Borough of Morris Plains

PLAINS TALK

November 2017

Mayor
Frank J. Druetzler

Council President
Jack Doherty

Councilmembers
Joseph Cecala, Jr.
Sal Cortese
Laurie Fu
Jason C. Karr
Suzanne B. McCluskey

Fall Fun
halloween • window painting • bonfire • scarecrows
At the Sept. 21, 2017 Council meeting, the Mayor and Chief Kohn recognized Morris Plains Police Officers for their service “above and beyond the regular call of duty”.

Lieutenant Michael Rolph and Patrol Officer Ann Marie Ferris received life-saving citations for their response to a motor vehicle accident where they successfully performed CPR on the occupant of the vehicle who was not breathing and had no pulse when they arrived on the scene.

Patrol Officers Christopher Cornine, Robert Guild and Joseph DiMeo were also recognized for reviving a victim of a cardiac event by performing CPR.

Finally, several officers were honored for their roles in safely and courageously handling an active shooter incident in the Borough in August. Patrol Officers Michael Kelly, Robert Guild, and Joseph Heinz, as well as Lieutenants Michael Koroski and Michael Rolph, and Sergeants Peter Rolph and Jeffrey Hochman were recognized. Meritorious service awards were presented to Patrol Officers Christopher Cornine and Adam Klymko.

Mayor Druetzler and Chief Kohn expressed their deep appreciation for each officer’s dedication, devotion and commitment to their roles as Morris Plains Police Officers.

JACK VAN ORDEN
50 YEARS MPFD

Jack Van Orden received recognition for his 50 years of dedicated volunteer service to the Morris Plains Fire Dept. at the Firemen’s Award Dinner on October 27.
New Officers for Morris Plains Seniors

At their Sept. 11 meeting, the Morris Plains Seniors installed their new officers. Congratulations to all! Attending guests included Mayor Frank Druetzler and Councilwomen Suzanne McCluskey and Laurie Fu.

All Morris Plains Borough residents age 60+ are invited to join the Morris Plains Monday Seniors. Meetings are scheduled the second Monday of each month (except July and December), beginning at 12:30 pm at the Community Center. All Seniors are welcome!

Service Announcement From The
MORRIS PLAINS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

In the upcoming months, please be sure to not park your vehicle on any piles of leaves in the roadway and to help us to help you this winter by ‘adopting’ a fire hydrant. When the snow comes and the plows clear the streets, the fire hydrants are usually covered and hard to locate. We have recently placed reflective poles on most of the hydrants in town, so we ask you to help us clear the hydrants out, which will greatly help you as well. Also with Daylight Savings Time passing, don't forget to change the batteries in your smoke / carbon dioxide detectors.

Have a safe and happy holiday season!

Chief Kevin Rongo
DEER MANAGEMENT

To help make our program successful, please stay out of all park areas marked with red culling signs (pictured here) in the early morning and early evening hours. Thank you!

Weekly Curbside Recycling Pick Up Will Continue In **2018** Every Tuesday

Please note:
Due to the Christmas holiday, Tuesday, Dec. 25, 2018 pick up will be changed to Saturday, Dec. 29, 2018

Can a Pizza Box be Recycled?
Here is the “not so simple” answer.

Cardboard pizza boxes are technically recyclable. However, pizza contains grease and greasy residue contaminates paper destined for recycling mills. Paper fibers can’t be separated from the oils, ruining the whole batch of recycling. This costs the pizza industry up to $700 million per year.

If YOU’RE A PIZZA LOVER WHO LOVES TO RECYCLE, WHAT CAN YOU DO?
Recycle just the parts of the box with NO grease or food stuck to them. If the lid is grease free, tear it off and recycle, while trashing the greasy bottom.

DEER MANAGEMENT

To help make our program successful, please stay out of all park areas marked with red culling signs (pictured here) in the early morning and early evening hours. Thank you!

More than 70 percent of calls made to emergency 9-1-1 come from mobile phones. When dialing 9-1-1 from a mobile phone, the 9-1-1 call takers have little information to help you — only your phone number and a general sense of your location.

However, a majority of Morris County residents can now avail themselves of the new and free Smart911 service — from mobile phones or your landline — that gives first responders key information that can make the difference between life and death in an emergency.

Do you have a disabled person living in your home? Will first responders encounter an aggressive pet? Where is the shut-off valve to your natural gas flow?

