



Monroe Township Officials Host Interfaith Vigil Against Anti-Semitism

On Saturday, October 27, a senseless act of violence directed at The Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh took the lives of 11 congregants, injured at least six more and wounded four law enforcement officers.

In the wake of this tragedy, more than 700 Monroe Township residents, family and friends flooded the Senior Center two days later. They stood together against hate and violence as part of a candlelight vigil hosted by Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro and Township Council members.

“As a member of the Mayors United Against Anti-Semitism Initiative, in which we publicly



Residents of Monroe, Township Council and state dignitaries gathered in solidarity against anti-Semitism at Interfaith Vigil.

condemn prejudice, hatred and discrimination against our Jewish brethren, and as a veteran of the United States Army fighting for freedom of religion, I was outraged by this devastating news that rattled our nation and hit very close to home,” said Mayor Tamburro.

“While I am deeply saddened by the incomprehensible acts of the Pittsburgh assailant, I am proud to say that we support one another and are united against anti-Semitism.”

Attendees were welcomed by Monroe Township Human
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Monroe Township Library Celebrates 30 Years

On October 17, 1988, a card table was set up in the lower-level of the Municipal building, and thus began the Monroe Township Library.

Officially opened on April 1, 1989, Library Director Irene Goldberg ran the library with the help of Councilman Irwin Nalitt and his wife Helen. With limited funds, Goldberg and her staff bought all the books themselves in order to stock the library.

In the early days, Dr. Intesar Zaidi, a local businessman, donated \$500,000 so the

library could be housed in a designated space. Dr. Zaidi believed that a public library was the foundation of a community.

“The library is a hub of activity,” said Councilman Stephen Dalina. “Residents can come to read, relax, and learn new skills.”

Goldberg ran the library from the basement of the municipal building alone for the first few weeks. Once she gathered some furniture and set up a phone line, she was able to hire a temporary secre-



Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro and Councilwoman Schneider join with library officials to mark the 30th anniversary.

tary to help with placing orders and filing paperwork. Leah Wagner was hired in

January 1989 and arranged a children's area.

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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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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

From the Mayor's Desk

By Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro

I Support the Education Referendum on March 12th

Strong communities are built on solid foundations and there are few things more important than the quality of our public schools.

Like most of you, I am the product of a successful public-school system.

Our parents, and their parents before them, made the decision to support new schools and there is no greater investment a community can make for its future success.

This is why I have always worked hard to make sure our community provides those same benefits for Monroe Township students and why I will support both questions on the March 12 Board of Education referendum.

When I was a member of the Township Council, I helped secure the lands for the new Oak Tree Elementary School and the new Monroe Township High School. These investments were critical for the success of our students and community.

Together with our partners at the Board of Education, we have built these facilities while still maintaining the second lowest overall tax rate in all of Middlesex County and using very little of our bonding capacity for a community of 43 square miles.

The strength of our school district has a direct and positive impact on property values and the quality of



Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro

life for all Monroe residents. The investments we make today will allow us to continue our community tradition of excellence, value and achievement for generations to come.

Our parents and grandparents voted for the referendums that built our schools. We should do the same and support success for our students and teachers alike.

I love this township and all of our residents. I hope you will join me in voting YES on this referendum on March 12th.

Community Safety is Paramount

Ensuring the safety of all Monroe Township residents and businesses is my top priority. We work hard to enhance existing programs and identify new measures for protecting our community.

We regularly evaluate the staffing needs of our law enforcement agency and I am excited to welcome four new patrolmen to the force in

January.

I also am proud that Monroe Township again was recognized in 2018 as the 29th safest city in America by the National Council for Home Safety and Security.

Security Camera Registry

One of the ways we maintain this ranking is through the outstanding efforts of the Monroe Township Police Depart-

ment (MTPD). The MTPD recently announced a voluntary security camera registry where businesses and residents provide access to their outdoor surveillance footage that could aid police investigations and expedite consequences for offenders while deterring future unlawful activity. Please contact MTPD to be placed on the registry.

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the Monroe news

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Monroe Tax Rate Remains Second Lowest in County

Monroe Township maintained its position as the second lowest overall effective tax rate in Middlesex County, according to a report released in December by the Middlesex County Board of Taxation.

The 2018 “Abstract of Ratables” lists Monroe Township’s effective tax rate as having maintained a stable second place position – tied with Old Bridge – in comparison to the county’s 25 municipalities.

The state defines an effective tax rate as “a statistical study that enables the comparison of one district to another based on the assump-

tion that all districts are at 100 percent valuation. This rate is not to be used to compute the tax bill.”

“Monroe Township maintained this very stable position through fiscally responsible decisions, careful negotiating and thoughtful planning,” said Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro. “Despite consistently flat municipal state aid, we continue to provide services and resources to our residents that are largely unparalleled elsewhere in the County.”

In addition, Monroe was ranked with the third lowest municipal tax rate for the sixth con-

Monroe’s Overall Effective Municipal Tax Ranking in Middlesex County

Taxing District	Overall Effective Tax Rate	Taxing District	Overall Effective Tax Rate
Cranbury	1.93	East Brunswick	2.74
Monroe	2.08	South Amboy	2.77
Old Bridge	2.08	Milltown	2.85
South Brunswick	2.09	Cartaret	2.89
South Plainfield	2.18	Middlesex	2.96
Edison	2.27	Woodbridge	2.97
Plainsboro	2.29	North Brunswick	3.01
New Brunswick	2.33	Spotswood	3.02
South River	2.38	Perth Amboy	3.02
Piscataway	2.42	Jamesburg	3.26
Sayreville	2.51	Dunellen	3.27
Metuchen	2.58	Highland Park	3.40
Helmetta	2.71		

*Source: Middlesex County’s 2018 Abstract of Ratables.

secutive year. “This position is particularly impressive given unanticipated public safety increases and no

increase in municipal aid from the state,” Mayor Tamburro said. “We continue to have among the lowest resi-

dential water and sewer service fees in the region.”

Townshipwide Services and Resources

With the second lowest effective tax rate in Middlesex County, Monroe property owners experience the biggest bang for the buck when it comes to municipal and County services. Following is just a sampling of what’s available:

Bulk Pick Up

Schedule a once-a-year pick-up of larger items like refrigerators, appliances, furniture and more by contacting Monroe Township’s Department of Public Works at 732-656-4575.

Community Fitness Center

Open to residents 18 years and older, with just a \$10 annual membership fee. The Fitness Center is open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily with the exception of weekends in July and August, when the Community Center closes at 5 p.m. Call 732-723-5000 for details.

Museum Passes

Residents can borrow free passes to one of more than 20 regional attractions – from rock climbing in Morganville

to the Museum of Modern Art in New York City to the Grounds for Sculpture in Hamilton. Reservations can be made online at the Monroe Township Library, www.monroetwp-library.org, prior to pick up. Passes must be dropped off before 11 a.m. on the day of return. Call 732-521-5000 for more information.

