Borough of Morris Plains

PLAINS TALK

August 2015

Mayor
Frank J. Druetzler

Council President
Jason C. Karr

Councilmembers
Joseph Cecala, Jr.
Sal Cortese
Jack Doherty
Laurie Fu
Suzanne B. McCluskey

Memorial Day Parade 2015
Photo Credit: Audrey Eapen

Affordable Housing Groundbreaking
Photo Credit: Morris NewsBee
FUN at SUMMER KIDS CAMP

FAMILY DAY
FISHING with UNCLE FRANK
MPPD SWEARING IN
The Borough Council held a swearing in for two new Patrol Officers at the July Council meeting, Anne Marie Ferris and Joseph Heinz.

Officers Bruce Rapp and Jeffrey Hochman were sworn in following their promotions to the rank of Sergeant. Absent, but also promoted to Sergeant was Peter Rolph.

D.A.R.E. GRADUATION
DARE Officer Ryan McKay is pictured here with two recent Borough School Graduates from the 5th grade DARE program.

JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY
Three local resident youth are recent graduates of the Tri-Morris Junior Police Academy. The Academy is a two-week program held each summer sponsored by the Morristown, Morris Township, and Morris Plains Police Departments. The camp is designed to educate Junior Recruits about the inner workings of the local police departments and the criminal justice system. Special thanks to Morris Plains Sgt. Michael Koroski and Ptl. Nicholas Grawehr for their assistance with the program.

FATHER AL CELEBRATES 40 YEARS AS CHAPLAIN
On May 17 2015, family, friends, the Morris Plains Fire Department and Town Council came together in celebration of Father Alfred Lampron. Father Al celebrated his 40th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priestly Ministry which began in Morris Plains, and has served as Chaplain of the Morris Plains Fire Department throughout his life as a priest. A mass was held at St. Virgil's Church, followed by a reception at the Morris Plains Firehouse. A big ‘thank you’ to the Morris Plains Fire Dept., Ladies’ Auxiliary and the many local businesses of Morris Plains for their generous contributions to the celebration!
Morris Plains Affordable Housing Development  
GROUNDBREAKING

On July 22nd, the Morris Plains Affordable Housing Development officially broke ground for the 56-unit building located at 260 Tabor Road, directly across from the Recycling Center. With over two years in planning and preparation, the Borough has entered into a Developers Agreement with The Madison Affordable Housing Corporation to build the affordable apartments consisting of two buildings connected by a lobby. There will be one, two, and three bedroom units. Site work will also include the expansion of the detention basin on the Recycling Center property. Applications for rentals will NOT be available until early 2016.

The development will be known as “Davenport Village,” after Homer Davenport, whose farm was located nearby on the Tabor Road property.

Homer Calvin Davenport (March 8, 1867 – May 2, 1912) was a political cartoonist and writer from the United States. Known for drawings that satirized figures of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, Davenport became one of the highest paid political cartoonists in the world. Davenport is remembered for playing a key role in bringing some of the earliest desertbreds or asil Arabian horses to America. In 1906, Davenport used his political connections with President Theodore Roosevelt to obtain diplomatic permissions to travel into the lands controlled by the Ottoman Empire. It was the first time Arabian horses officially had been allowed to be exported from the Ottoman Empire in 35 years. He brought them to his farm in Morris Plains, where he also kept his private collection of pheasants, wild waterfowl, angora goats and Persian fat-tailed sheep. In Morris Plains, the Davenports hosted large parties attended by celebrities, artists, writers, and other influential people of the day, including Ambrose Bierce, Lillian Russell, Thomas Edison, William Jennings Bryan, Buffalo Bill Cody, Frederick Remington, and the Florodora girls. Instead of using a guestbook, Davenport would have his guests sign the clapboard siding of his home to commemorate their visits. In 1912, while waiting in the rain on the New York docks to interview Titanic survivors, creating several powerful drawings depicting the terrible disaster, he contracted pneumonia and died.

Visit the Morris Plains Museum to learn more and to view the extensive collection of Homer Davenport cartoons and paintings.

Sitework Begins!

RECYCLE RESPONSIBLY

The Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority appreciates the recycling efforts of Morris Plains residents and is asking our cooperation with the following guidelines for Curbside Pickup. If you have any questions about these or other recycling related issues, please call 973-538-2224, or contact the MCMUA at 973-285-8394.