Smart911 allows residents to create a Safety Profile at www.smart911.com for their household that includes vital information that you want 9-1-1 call takers and emergency responders to have in the event of an emergency. Residents can offer as much or as little personal or business information as they wish.

“This is an important safety tool that we can provide to residents in towns served by the Morris County Communications Center, which has the technology in place to immediately offer free Smart911 service,” said Morris County Freeholder Director Doug Cabana.

Residents easily sign up in just a few minutes at Smart911.com. If an emergency occurs, you’ll be glad you took the time,” added Michael Peeples, director of the Communications Division of the Morris County Department of Law and Public Safety.

The Morris County Communications Center currently provides public service answering for 23 towns (including Morris Plains) under the county’s communications network umbrella. 9-1-1 calls made to emergency call takers in these towns would trigger Smart911 information displays.

Other municipalities have their own emergency call taking systems that are outside of the county’s network. They can be added to the Smart911 system in the future if they join the county’s communications network.

When a person makes an emergency call, their Smart 911 Safety Profile transmits to the 9-1-1 center, allowing the 9-1-1 call taker to send the right response teams to the right location and with the right information.

Through the Smart 911 program, first responders can be aware of many details they would not have known previously.

For example, fire crews can arrive at a house fire knowing how many people live in the home and the location of bedrooms; EMS can be aware of allergies or specific medical conditions of residents; and police can access photos of a missing child in seconds rather than minutes or hours.

Smart 911 is FREE. Your information is secure, accessible only to a 9-1-1 call taker when you dial 9-1-1. This service can provide fast and efficient emergency services to you and your family. Key information provided to responders can make your family safer:

- **Address Details:** How to access your home, number of bedrooms, location of utility shut-offs, and if you live in a multifamily building;
- **Family Details:** Number of residents, ages, photos of children, and your landline and mobile phone numbers;
- **Medical Information:** Medical conditions of certain residents, medications taken, allergies, mobility of residents, and if special equipment is needed in an emergency;
- **Animals:** A list of your pets, service animals and livestock, and their names so responders are aware of them as they enter your home. Also, include the name of your veterinarian;
- **Emergency Contacts:** Family members, friends or neighbors to be contacted in case of an emergency;
- **Vehicles:** Make, model and license plate number in case of a motor vehicle accident.

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BOROUGH UPDATES
“Governor Chris Christie Way”
The Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders will hold a groundbreaking ceremony to mark the beginning of the construction of a new main access road to and from Central Park of Morris County. The ceremony, featuring Governor Chris Christie, will be held on Monday, November 20th at 12:00 p.m. at the park.

Scheduled for completion in 2018, the access road will be named for Governor Christie in honor of his efforts to assist Morris County with a variety of Greystone and Central Park projects. The road, connecting to West Hanover Avenue, is designed to reduce the current traffic burden on nearby residential streets.

Route 53 Westside (railroad side):
M&M Properties was granted a soil removal permit on March 1, 2017 to remove contaminated soil and replace it with clean fill. The work was to be completed by December 1, 2017. They have requested a six-month extension to complete the work. The request was granted.

Route 53 Eastside:
Johnson & Johnson has sold this property to Vision Real Estate Partners with a closing scheduled in late March 2018.

Route 10: Kohl’s Shopping Center
Chick-Fil-A has filed an application with the Board of Adjustment to construct a restaurant. Other improvements to the center are also anticipated.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM PUBLIC WORKS REGARDING SNOW REMOVAL
Plowing of Borough streets is difficult when vehicles park haphazardly on both sides of the streets. This results in narrowed roadways that restrict all traffic, but more importantly, this may restrict emergency vehicle access. To help the Borough to provide improved snow plowing service to you - the residents - and unrestricted access for emergency vehicles, we request your assistance in the following ways:

Prior to, and for the duration of ice and snow storms:
1. If possible, please park in your driveway during inclement weather.
2. If not, please park only along one side of the street.
3. On odd-numbered dates, please park on the side of the street with odd-numbered houses.
4. Likewise, on even-numbered dates, please park on the side of the street with even-numbering.
5. Please move vehicles to the appropriate side of the street by 9:00 am each morning.
6. Please do not park along the turnaround area of cul-de-sacs.