Bookmobile

Can’t get to the library? Visit the Bookmobile on a road near you, where patrons can get a library card, check



Monroe Township Library Book Mobile, which travels around town to provide residents access to reading.

out or request books or return material. The Library also offers door-to-door book delivery for homebound residents. Visit www.monroetwplibrary.org or call

732- 521-5000 for more information.

Paint Drop-off

Dispose of unwanted paint at Monroe’s recy-

Continued on page 7

Plenty of Recycling Opportunities for a Cleaner Monroe

The Monroe Township Department of Public Works (DPW) recycling coordinators spend countless hours each year in cooperation with Middlesex County Improvement Authority (MCIA) rethinking recycling strategies and developing ways to help residents properly sort and dispose of unwanted recycling materials.

“Our Public Works staff has deployed some very creative programs to help educate the public about proper recycling measures in our homes and in the workplace,” said Councilwoman Miriam Cohen. “We must each do our part to reuse,

reduce and recycle while keeping our community clean and litter free.”

Styrofoam

Most recently, the DPW began accepting Styrofoam packing in a specially-marked receptacle in the Recycling Center, 76 Gravel Hill Road. Only resident-generated block type packing foam will be accepted. Cups, food containers and packing peanuts will not be accepted.

E-Recycling

State law also mandates that TVs, computers, monitors, laptops, tablets, printers and fax machines be taken to an e-waste recycling depot. Monroe Township offers

residents free e-waste recycling services at the Recycling Center during general operating hours, 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. weekdays and 8 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. on Saturdays.

Paper Shredding

Additionally, paper shredding events are held throughout Middlesex County. These events are held from 9 a.m. – noon or until the shredding truck is full. Monroe residents will have two local opportunities: Friday, April 12 at Veterans Park, Avenue K and Friday, September 13 at Thompson Park in the parking lot near Manalapan Lake.

“With tons of recycling waste collected

each year that must be properly disposed of at recycling mills across the globe, purity standards for outbound shipments are increasingly high,” said Joe Slomian, Monroe Township Recycling Coordinator. “It is imperative that every resident do his or her part to ensure these materials don’t end up in the landfill.”

Recycling Coach

The “Recycle Coach” app is a one-stop tool for all Monroe Township recycling standards and information. The free app is available for download to smartphones and tablets and can be accessed at the municipal website.



Joe Slomian, recycling coordinator, sorts recycled materials at DPW

If you’re still not sure what to recycle, or how to do it, refer to the enclosed flyer for more recycling tips or contact the DPW at 732-656-4575 or visit the Public Works & Recycling tab at www.monroetwp.com for guidelines.

Library Turns 30 *Continued from page 1*

With the local library established, a Library Board of Trustees had to be created. Board member Robert Isaacs has served diligently these past 30 years. Goldberg and Wagner continue to work at the library.

The library was able to move to its own building in 1997. The library expansion was completed in 2009 at 3 Municipal Plaza.

“We are proud of our reputation for being welcoming and professional,” Goldberg said.

“Information is our business. We are willing to explore innovative ways to serve our public, not just in books, but in other media, programming and exposure to new ideas.”

To mark the historic 30 years of service, the library planted a time capsule on January 2. It contains materials from the early days, including photographs, original library cards, and other important documents that shed light on the library’s evolution.

In the 30 years since its opening, the Monroe Township Library has expanded inside and out. In the beginning, the library hosted predominantly youth programs, with Sunday Adult programs being held in the courtroom of the municipal building. As of 2019, the library hosts programs for all ages including clubs, meeting spaces, career services, “how to” classes and others. The library is now even open on Sundays, from

10 am to 6 pm.

“Our library is at the forefront of innovation,” said Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro. “With late fine forgiveness on children’s books, the Mobile Library, and a slew of programs to join, it’ll be hard to imagine what the next 30 years will bring.”

The Library will be hosting a series of spe-



Library officials bury time capsule.

cial events each month in 2019 to mark the 30th Anniversary. The next scheduled event is a 30th Anniversary Trivia Game, “1989” Edition, on Thursday, February 28 at 2 p.m.

Historic Acquisition Increases Monroe's Open Space Inventory

Monroe Township took another step closer to a goal of preserving 50 percent of its estimated 43 square-mile land area for open space with the purchase of a 6.286 acre property known as 201 Mounts Mills Road for \$850,000.

The property consists of approximately 5.29 acres of active designated farmland at Mounts Mills Road and Buckelew Avenue.

"The Township's acquisition of this parcel allows us to expand our open space inventory and preserve farmland that might otherwise have been developed for

up to six single-family homes," said Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro. "This preserved farmland steeped in local history now will serve the citizens of Monroe for generations to come."

The property, acquired with open space trust fund money, was purchased by Peter and Anistasis Eonaitis in 1929.

The Eonaitis family farmed the land, where they raised their only child, Peter Eonaitis Jr. As a child, gazing into the sky, it is reported that Peter remembered seeing the Zeppelin Hindenburg pass over

his family farm on its fateful journey to Lakehurst in 1937.

On July 6, 1945, Peter enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. At six feet tall and of perfect stature, he was selected to serve as a guard raising and lowering the American flag at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington DC. He recalled being saluted by General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Admiral Ernest Joseph King and British Prime Minister Clement Richard Attlee. He also was a personal guard for the United States Secretary of the Navy James Vincent Forrestal.



World War II Veteran, Peter Eonaitis Jr., 1928 – 2010, was raised on the Mounts Mills Farm and lived there with his wife Beatrice after returning from service with the United States Marine Corps.

Monroe Township Historic Preservation Commission Photo Collection

After returning home from active duty, Peter lived on his Mounts Mills farm with his wife, Beatrice, who served as the Township Clerk and operated the property until her death in 2008. Peter's niece purchased the land following his death in 2010 at the age of 82.

"The purchase of this farm serves two important functions for Monroe Township. We preserve our land and honor our local history," said Councilman Leonard Baskin. "We are thankful to Peter Eonaitis Jr. for his service to our

country and we're thankful for the opportunity to maintain the farmland for years to come."

The surrounding land with exception of the home and the barns were sold in the mid-1980s for the development of Heritage Chase. The balance of the land now is being sold by BUDSEAS LLC to Monroe Township and will be designated as open space in perpetuity.

The open space property is dedicated to Peter and Beatrice Eonaitis.



A view of 201 Mounts Mills Road c. 1910 that now will be preserved open space dedicated to Peter and Beatrice Eonaitis.

Monroe Township Historic Preservation Commission Photo Collection

Township Upgrades Continue Through the Winter

It may be winter, but many capital and construction projects continue to progress during these cold months.

Monroe Township Sponsored Projects

Monmouth Road: The project will be advertised for public bid in late January with construction to begin this spring. This project is partially funded by a \$310,000 Municipal Aid grant. The construction project limits are along Monmouth Road between Cornell and 1st Avenues and will include roadway mill and pave, striping, concrete improvements to comply with ADA standards, and drainage improvements as required under stormwater management guidelines. We anticipate construction to be complete in late August.

