

# the Monroe news



TOWN HALL | Municipal Plaza | Monroe Township, New Jersey 08831 | www.monroetwp.com

## Monroe Celebrates its Very Own Fishing Derby

Just four months after being stocked with trout, the Manalapan Lake in Thompson Park hosted the Recreation Department's annual Fishing Derby on August 12.

"It was great to bring the Fishing Derby to Manalapan Lake," Recreation Superintendent Mary Lange said. "Molder's Fish Farm still supplied the bait, but we were happy to stock the lake with fish and hold the event in Monroe for the first time."

The move to the Manalapan Lake is the result of three years of hard work by Boy Scouts Troop 60, the Monroe Township Engineer's Office and Public

Works Department, Middlesex County, and the State Division of Fish and Wildlife. All worked together to increase recreational opportunities at the Manalapan Lake.

Work on the lake stocking project started in 2011 and culminated in the addition of the Manalapan Lake being added to the state's Trout Stocking Program. The lake was stocked with more than 2,000 trout, a few dozen catfish and hundreds of other fish over the past year.

The stocking project included the construction and sinking of natural reefs using discarded brush and dead Christmas trees in the lake, with the use of con-



*Residents had a terrific day of fishing at the Manalapan Lake as Monroe Township Recreation's Annual Fishing Derby was held in Monroe for the first time.*

crete. The reefs are now habitats for fish, promoting reproduction

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## DPW Foreman Returns From National Guard Duty

After spending 11 months deployed with the US Army National Guard 150th Engineer Company, the Department of Public Works welcomed back First Lt. Ron Cerankowski on July 14.

"I am happy to be back," Lt. Cerankowski said. "This was my first overseas deployment. I spent two months in Mississippi doing mobility training and then nine months in Afghanistan."

Lt. Cerankowski, a 1998 Monroe Township High School alumnus and graduate of Thomas Edison State College, was part of the CENTCOM Materiel Recovery Element in Afghanistan, working on

demolishing structures at bases such as Forward Operating Base Shank in the Logar province.

"We would pull out wires and fixtures so they can be reused and recycled," Lt. Cerankowski said. We also broke down structures and either threw away the materials or stockpiled it so locals could use it."

While the work may sound similar to some of his work with the Monroe DPW, where he is an Acting Streets and Road Foreman, it wasn't always that easy.

"Our biggest issue was long-range attacks such as mortars and rockets being shot at us," Lt. Cerankowski said. "In Fort

Shank the attacks were almost daily. In other bases it was spread out a little more."

As Platoon Leader, Lt.

*Continued on page 6*

**Check out the local calendar of events, pages 12-13.**



*DPW Director Wayne Horbatt greets Lt. Ron Cerankowski as he and the rest of the Township welcome Ron back following his tour of duty in Afghanistan.*

## Monroe DPW Director Wins Patriot Award

Wayne Horbatt, Township Department of Public Works Director, was given the Patriot Award from the U.S. Department of Defense's Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR).

The ESGR was established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve Component Service members and their civilian employers and to assist in the resolution of conflicts arising from an employee's military commitment.

Mr. Horbatt was honored for his work as a liaison between the Township and the National Guard while DPW Streets and Roads Foreman Ron Cerankowski was deployed to Afghanistan for 11 months with the National Guard's

150th Engineer Company.

"(Business Administrator) Wayne Hamilton asked me to be the liaison based on my military experience," Mr. Horbatt said. "I am a retired Chief Petty Officer from the U.S. Navy."

Mr. Horbatt first enlisted in the Air Force and served from 1968 to 1974. Then he re-enlisted in the Navy and served from 1981 to 2002.

"By being a retired Navy Chief, I fully support our veterans and I believe that Ron and all who serve our country are extremely important," Mr. Horbatt said. "It was my job to make sure Ron received proper pay and benefits while deployed and made sure any of his concerns and his family's concerns with the Township were taken care of."



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## Mayor's Cup: A Tournament of Smiles

By Mayor Richard Pucci

Despite the Township's size, at more than 42 square miles, Monroe has maintained its small-town feel.

By holding events such as our annual Fourth of July celebration and National Night Out in Thompson Park, as well as our Octoberfest at the Community Center on Monmouth Road, we are able to bring residents together to celebrate all that Monroe has to offer.

The Township Recreation Department oversees the Fourth of July and Octoberfest celebrations, and offers a variety of other sports, camps and clubs for children and adults that help further unite our community.

A favorite event among the active adult communities is the Mayor's Cup Tournament. Held each year, seniors from throughout the Township compete for the Mayor's Cup in various sports. The tournament starts with the bowling tournament at Knob Hill Country Lanes, and continues with men's and women's tennis and golf, basketball shooting, duplicate bridge, table tennis, shuffleboard, pickleball and concludes with bocce in September.

What makes the Mayor's Cup so special is that residents from the various Active Adult communities (and for the first time a team comprised of residents from outside the gated communities) come together where they can meet and compete.

Even though the competition can get fierce, with several of the tournaments coming down to a final point and tie breakers, the main purpose of the Mayor's Cup is to connect residents from the different communities, and encourages socialization outside of their normal circles.