Non-compliance may result in issuance of a summons.
**A Tribute to Lawrence E. Everitt**

January 7, 1941 – August 10, 2017

Larry and his wife Mary have been long time members of the Morris Plains Museum Association. He was an outstanding member of our Community of Caring. During his life he held many volunteer positions. He was President of the Morris Plains Fire Association for eleven years, Battalion Chief of the Morris Plains Fire Department, Co-Chairman of the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Morris Plains Fire Department, as well as President of the Fireman’s Exempt Association. He also served as Little League Coach and Eucharistic Minister at St. Pauls Episcopal Church.

Larry served as Vice President of the Morris Plains Museum Association. His pleasant personality, willing hands and humor made him a valuable and cherished member of our Association. Larry was a TRUE gentleman. He will be greatly missed by us all.

We thank his wife Mary, & children, Heather, Sean and Erin for so generously sharing him with us.

Please consider joining the MP Museum Association so we can continue collecting, displaying and maintaining the History of Morris Plains.

The Morris Plains Museum is open on the first, second & third Saturday of each month from 10 until 2 pm. We are always eager to welcome new members to our Association and those interested are invited to attend one of our general meetings held on the third Saturday of each month at 11 am. The members of the Morris Plains Museum Association work hard to fulfill our mission statement - to collect, preserve and exhibit information about the history of our town.

For more information please call our town historian Dan Myers at 973-267-3303.
As fall begins, we want to again thank all the volunteers and businesses who helped us care for the flower tubs along Speedwell Avenue. We are planning the tub transition from flowers to Christmas trees and birch branches. These will be planted and decorated in time for the borough tree lighting ceremony in early December.

In September, we kicked off the 2017-2018 season with a business meeting and birthday celebration for one of our founding members – Pearl Law. Pearl is one of a couple of nonagenarian members (in their 90’s), which must mean that gardening is one key to a long and healthy life.

This year our roster of programs include presentations about pruning and dead heading, iris’s and peonies, as well as gardening for pollinators and wild life. Should be a fun year with lots of practical advice and tips.

The club meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, September thru May, in the evening. If you are interested in joining or you just want to find out more about our club, please call me at 973-644-4612 or call our club president, Margo Rishe at 973-267-7116. We’d be happy to have you join us for a meeting. Submitted by LuAnn Totaro

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**SHOP LOCAL!**

**DINE LOCAL!**

**THINK LOCAL!**

Morris Plains is home to numerous restaurants and shops that have something for everyone.

Spending some of your dollars right here in Morris Plains is a great way to save time, to conserve gasoline, and to support our local, unique businesses.

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The Morris Plains Community Band will perform a concert of holiday music on December 13th at 7:00 pm. at the Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains, 400 Speedwell Avenue. The concert offers an opportunity for the public to hear and enjoy a true American tradition – the town band, consisting of friends and neighbors, performing a concert to celebrate the holiday season.

This year, after performing its repertoire of holiday and seasonal music, the band will lead a community carol sing, featuring secular and seasonal favorites in sing-a-long configurations.

**Annual “Hallelujah Chorus” Performance**

The concert will also feature the annual singing of Handel’s “Hallelujah Chorus”, performed, with the band’s accompaniment, by dozens of experienced singers from various church, temple and community choirs from throughout the area.

The mission of the band is simple: To provide an opportunity for people to enjoy playing music, and to perform our music for those who would enjoy it.

The Morris Plains Community Band is conducted by Larry Ripley, a retired musician and bandleader who is the third member of his family to lead a town band. We are always looking for new members of all ages. To learn more about the Morris Plains Community Band, contact Larry at 973-984-2505 or larryripley@verizon.net or just get that horn out of the closet and stop in at the Morris Plains Community Center some Wednesday evening from 7:00 to 9:00.

**The Morris Plains Community Band Needs Your Support!**

While we are an all-volunteer organization, we do have expenses and we do need equipment. If you would like to make a donation, please make your check payable to the Borough of Morris Plains, and write “Community Band” on the memo line, then send it to Ana Thomas, CFO, Borough of Morris Plains, 531 Speedwell Avenue, Morris Plains, NJ 07950.
Winter Walking Safety

Walking is one of the best ways to keep fit. Walking outdoors not only helps physical fitness, it also improves a feeling of mental and emotional well-being. Yet winter can be a challenging time of year to get outside. Freezing rain, icy surfaces and piles of hard-packed snow pose a hazard for many pedestrians.