Daniel Road & 10th Street: This grant funded project design will begin in 2019. Improvements are slated to include road milling, paving, sidewalk, curb and ADA concrete improvements.

Daniel Ryan Field ADA Restroom and Concession: Construction on the new concession and restroom facility continues. The mild winter has permitted the contractor to get the walls up and the roof on during

January. This highly anticipated project is slated to be complete in late spring.

Monroe Township Soccer Complex Improvements: The newly restored soccer fields continue to mature and will be player accessible in 2019. The new ADA restroom and concession, like Daniel Ryan Field, is slated to begin later this year.

Matchaponix, Pergola & Spotswood Gravel Hill Signal: Design plans, permitting and appraisals continue to progress for this signal and intersection improvements.

Safety Improvements:

- Avenue K: speed enforcement and pedestrian safety improvements continue through winter.
- Cranbury Half Acre Road: pedestrian crossing improvements will be installed near the park this spring.
- Costco Drive parking enforcement project is underway.
- Streetlight installation, upgrades and tree trimming to reduce power outage is underway in conjunction with JCP&L.
- Guide rail replacement areas are being compiled and for repair under the 2019 budget.

Developer Sponsored

Spotswood English-town Road Closure: The installation of the sanitary sewer force main and the PSE&G gas main and connections is complete. The roadway has been repaved and restriped.

Middlesex County Sponsored Projects

Old Bridge-English-town and Mounts Mills Road: Middlesex County is currently working with their traffic engineer on design plans for traffic signal installation and road widening at this location.

Prospect Plains and Perrineville Road Intersection: The traffic signal upgrades include protected left turn signal heads. These have been installed and the contractor awaits delivery of additional electronic components and road striping. Final paving of this project will be completed in early spring.

Bucklew and Schoolhouse Road Intersection: Road construction is nearly complete at this location. Installation of new equipment and timing adjustments remain.

State Sponsored Projects

Railroad Crossing Repair: Conrail has notified the Township that at-grade crossing repairs will be completed in this spring on Federal Road. The South Middlesex Blvd.



Photos of Daniel Ryan Field's concession and restroom construction.

rail crossing improvements are complete.

Route 33 & Applegarth/Butcher Road: At the request of Monroe Township, NJDOT has agreed to install dedicated left turn arrows onto Route 33, from Butcher and Applegarth. The state has advised that work will be completed in early 2019.

Route 33 Paving: NJDOT continues to work along portions of Route 33 corridor. New signal heads have been installed at the Perrineville Road and Route 33

interchange, including protected left turns from both directions.

Public Utility Work

New Jersey Natural Gas: This public utility project was granted approval through the Board of Public Utilities to install gas pipe in their easement. Final installation and construction work are nearing completion and final restoration to all disturbed areas and paving activities set to begin in the spring.

Monroe Awarded \$181,000 Recycling Tonnage Grant 9th Largest DEP Award in NJ

The state Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) awarded Monroe Township a \$181,000 tonnage grant in early January through the Recycling Enhancement Act. Intended to further enhance local recycling efforts, the grant is based on the municipality's 2016 recycling performance: **the third highest award in Middlesex County and ninth largest in the state.**

Recycling tonnage grants are funded through a \$3 per-ton surcharge on trash disposed at solid waste facilities statewide. The NJDEP then allocates funds back to municipalities based on how much recycling each community reports during the calendar year.

"Monroe Township's ongoing commitment to recycling is underscored by our strong performance in this year's award distribution," said

Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro. "Our recycling facilities and staff are second to none and our residents and businesses have embraced recycling as part of the daily routine. This award will allow us to further enhance our recycling efforts with improved equipment and resources."

Each year, Monroe Township is required to file an annual report documenting recycling tonnage with the

NJDEP. To file this report, Monroe Township Recycling Coordinator Joe Slomain collects information on the weight in tons of recycled materials from all commercial and institutional establishments in the Township.

The year-long documentation process begins in mid-January with outreach efforts to local establishments, followed by reporting to the NJDEP in late-April and grant award notifi-

cations released the following January for two years prior.

"This award is made possible through the municipal resources provided as well as Joe's efforts in collaboration with the community at-large," said Director of Public Works Wayne Horbatt. "The process is about authenticating tonnage generated in Monroe Township and getting credit for it. We are improving each year."

Services *Continued from page 3*

cling center, 76 Gravel Hill-Spotswood Road. Paint is accepted on the third Saturday of the month between 8 and 11:30 a.m. Call the DPW at 732-656-4575 for more information.

Safe Zone

Monroe Township's Police Department provides a designated area at headquarters for exchange of merchandise. Two labeled spots are videotaped and monitored 24 hours per day.

Medicine Drop-off

A secured box, located in the lobby of the

Monroe Township Police Headquarters, allows residents to safely dispose of any unused, excess or outdated prescription drugs at any time, without any questions. Call the Police Department at 732-521-0222 for more information.

Transportation

Monroe's Transportation Department provides out-of-town bus routes for residents 55 years and older as well as those with physical limitations. Monroe also offers in-town bus- ing and curb-to-curb

pickup and drop-off for medical appointments. Contact the Transportation Department at 609-443-0511 or visit www.monroetwp.com/transportation.cfm.

Animal Control

Monroe's Office of Animal Control responds to calls regarding lost, stray, injured or nuisance domestic animals, as well as wild, rabid animals and vicious dogs. Staff also handles

the disposal of deceased animals on local roads. The Township has scheduled a free annual rabies clinic on Saturday, March 2. Call 732-521-0222 for more information.



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- Amenities include a community center, alternate dining sites, exceptional dining, and abundant outdoor spaces.



973-992-5200
Parkerlife.org

395 Schoolhouse Road, Monroe Twp

Monroe Township Welcomes New Food Pantry

The Senior Center's newest addition is a food pantry conveniently located between the senior center building and transportation building on 12 Halsey Reed Road.

The pantry relies solely on private food donations and monetary contributions made from groups, organizations and individuals within the Township. Residents who donate help meet the nutritional needs of those in need. The food pantry accepts donations of non-perishable food items throughout the year.

"Our goal is to provide a variety of healthy food for our residents and to accommodate any dietary restrictions we can," said Scott Friedman, senior outreach professional.

The food pantry was founded by the Kiwanis

Donations

may be dropped off at the Reception Desk at the Senior Center

12 Halsey Reed Road
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday

Club of Rossmoor in 1993 and was originally hosted out of a building located at 1 Municipal Plaza. The food pantry has grown to serve approximately 50 families monthly.

Food distribution occurs the first Wednesday of each month and is open from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. For more information about the food pantry, contact the Office of Senior Services at 609-448-7140.



Scott Friedman, Senior Outreach Professional, helps load groceries into a car at the new food pantry located at the Senior Center, 12 Halsey Reed Road.