**USE PROPERLY SIZED CURBSIDE CONTAINERS**
- The weight limit for containers is 50 lbs when full. It is recommended that containers be no larger than 32-gallon size to avoid exceeding this weight limit. (The green barrels available at the Recycling Center are 32 gal).
- Containers must have handles
- Retail stores now sell wheeled carts that are 64 or 90 gallon size. These containers, when filled may far exceed the 50 lb limit. Please avoid using these large bins.

**AVOID TURNING RECYCLABLES INTO LITTER ON WINDY DAYS**
- If your materials do not fit into one container, use an additional container, so that loose materials are not sticking out and exposed to wind.
- Please do not leave cardboard boxes loose on the ground. Flatten boxes and place them in bins or stack them inside one un-flattened box

**RECYCLE ONLY WHAT IS ACCEPTABLE**
- Please follow recycling guidelines as they are posted on the MCMUA’s website at www.mcmua.com. There are specific guidelines regarding materials which are and are not acceptable in Morris Plains.
- All recyclables should be rinsed clear of food particles and liquids.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE & COOPERATION!

Morris County’s Recycling Resource  
www.MCMUA.com
At the Morris Plains Community Center
Saturday, Oct. 17th, 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
at the Community Center – Jim Fear Drive

FREE and Open to All Morris Plains Residents

REGISTRATION DATES FOR
ADULT CANCER SCREENINGS
AND BLOOD WORK
(Register at Borough Hall)

Wed., Oct. 7  6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 10  10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Questions? 973-538-2224
or www.morrisplainsboro.org

“WELLNESS FAIR”
At the Community Center
Exhibitors, Information & Demonstration
to Help Your Whole Family
to Lead a HEALTHY Lifestyle
(No Registration Necessary)

At the Morris Plains Community Center
Saturday, Oct. 17th, 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
At “Fast ER”, 130 Speedwell Ave., Morris Twp. (862) 242-8043
Walk-In, October 1st thru 31st
Mon-Fri: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sat-Sun: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
(must show proof of Morris Plains residency)

Health Matters Real People. Real Answers.
NJ’s Poison Information and Education System

The NJ Poison Experts are always here to help with emergencies or questions involving medicines, chemicals, household products, environmental contaminants, plants, or other poisons. Help is available in over 150 languages; 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year.

Program the Poison Help line (800-222-1222) into your cell phone and post it near your home and office phones too. There are no silly questions and our health professionals are always available to answer a question, quell a fear, provide advice, or intervene to get emergency services on site and prepped to provide the needed protocol in the fastest response time. When in doubt, check it out by calling, texting, or chatting - Prevention is truly the best possible medicine. Follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/njpies) and Twitter (@NJPoisonCenter) for breaking news, safety tips, trivia questions, etc.

BE POISON SMART! Share poison prevention tips with your family (including children), friends, and co-workers.

As the weather heats up, it is important to know that certain medications increase one’s risk for developing heat-related illnesses. By knowing who is at risk, steps can be taken to prevent heat-related illness.

Medications, which include the risk of developing health related illness, include but are not limited to:
- Some Antidepressants
- Antihistamines (allergy medications)
- Diuretics (water pills)
- Antipsychotics

Poison exposures can be concerning and while doing a quick search on line, there is no substitute for calling the poison center and speaking with medical experts (doctors, nurses, and pharmacists). A mistreated exposure can escalate an easy-in-home treatment into a trip to the hospital. In the event of a poison exposure, every second counts so calling the poison center is the smart thing to do!! You may also chat or text when using the website, www.njpies.org.

Groups interested in presentations on home safety, Poison 101, can contact:
Arlene Stoller - the Morris Plains Health Department’s Health Educator - at 973-631-5489.
DEBORAH LYLE RECEIVES ADHA AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

Deborah Lyle, a resident of Morris Plains, was presented the ADHA/Johnson & Johnson Award of Excellence in Dental Hygiene during the American Dental Hygienists’ Association (ADHA) annual conference in Nashville, TN. The award recognizes hygienists who exhibit evidence of leadership in the advancement of the dental hygiene experience and demonstrated outstanding accomplishments that have a significant impact on the practice and future of the dental hygiene profession.