You can take a few simple measures to make it safer to walk outdoors, even in the winter. Removing snow and ice, putting sand or salt on areas where people walk, and wearing the right footwear all make a big difference.

Falls on ice and in the snow can have long-term consequences, which include chronic pain in the affected area; a disabling injury that may mean a loss of independence; or fear of another fall, which discourages a healthy, active lifestyle.

As winter approaches, prepare yourself for safe walking:

- Choose a good pair of winter boots, both for warmth and stability. The best ones are well-insulated, waterproof, thick non-slip tread sole made of natural rubber with wide low heels and are lightweight.
- Ice grippers on footwear can help you on hard packed snow and ice. Grippers though, make it slippery when walking on smooth surfaces such as stone, tile and ceramic and should be removed when the surface changes.
- Use a cane, or even a pair of ski poles or walking sticks to help with balance. Speak with your physician or pharmacist about how to use a cane properly.
- Hip protectors (lightweight belt of pant with shields to guard the hips) can help protect the hips against fractures and give added confidence.
- Prevent heat loss by wearing a warm hat, scarf, and gloves. Dressing in layers may also keep you warmer.

Being prepared and planning for a safe route for your walk may enable you to continue to enjoy the outdoors throughout the winter season.

For more information visit www.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/duringthestorm/outdoorsafety.html.

Source: Canada Safety Council, Ottawa Public Health, Niagara Region Public Health, 03/2106

Residents who visited the Annual Wellness Fair at the Community Center in October, had the chance to learn about services available from various local health-related businesses and organizations. Many folks also received free flu vaccines, hearing and other screenings, and more. Above, Rotary President Cookie Pocchia shows off the many health and wellness resources available at the Fair. Wellness Day is sponsored by the Board of Health and the Morris Plains Rotary Club.
Morris Plains

Block Dance

Soccer Opening Day 2017
9/11 Remembrance Ceremony 2017

halloween • window painting • bonfire • scarecrows
“Kids Helping Kids” will be sponsoring the 7th Annual “Kids are Special Talent Show” January - February, 2018

During this five week program, children will experience every aspect of theatre and performing including: hosting, talent management, rehearsals, lighting, sound, publicity, ticket sales and, most of all, having FUN! What make this program truly special is having older mentors assist with the development of acts, coaching the hosts, teaching lighting techniques and sharing in the fun!

Participants: Grades K-5/ Mentors: Grades 3-12

Fall/Winter "Kids Helping Kids" Programs...

**Mentor Training**
MP Borough School
Grades 3 to 12
Become a supportive big buddy!

**Gingerbread Dreams**
MP Community Center
Ages 5-10
Get into the Holiday Spirit...create your own Gingerbread house!

**The Magic of Reading**
Mountain Way School
Grades K-4
One or two day sessions
3:30 PM to 4:15 PM
Recreation Programs!

Winter/Spring Fun with Ms. Prisco! Grades K-5

Fall Holiday Bake & Crafts (Mondays) Baking and creating crafts to donate to those in need

Fall Water Color Inspiration (Tuesdays) Create original water color designs!

Spring Recess Remedies (Mondays) Come join your friends for fun games!

Programs begin November 20th

morrisplainsboro.org
For dates, times & registration forms

Gentle Beginner Yoga with Diane Tartaglia Wednesdays 10:30 to 11:45 AM Morris Plains Community Center (pre-registration required)

Tuesday Yoga with Lauren Decarlo Thursday Yoga with Peg Clark 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM Morris Plains Community Center (pre-registration required)

Senior Exercise With Stacey Williamson Thursday Mornings 10 AM to 11 AM Morris Plains Community Center

Pre Ballet & Tumbling (ages 3-5) Thursday Mornings 11AM - Noon Morris Plains Community Center (Pre-registration required)

Book Club with Charlot Lamm Fourth Wednesday of every month 2PM to 4PM

The Book Club meets at The Community Center Check website morrisplainsboro.org for book selection

Morris Plains Residents
Adult Soccer
Wednesday Evenings September - June 8:30PM-10:00PM
Morris Plains Borough School

Morris Plains Residents
Adult Basketball
Thursday Evenings September - June 8:30PM-10:00PM
Morris Plains Borough School

Morris Plains Residents
Young Adult Basketball
Tuesday Evenings September - June 8:30PM-10:00PM
Morris Plains Borough School
Thanks to everyone who made our fall shredding fundraiser a success. Although the year hasn’t ended yet, we’ve already scheduled our dates for 2018. **Mark your calendars for March 24 and October 20.** As always, it’s from 9:00 – 12:00 rain or shine.