The events even draw spectators, as the tournaments for tennis, bowling and bocce regularly draw crowds comprising relatives of the competitors as well as friends in the community. A highlight of this season was seeing the Ponds bring cheerleaders, complete with pom-poms to the Table Tennis event, which was held at the Community Center. The cheering paid off, as the Ponds took home their only cup of the season that night.

A new outing for the year was the Seniors vs. Seniors event, where the active adult athletes com-



**Mayor Richard Pucci**

peted with and against Monroe Township High School seniors in various sports including basketball shooting, pickleball and bocce. The event was a huge success and offered the students some insight into just how active our adult communities are.

In addition, special thanks should be given to the Gardens at Monroe Rehabilitation Center for sponsoring the Mayor's Cup, providing the winners of the events with hats.

Furthermore, Recreation Program Supervisors Jay Brown, Al Carpenito and Al Magliaro should be commended for all of their hard work in organizing the Mayor's Cup and doing their part to make Monroe a great place to live and retire.

For more information about the Recreation Department and the Community Center visit [www.monroerec.com](http://www.monroerec.com) or call (732) 723-5000.

### TOWN HALL

1 Municipal Plaza • Monroe Township, NJ 08831  
[www.monroetwp.com](http://www.monroetwp.com)

### ELECTED OFFICIALS

#### Mayor:

Richard Pucci .....[rpucci@monroetwp.com](mailto:rpucci@monroetwp.com)

#### Council President:

Gerald Tamburro .....[gtamburro@monroetwp.com](mailto:gtamburro@monroetwp.com)

#### Council Vice President:

Leslie Koppel .....[lkoppel@monroetwp.com](mailto:lkoppel@monroetwp.com)

#### Council Members:

Stephen Dalina .....[sdalina@monroetwp.com](mailto:sdalina@monroetwp.com)

Michael Leibowitz .....[mleibowitz@monroetwp.com](mailto:mleibowitz@monroetwp.com)

Elizabeth Schneider .....[eschneider@monroetwp.com](mailto:eschneider@monroetwp.com)

### IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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- 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
- Municipal Utilities Authority** .....(609) 655-1050
- 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

## the Monroe news

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Office of the Mayor



# Proclamation

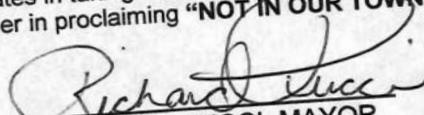
**SEPTEMBER 2014  
"NOT IN OUR TOWN"  
SOLIDARITY AGAINST ACTS OF INTOLERANCE**

- WHEREAS,** on the evening of December 2, 1993 someone hurled a brick through the window of a Jewish family's home in Billings, Montana, thus setting off a series of other hateful events, including cemetery desecration, spray painting of swastikas on buildings, bullying parishioners of an African-American church during Sunday services, and spreading fear and terror throughout the town; and
- WHEREAS,** in response to the efforts of one young Jewish Billings native, Tammie Schnitzer, the editor of *The Billings Gazette*, declared affirmatively that the town would not tolerate hate and printed an illustration of a Chanukah menorah and an editorial calling on the townspeople to fight back; and
- WHEREAS,** more than 10,000 residents and business people posted these paper menorahs, the Jewish symbol of faith, on their doors and windows, illuminating the once darkened Montana sky; and
- WHEREAS,** the Monroe Township Council wishes to recognize Hadassah Associates, Alisa Chapter and the Monroe Township Chapters of Hadassah who are sponsoring an appearance here on Sunday, September 21, 2014 by Tammie Schnitzer, as well as showing a PBS documentary about her experiences; and
- WHEREAS,** the Monroe Township Council wishes to extend our congratulations and heartfelt thanks; and
- WHEREAS,** the Township of Monroe takes great pride in the diversity of our community and the harmony displayed amongst our residents regardless of their race, ethnicity, religion, age or sexual orientation; and
- WHEREAS,** the Township of Monroe will continue to seek ways in which to promote greater civility and understanding of our collective differences and similarities which contributes to the cultural richness of our community;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD PUCCI, Mayor of the Township of Monroe, do hereby proclaim September 2014 as "NOT IN OUR TOWN"! SOLIDARITY AGAINST ACTS OF INTOLERANCE MONTH in the Township of Monroe.**

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Monroe Township will henceforth join with hundreds of other communities throughout the United States in taking a stand against hateful acts of intolerance and urge all residents to join together in proclaiming "NOT IN OUR TOWN"!

Dated: August 21, 2014

  
RICHARD PUCCI, MAYOR

## Ashmall Pump Station No. 7 Construction Completed

The Township has totally reconstructed the Ashmall sewer pumping station to keep vital equipment five-to-six feet higher than the flood line from Hurricane Irene.

"During Hurricane Irene the Ashmall pump station was under four-to-five feet of floodwaters," MTUD Director Michael Barnes said. "This included all of our electrical cabinets, back-up diesel generator, heater and all of the equipment necessary for the pump station to function."

