Ben Signorelli Retires as Assistant Superintendent of the Department of Public Works after 40 Faithful Years. Happy Retirement Ben - we'll miss you!

Dale Quinn Retires After 31 Years as Crossing Guard in the Borough. Thank you for watching out for the safety of our children!

halloween • window painting • bonfire
Morris Plains police officers recently shared conversation, coffee and donuts in two locations in town - at the Farmers’ Market in August and at Stop and Shop in November, where they also collected over 500 pounds of food to be donated to the Interfaith Food Pantry.

Anne Callahan is doing very well today thanks to these officers’ quick and effective actions, utilizing both AED equipment and rescue breathing until the Morris Minute Men and Atlantic Health Paramedics arrived on scene.

Our congratulations and thanks to two of “Morris Plains’ Finest.”

MPPD Life Saving Award
Sergeant Jeff Hochman and Patrolman Robert Guild each received Life Saving Awards from Chief of Police Jason Kohn in honor of their response to a call this past summer to assist a resident who was not breathing.

Our thanks to the "Community of Caring"
We would like to express our humble appreciation to the citizens of Morris Plains for allowing us the opportunity to serve a community that we love.

Morris Plains is blessed with many dedicated staff members and professionals, volunteers and concerned citizens, and it has been an honor and a privilege for us to work with them on behalf of the Borough. It is many hands and minds working together for a common goal that strengthens our community.

We offer our best wishes to the future governing body members, and pray that they be granted the wisdom and the understanding to always make deliberations and decisions that will be for the greater good of all of the people.

May God Bless Morris Plains and the United States of America!

Sincerely,
Mayor Frank Druetzler, Councilman Joe Cecala and Councilwoman Laurie Fu
The Morris Plains Community Band will perform a concert of holiday music on December 12th 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-along 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. 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.

Laurie Cama was one of four women who were honored by the Morris County Board of Freeholders for their exemplary efforts to battle alcohol and drug abuse across the county. The women received the Morris County Volunteer of the Year award from the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse.

Here in Morris Plains, Laurie Cama has spearheaded two youth programs designed to enhance developmental assets and strengthen resistance skills. She has transformed our after-school “Stage Fun” program to a weekend option for youth, where students in grades 3 through 5 put on a full performance. She also initiated a new program three years ago, Odyssey of the Mind, to provide opportunities for youth to problem solve, collaborate, and present projects over a several month commitment. The program culminated in a regional competition where more than 90 teams participated. Both programs received excellent feedback from the participants and the community.
Winter Weather Readiness

The Morris Plains Police Department would like to offer our residents some important safety information in preparation for winter:

Life Support Equipment

If any member of your household depends on electrically operated life-support equipment, please let JCP&L know by calling 1-800-662-3115. JCP&L will send you a form that must be completed and signed by your physician every year to verify that you have life-support equipment. When they receive your completed form, your name will be added to a Critical Care list. The list will be used during a power outage to contact all Critical Care Customers by telephone if the outage may affect their electric service for more than 24 hours. In addition, the List will be provided to county and municipal Offices of Emergency Management. In case of power outages, it’s also important that life-support customers have a contingency plan, such as a battery backup.

Emergency Alerts for Traffic & Severe Weather Conditions

Visit the Morris Plains Police Department website at www.morrisplainspolice.org and register for AlertMorrisPlains and Smart911. AlertMorrisPlains will allow you to receive emergency notifications by e-mail, text message, phone call or any combination of those. A Smart911 profile allows you to add as much or as little information as you would like about your family and home so that we may better assist you during an emergency.

The Critical Care List, AlertMorrisPlains, and Smart911 services are provided at no charge. Any information provided is maintained in secure databases.

Stay Safe This Winter!

- Chief Jason Kohn &
The Morris Plains Police

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. 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

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.
Morris Plains School News
A Message from Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Mark R. Maire

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. Since the start of the school year, we’ve been busy working on a number of initiatives to strengthen our academic and social/emotional programs. In addition, administration and staff are committed to continue creating a learning environment for our students that promote growth and achievement, safety and security, and positive relationships.

As we strive to meet the needs of our students, staff, and school community, we continuously work to improve our practices and define our vision and direction. Our District Goals for 2018-2019, which are listed below, are centered around student achievement, social and emotional wellness, professional development, and fiscal responsibility. Additionally, they directly link to the goals and objectives identified in the 2018-2023 Strategic Plan.