A Salute to Monroe Veterans

Each November 11, Monroe's veterans, officials and residents gather to honor those who served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Monroe Township is fortunate to count hundreds of veterans amongst its residents.

From 99-year-old World War II veterans to our newest high school graduates headed off to the academies, we salute those who serve and have served.

November 11 marked the signing of the agreement that ended World War I in 1918. Changed from Armistice Day to Veterans Day in 1954, it became a day to honor all those who have served in the armed forces of the United States.

"There is never

enough that can be done to show our appreciation to these brave individuals, but here in Monroe, we strive to recognize their sacrifice, honor and assist them wherever and whenever we can," said Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro.

Monroe Township's traditional remembrance ceremonies and wreath placement at the Municipal Building Veteran's Monument and Veterans Park brought together veterans from all branches of service and of all ages.

Mayor Tamburro and Township Council hosted a lunch at the Senior Center where the Monroe Township Chorus performed the anthems for each branch of the military.

"To see so many veterans gathered in

one place shows how special Monroe is," said Councilman Charles Dipierro. "We have a strong community made up of numerous men and women who have served and Monroe recognizes the sacrifices they have made."

As part of a larger national campaign to recognize those who have served between 1955 and 1975, Monroe Township honors Vietnam Veterans with a special commemorative pin. If you or a resident you know served during this time, please contact Eileen Biennas at 732-521-4400 ext. 114 to set up an appointment to receive your commemorative pin.



Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro, pictured here with the Monroe Chorus, makes opening statements at the Veterans Day Luncheon on November 9.



Mayor and Council gather for Veterans Day ceremonies November 11.

Vietnam Veteran Commemorative Pin Recipients



Albert Storm, pictured with Mayor Tamburro, served from '67 to '71.



Ken Stolte, who served from '66 to '70, pictured with his wife Eileen, Mayor Tamburro, and Wayne Horbatt, Director of DPW.

Monroe Bids Farewell to Retired Workers



Patricia “Trish” Ryan worked in the Monroe Township Finance Department for 31 years. She began in 1987 as the Budget

Officer. Ryan’s next adventure will take her to new and exciting places as she follows her sons’ jujitsu careers around the world. “I’m going to miss the people the most,” she said. “When you sit next to someone for 30 years, they become family.”



Michael “Mikey D” DiPierro worked at the Monroe Township Utility Department for 37 years, beginning in 1981 as a meter reader. “My favorite assignment,

when given the chance, was to operate the backhoe or excavator,” he said. DiPierro’s next adventures will take him hunting, crabbing, snowplowing, concert-going and spending time with his family.

Congratulations

Congratulations to **John Katerba** on his retirement from the Monroe Township Utility Department and as Monroe Township Local Historian. Happy retirement to **Joel L. Shain** and thank you for your years of guidance in your role as Monroe Township Attorney. Best wishes and thanks, gentlemen, for jobs well done!

Monroe Welcomes New Public Information Officer



Monroe Township welcomed **Stacey Kennedy** as the new Public Information Officer on December 10, 2018. Stacey’s background blends more than two decades of communications and public relations experience with valuable tenure in municipal government.

Stacey’s public relations career began in

the pharmaceutical agency scene and quickly transferred to corporate communications where she spent the majority of her years in increasing roles of responsibility up to Director, Media Relations representing world renowned corporations such as Century 21 Real Estate Corporation and Wyndham Hotels & Resorts.

After spending time at home with twin daughters, **Kaileigh** and **Katherine**, Stacey returned to the traditional workforce as Confidential Secretary to the Business Administrator and Mayor **Fred Henry** of City of South Amboy. During

her time in South Amboy she accepted roles of increasing responsibility, acting as the City’s Planning Board Secretary and South Amboy Redevelopment Agency Secretary.

“In the near term, I plan to integrate the communication skills acquired over decades with the insight gained working in municipal government while leveraging the resources available to keep public information flowing,” she said. “Longer term goals may include revamping the Township’s website and exploring new and improved outreach opportunities.”

Honors & Accolades



Jim Meyers accepting his award for “Library Employee of the Year” by Libraries of Middlesex County with Library Director **Irene Goldberg**.



Kim Molarz of Monroe Transportation Department accepting her 2018 award for “Dispatcher of the Year” from the new Jersey Council on Special Transportation.

Notice to Monroe Township Community Energy Aggregation Program Participants:

An increase in transmission rates approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) affecting the JCP&L Basic Generation Service tariff price has resulted in an increase to the MTCEA contract price.

Please note that this contract price adjustment will not change the current 19% savings you currently receive under the MTCEA program. Notices were distributed from the South Jersey Energy Company in January.

ADVERTORIAL

Dear Monroe Township Caregivers,

Do you worry that the person you care for spends too much time at home? Has he or she lost interest in the things they used to enjoy? Do you as a caregiver feel overwhelmed, tired, or lonely?

Parker at Monroe Adult Day Center may be able to help. Parker is a not-for-profit organization committed to supporting caregivers of older adults. Our mission is to make aging and caregiving more manageable; to provide you with the resources you need to be the best caregiver you can be.

To learn more about caregiving and connect with peers, we invite you to attend Parker's monthly Caregiver Support Group. The Caregiver Support Group will meet at 10am on the following dates: February 12, March 12, April 9, May 14, June 11, July 9, and August 13. For more information about this group, please contact Rachel Kallish at 609-655-6853 or rkallish@parkerlife.org.

Parker at Monroe Adult Day Center is open 5 days a week from 8am to 4pm and has been designed to provide a more affordable, engaging, and social option to homecare. Participant transportation is available within the Center's service area. Financial assistance is also available for those who qualify.

Parker
we make aging part of life®



PARKER AT MONROE ADULT DAY CENTER

(previously Saint Peter's Adult Day Center)

- Daytime medical & therapeutic support for seniors with cognitive and/or physical needs
- Activities include live entertainment, pet therapy, horticulture therapy, visual arts, and exercise classes
- Medication administration & supervision by RN, support services provided by social worker, behavioral health services available
- Access to occupational, physical, and speech rehabilitation therapies
- Amenities include door-to-door transportation, hot lunch, and on-site hair salon services



609-655-6853

Parkerlife.org

200 Overlook Drive, Monroe Township

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LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT CENTRAL,
SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY AND PHILADELPHIA

Monroe Honors Local Heroes



A ceremony was conducted on Veterans Day at the Cranbury Crossing adult community, dedicating a plaque honoring all residents who served in the armed forces. Left to right: Home Owners Association Vice President Arnold Jaffe, Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro and Home Owners Association President Bob Weiss.