Pump stations are used to pump raw sewage up and over areas that cannot be reached via gravity pipes. Once household plumbing fixtures flush or send sewage down the drains, it flows via gravity into the street through sewer mains that are connected with manholes, and the

sewage ends up at the pump station or sewage treatment plant.

"The Ashmall pump station is vital to our municipal sewage system," Mr. Barnes said. "It pumps, on average, 500,000 gallons of sewage per day from 10,000 homes and businesses in Monroe. It was imperative to get the facility up-and-running following the devastating floods of Hurricane Irene."

Within 24 hours the flood waters receded and MTUD employees were able to access the building, systematically drying the electrical cabinets and then carefully powered-up the station.

"To our amazement and some old-fashioned ingenuity, the station was immediately put back in service until a more temporary control system was put in place weeks later," Mr. Barnes said.

The MTUD and Township Administration then set plans in motion to rebuild the pump station, putting the equipment five-to-six feet above the historic Hurricane Irene flood-levels.

"We had to fight the property insurance carrier to get the necessary funding to design and build the new station," Business Administrator Wayne Hamilton noted.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) eventually provided the Township \$800,000 to rebuild the station and put the sensitive equipment on the second floor of a new building, which takes in sewage from Mill Lake Manor, Camelot Woods, Legends, Rolling Acres, Park Place, the State Home for Boys, Hobart Hills, Kensington Woods, the Monroe Township Recreation Center, Mill



**The Ashmall pump station** is now safeguarded from future flooding, following a reconstruction project.

Lake and Woodland Schools, Inwood Estates, Great Eastern Village and all surrounding commercial buildings in those neighborhoods.

Computerized con-

trol of the station is now available with remote information available at MTUD's headquarters' building on Union Valley Road.

## Monroe Celebrates its Very Own Fishing Derby

*Continued from page 1*

and increasing the fish population in lake.

"We loved going to Molder's Fish Farm over the years," Ms. Lange said. "But the Manalapan Lake is in the pristine Thompson Park right in the center of Monroe, making it not only a convenient loca-

tion but a beautiful one, too. We are looking into moving the derby to earlier in the season when fish are more active in the lake."

With nearly 200 participants, the Fishing Derby was a success its first time in the Township.

"It was great to see so many people spend their day fishing and spending time outside right in Monroe," Councilman Stephen Dalina said. "It was proof that all of the work the Scouts, State, County and Township officials put into getting the lake stocked really paid off."



## Safe and Fiscally Sound By Council President Gerald W. Tamburro

This column focuses on both public safety and fiscal soundness in Monroe.

Seven police officers were sworn in at the Regular Meeting of the Township Council on September 3; this is the public safety part.

The officers are new to Monroe Township but

they are already educated and trained to be police officers.

Several have worked for different municipalities and others are veterans that have had military training in proper police procedures.

The majority of these officers replace those that have retired or have

sought employment outside of Monroe. The officers who have left were earning higher salaries than the replacements; hiring new, yet trained, officers has had a beneficial effect on the police budget.

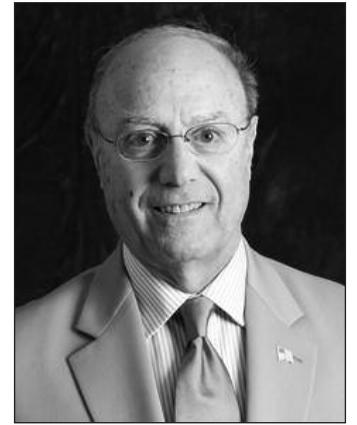
Our police force has fewer officers than neighboring towns comparable to Monroe in square miles and population. We are very proud of the safe record we have by being named number 14 in the top 50 safest towns in New Jersey by [www.nj.com](http://www.nj.com).

On the fiscal side, we have just been rated by the bonding companies as an AA stable bonded community.

If you read the head-

lines in most of the newspapers, the State of New Jersey has had its bond rating reduced several times this year and is currently rated a low A.

We are very pleased with Monroe's rating, which is based on controlled costs and more than adequate reserves. These reserves are maintained for unexpected emergencies, such as major snow storms, which we experienced last winter, and the devastation from Tropical Storm Irene in 2011 and the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy in 2012. It recognizes our success in navigating the economic recession by using our existing reserves and reducing



**Council President  
Gerald W. Tamburro**

our reliance on surplus revenue balances.

One of our Township residents, who was employed by a major bond rating agency for more than 50 years, stated at the September Council meeting that Monroe is doing an excellent job in managing its finances.



**Council President Gerald Tamburro** speaks with residents at National Night Out held on Aug. 5 in Thompson Park.

## DPW Foreman Returns From National Guard Duty Continued from page 1

Cerankowski set up and coordinated jobs, overseeing three jobs at a time, helping on other projects and coordinating convoys. He also earned several ribbons and medals for his time serving, including: Army Commendation, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Army Overseas Ribbon, Global War on Terror Medal and the NATO medal.

While some 6,800 miles away from his wife, Lt. Cerankowski

missed a major milestone in his life: the birth of his son, Harrison James, born June 13.

"I missed my wife," Lt. Cerankowski said. "Fortunately I was able to spend time on Skype talking to her and seeing her."