Soon you will be receiving our annual fundraising appeal. We rely on you, our patrons, for a large part of our support. As always, we are so grateful for your generosity. Wondering what to get that person on your list who has everything? A fun way to support the Library is to dedicate a book using our bookplate program. For only $10, we’ll place a lovely bookplate in memory of someone special or to commemorate a life event. Please see the Library for details.

Our Story Time participants recently enjoyed our Halloween parade. We read a story, colored masks and enjoyed treats! Join us for Story Time on Tuesdays at 10:30. Everyone 5 and under welcome. With that in mind, we all know how important it is to read to our little ones. Join our 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program. It’s a fun way to help develop your child’s early literacy skills. See the Library for details.

Congratulations to Anthony and Dominic who are our first 100 book award winners!

The holidays are a great time to thank all of our library volunteers, and especially the All Seasons Garden Club who do so much to make the Library beautiful inside and out. We appreciate all of our volunteers.

**As the weather gets colder, warm up with one of our new books**

The Cuban Affair – Nelson DeMille  
A Column of Fire – Ken Follett  
Enigma – Catherine Coulter  
Exposed – Lisa Scottoline  
The Garden of Small Beginnings – Abbi Waxman  
Grant – Ron Chernow  
Haunted – James Patterson  
The Last Tudor – Philippa Gregory  
Origin – Dan Brown  
Unbelievable – Katie Tur

**School Age Kids**

Frank Einstein and the Electric Finger – Jon Scieszka  
Frank Einstein and the Antimatter Motor – Jon Scieszka  
Tales from a Not-So-Secret Crush Catastrophe – Rachel Renee Russell  
Turtles all the Way Down – John Green

**Younger Readers**

A Christmas for Bear – Bonny Becker  
Fairy Tale Pets – Tracey Corderoy  
Motor Goose: Rhymes that Go – Rebecca Colby  
Santa Pups – Jerry Pallotta

As always, to keep up with the latest here at the Morris Plains Library, like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

Enjoy the holidays!  
Mary Ellen Albin
SOLUTIONS TO STORMWATER POLLUTION

As a resident, business or other member of the New Jersey community, it is important to know these easy things you can do every day to protect our water sources.

Limit Your Use of Fertilizers and Pesticides:
• Do not apply fertilizers when heavy rain is predicted.
• If you use fertilizers and pesticides, follow the instructions on the label on how to correctly apply them.
• Make sure you properly store or discard any unused portions.
• Consider using native or well-adapted vegetation that requires little to no fertilization.
• For more information on fertilizer use, identification and soil testing, contact the local agriculture service. A copy of the Citizen’s Guide to Pest Control and Pesticide Safety and other information on pesticide control and use can be found on the Pesticide Control Program of New Jersey’s website at www.pcpnj.org.

Properly Use and Dispose of Hazardous Products:
• Hazardous products include some household or commercial cleaning products, lawn & garden care products, motor oil, antifreeze, paints, solvents, fluorescent lights, battery acid, engine cleaner, and degreasers.
• Do not pour any hazardous products down a storm drain because storm drains are usually connected to local water bodies, and the water is not treated.
• Recycle used motor oil.
• Additional information on household hazardous wastes (including information on each county’s hazardous waste collection program) may be found at the Association of New Jersey Household Waste Coordinators website at www.njhazwaste.com/index.htm or by visiting www.mcmua.com

Don’t Litter: Place litter in trash receptacles...and...Recycle, Recycle, Recycle!

Dispose of Yard Waste Properly: Keep leaves and grass out of storm drains.

Responsible Pet Care: PICK UP AFTER YOUR PET. Properly dispose of pet waste into the trash or toilet. Local ordinances prohibit allowing pet waste to remain on private or public land.

When treating your pet and yard for fleas or ticks, check with your veterinarian for safe alternatives to chemicals. Never dispose of flea dip liquid on the ground or in the storm drain. It should be considered ‘household hazardous waste’ and disposed of accordingly (see above).