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- Spinal Decompression
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state-of-the-art
Wellness Center
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SPRING 2019**



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For more information, visit

HackensackMeridianHealth.org/UrgentCare

888-878-1503, option 7

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Recreation Calendar of Events



February 2019

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



Connect with Monroe Recreation:

For general information go to www.monroerec.com
Membership and Program Registration can be found at www.communitypass.net/monroetownship
Keep up with weekly updates, posts, and special events at www.facebook.com/monroerec
or call us 8am-9pm, 7 days a week at (732) 723-5000

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 GROUNDHOG DAY  FIRST DAY OF MONROE SPECIAL SPORTS Kings & Queens Bowling, Knob Hill, 10 AM
3	4	5	6 PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB, Community Ctr, 7 PM	7	8	9
10	11 SENIOR LUNCH & LEARN, COMMUNITY CTR, 11 AM RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING Community Ctr, 7 PM	12 MTBA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING Community Ctr, 7 PM	13 MONROE WOLVERINE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MTG, Community Ctr, 7 PM	14	15	16
17	18  MUNICIPAL OFFICES CLOSED MTGSA GENERAL MEMBER- SHIP MTG., Comm. Ctr, 7 PM	19	20 PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB, Community Ctr, 7 PM	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

Get a Free Tree on April 6

Monroe Township residents are invited to pick up free tree seedlings at the following locations on **Saturday, April 6:**

Department of Public Works:
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Monroe Township Library:
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Community Center:
Noon - 2:00 p.m.

Limit four (4) seedlings per resident, to be planted in Monroe Township.



PBA Spreads Holiday Cheer



Members of the Monroe Township PBA local #255 gather at Bristol-Meyers Squibb Children's Hospital on Dec. 5 for their annual Toy Drive.

Recreation Calendar of Events

March 2019


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



FREE Rabies Clinic

Bring your dogs and cats to the Community Center
on Saturday, March 2nd, 9:00am—2:00pm



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 First Day to submit a Summer Camp Employment Application for Summer Rec Camp and MTSEPA	2 FREE RABIES CLINIC, Community Ctr, 9 AM - 2 PM
3	4 RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING Community Ctr, 7 PM	5	6 PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB, Community Ctr, 7 PM MONROE SPECIAL SPORTS MTG for BUDDY BALL, Community Ctr	7	8	9
10 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS 	11 SENIOR LUNCH & LEARN, COMMUNITY CTR, 11 AM RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING Community Ctr, 7 PM	12 MTBA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING Community Ctr, 7 PM	13 MONROE WOLVERINE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MTG, Community Ctr, 7 PM	14	15	16
17	18 MTGSA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING Community Ctr, 7 PM	19	20 FIRST DAY OF SPRING PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB, Community Ctr, 7 PM WOLVERINE REGISTRATION NIGHT, Community Ctr, 7 PM	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 Last Day to submit a Summer Camp Employment Application for Summer Rec Camp						

April 2019

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



Egg Hunt Bonnet & Top Hat Contest



Family fun starts at Noon on Saturday, April 13th at the Community Center Hockey Rink

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB Community Ctr, 7 PM	4	5	6
7	8 SENIOR LUNCH & LEARN, COMMUNITY CTR, 11 AM RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING Community Ctr, 7 PM	9 MTBA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING Community Ctr, 7 PM	10 MONROE WOLVERINE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MTG, Community Ctr, 7 PM	11 MAYORS CUP BOWLING, Knob Hill Co. Lanes, 9 AM	12	13 EGG HUNT, TOP HAT & BONNET CONTEST, Community Ctr, 12 Noon
14	15 MTGSA GEN. MEMBERSHIP MTG, Community Ctr, 7 PM REGISTRATION OPENS for Summer Rec Camp. All camps open on May 1st.	16	17 PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB Community Ctr, 7 PM	18	19 GOOD FRIDAY MUNICIPAL OFFICES CLOSED	20
21	22 EARTH DAY 	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 Last Day to submit a Summer Camp Employment Application for MTSEPA Camp				



MONROE TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS
423 Buckelew Avenue
Monroe Township, New Jersey, 08831
www.monroe.k12.nj.us

ROBERT GOODALL
Acting Superintendent of Schools
DORI L. ALVICH, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent of Schools
MICHAEL C. GORSKI, CPA
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Tel: 732-521-1500
Fax: 732-521-2719

January 9, 2019

Dear Residents:

On behalf of the entire Monroe Township School District, we want to extend a Happy New Year to our families and friends in Monroe Township and Jamesburg.

On March 12, 2019, the community will have the opportunity to VOTE on a referendum to build a new 1000 student, second middle school on Applegarth Road and a 1000 student addition to our high school. The high school addition can only be approved if the middle school project is approved. If passed successfully, the middle school project is expected to open for students in September 2022 and the high school project in December 2022.

The referendum is designed to prioritize the building of our new middle school, which is currently operating beyond its functional capacity and has already required the installation of 10 temporary leased classroom trailers. The projections for continued student enrollment forecasts growth beyond 2000 students in the next 5-10 years, so the need to provide permanent classroom space is imperative. The high school is also operating beyond its functional capacity and is projected to experience student enrollment growth beyond 3000 students in the next 5-10 years. The high school has been able to manage without the need for classroom trailers until this point; however, unless permanent classroom space is provided, the high school will also require trailer installations in the near future. Classroom trailers are extremely expensive to lease and operate, potentially impacting valuable student programs in the operating budget. The current overcrowding is creating an environment of unproductive class sizes in core academic courses, including science labs, mathematics and language arts courses. The construction of a new middle school and high school addition will allow the district to continue our preminent educational programs in safe and secure environments for our students.

The district administration will distribute referendum information to residents so they can make an informed decision on their referendum vote. We are strongly encouraging residents to follow our district social media sites for factual information on the referendum.

If you have any further questions on our referendum projects please contact me at 732.521.288, extension #5224. Please mark your calendar to **Vote on March 12, 2019.**

Sincerely,

Robert Goodall
Acting Superintendent

Background

This Referendum plan has been under study since 2015 by the Board of Education and their architectural, engineering and financial advisors. Public participation included multiple presentations at Board of Education meetings and six months of work by the Student Growth Advisory Committee, made up of community members, district staff and administrators.

The Student Growth Advisory Committee explored multiple potential solutions to the enrollment and overcrowding issue. The committee analyzed the pros and cons of over two dozen options, including, but not limited to:

- Building on current Board owned property;
- Different grade configurations;

- Split sessions;
- Creating a 9th grade academy in a separate facility from the high school;
- Building a grade 5-6 building; and
- Moving the middle school students into the high school and building a new high school.

If you wonder “Did they consider XYZ,” the answer is probably, “Yes”...no stone was left unturned. Analysis of the many options included review of educational and co-curricular opportunities as well as facilities, enrollment and school capacities.

After the defeat of the March 2018 referendum, the district reached out to the community for feedback via survey. The survey data helped to guide this referendum.