Lt. Cerankowski said he also missed his friends at the DPW.

"The guys were great," Lt. Cerankowski said. "They sent me care packages and kept me in

the loop about what was going on around town."

His colleagues at the DPW welcomed Lt. Cerankowski back with open arms.

"We are very proud of Ron and the sacrifices he made in the service to our Country," DPW Director Wayne Horbatt said. "We are glad to have him back to work and even happier to have him safe at home with his family."

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## Monroe Township Photography Club

The Photography Club meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at the Community Center and is open to all Monroe residents, High School age or older. All aspects of picture taking and equipment are discussed. All levels of photography experience are welcome. Annual dues are \$25.  
For More info call (732) 723-5000

## “Community Cares Thanksgiving” Returns on Nov. 27

Following the successful and enjoyable Thanksgiving Day feast at the Senior Center last year, the Monroe Township Office of Senior Services is preparing for the second-annual Community Cares Thanksgiving meal at the Senior Center.

“We had a fantastic turnout last year,” said Bonnie Leibowitz, Monroe Township Office of Senior Services Director. “Everyone had a great time last year. The food was terrific and the company was even better.”

The two-hour event is set to start at noon on November 27 in the Irwin Nalitt Meeting Room in the Senior Center on Halsey Reed Road.

“We started this event because there are many residents that don’t have

a place to spend Thanksgiving,” Ms. Leibowitz said. “We want to give those people a place to eat, enjoy the holiday and spend time with new friends.”

The meal includes all of the regular dishes served during Thanksgiving, including turkey, stuffing, cranberry sauce, potatoes, vegetables, bread and more.

“The food is served family-style to each table,” Ms. Leibowitz said. “We want people to feel like the Senior Center is their home for the day and the folks at the table with them are their family.”

Tickets for the event will be sold for \$10 at the Senior Center starting October 6. Last year, The Gardens at Monroe, BCB Bank, Brookdale Assisted Living at Wynwood,

Saint Peter’s Hospital, Point of Care Pharmacy, Seaview Orthopedics, Senior Bridge, Hospice of New Jersey, Monroe Medical Supply and the Francis E. Parker Memorial Home sponsored the event.

Volunteers are needed to help with the Community Cares Thanksgiving program. Volunteers can help set up the afternoon before and the morning of the event. In addition, volunteers can also help the day of the event serving food, greeting guests, handing out goodie bags, and cleaning up after what promises to be another delicious meal.

“We had so many great volunteers last year, and I know it is tough to ask folks to help on Thanksgiving. But it really is a terrific way to give back to people who do not have anywhere to go for the holiday,” Ms. Leibowitz said.

Anyone who is need of a place to go for Thanksgiving, or anyone interested in helping with the event, either with time or money, should contact the Office of Senior Services at (609) 448-7140.



**Middlesex County Freeholder Blanca Valenti** and several Middlesex County employees present a quilt to the Monroe Township Office of Senior Services. The quilt is made up of patches containing thoughts and ideas of what attendees of the Inaugural Community Cares Thanksgiving were thankful for.

## Upcoming Events at the Monroe Township Senior Center

**Yoga Around the World**, Eight-session chair yoga class with visual experience, starting on Wed., Oct. 1, at 9 a.m. Course Fee: \$40 per person

**Flu Shot Clinic**, provided by the Middlesex County Health Department, on Tues., Oct. 7.

**Country Jamboree**, on Sun., Oct. 12 at 2:30 p.m. Enjoy traditional country music during this special appearance by the National Touring Musical Revue. Admission Tickets: \$5 per person, including drink and snack. No tickets sold at the door.

**Ghost Hunting 101**, on Mon., Oct. 27 at 1:30 p.m., explore the amazing world of paranormal investigations with L’Aura, founder of the New Jersey Ghost Hunters Society.

**Veterans Aid & Attendance**, a lecture presented by Medina Law Group, on Tues., Nov. 18 at 1:30 p.m.

Learn about these and other activities in the Senior Center’s Monthly Newsletter or visit the Website: [www.monroetwp.com](http://www.monroetwp.com), click on “Departments” and then the “Office of Senior Services.” Look for the calendar/newsletter icons on the right margin and click on the desired month to view all events at the center, 12 Halsey Reed Road.

Please note all programs with a fee require in-person registration. For more information, please call the Senior Center at (609) 448-7140.



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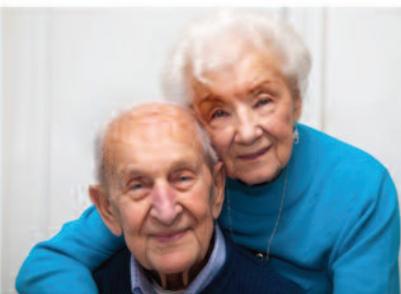
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## Celebrate Oktoberfest at the Community Center Oct. 19

Delicious food, inflatable rides, a magic show and so much more are on tap for the annual Oktoberfest Celebration at the Community Center on October 19.