1. The Morris Plains School District will continue developing student achievement through innovative learning experiences, while accessing 21st Century tools and skills.
2. The Morris Plains School District will continue to focus on the review and refinement of curricula, instructional practices, and professional development.
3. The Morris Plains School District will increase the practice of collecting and using data to make informed decisions in all aspects of the school district.
4. The Morris Plains School District will continue to provide for student and staff wellness, safety and security, and additional resources to support students socially and emotionally.
5. The Morris Plains School District will continue to demonstrate fiscal responsibility by exploring cost saving measures that will result in replenishing the various reserve accounts.

This summer, like previous summers, was filled with projects and activities in preparation for the 2018-2019 school year. Curriculum writing, strategic planning, professional development, facility maintenance and capital improvements kept us very busy. Some highlights include the creation of a District Creative Leadership Team; revisions to the Visual Arts, Music, and World Language Curriculum; enhancements to several of our Borough School learning spaces, including a state of the art STEAM Lab and early literacy reading room; safety and security training, and completion of the last remaining referendum projects at Borough School (window, hallway floors, and exterior door replacement projects). In two years, we successfully completed all eight referendum projects. We are extremely proud of this accomplishment, and I would like to extend a big “Thank You” to the residents of Morris Plains for standing behind us as we modernize our buildings; creating learning environments that promote energy efficiency, safety and security, and excellence.

Communication is an essential component for success. To enhance the home and school relationship, the district will publish four newsletters throughout the 2018-2019 school year. The newsletters will be available on the district website (www.mpsdk8.org). Additionally, three parent forum sessions have been scheduled to provide an opportunity for two-way communication between parents and all district administration. The district website serves as a great resource to learn more about our district. It contains school calendars, access to school websites, links to district social media sites, district resources, headlines and news items, and important dates and events.

The Morris Plains School District greatly appreciates the efforts of our supportive school community organizations; Home and School Association, Education Foundation of Morris Plains, and Municipal Alliance. These organizations are comprised of volunteers who work tirelessly to enhance our schools. This includes dedicating time to raise funds to support educational programs, school-based events, and educational resources. Their monthly meeting schedules are posted on their respective calendar. Please continue to support these important organizations.

MPSD Earns Future Ready Distinction
On September 19th, the Morris Plains School District received notification from Future Ready Schools - New Jersey (FRS-NJ) that both Mountain Way and Borough School have earned Silver Level Certification through the FRS-NJ Certification Program. In 2017, Morris Plains’ schools were part of the inaugural cohort of 63 schools to receive the FRS-NJ Bronze certification. For the 2018 certification cycle, Morris Plains schools represent 2 of 35 schools from six districts in the state who earned the Silver Level of certification, currently the highest certification tier a school can receive through the Future Ready – NJ program.

Future Ready Schools - New Jersey Certification Program is a partnership of the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT), the New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA), and the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE). The program builds upon the
model of its national counterpart, which was created by the Alliance for Excellent Education, to support the schools’ and districts’ efforts to promote the skills, abilities, and capacities essential for success in college, career, and citizenship in a digital age.

Morris Plains is among only four districts throughout the state that gained the 2018 Silver Level certification for all schools. In doing so, each school exceeded the established requirement points needed to obtain this level of distinction. This accomplishment speaks not only to the school district’s and the Board of Education’s commitment, but to the broader community’s partnership to achieve student learning outcomes by transforming instructional pedagogy and practice while simultaneously leveraging technology to personalize learning environments for students. It is our district’s belief that providing innovative, caring and personalized learning environments is part of our obligation to students to ensure their readiness for a lifetime of informed citizenship in a digital society.

**NJSERA Communication Award**

Recently, the Morris Plains School District received the NJSERA communication award for Social Media. This category was based on strategic usage of various social media platforms to engage stakeholders and communicate district information. This award was presented to the Morris Plains School District based upon the district’s incredible presence on Twitter. Specifically, recognizing the many ways the district’s Twitter feeds have increased communication with our local, national, and global community. This recognition is validation of our staff’s efforts to embrace our push toward social media advocacy. Please 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.

Finally, as winter weather approaches, we would like to remind you of our weather delay/closing procedures. Besides posting school closing information on the district website and on New Jersey News Channel 12, our district uses Honeywell for automated emergency notifications. 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.