Your Vote Counts

REFERENDUM

MONROE TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

VOTE

MARCH

12
2019

QUESTION ONE

- BUILD A NEW
1,000 STUDENT
MIDDLE SCHOOL

QUESTION TWO

- IF QUESTION ONE
PASSES, THEN BUILD
MTHS ADDITION

REFERENDUM.MONROE.K12.NJ.US

Learn More About the Monroe Township District Referendum

District Website Referendum Page:

<http://referendum.monroe.k12.nj.us>

Facebook Referendum Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/MonroeReferendum/>

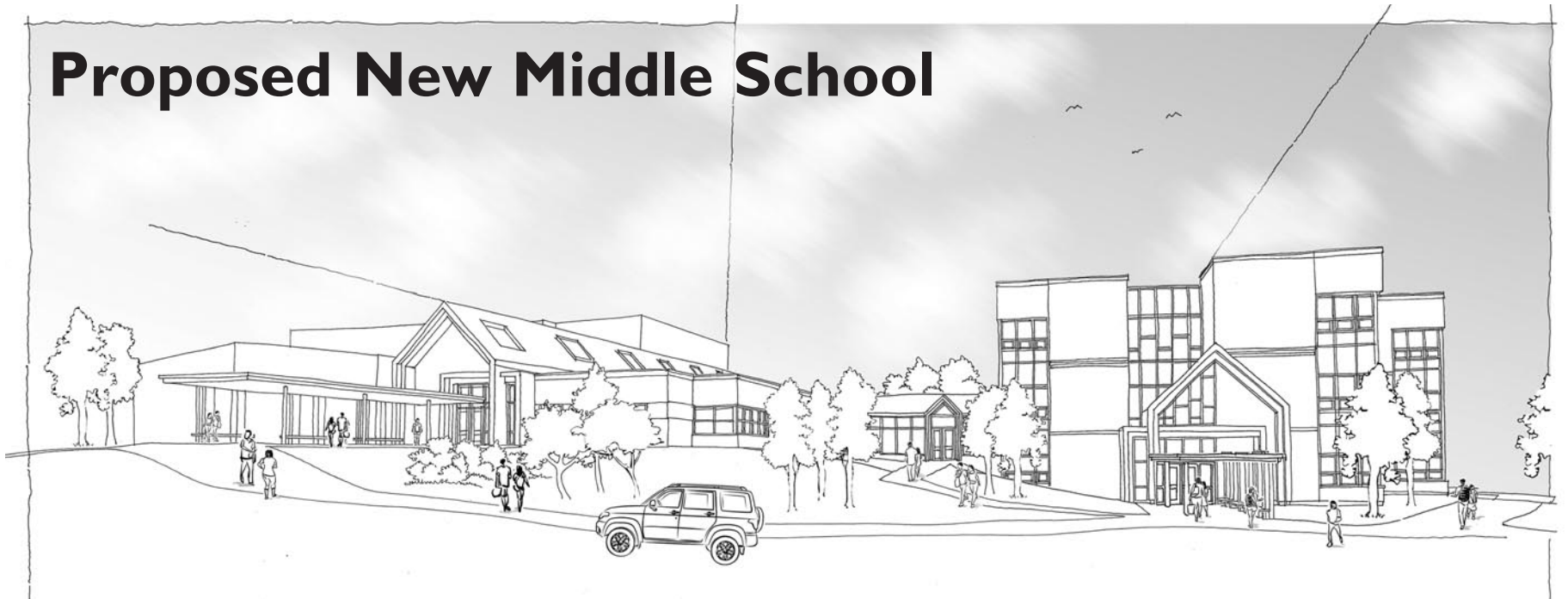
District Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/mtsdfalcons>

District Mobile App:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/monroe-township-school-dist/id1322733451?mt=8>

Proposed New Middle School



A Path to Success for Every Student

New Middle School or New Middle School/High School Addition

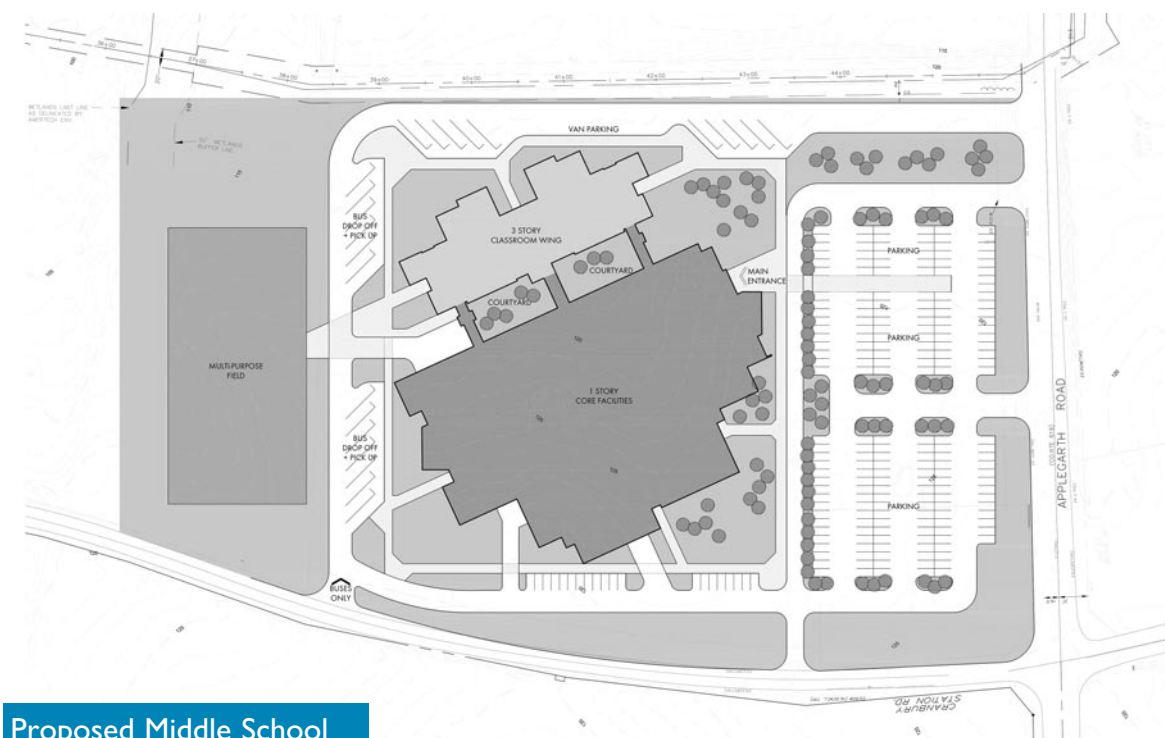
The Middle School Referendum was defeated last March. Through a survey, we have gathered and listened to the concerns of the community to formulate this fiscally responsible, phased approach to meeting our immediate needs of increased enrollment at the middle and high schools.

This referendum, to meet the educational needs of our District, includes two questions. The first question is for an additional middle school to house approximately 1,000 grade 6-8 students and will provide parity with the current middle school in educational programs, athletics and extra-cur-

ricular activities.