Deborah has demonstrated this and more during her 35 years teaching and working in the profession. Deborah has written numerous textbook chapters and published more than 55 articles and research manuscripts. She has presented 100+ continuing education courses to students, dental and dental hygiene practitioners globally. She is also an editorial board member of the Journal of Dental Hygiene, and has conducted several clinical studies published in peer-reviewed journals.

Deborah has worked for Water Pik, Inc. for the past 24 years and is the director of professional and clinical affairs. She has held many leadership positions and is currently the chair of the Council of Research for the ADHA.

Congratulations Deborah!

About the ADHA
The ADHA is the largest national organization representing the professional interests of more than 185,000 dental hygienists across the country. Dental hygienists are preventative oral health profession. For more information about the ADHA or dental hygiene, visit www.adha.org.

PLEASE DON’T BLOCK THE BOX

The newly painted striping at the intersection of Speedwell Avenue and Glenbrook Road, creating a box effect, is a reminder and warning that it is illegal to block any intersection. This particular location was chosen to emphasize the issue because of heavy traffic volume and multiple exits onto Speedwell Avenue.

Blocking intersections inhibits the flow of traffic and is punishable by a $54 fine. The Morris Plains Police Department requests the public’s cooperation in eliminating the blocking of any intersection.

IMPORTANT E-WASTE RECYCLING NOTICE
FOR ALL RESIDENTS & BUSINESS OWNERS

Due to the rising cost of handling Electronic Waste, the Morris Plains Recycling Depot must suspend the collection of Electronic Devices as of August 15, 2015. We recommend that residents take TVs, computers, phones, etc., to the next Hazardous Household Waste Collection Event sponsored by the Morris County MUA or check with participating retailers such as Best Buy or Staples who accept tech devices for recycling. We are sorry for this inconvenience and appreciate your cooperation while alternative solutions are being explored.

MUA HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTION
Saturday, Sept. 12th, 2015
9am to 2pm
Public Safety Training Academy
500 West Hanover Ave, Parsippany

ROTARY CLUB OF MORRIS PLAINS - 42ND ANNUAL COMMUNITY BREAKFAST BUFFET BRUNCH

Sunday, October 4th
8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Morris Plains Community Center
51 Jim Fear Drive

Tickets (Available at the Door): Adults - $8  Children - $5 (Age 3-12)
For More Info: WWW.MORRISPLAINSROTARY.ORG or Email: INFO@MORRISPLAINSROTARY.ORG
A reception was held on Sunday, July 12, 2015 to honor the recipients of this year’s Morris Plains Museum Association Annual Awards.

Congratulations go to Shannon Keller, a Morristown High School graduate, who received the Helen Schnack Scholarship, and to John (Jack) Keane, a Borough School graduate, who received the Kenneth C. Cramer Award (shown here with Town Historian Dan Myers on the left with Jack’s father, Bill).

Family and friends, Museum Association members, along with Mayor Frank Druetzler and several council members, gathered at the museum for a short ceremony and refreshments.

The first Morris Plains Town Council in 1926. Pictured left to right are: Front row - L.S. Young, Margaret Stang, Mayor Daniel M. Merchant, H.G. Vorgburger, and Edward Connelly Back row - Edward Babington, James Fear, Frank Millen, L.H. Burch, John Yawer, and Attorney David Barkman.

The Morris Plains Museum has an interesting and diverse collection of maps, photographs, and artifacts.

Introducing you to our Very First Town Council

Awards Reception

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~ ~ ~Membership~ ~ ~

The Morris Plains Museum Association members enjoy our work preserving our town’s past with its rich history. We hope you will visit and consider joining our group.

Call Ronnie Kelly (973-540-8021) or Dan Myers (973-267-3303) for more information. The museum is open the first & third Saturday of the month 10am-2pm or by appointment.
In May, the Morris Minute Men EMS held a celebration at Community Park to dedicate two new ambulances which were recently acquired. One vehicle was dedicated in memory of long-time member, Murray Marks, and the other was named in honor of Dick & Jackie Deskovick whose generous donation made the purchase of the ambulance possible.
CONCERTS IN THE PARK