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

Best,

Mark Mauro

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**New windows and floors at Borough School**

**Students at Mountain Way and Borough School work together for problem-solving and team-building.**

**Above: Borough School students spread messages of kindness**

**Left: MPFD speaks about fire safety with Mountain Way students**

**Above: Preschoolers at Mountain Way**

**Left: Borough students prepare for a live broadcasting show**
RECYCLING PICK-UP WILL CONTINUE EVERY TUESDAY IN 2019

You are invited to the 2018 Annual Holiday Candlelight Remembrance Program.

Our family here at Dangler Funeral Home, Inc. wishes to extend to your family a personal invitation to our Annual Holiday Candlelight Remembrance Program. Our wish is to include the memories of your loved ones in a meaningful way as an important part of this holiday tradition. We want to let you know that you are not alone this holiday season.

When:  Thursday, December 6, 2018
Time:    7:00 p.m
Where:  Dangler Funeral Home
         600 Speedwell Ave.
         Morris Plains, NJ 07950
R.S.V.P.  By November 27, 2018
         973-539-3300
         danglerfuneralhomes@gmail.com

The program will include music, readings, and a candle lighting ceremony. You are asked to bring a framed picture or some memorabilia of your loved one to include in the program. These items will be returned to you at the end of the program. Light refreshments will be served.

You are welcome to bring guests. When you R.S.V.P. please include the number of persons who will be attending to ensure we have adequate seating.

Sincerely,

Christine Dangler    Kip Dangler
Betty Dangler        Samantha Muro

IMPORTANT RECYCLING NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS

NO Recycling Pick Up on December 25
NO Recycling Pick Up on January 1
SPECIAL Recycling Pick Up on Saturday, December 29th

PLASTICS

"Due to the stringent restrictions that have been put in place and changes in market conditions please note the upcoming change for 2019 with regards to recycling your plastic: The only acceptable plastic containers at curbside pick up OR the recycling center are #1, #2 & #5 plastic bottles/containers."

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!
Morris Plains Block Dance

Soccer Opening Day 2018
Recreation Programs!

New This WINTER!
Basic Photography with Audrey Eapen

Course Description:
Develop a better understanding of basic photography concepts and take better pictures using either a DSLR or cell phone.

January 9 to March 13
7:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Wednesdays
MP Community Center
Participants: Age 13+
10 Classes: $105
Material Fees included
Pre-registration required

Thank you Coach Jessica Drew-Suttle!

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

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

Senior Exercise
with Stacey Williamson and Hollie Parrillo
Thursday Morning
10 AM to 11 AM
Morris Plains Community Center
Winter / Spring Session
beginning January 3rd
Recreation Programs!

Winter/Spring Fun with Mrs. Graziani at Mountain Way School

**Holiday Crafts** (Tuesdays)
Baking and creating crafts to donate to those in need
November 13, 20, 27 & December 4
2:50 - 3:45 PM

**Blast From the Past Games** (Tuesdays)
Good ol' fashion fun and games!
January 8, 15, 22, 29
2:50 - 3:45 PM

**Relays & Recess Remedies** (Mondays)
Come join your friends for fun games!
March 11, 18, 25 & April 1
2:50 - 3:45 PM

**Spring Gardening** (Tuesdays)
Scavenger hunts & basics for gardening
March 12, 19, 26 & April 2
2:50 - 3:45 PM

For More Information
973-538-3455
Monday - Thursday 9 AM - 4 PM

Informative Flyers and Registration Forms:
morrisplainsboro.org

Gentle Beginner Yoga with Diane Tartaglia

**Wednesday Mornings**
Session #1: 9:15 to 10:15 AM
Session #2: 10:30 to 11:30 AM
Morris Plains Community Center

Winter/Spring Sessions
beginning January 2nd
(pre-registration required)

Tuesday Evening Yoga with Lauren Beadino
7:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Thursday Evening Yoga with Peg Clark
7:30 PM to 8:30 PM
Morris Plains Community Center

Winter/Spring Sessions
beginning in February

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
halloween parade • window painting • bonfire
MORRIS PLAINS HISTORY – PART I

Morris Plains separated from Hanover Township in 1926. An elected mayor and council formed the town governing body.

Daniel M. Merchant was unanimously elected as Morris Plains first Mayor from 1926-1927. Over the years he served as everything from Fire Chief to Postmaster. Merchant purchased the local grocery store from his employer Isaac Clark. It expanded and became the hub of our small town. Merchant was the first to have a telephone installed which was another draw for local residents. He was known for his extensive generosity.

Alexander Patterson was appointed as the town’s first Police Chief and served in that position from 1926-1948. A full time police department would not be formed until 1948.