If the first question is passed, the second question offers the option of adding an addition to the High School. This addition would include a three-story addition to the back of the high school and structural changes within the high school to accommodate teacher work spaces, special education classrooms, and professional development. Specifically, it would include:

- 30 general classrooms
- 6 science labs
- 4 self-contained special education classrooms
- 2 engineering labs



Proposed Middle School

- 3 resource rooms
- Cafeteria and servery
- Culinary arts lab
- Auxiliary gym and locker rooms
- Music/band room

This referendum can be accomplished with a nominal increase in property taxes of about \$4.06 per month for the middle school project and \$3.66 per month for

the high school addition based on an average assessment of \$100,000. This is achieved with an anticipated \$19.1 million in Debt Service Aid from the state if both projects are approved.

The alleviation of overcrowding in our District will allow us to continue to deliver the quality of education that our students deserve.

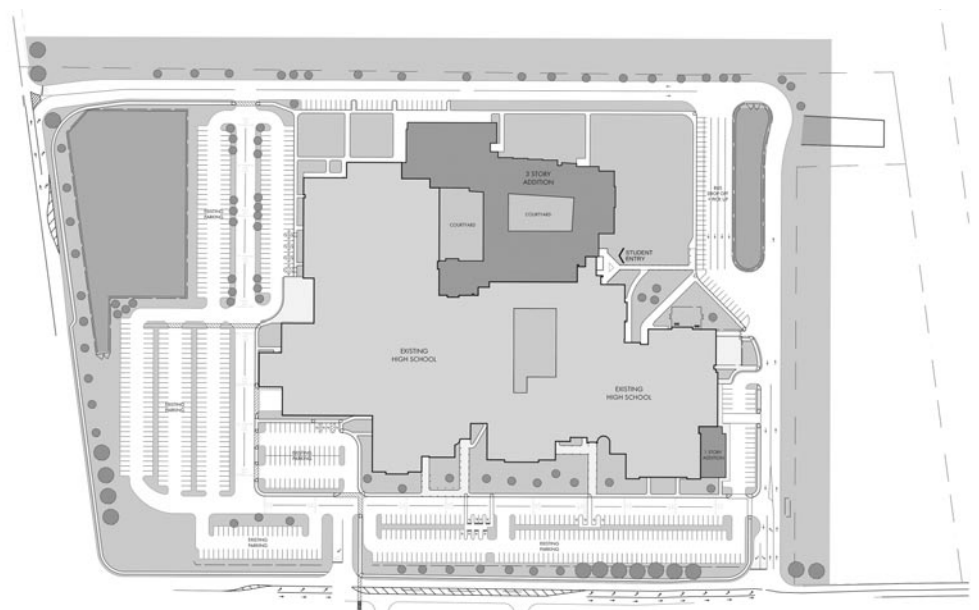
YOUR VOTE COUNTS!
Please remember to vote!
Tuesday • March 12, 2019
7:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Proposed High School Addition



What the High School Addition Has to Offer

The proposed addition to the high school is 129,675 square feet with a renovation of 16,595 square feet of existing space for 1000 additional students. The project will include an additional 30 general classrooms, 6 science labs, 4 self-contained special education classrooms, 2 engineering labs, 3 resource rooms, a cafeteria and serving area, culinary arts lab, auxiliary gym and locker rooms, and a music/band room. It will also include modifications to maximize the existing media center to include teacher work space, repurposing the distance learning lab for professional development, and repurposing the faculty suite on the 2nd and 3rd floors for special education suites.



Proposed High School Addition

Remember to Vote!

Tuesday, March 12, 2019 • 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM

For more information and polling places, visit

District Website Referendum Page:

<http://referendum.monroe.k12.nj.us>

Neighbors Helping Neighbors



Kyle and Jamie Tepe, center, are lauded for their efforts to stop a neighbor's house fire.

Mayor's Desk *Continued from page 2*

Don't Get Scammed

I also wanted to make sure you protect yourself against telephone and computer scams.

Scammers have become increasingly adept in their efforts to con unsuspecting victims. They use "spoof" phone numbers that appear to be from a nearby location and may demand immediate payment via credit card, gift card or money order.

Email scams may claim that your account is infected with a virus. Once the scammer gets into your account, they fish for important data such as social security, driver's license or bank account numbers.

Take the following steps to avoid being victimized:

- Do not answer calls

from unfamiliar phone numbers. Block unsolicited callers.

- Remember that authorities such as police and IRS will not demand money or other compensation via telephone.
- Never provide social security, driver's license or credit card numbers to unsolicited callers. Reputable sources will offer secure means for disseminating this information.
- Keep abreast of the latest scams at <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/scam-alerts>.

If you suspect a scam, take the following actions:

- Stay calm.
- Hang up immediately.

- Contact the Monroe Township Police Department non-emergency line at 732-521-0222. A representative will take your information and forward to the Detective Bureau for further investigation.

- Contact your financial institutions.

- Report the scam attempt to the Federal Trade Commission at <https://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov/Information?OrgCode=PET#crnt&panel1-1>

We will continue to make every effort to keep Monroe Township a safe place to live and work. Please remain vigilant and stay informed. If you see something that doesn't seem quite right, say something.

Seniors Give Thanks



More than 200 members of the Senior Center gather for a Thanksgiving luncheon on November 20.

New to Monroe Township



AJS Photography

Pictured here with Council Vice President Schneider, Owner Jim O'Keefe, and Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro.



Strive Physical Therapy and Sports Rehabilitation

Pictured here left to right: Carolyn Gramata, Dennis Gramata, Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro, Jamie Martin, Erich Herkloz, and Mark Muir.



Molino's

Owner Alfonso Molino (left), with Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro, Councilman Dipierro, and Council Vice-President Schneider at the ribbon cutting.

Affordable Housing Rehab Program

Financially Assists Income-Eligible Homeowners with Code Violations or Other Health and Safety Issues.

Applications Available at
1 Municipal Plaza or by
Calling 732-521-4400 ext. 167.

Interfaith Vigil *Continued from page 1*

Relations Commission Chairwoman Kam Attwal Kaila and were led in prayer and reflection by an interfaith panel of community religious leaders, including Deacon John Bertrand of Nativity of Our Lord; Maurice Mahler, President of Congregation Beit Shalom of Monroe Township; Rabbi Eli Perlman of Congregation Beit Shalom of Monroe Township; Rabbi Yehuda Spritzer of Chabad House of Monroe; Rabbi Ben Levy of Congregation Etz Chaim – Monroe Township Jewish Center; Rabbi Eliezer Zaklikovsky of Chabad Jewish Center of Monroe; and Father Michael Sorial of St.

Anianus Coptic Orthodox Church.

Pianist David Schlossberg delivered a moving rendition of "Somewhere Over The Rainbow" as well as traditional Jewish songs of peace.

This emotional evening exemplified the spirit of Monroe Township with its rich diversity and strength of character. Those in attendance showed a tremendous outpouring of support for the victims and made a clear statement of intolerance for anti-Semitism.