"It is hard to believe that we will be celebrating the Community Center's 21st birthday," Recreation Superintendent Mary Lange said. "The block party atmosphere with the rides, games, food and vendors always makes for a great day for Monroe."

Starting at noon, Oktoberfest opens with the Community Volunteer Awards in the Community Center gymnasium, at 120 Monmouth Road.

"Each year, we honor residents that take their spare time and energy and give back to the community," Councilman Stephen Dalina said. "It is a great way to publicly thank some of the great people that make Monroe such a caring community. It is also a great way to celebrate Oktoberfest."

The free event, held in the Community Center Parking lot and on Monmouth Road, between Sheffield and Cornell Avenues, features inflatable rides and games for kids, a DJ,

magic show, pony rides, food vendors, local organizations and merchants, Boy and Girl Scout Troops, several boards and commissions, police, fire, and first aid personnel, and other volunteer groups.

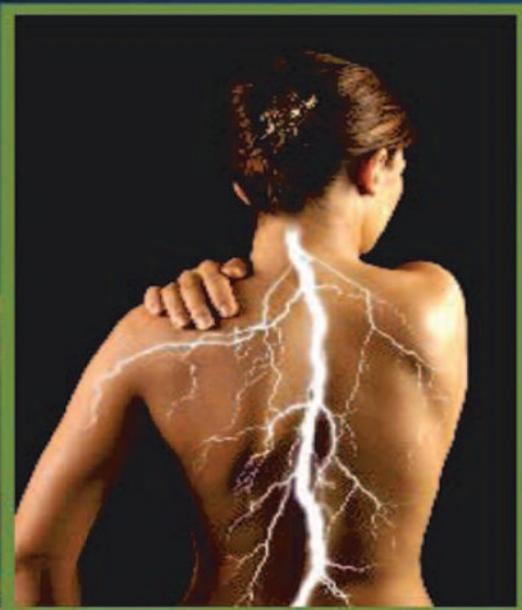
"There is really something for everyone at Oktoberfest," Ms. Lange said. "It is a great way to spend time with your family, friends and neighbors."

Built 21 years ago and expanded five years ago, the Community Center features a fitness center, an outdoor inline hockey rink for both youth and adult hockey leagues, two gymnasiums that are used for both youth and men's basketball leagues, various fitness classes, youth and adult programs, Recreation Summer Camp, M.T.S.E.P.A. Camp and so much more.

"The Community Center is open seven days a week with regular programming for people of all ages," Councilman Dalina said. "Oktoberfest is a great way to see the facility and all it has to offer to benefit the community."

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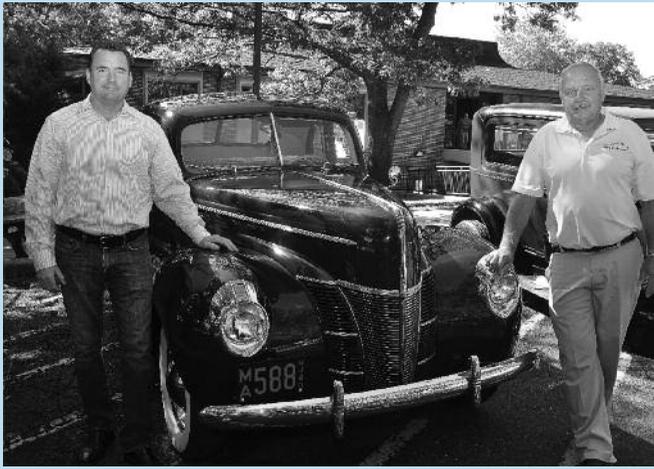
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**Residents got a glimpse** of automotive history at the Monroe Township Public Library Sponsored Coffee and Cars program at the Municipal Building Parking Lot on Sept. 14. The event featured many classic automobiles.

## Still Time to Save on Energy Bills

Residents can still sign up to register for the Monroe Township Community Energy Aggregation (MTCEA) program and save money on the supply of electricity to their homes.

Through the program, the Township awarded a 22-month contract on Nov. 14, 2013 to ConEdison Solutions to supply electricity to all households for 8.435 cents per kilowatt hour. Currently, the ConEdison rate is approximately 1.7 cents less than the JCP&L rate and much less expensive than other third party electric suppliers. The rate is guaranteed to remain flat for the entire length of the contract, which expires in December 2015.

More than 12,000 homeowners have

entered the program. Although the MTCEA is nearing the 10th month of the contract, residents can still opt-in by calling ConEdison Solutions at (855) 884-9794. Those who call should have their most recent electric bills on hand including their account numbers.

Once enrolled, residents will continue to receive only one monthly bill from JCP&L, which will note that ConEdison Solutions is the electric supplier and JCP&L will continue to deliver the electricity.

Those who enroll could save 15 percent on the generation portion of their energy bills. On average, the savings would translate into roughly \$160 annually for the average customer, and even more for those with all-electric homes. The total projected savings

for all Monroe residents combined is expected to reach \$4 million.

Residents who already have a third-party supplier for electricity must contact their current supplier to determine if they can cancel their services or if they will be charged to change suppliers.