AN INVITATION IS OPEN FOR RESIDENTS TO SHARE THEIR TALENTS.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO DISPLAY YOUR ART WORK, PHOTOGRAPHS OR HOBBY ITEMS AT THE MUSEUM THIS WINTER?

For Information call 973-683-1089

WE STILL NEED VOLUNTEERS TO PRESERVE THE HISTORY OF OUR TOWN!

Due to a lack of staffing, the Morris Plains Museum is now only open on the first and third Saturday of each month from 10 until 1 pm. To help call town historian Dan Myers at 973-267-3303. The Morris Plains Museum Association fulfills our mission statement - to collect, preserve & exhibit information about the history of our town.
Happy Fall! We’d like to thank everyone who came out to support the Library at our shedding fundraiser on October 20. Thanks also to our volunteer helpers. If you missed the date, the next one will be on April 27, 2019.

With winter weather approaching, we’d like to remind everyone about our weather closing policy. As a general rule, if the Morris Plains Schools are closed, the Morris Plains Library will be closed also. If the schools have a delayed opening, or if you want to be sure about our status, please check our Facebook page or our website, www.morrisplainslibrary.org. Closing information will be posted in both places.

Many of our friends find that it’s getting difficult to read regular print. The Morris Plains Library has over 1300 Large Print books that often make reading a little bit easier. The Morris County Library also has a free Books by Mail program for residents of Morris County who are homebound, disabled or unable to get to their local library unassisted. To request an application, call the Morris County Library at 973-285-6970 or email circ-mcl@mainlib.org.

Thanks to a collaboration with the Atlantic Health System Libraries, many libraries in the county have Health Tote Bags on various topics. The Morris Plains library has bags on Autism and Grief/Bereavement. Each contains several books and other materials selected by the Atlantic Health System in a convenient canvas tote bag.

If you need a break from raking leaves, settle in with a good book. Try these suggestions from our staff:

- Fear: Trump in the White House – Bob Woodward
- Juror #3 – James Patterson
- Leadership in Turbulent Times – Doris Kearns Goodwin
- Midnight Blue (Large Print) – Simone van der Vlugt
- The Mitford Murders (Large Print) – Jessica Fellows
- Paradox – Catherine Coulter
- War of the Wolf – Bernard Cornwell
- White Houses – Amy Bloom
- Why Kill the Innocent (Large Print) – C.S. Harris
- A Willing Murder – Jude Deveraux

For our younger readers:
- Dino Christmas – Lisa Wheeler
- There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Turkey – Lucille Colandro
- Jackie Ha Ha: My Life is a Joke – James Patterson

And due to popular demand, several new Paw Patrol books:
- Chase’s Loose Tooth
- Mission Paw
- Sea Patrol to the Rescue

Please remember that we’re always collecting non-perishable food items for the Interfaith Food Pantry.

Enjoy the holidays!
---Mary Ellen Albin---
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, 2019 to avoid an additional $25 late fee.

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

2019 RABBIES CLINIC
Saturday, January 5th
1:00 to 3:00 pm
DPW Garage - 10 Borough Terrace
(Snow Date - January 12th)

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).

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.rcpnj.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.
Antibiotics save lives but any time antibiotics are used, they can cause side effects and lead to antibiotic resistance. At least 80 million antibiotic prescriptions each year are unnecessary, which makes improving antibiotic prescribing and use a national priority.

Using antibiotics inappropriately can actually create stronger strains of bacteria. This is called antibiotic resistance. When we take antibiotics and do not use them properly, we can actually make the bacteria stronger and then, antibiotics that used to cure an infection no longer work.

It is important for us all to do our part.

Strep throat, staph infections and some types of pneumonia are treated with antibiotics.

For viruses causing colds, flu, most ear infections and bronchitis, antibiotics are useless in treating these illnesses. It is important to have a physician distinguish bronchitis from pneumonia and prescribe the right antibiotic, if it is needed. So, for the cold or flu, do not even think of taking antibiotics. Most times rest and fluids are what is needed to get better.

There are three things we can do to make a big difference:

1. When prescribed an antibiotic for a bacterial infection, do not skip doses and finish all the antibiotics: the weakest bacteria get killed first and you want to make sure you take the medication until all the bacteria are completely gone;
2. Do not share your antibiotics with someone else as their illness may not be the same as yours or it may not be the right antibiotic for their illness;
3. Do not ask for an antibiotic when your physician does not think you need them. Pressuring a health care provider can lead to more antibiotics being prescribed and the more used, the more resistant they can become.