Skip Yingling & Friends

MHS “Coffee House” Teens, sponsored by the Municipal Alliance Committee

Plains Blues Band with Chris Gardner

A special performance by the 63rd Army Band from Sea Girt, NJ

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE
The talented young thespians from the Summer Recreation Theater Camp’s musical production of “TEN” - The original show was the celebration of the 10th year of the very successful and popular summer program, under the talented direction of Joe Wohlgemuth, Skip Yingling & Pam Johnson

A new time capsule containing significant memorabilia from present day Morris Plains has been sealed and buried at Community Park to be unearthed by the citizens of 2064

Morris Plains introduces our new CLEAN COMMUNITIES Coordinator, Ellie Falco. Watch for this new logo around town as we strive to “Keep Morris Plains Litter Free”
HORAN ELECTRIC WINS 2015 LL MAJORS CHAMPIONSHIP!

Congratulations to Horan Electric for winning the 2015 Little League Majors Championship! The boys finished the year with an impressive 6 game winning streak and swept the best of 3 series against FastER (Morristown National). Great job boys!

Team members: Marc Andreotti, Benji Bergeron, Tommy Burns, John Cowing, Michael Desantis, Chris Herity, Bradley Horan, Evan Jinks, Jack Keller, Tyler Shay, Max Stahl, and David Votapek. Pete Horan managed the team with coaches Kevin Burns, Rob Cowing, Joe Desantis, and Tom Bergeron.

MP LITTLE LEAGUE 12U ALL-STARS

On Sunday July 5th, Morris Plains 12yr old baseball All-Stars advanced out of pool play with an impressive 13-0 win vs. Hanover. This was a HUGE accomplishment for our League as Morris Plains has had only 3 advancements in 50 years: in 1979, 2004, and now 2015! Billy Scanlon’s dad Tim was on the 1979 team with Brian Fluery and Jack Keller’s brother Robert was on the 2004 team.

Pictured left to right:
Back: Head Coach Dave Marcantonio, Max Stahl, Mark Belles, Kevin Lynch, Michael Salvatore, Billy Scanlon, Tommy Burns, Coach Joe DeSantis
Front: Bryce Marcantonio, Jack Keller, Chris Herity, Connor Manion, Evan Jinks, Michael DeSantis

13 year old Rebecca Snyder creates fundraiser to support the children at Morristown Goryeb Hospital

By Casey McNichol, Natalie Higgins, Rebecca Snyder and Michele Marin

In December 2014, Morris Plains resident Rebecca Snyder started a fundraiser so that children who are sick could have the opportunity to enjoy the happy feeling of opening presents all year long. She knew firsthand from her brother’s surgery that a stuffed animal can really help make a child feel safe in a stressful situation. She wanted to take that feeling and spread it to other children and teenagers staying at the Morristown Goryeb children's hospital.

Rebecca raised money by designing a booster shirt for people to purchase, collecting donations of money and toys from family and friends, and by serving a pancake breakfast at the St. Virgill’s church on May 31, 2015. Rebecca had three of her closest friends help her run the pancake breakfast, Morris Plains residents: Michelle Marin, Natalie Higgins, and Casey McNichol. The girls cooked and served bacon, pancakes, and eggs and sausage and raised over 800 dollars. With this money, Rebecca and her friends bought over 200 stuffed animals, toys and games for children of all ages. On June 26th, the girls dropped the toys off at the hospital for the child life specialists at Goryeb Children’s hospital to hand out to the children. All four girls felt the fundraiser was a great experience, and it was great to be able to bring joy to many kids in the hospital.
Another successful Petting Zoo turnout! Thank-you to all who attended. The weather was on our side for the morning! The excitement over chickens, rabbits, goats, ponies, and ducks is always refreshing! Because of your generosity we collected over 260 pounds of food for the Interfaith Food Pantry. Morris Plains cares!!

Remember, we collect food all year!

Excuse our appearance as we undergo some changes in our landscape. Hopefully the results will be worth the wait. The variety of weeds that have grown completely out of control have been most interesting to watch. Come and catch a glimpse before they’re gone for good.

A few scheduled reminders:

- **Next Paper Shredding** – Saturday 12 September 2015. 9-12 sharp - $5 per box donation.

- **Our 2nd Book Sale** will take place during the Town Wide Garage Sale – Saturday 3 October 2014. $1 per hardcover - .50 per paperback or fill a bag for $5. All proceeds to benefit our Library. Many thanks in advance.