Monroe was one of the first municipalities in the State to successfully award an electric supply contract under the Government Energy Aggregation (GEA) Act, which gives municipalities the authority to undertake a bulk purchase of electric power supply for its residents.

Anyone with questions about the aggregation program should contact Harold Klein in the Municipal Building at (732) 521-4400 ext. 166.

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## Monroe to Salute Veterans with Two Nov. 11 Events

The Township will honor all Veterans at two ceremonies commemorating Veterans Day on November 11.

The first ceremony will be held at 9 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial at the Municipal Building, 1 Municipal Plaza.

The second ceremony will be held at 9:45 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial in Veterans Park on Avenue K.

All are invited to the free events, which will feature wreath layings and speeches honoring veterans and their brothers and sisters in arms who sacrificed to protect our freedoms.



## A Look Back at My First Year

By Councilwoman Elizabeth Schneider

In my first 10 months as Councilwoman serving the First Ward of Monroe Township, I have been from one end of Monroe to the other, seeing everything this town has to offer.

I've read to the children of the Applegarth School in honor of Dr. Seuss. I commemorated Memorial Day where we paid homage to those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our freedoms. I celebrated the Fourth of July with my extended family — the residents of Monroe Township — as we watched fireworks over the Manalapan Lake in Thompson Park, where we would hold the Fishing Derby a month later.

I have been to so many events, outings, celebrations, commemorations, Council meetings and so much more. I have seen first-hand what a diverse, caring and giving community Monroe Township truly is.

On the Council, I serve as the liaison to



**Councilwoman  
Elizabeth Schneider**

the Human Relations Commission, which makes recommendations to help eliminate all types of discrimination based on, but not limited to, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, disability, ethnicity, health, age, marital status, sexual orientation or gender, or the perception of these qualities.

Through my work with the Commission, I have been able to meet many school children who were awarded for displaying good character traits. I have also been given the opportunity to meet with many civic and ethnic associa-

tions that work to make Monroe as great a community as it is. I also attended the Sikh games in August, when I was delighted to watch members of the Sikh religion from around the state compete against one another in a variety of sports.

I have also spoken at the Clearbrook community twice, attended three Eagle Scout Courts of Honor and participated in Bag for Hunger at ShopRite in Spotswood.

I have met with all of the Municipal Departments that do the day-to-day tasks that keep the Township moving forward. I've met with many of our first responders and was able to congratulate and welcome the seven police officers that were sworn in at the September Council meeting.

I am looking forward to all of the great upcoming fall events such as the Green Fair, Oktoberfest and the Community Cares Thanksgiving.

This has been a busy year, and a year in which I was able to see Monroe, the town I have called home for a decade, in a whole new light. There is always so much going on in Monroe and it is so rewarding to represent such a fantastic community.



**Councilwoman Schneider** reads to the Applegarth elementary students in celebration of Read Across America.

## Halloween Parade Set for Oct. 25

Get creative, get dressed up and get ready for great prizes as the Monroe Township Recreation Department hosts its annual Halloween Parade and Costume Contest at 10:30 a.m. October 25.

"Truly an event for children of all ages, the Halloween Parade is a great way for parents and kids to show off their creativity, and get extra use out of their Halloween costumes," Recreation Superintendent Mary Lange said. "Most times, you spend time or money on a costume and you only use it once, on Halloween. Now you can show it off for the whole town before trick-or-treating."

Residents are asked to arrive by 10:30 a.m. at the hockey rink at the Community Center on Monmouth Road for registration. Costume judging will begin promptly at 10:45 a.m. with the parade to follow.

"After the parade though the parking lots of both the Community Center and Mill Lake School, we present trophies to the winners and we will have free apple cider and doughnuts available," Ms. Lange said.

The costume contest divisions include: baby buggy (carriages and strollers), toddlers (walking to 2 years old), pre-school, kindergarten, 1st and 2nd graders, 3rd and 4th graders, and 5th graders and up.

"We also have the best float division," Ms. Lange said. "We have 1st through 3rd place trophies for all wheeled floats."

Ten trophies will be awarded for each division. There will be one grand prize winner awarded for the best overall costume.

"Monroe in autumn is a special time of year," Councilman Stephen Dalina said. "The Halloween Parade is a hallmark event at the Community Center that shows off just how creative Monroe is."



# 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](http://www.monroetwp.com).

## October 2014

Monroe Township Department of Recreation  
120 Monmouth Road • Monroe Twp., NJ 08831  
732-723-5000 • [monroerec.com](http://monroerec.com)



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 MTGSA Monthly Meeting Community Center 7:00 PM	9 MONROE WOLVERINES Monthly Meeting Community Center 7:30 PM	10	11
12	13	14 MTBA Monthly Meeting Community Center 7:30 PM	15	16	17	18
19 OCTOBERFEST Community Center 12:00 Noon	20 RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MTG. Community Center 7:00 PM	21	22	23 Happy Diwali	24	25 HALLOWEEN PARADE Community Center Registration, 10:30 AM
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## November 2014

Monroe Township Department of Recreation  
120 Monmouth Road • Monroe Twp., NJ 08831  
732-723-5000 • [monroerec.com](http://monroerec.com)



