prepared by Sophie, who is in the Second Grade at Mountain Way School. It was all about her Soccer Team (Wash N' Wiggle) and how her team would not be possible without the Sponsorship of Wash N' Wiggle. I was so moved by this, it actually brought me to tears. I stopped at the school the other day to present Sophie with a Wash N' Wiggle hat so she can cherish this beautiful memory. I believe I touched Sophie's heart as much as she touched mine, according to her parents as she will not take off the hat at home. This has touched my heart so deeply and I truly appreciate Sophie's Story and especially her teacher for sending it to me. I will cherish this memory forever. Thank you so much!!!

Cindy Dockx,
Owner - Wash N' Wiggle



SINGLE-STREAM
all-in-one
 RECYCLING

The Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority "all-in-one," single-stream recycling collection program allows cans, bottles, cardboard and all other paper to be mixed together for recycling. All of these items can go into one recycling container.

Paper Recycle office paper, file folders, junk mail, envelopes, flyers, newspapers and inserts, magazines, catalogs, paperbacks and phone books, wrapping paper, paper bags, tissue and cookie boxes, paper towel cores, toilet tissue rolls, frozen food boxes, cartons and boxes used for milk, juice, soup, broth, etc., clean pizza boxes, 6-pack and 12-pack cartons from soda, clean paper ice cream containers. Corrugated cardboard must be flattened. (**Shredded paper - see below)



Plastic Recycle plastic containers (bottles and non-bottles) coded 1 through 7. Plastic caps and lids larger than 3" in diameter are acceptable*. The smallest acceptable plastic container is a 6- to 8-ounce yogurt cup*. Containers must be empty.



Metal Recycle aluminum and steel (tin) cans, loose metal jar lids, steel bottle caps, clean aluminum foil, pie plates and trays. Containers must be empty.



Glass Recycle glass bottles and jars with caps and lids removed. Recycle loose metal caps and lids. Bottles and jars must be empty.



Do not recycle plastics coded 3 (V) and 6 (PS)



- All items must be empty and free of food residue.
- No liquids
- No garbage
- * No plastic items smaller than 6- to 8-ounce yogurt cups; for example, do not recycle small plastic caps or pill bottles.
- No VHS/VCR tapes
- No hangers
- No hardcover books
- No flower pots or trays
- No window panes, mirrors, glass vases, ceramics, or Pyrex® dishware
- No stickers or address label sheet waste
- No plastics other than those listed
- No metal other than what is listed
- No electronic waste (batteries, cell phones, computers, etc.)
- No paint, pesticides, oil & cleaners
- No plant material or food waste
- No waxed paper or waxed cardboard

Important

- * Recycling containers must not exceed 50 pounds. 32-gallon containers are recommended.
- * Only use plastic bags for shredded paper. All other material must be loose in a container, not in a bag.
- * Do not tie cardboard or newspapers, put in reusable containers loose, or stack folded boxes into one box.
- * Label your recycling containers with free decals from your town or the MCMUA.
- * Put all Styrofoam into the trash; it's coded #6 and is not acceptable for recycling.



- No Styrofoam™ or paper to-go containers
- No motor oil or anti-freeze containers
- ** No plastic bags other than for shredded paper
- ** No loose shredded paper
- ** Shredded paper must be in clear plastic bags. Nothing else should be in a plastic bag except for shredded paper. Shred only confidential information.



www.mcmua.com



Residential Curbside Collection
 If necessary, use multiple recycling containers. Containers must have handles. Lids are strongly recommended.



RECYCLING DATES FOR FIRST HALF OF 2016

Curbside pickup will be held on the following Tuesdays. Place items at curb by 7:00 a.m.

18 February 9 & 23 March 8 & 22 April 5 & 19 May 3, 17 & 31 June 14 & 28

Rev. 12/8/2014



“A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM”

BOROUGH SCHOOL THEATER - THURSDAY, 3/10/2016, 7:00 PM

Come and see a professional production of “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” performed by The Shakespeare Theatre of NJ. Shakespeare's uproarious comedy is the ideal "First Shakespeare" for kids. This magnificent play is geared for school age children and their families, BUT tweens, teens and Shakespeare Lovers of any age will enjoy it!

The play will be on Thursday, March 10, 2016 at the Borough School in the theater at 7pm. This event is sponsored by the Morris Plains Municipal Alliance and the New Jersey Theatre Alliance Stages Festival. Tickets are free for ages 17 and under. Adult tickets (for those over age 18) are \$5 each.

For tickets, please email mpmacinfo@gmail.com. For ticket information, make sure you are signed up for our newsletter by visiting www.mpmac.org.

Made possible by a grant from the Governor's Council on Drug and Alcohol Abuse (GCADA)

MORRIS PLAINS #1 IN NJ



While it may not necessarily be a welcome distinction, records show that Morris Plains had the highest measured snowfall in the recent January blizzard

33"

MANY THANKS to our Roads Dept., Police, Fire and Emergency personnel for keeping us safe through the storm!



BOROUGH OF MORRIS PLAINS
531 SPEEDWELL AVENUE
MORRIS PLAINS, NJ 07950

Presort Standard
United States
Postage Paid
Permit #919
Dover, NJ 07801



***YOUR COMMUNITY
NEEDS YOU!***

**ADOPT-A-
FLOWER
TUB**



ANSWER THE CALL

**Make a Difference in your Community!
We need you as a member of our team!**

Morris Minute Men Emergency Medical Services is an organization of dedicated volunteer Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) who take pride in answering 9-1-1 calls in Morris Plains and Morris Township, 2700 times each year! Our members come from all walks of life: students, professionals, telecommuters, retirees and parents working from home. Join us and learn how to save a life with free, state-certified training. With your help, we'll continue to provide care for our citizens, free of charge, 24/7/365.

Learn more at www.morrisminutemen.org

The All Seasons Garden Club is looking for some local volunteers to help with keeping the flower tubs along Speedwell Avenue looking beautiful. This would involve regular watering, weeding, and removing of dead flowers from a planter throughout the months of May to October, and could be done by an individual, a couple, a group or business -- a great opportunity for students to earn "community service" hours! If interested, or if you would like further information, please call Pearl Law at 973-538-8189.

The deadline for the next issue of Plains Talk is April 18th, 2016.
Please submit articles and pictures to plainstalknews@gmail.com.