- **Story Time** with Jessica continues on Tuesday mornings at 10:30. Ages 3-5 welcome.

Feel free to call us for details on our events. 973-538-2599

Here are some book selections suggested by our staff to get you through these lazy, hazy days of Summer:

1. Every Fifteen Minutes – by, Lisa Scottoline
2. The Naked Eye – by, Iris Johansen
3. Dead Wake – by, Erik Larson
4. Death Wears a Beauty Mask – by, Mary Higgins Clark
5. Under Fire – by, Tom Clancy
6. The English Spy – by, Daniel Silva
7. The Artful Year – Celebrating the Seasons and Holidays With Crafts and Recipes – by, Jean Van’t Hul

For our young readers:

1. Night Animals – by, Gianna Marino
2. Maple and Willow Apart – by, Lori Nichols
3. Bulldozer’s Big Day – by, Candace Fleming

Enjoy, stay well, and keep reading!
Fall Recreation Programs

**Book Club with Charlot Lamm**
Fourth Wednesday of every Month
2PM at the Morris Plains Community Center
September Book Club:
Discussion of favorite Summer Reading!

**Senior Exercise with Irene Phelan**
VFW, Route 53, Morris Plains
Thursday Mornings 10 AM
Beginning September 17th

**USSI Fall Tennis**
Mondays
September 14 to October 26
Ages: 3-5 4-4:50PM
Ages: 5-8 5-6PM
Ages: 8-10 6-7PM
Ages: 10-14 7-8PM
Adult: 8-9PM
$125.00

**USSI Sports Squirts**
Tuesdays
September 15 to October 27
12:30-1:30PM Ages 3-5
$120.

**USSI T Ball Squirts**
Tuesdays
September 15 to October 27
1:30-2:30PM Ages 3-5
$120

**USSI Lacrosse**
September 14 to October 26
Ages 5-6 4-5 PM
Ages 7-8 5-6 PM
$120.00
MP Community Park

**Boxing on a Freestanding Bag**
Thursdays 9:30-10:30AM
18 sessions $100.
Begins September 17
MP Community Center

**Cardio Boot Camp with Theresa Myers**
Wednesday Evenings
7:30-8:30PM 18 sessions/$100.
Begins September 16

**Yoga**
with Ray Clark
Tuesday 7:30-8:30 PM
Thursday 7:30-8:30 PM
18 sessions - $100.
Begins September 15

**Adult Soccer**
Morris Plains Residents
Wednesdays
8:30-10PM
MP Borough School
September-June

**Young Adult Basketball**
Morris Plains Residents
Tuesdays
8:30-10PM
MP Borough School
September-June

**Adult Basketball**
Morris Plains Residents
Thursdays
8:30-10PM
MP Borough School
September-June

For More Information
973-538-3455
Monday - Thursday
9AM - 4PM
Program information
www.morrisplainsboro.org
**Fall Recreation Programs & Events**

**Town-Wide Garage Sales!**
October 3rd & October 4th

**Sign up at**
Community Center by September 29th

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**Annual Bonfire**
Saturday, October 24th
6PM - 9PM
Rain date: Sunday, October 25th
Community Park

**Halloween Parade!**
October 31st
4 PM
Roberts Garden

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**Drawing Classes with John Darvie**
For Kids Ages 6-12
Students will learn to capture the shape of their subject and continually modify it shading the features using pencils, colored pencils, blending tools and erasers. Classes will consist of long and short duration sketch projects resulting in a sketchbook filled with ideas!
Tuition: $75.00 per session

Wednesdays at the Morris Plains Community Center
Session #1: September 30 to October 28th; 4:30 to 6PM
Session #2: November 4 to December 9; 4:30 to 6PM

**Chair Yoga with Diane Tartaglia**
Wednesdays 10-11AM
Beginning September 16
Fee: $50.
MP Community Center

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**Mommy & Me**
9/17-12/10 10-11AM Ages: 18mo. - 3 yrs.
12 Sessions: $65.