**Veterans Day**  
November 11th

**Thanksgiving**  
November 27th



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
13						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MTG. Community Center 7:00 PM	11 MTBA Monthly Meeting Community Center 7:30 PM 	12 MTGSA Monthly Meeting Community Center 7:00 PM	13 MONROE WOLVERINES Monthly Meeting Community Center 7:30 PM	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 <hr/> 30	24	25	26	27 Happy Thanksgiving 	28	29

## December 2014

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



**Monroe Township Grandparent's Day Out**  
**Lunch & Movie**

Date: Monday, December 29, 2014  
Snow Date: Tuesday, December 30, 2014  
Time: 10:30 AM - 4:30 PM  
Place: Monroe Community Center





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MTG. Community Center 7:00 PM	9 MTBA Monthly Meeting Community Center 7:30 PM	10 MTGSA Monthly Meeting Community Center 7:00 PM	11 MONROE WOLVERINES Monthly Meeting Community Center 7:30 PM	12	13
14	15	16 HANUKKAH BEGINS 	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 HANUKKAH ENDS 	25 CHRISTMAS DAY 	26 KWANZAA BEGINS 	27
28	29 GRANDPARENT'S DAY OUT Community Center 10:30 AM 	30	31	<b>Holiday House Decoration Contest</b> Send in submissions to: Monroe Township Community Center 120 Monmouth Road Monroe Township, New Jersey 08831 Judging occurs between December 23rd and December 31st 		

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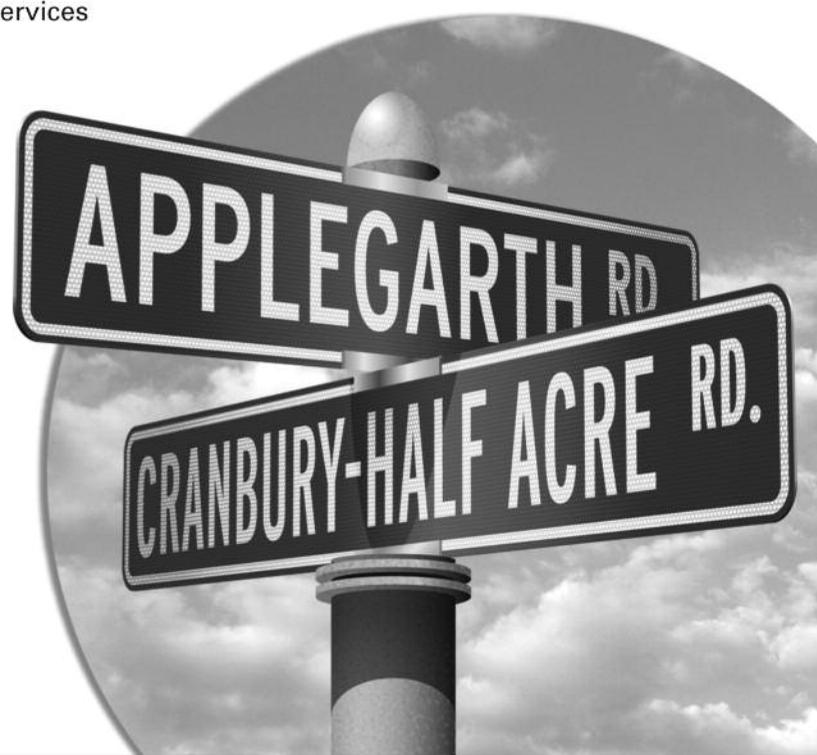
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- Gastroenterology
- Orthopedics
- General Surgery
- Pediatrics
- Sports Medicine
- Geriatrics
- Rheumatology
- Obstetrics & Gynecology
- Pulmonary Medicine
- Breast Surgery
- Podiatry
- Neurology

Also at the medical office are Rehabilitation, Physical Therapy, Outpatient Lab Services and Health Education.

For more information call 866-CENTRA7 (866-236-8727) or visit [centrastate.com/monroe](http://centrastate.com/monroe). For free transportation schedules provided by Monroe Township call (609) 443-0511.

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## Don't Miss the Upcoming Cultural Arts Events in Monroe

### October 8

#### Opera Lecture Series: Mozart

Monroe Township Public Library; 1-2 p.m. Free. Advance registration required at the Library.

### October 20 - October 28

#### Juried Art Show

Free. Open during Library's regular operating times.

### October 26

#### The Jewish Experience in Opera

Monroe Township Senior Center; 3 p.m. Tickets: Adults – \$20; Patrons – \$18; Students – Free

### November 12

#### Opera Lecture Series: French Operas

1-2 p.m. Free. Advance registration required at the Library.

### November 15

#### The Ultimate Tribute to Rod Stewart featuring Rick Larrimore and Blondes Have More Fun!

Richard P. Marasco Center for the Performing Arts; 7 p.m.

Tickets: Adults – \$25; Patrons – \$22; Students – Free



**The Township Cultural Arts Commission** has some amazing programming for the upcoming fall schedule following another successful Free Concerts in the Park series.

For more information, visit [www.monroetownshipculturalarts.com](http://www.monroetownshipculturalarts.com).