"Once again, I find myself proud to live and work in such a compas-

sionate, accepting and strong community of diverse individuals," said Mayor Tamburro. "Working together, we can make a difference and help to bring peace in uncertain times."

Monroe Township is home to a vibrant population of Jewish residents and businesses who make significant and appreciated contributions daily. Mayor Tamburro, Council members, administration and staff express their deepest sympathies and will keep the families of the victims in their thoughts and prayers.

A Place of Beauty



Artwork displayed at the Juried Art Show, which ran in October 2018 at the Library.

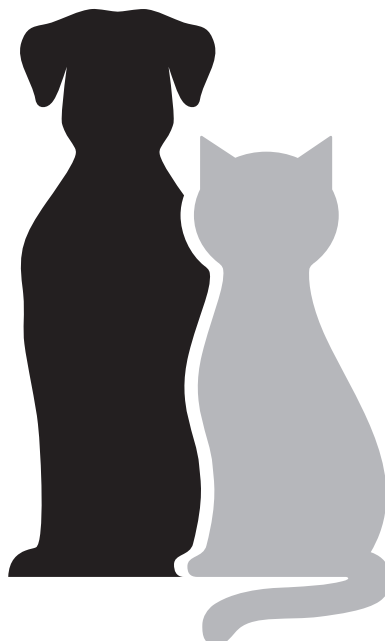
Monroe Township Pets

REMINDER:

Animal license renewals due by March 31. \$10 late fee applied after deadline.

Rabies Clinic

at the Community Center on Saturday, March 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



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Recreation Department Celebrates Mayor's Cup Winners



Women's Bowling, Clearbrook



Women's Tennis, Regency



Men's Golf, Regency



Men's Pickleball A Division, Stonebridge



Men's Basketball, Ponds

Kiwanis Club Supports the Food Bank



Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro, center, honors the Kiwanis Club for their decades of service to the food bank at the October 1, 2018 Council Meeting as part of Monroe Volunteer Week.

Youth Recreation Team Champions



Left: The Monroe Wolverines Football Mitey Mite 2018 Division 2 Central Jersey Pop Warner Champions



Right: Monroe Wolverines Cheer Mitey Mite 2018 Central Jersey Pop Warner Champions

Photo by Monroe Wolverine's Pop Warner Football and Cheer

Calling All Superstars:

We're looking for Monroe Township residents who would like to share their notable accomplishments.

Contact Eileen Biennas at **732-521-4400** or **ebiennas@monroetwp.com** if you'd like to be recognized for your success.

Senior Center Programming Expands to Evenings and Weekends

The Monroe Township Senior Center kicked off 2019 with expanded evening and weekend programming. The new lifestyle and fitness-oriented classes, lectures and entertainment offer many options to those who maintain traditional daytime work hours.

“Monroe Township is blessed with a vibrant senior community and the new programming reflects the interests and needs of this population,” said Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro. “We recognize that many seniors are not available to participate in daytime activities so we developed evening and weekend options.”

Fitness and dance classes generally run for 10 sessions each at a cost of \$40 per person, per class. Single dancers also may register at a reduced price of \$25 per person. Best efforts will be made to pair single participants with dance partners.

The new program-

ming includes a “Senior Pop-Up” series of free educational seminars that will be held at 10 a.m. on select Saturdays throughout the year. Featured entertainment will be scheduled one Friday evening per month.

“The Monroe Township Senior Center offers something for just about every member it serves. It is a vital resource, particularly for those individuals who might otherwise be alone,” said Council Vice President Elizabeth Schneider. “The expanded hours and services make it even more accessible to a broader senior community.”

All classes and programs are for registered members of the Senior Center. No walk-ins will be permitted to participate.

For more information or to register, contact the Senior Center at 609-448-7140. Space is limited so register early. Checks should be made payable to the Township of Monroe.

Mayor’s Open Office Hours:

Keeping the Lines of Communications Open

The Fourth Thursday of Every Month
Between 5:30 p.m. & 6:45 p.m.

UPCOMING CLASSES AND SESSIONS:

Tuesday, March 5 at 1:30 p.m.

The Green Tea Talk

Take a tour of the world of green teas and how to brew for flavor.

Friday, March 8 at 10 a.m.

Empty Bowls Project Kick-off Brunch

Join students from the Brookside School as they bring awareness of hunger to this annual event. Learn how to get involved in the Empty Bowls Project and help paint bowls for the fundraiser.

Saturday, March 9 at 10 a.m.

Wealth Management Strategies for Women

Thomas Casey, CFP, returns to discuss the economic power and influence that women have gained and how they can prioritize what matters most to achieve financial goals.

Friday, March 15 at 7 p.m.

Go Green Dance Party with DJ

Enjoy live music and refreshments during this Irish-themed dance party.

Wednesday, March 20 at 10:30 a.m.

TED Talk

Find out how to make stress your friend.

Thursday, March 28 at 1:30 p.m.

Agents of Change with Jim DelGiudice

Discover how women in New Jersey history brought about change

Starting Week of April 8

Spring Session of Art and Exercise Classes Commence

Get even more active during the weekday, Thursday nights and Saturday mornings.

Saturdays, April 6 and 13 at 10 a.m.

The Baffling Brain Workshop

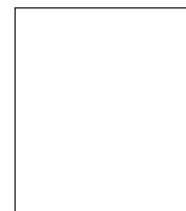
Discover the many “whys” in life, for example: Why do you get bad “vibes” from some people, why young children don’t “get” sarcasm, etc.

Starting April 9 at 2 p.m.

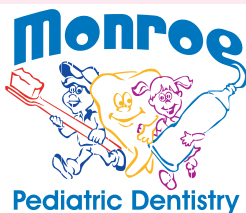
New 6-session Charcoals & Pastels Class – \$30 per person

Starting April 16 at 10:30 a.m.

New 6-session Meditation Class – \$30 per person



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COMPLIMENTARY MARKET ANALYSIS

If your property is currently listed with another broker, please disregard this offer.

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to give you the true facts about this
changing Real Estate Market**

732-251-8900

Slow Down in Our Town



Freeholder Leslie Koppel (left center), Monroe Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro (center), Monroe Township Police Officers and local residents came together to support the Middlesex County Comprehensive Traffic Safety Program's "Slow Down in our Town" Campaign. "Slow Down in our Town" is a speed reduction campaign in partnership between neighborhood residents and local law enforcement, working together to coordinate placement of lawn signs in targeted neighborhoods. In addition, awareness training is provided to the participating residents and local law enforcement.

Photo by Randall Brinkley

Green Fair



Green Fair volunteers Rupa Siegel and Kyle Siegel pictured with Council Vice President Elizabeth Schneider, Councilman Leonard Baskin, and Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro at the Green Fair.



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Susan Leiva, DMD
Orthodontist
NJ Specialty Permit #3852

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