**Pre Ballet & Tumbling**
9/17-12/10 11AM-Noon Ages: 3-5
12 Sessions: $65.

**Ballet & Jazz**
9/16 12/9 4:30-5:30PM Ages: 5-6
12 Sessions: $65.

**Jazz & Hip Hop**
9/17/12/9 5:30-6:30PM Ages: 7-10
12 Sessions: $65.

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Beginning September 16
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MP Community Center

**“Yoga for Kids” Balance and Bend with Theresa Myers**
Yoga is great for building strength, balance and confidence. This class, designed for grades 2-5, will teach the basics of yoga breadth and movement.

Morris Plains Community Center
September 16 to November 18
6:15PM - 7:15P
Fee: $50.
Fee: $50.
It’s summer, and the Morris Plains School District is making the most out of every minute of the season! This is the time for deep cleaning and maintenance projects in our schools, administrative planning, summer school help for targeted learners, staff workshops, and school technology upgrades. We work to be “dedicated to excellence” every day. This summer, we have worked to continue making our school buildings safe and ready for the technological demands of today’s students. In addition, our teachers have participated in Summer Learning Academies as they prepare to enhance their craft and address new literacy initiatives.

We must continually reflect upon our pedagogy and improve our practice, share feedback with one another, and ensure each child’s potential is fully unleashed. Our teachers and administrators have been asked to adapt to new processes and significant change over the past several years, and I am pleased to report we have successfully risen to this challenge. Our work impacts the lives of our students in meaningful and powerful ways. We remain committed to creating the very best possible learning environment in our classrooms, our schools, and in all that we do.

For educators, summertime is synonymous with reading. In addition to sun and fun activities, we encourage parents/guardians to have their children spend time with a good book. On behalf of the Morris Plains School District, I extend best wishes for a safe, healthy and relaxing summer. Please review our District Highlights as we celebrate the past and welcome the new!

Sincerely,

Mark Maire, Superintendent

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ONE DAY ONE SCHOOL
Beautification and Safety Initiative
Coming to Morris Plains
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10th – LEARN HOW YOU CAN HELP!

Tom “Ace” Gallagher, founder of the nationally recognized ONE DAY ONE SCHOOL program, and School Superintendent Mark Maire, have announced that an event will be held Saturday, October 10th at Borough School. The rain date is scheduled for October 17th.

This award-winning program, established in 2006, brings together tree experts, school officials, town representatives, local businesses, and students and their families, who volunteer their time and services to make the school grounds cleaner and safer. Many of the area’s best tree companies and landscaping services are on board to help and they are committed to making this day a success. The organizers are quick to identify the grassroots, voluntary nature of the program as the central key to its ongoing success.

Organizers are working with school community members and inviting volunteers to support the Borough School event. Supt. Mark Maire says, “We are thrilled to host an event that brings local municipalities and school stakeholders together to promote beautification, safety and environmental awareness.

Start time for tree services and other professionals will be 8:30 a.m., and students and other volunteers will report at 9:30 a.m. There will be a DJ, and lunch will be provided at 12:30 p.m. for all volunteers. Gallagher concludes, “We are inviting everyone to become part of this network of volunteers that are giving back to their community, and any support will be greatly appreciated.”

WANT TO GET INVOLVED WITH ONE DAY ONE SCHOOL?
Check out “ONE DAY ONE SCHOOL” on Facebook, or email acegallagher@gmail.com by Sept. 15th
2014-2015 School District Highlights

As a district, we have much to celebrate as we look back on the 2014-15 school year. We began the year developing goals to support student achievement, professional development, two-way communication, and fiscal responsibility.

Below are some district-wide accomplishments addressing these goals.

- Identified as a “High Performing District” from the New Jersey Department of Education.
- Hired a skilled and experienced administrator to lead Borough School.
- Hired an experienced Business Administrator to replace an interim assignment.
- Added Technology and Enrichment Supervisor to the administrative team to support evaluations, drive professional development sessions, and serve as an instructional coach for staff.
- Created a district logo and tagline that represents the vision of the Morris Plains School District.
- Worked with educational consultants to update the Social Studies and Science Curriculum.
- Completed several facility project upgrades to sidewalks at both schools, softball and baseball fields, and roof replacement work at Borough School.
- Continued success in performing arts and athletics; including state champion Mock Trial Club (gr. 7).
- Received generous donations from the Morris Plains Education Foundation and Home School Association to support our school programs and facilities.

What’s Next?