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## Indyk Farm Preserved Forever

The 37.7-acre Indyk Farm on Spotswood-Englishtown Road is the tenth farm that will be preserved forever in Monroe Township.

The Township, Middlesex County and the State purchased the development rights to the farm in late June.

"The Indyk Farm is a Monroe institution," Mayor Richard Pucci said. "The pick-your-own farm is known throughout the area as the premier location for strawberry picking in the late spring and early summer. To have the farm preserved forever is an amazing benefit to people of Monroe."

The farm is on

the eastern side of Spotswood-Englishtown Road between Legends Drive and Mounts Mills Road. It was jointly purchased by the County, State and Township for \$904,550.40, with the State contributing \$539,432.64 and Monroe and Middlesex each paying \$182,558.88.

The Indyk Farm is the tenth preserved farm in Monroe, bringing the total farmland preserved in Monroe to 1,290 acres and increased the total area of preserved land to 7,246 acres throughout the Township.

"We are still working toward our goal of having 50 percent of the Township preserved as

open space," Mayor Pucci said. "The addition of the Indyk Farm to our open space inventory gives the town a large piece of preserved land on one of our busiest roads."

The addition of the Indyk farm on Spotswood-Englishtown Road adds more preserved land to the northeastern section of the Township. Last year, the Township preserved more than 80 acres from Legends Drive to the Old Bridge border.

"We will continue to identify and purchase open space and farmland in an effort to preserve the rural roots of Monroe Township," Mayor Pucci said.

## Mark Your Calendars for Grandparent's Day Out on Dec. 29

Free family portraits, lunch and movie are on tap for the annual Recreation Department Grandparent's Day Out on Dec. 29.

The annual event is a way for grandparents and grandchildren to spend a day of fun together.

"The entire event is free," Recreation Superintendent Mary Lange said. "Everyone that comes will get a family portrait and lunch at the Community Center on Monmouth Road. Then we provide bus transportation to and from a free movie."

The event starts at 10:30 a.m. at the

Community Center, 120 Monmouth Road, where families register and line-up for family portraits, followed by a full lunch sponsored by the Gardens at Monroe. Special dietary requests cannot be accommodated for the luncheon.

Participants are asked to bring donations of unexpired canned goods that will be donated to the Monroe Township Food Pantry.

"There is one stipulation for those who want to attend," Ms. Lange said. "Either the grandparents or grandchildren, or both, must be residents of Monroe Township."

Space is limited for Grandparents Day, and residents must sign up in advance. Registration forms are available at the Community Center and on the Recreation Department's website – [www.monroerec.com](http://www.monroerec.com).

"It always great to see grandparents and grandchildren spend the entire day together," Mayor Richard Pucci said. "What a way for the different generations to learn from one another, and just a fantastic way for grandchildren and grandparents to bond and have fun together."

For more information, call (732) 723-5000.

## Honoring Daniel P. Ryan



**Councilman Stephen Dalina** presents a t-shirt honoring Daniel P. Ryan when the Township rededicated the Daniel P. Ryan Football Complex on North State Home Road on Sept. 28.



**The Ryan Family** standing in front of the new sign near the snack bar at the Daniel P. Ryan Memorial Field on North State Home Road.

## Journey Through Time at the Library

Prepare to step into the past, present and future when Raconteur Radio performs a radio play of the H.G. Wells classic, "The Time Machine," at 4 p.m. on December 2.

The free program is sponsored as part of the arts-in-education non-profit organization Art Horizon's Creative Spirits program. Creative spirits provides senior citizens with par-

ticipatory, hands-on social and creative engagement in the performing, literary and visual arts. The program is focused in senior centers, libraries, assisted and independent living facilities and nursing homes throughout the tri-state area.

"We are excited to host such a unique program at the Library," Library Director Irene Goldberg said. "We will

get to time travel without leaving our seats, as we see how the great radio plays of the past were performed, as H.G. Wells' characters are blasted into future."

"The Time Machine" tells the tale of two Victorian scientists hurtled far into Earth's future by using an elaborate contraption. The performance will feature theatrical lighting, period costumes,

vintage commercial, Golden-Age radio equipment and extensive sound effects.

The event is open to all ages. Free tickets are available at the Library's circulation desk; walk-ins will be welcomed as space provides.

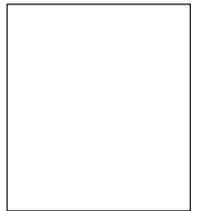
"See how stories were told in the past and watch a literary classic come to life," Ms. Goldberg said.

For more information about the event, visit [www.monroetwp-library.org](http://www.monroetwp-library.org) or call (732) 521-5000.

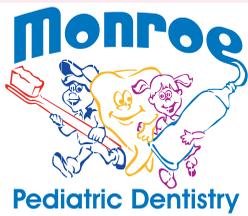
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## Never Forget

(l-r) Firefighter Brian Johnson, Firefighter Stuart Blundell and Lieutenant Jeff Wood stand before a monument from the World Trade Center during the Township's Annual Sept. 11 Remembrance Ceremony.

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