Do Not Feed Wildlife: Local ordinances prohibit feeding of wildlife such as geese, ducks, deer and feral cats. Such feeding can result in water pollution from animal wastes.

ANIMAL LICENSING

It is the responsibility of all pet owners to obtain licenses for dogs and cats in their care that are over the age of 7 months old. Renewals for previously licensed pets will be mailed to residents by the end of this year.

The fee for spayed or neutered pets is $16, and for non-altered animals it is $19. Renewals must be received by January 31, 2018 to avoid an additional $25 late fee.

If you have any questions, please call the Borough Clerk’s Office at 973-538-2224.

2018 RABIES CLINIC

Saturday, January 6th
1:00 to 3:00 pm
DPW Garage - 10 Borough Terrace
(Snow Date - January 13th)

In the Interest of SAFETY:
➢ ALL DOGS must be on a leash.
➢ ALL CATS must be in a carrier.
➢ ONE PET, PER PERSON allowed at a time.

Rabies Clinic Registration Forms will be available at www.morrisplainsboro.org and must be completed for each pet, in triplicate.

MP Resident Tips: Many pet owners tend to come early and form a line which can lead to some waiting time outside in the cold. Those who arrive after 2:00 pm typically have little to no wait. Parking is available in Municipal Lot behind DPW Garage (enter behind Arthur’s).
The beginning of a new school year reminds us that the future holds boundless possibilities. The Morris Plains School District takes great pride in providing a foundation of solid academic excellence for students within a caring and nurturing environment. We’ve had a very successful start to the 2017-2018 school year. In my visits to each of our schools, I see students eager and ready to learn and teachers excited about the important work ahead of them.

I would like to congratulate both Mountain Way and Borough School for being designated as certified Future Ready Schools. The certification acknowledges each school’s full digital learning readiness. There are over 2,500 schools in New Jersey. Only 59 schools in the state were certified.

The certification program is a partnership of the NJ Department of Education, NJ School Boards Association and New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT). The year-long application process required schools to submit evidence of future-ready practices in three categories: leadership, education and classroom practices; and technology support and services. I believe our rapid execution of the Strategic Plan; along with our bandwidth, 1:1 initiative for grades 2-8, and our outstanding educators, were instrumental in our receiving Future-Ready certification.

As we strive toward academic excellence, we continuously work to improve the instructional program offered to students. This year, our instructional efforts and initiatives are driven by innovation and personalized learning. Our District Goals are centered around student achievement, social and emotional support, professional development, and preparation to design a new, five-year Strategic Plan. For the 2017-2018 school year, students will be exposed to balanced literacy programs, STEM activities, digital learning, and project-based activities.

The referendum projects, which were approved by the community last September, are moving along nicely. We have completed the classroom lighting projects at both schools, and the partial roof replacement project at Borough School. We plan to celebrate the opening of the newly renovated Borough School auditorium at the end of the month. Looking forward, the window and exterior door replacement projects are scheduled to commence this winter. The hallway floor replacement project is scheduled for the summer of 2018.

The Morris Plains School District greatly appreciates the efforts of our Home and School Association (HSA), Education Foundation of Morris Plains (EFMP), and Municipal Alliance Committee (MPMAC). These organizations are comprised of volunteers who work tirelessly to enhance our schools. To date, the HSA and EFMP have already committed to support several projects and initiatives for the upcoming school year, totaling over $19K. This includes a $14K donation from the EFMP to support the Borough School Digital Communication Lab. Please continue to support these important organizations. The HSA
and Education Foundation meet every month. Their websites are listed on the district webpage under “Quick Links.” The Morris Plains Municipal Alliance Committee meets the first Monday of each month at 8:00 pm in the Community Center.

Finally, as winter weather approaches, we would like to remind you of our weather delay/closing procedures. Our school district uses Honeywell for automated emergency notifications. This includes school closing, delayed opening (120-minute delay), and early dismissal information. Families have the option to receive text message notifications in addition to the usual phone and email messages. If you have not yet completed a registration form and would like to be included in the Honeywell alert system, please email Cristie Bruhn at cbruhn@mpsdk8.org.

Please don’t forget to follow us on Facebook and Twitter @WeAreMPSD. In addition to posting important school activities and headlines, our social media sites serve as a window into the classrooms, showcasing best practices and student engagement.