Initiatives and notable changes for 2015-16 school year include:

- Implementation of several literacy-based initiatives.
- Continued increase in student technology devices.
  - Borough School - 1:1 Chromebook initiative for students, grades 3-8.
  - Mountain Way - Equip each classroom at Mountain Way with 10 iPads.
- Infrastructure Enhancements - Technology.
  - Installation of 1 access point in every classroom at both schools.
  - Google Chromecast - available in every classroom at Borough School.
- Online Discovery Education “Techbooks” to support new Social Studies and Science Curriculum.
- Double Math and Language Arts periods for all students, K-8.
- Creation of Team Leaders, K-8.
- Creation of a STEM/Innovation Lab course for Mountain Way students, K-2.
- Honeywell alert system for all emergency school notifications.
- Continued work with The Madison Institute to provide professional development support throughout the year for both Math and LAL instruction.
- Increased security at Mountain Way - added a Door Monitor to control the traffic entering Mountain Way School throughout the school day.
- Scheduled parent presentations to educate community members on our literacy initiatives, technology enhancements, and curricular programs.

News from the EDUCATION FOUNDATION of MORRIS PLAINS

Scenes from EFMP’s first running of the “Strides for Excellence” 5K Race raising over $6500 for our schools!
TROOP 39 EAGLE PROJECT: BIKE RACKS

Three Morris Plains parks now have bike racks, thanks to Jack Thraen, an Eagle Scout candidate with Troop 39 in Morris Plains. Jack recently led an Eagle Project to design, build, and deliver three bicycle racks to Simon’s Park, Watnong Park, and Community Park. Jack recruited and managed a crew of more than a dozen volunteers, who worked over four weekends to complete the project.

Jack is a junior at Morristown High School and a resident of Morris Plains. The Eagle project is one of the last steps toward becoming an Eagle Scout, the highest rank attainable in Boy Scouts. An Eagle project involves planning, developing, and leading others in a service project helpful to any religious institution, school or community. The project proposal must be approved by the organization benefitting from the effort, as well as leaders from the Scout’s troop and council.

Boy Scout Troop 39 meets every Monday at 7:15pm at the Presbyterian Church in Morris Plains. For more information, visit the troop’s website at www.troop39bsa.org.

TROOP 39 JOINS MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBRANCE

Boy Scout Troop 39 remembers those who gave their lives fighting for freedom. The troop participated in Morris Plains’ annual Memorial Day service and parade on May 23. Scoutmaster Ron Swanson and Senior Patrol Leader Arjun Khadse, both of Morris Plains, laid a wreath during the remembrance service at Roberts Garden. Troop 39 members also marched in the parade.

Troop 39 has been an integral part of the Morris Plains community for 85 years. Founded in 1930, the troop has a long history of service to Morris Plains and the surrounding area. The troop has produced 81 Eagle Scouts, whose projects have added trails and other amenities to local parks, beautified thoroughfares, made the outdoors accessible to those with disabilities, and much more. In addition, the troop regularly participates in community service projects in Morris Plains, including town cleanups, working at the recycling center, grilling hamburgers at the Community Bonfire in October, and giving canoe rides at the Family Picnic in June.

Troop 39 has a full calendar of events including hiking, camping, canoeing, and white water rafting. Boy Scouting is open to all boys ages 11-18.
The main softball field at Community Park is named for “Ron Brown.” Ron was the first director of our Recreation Commission and was an avid supporter of youth sports in Morris Plains. He was also a phys ed teacher at MHS, umpire and referee.

In the early 1900’s, renowned political cartoonist Homer Davenport owned a farm in Morris Plains where he raised Arabian horses and other exotic animals. What was the name of this estate?

Honeywell expects to officially open its Global Headquarters at 115 Tabor Road by mid-October. We anxiously anticipate the arrival of our new neighbor in Morris Plains!
Morris Plains 50th Annual
BLOCK DANCE & PRIZE DRAWING

Saturday, September 5th
6:15 to 9:30 p.m.
on the Merchant Block
Rain Date: Sept. 6th

Free Music and Rides!

MORRIS PLAINS BLOCK DANCE DRAWING
YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN
Name: ____________________________
Address: ___________________________
Town: _____________________________
Drop Ticket in Collection Jars at Block Dance
No Purchase Necessary to Enter

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The deadline for the next Plains Talk is October 16th, 2015. E-mail your article and pictures to plainstalknews@gmail.com.