Wishing our Morris Plains community members a very happy and healthy upcoming Holiday Season!!!

Best, Mark Maxo

ABOVE LEFT, are students Julia Coma, Claire Annulk, and Adela Coughlin. The girls organized a booth at the Farmer’s Market to support their 20-Time Project. Their goals were to raise money to make care packages for women recently diagnosed with breast cancer, donating funds to research, and to raise awareness so women get their mammograms and have a greater chance of early detection.

ABOVE RIGHT, is the back of the Borough School assignment pad.

BELOW, are photos from the EFMP’s recent 5K race which raised over $7500 for our schools!
The Morris Plains Rotary Club hosted a breakfast at the Community Center on October 1st. In the first photo Rotarians Ralph Rotando and Maria Scott prepare the 50/50's to be sold. In the second photo, Rotarian Betty Dries continued to support our club by treating her son to breakfast. In the third photo George Claffey and his daughter Olivia relax after filling up on pancakes, sausage, bacon, creamed chipped beef on toast, munchkins and juice. They proclaimed the meal "excellent!"

Morris Plains Girl Scout Juniors Troop 95082 spent 2017 working on their Get Moving! Journey, earning their Energize, Investigate and Innovate awards along the way. Thanks to ChrisAnn and Tom Ficucielo of Olsen Electric and to Marybeth Albin of the Morris Plains Library for helping the girls learn about energy use in buildings and then allowing them to perform an Energy Audit of the Morris Plains Library. Not an easy task for a building that got started in 1752!

Completing the girls’ journey allowed them to begin work on achieving their Bronze Award. The Girl Scout Bronze Award is the highest honor a Girl Scout Junior can achieve. The Girl Scout Take Action Project focuses on an issue that the girls care about that they would like to improve within their local community. With that in mind, along with what they learned about energy and sustainability, the girls planted the garden outside the newly constructed entrance to Borough School, with the help and guidance of John Lovelsmith. Special thanks also goes to Superintendent Mark Maire and Principal Andrew Kramar for allowing the girls to improve that sight under John’s direction. The girls received their Bronze Award at a special ceremony on October 1, 2017, in which they also bridged over to being Cadettes.

Troop 95082 is led by Shannon Mulvey and Lori Bergeron. For further information on how to get your daughter on the Girl Scout journey, please contact Morris Plains Service Unit Manager Rachel Sambrowski at rachelsambrowski@gmail.com or troop leader Shannon Mulvey at shannonmulvey@optonline.net.

Congratulations to Bob and Peggy Krozer who celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on September 27th. The Krozers have two daughters (Jean Barletta of Madison and Barbara Fleischmann of Naples, FL) and six grandchildren.

Borough School Student Council Officers visit Borough Council meeting in honor of Drug Free Schools
ANNUAL SANTA TOUR
The Morris Plains Fire Department is bringing Santa to town! Watch and listen for Santa to come to your neighborhood beginning at 11 am on Sunday, December 17th, 2018.

CHRISTMAS TREE SALE
Sponsored by the VFW and Morris Plains Fire Department
Mon-Fri, 12 to 7 pm; Sat & Sun, 8 am -7 pm
Beginning Sunday, November 26th
Visit the VFW on Route 53 to purchase a beautiful Christmas tree for the holiday season!

MORRIS PLAINS BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION
Saturday, December 9th
10:00 AM
Borough School Gym

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING AND SANTA'S ARRIVAL
Sunday, December 3rd
6:00 PM at the Freight Station
In the event of inclement weather, Santa will arrive at the Community Center.

PUBLIC MENORAH LIGHTING
Sunday, December 17th
6:00 PM at the Freight Station (Merchant Block)
Bernard Brothman, Coordinator
HAPPY HANUKKAH

The Borough Council will hold its ANNUAL REORGANIZATION MEETING on Thursday, January 4th, 2018 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building, 531 Speedwell Avenue. ALL are invited to attend.
Season's Greetings to the Residents of the Borough of Morris Plains

The Mayor and the Borough Council wish to extend all of you our warmest wishes for a wonderful holiday season.

May the New Year bring prosperity, good health, and happiness to all!

The deadline for the next issue of Plains Talk is January 15th, 2018. Please submit articles and pictures to plainstalknews@gmail.com.