For more information, https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use

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**Morris Plains Welcomes New Business Neighbor: Mermaid Pilates Studio**

Mermaid Pilates Studio recently held their official ribbon cutting as they opened for business here in the Borough. The studio, owned by Amanda Kraft, is located at 736 Speedwell Ave, 2nd Floor, Suite 1 in the Merchant Building, and offers classes at varying levels as well as private sessions.

For further details, visit their website at www.themermaidpilates.com.

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**Governor Chris Christie Way Opens to Provide Alternate Access to Central Park**

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**Congrats!**

**Michael Bozza**

on your promotion to
**General Manager**

New Jersey Marine Terminals
at The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey
Morris Plains to Receive a 2018 Open Space Grant from Morris County

Morris County’s Open Space Trust Fund Committee has made a recommendation to the Board of Chosen Freeholders to fund five open space preservation projects, at a total cost of $1.93 million and totaling 47 acres located in five Morris County towns. Among these projects is a $475,000 grant for the Borough of Morris Plains to acquire a lot at the corner of Malapardis Road and Johnson Road. The wooded property provides wildlife habitat as well as water recharge to the nearby wells owned by the Southeast Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority.

The County’s Open Space Grant Program has been helping to preserve green spaces in our towns to be used for active and passive recreation and for environmental protection since 1994. Councilwoman Sue McCluskey was instrumental in submitting this grant request on behalf of the Borough.

ALL SEASONS GARDEN CLUB
FALL 2018 UPDATE

Even though the flowers in the tubs lining Speedwell Avenue have faded, our members are fully engaged in the new 2018-2019 season. We started our business meeting in September with our new president, Kathy Kelly, outlining her vision and plans for the garden club.

We were so excited to welcome one new member and two prospective members to the club. The latter two are volunteers that help us care for the tubs during the summer and decorate for Christmas. They have already volunteered to help with our youth project – so a big welcome and thank you to them!

We also acknowledge and thank the many other volunteers who help us care for the tubs. Even though Mother Nature was very generous with rain this summer, the flowers still require tending and watering in the hot/dry days. We are truly blessed to have folks in our Morris Plains community willing to help us out.

At our September bake sale, one of our members, Teresa Kelemet, presented a short program – Monarchs in your Backyard.

A monarch’s life is a story of enormous transformation. They start as an egg, and within a few days they emerge as a ravenous caterpillar. After 10-14 days of munching away at milkweed leaves, which Teresa grows herself, the monarch forms a chrysalis. Over the next two weeks it undergoes a radical reorganization of its tissues, ultimately tearing free from its confinement as an adult monarch butterfly. If it hatched in the summer, it may live for another 2-5 weeks.

Our program schedule for the year promises once again to be fun and informative. Topics on ferns and container gardening are just a few of the programs on the agenda. Our website, Allseasonsgc.org, has the full program listing. You are welcome to join us for any program. Please call Kathy Kelly at 973-886-6640 or Lu Ann Totaro at 973-644-4612 if you plan on attending, are interested in joining or you just want to find out more about our club. We’d be happy to have you join us for a meeting.
MPFD News: New Traffic Signal at Firehouse

A new Fire Light System has been installed to allow our fire trucks to safely enter and exit the firehouse amidst the traffic on Speedwell Avenue. When equipment must enter or exit the firehouse during an emergency, the lights will halt both northbound and southbound traffic on Speedwell Avenue until the trucks have cleared the area. In addition, a "No Turn on Red" signal will flash on Academy Road to prevent vehicles from turning into the safety zone in front of the firehouse.

This project, completed after three years of design and installation by the NJ Dept of Transportation, was a much needed feature in the interest of safety for our fire department volunteers. Thanks to our Traffic Safety Committee members for their tenacity in pursuing the completion of the project.

_Pictured here L to R are: John Downs, Ralph Rotando, Fire Chief Kevin Rongo and Anthony Vasta who were instrumental in the success of the project._

MOMS Club of Morris Plains

The MOMS Club of Morris Plains is dedicated to providing support, comraderie, and daily activities for moms and their children. In September, our club partnered with the local women’s shelter to adopt six Morris Plains students so they could start the school year with backpacks full of supplies!

In October, we’ll be collecting canned and boxed goods at our club’s annual Trunk or Treat to donate to Morris County’s own Interfaith Food Pantry in preparation for the Thanksgiving season. Plus, we’ll be spreading cheer as we continue the tradition of adopting a local family during the holiday season.

Our members are having a great time not only planning wonderfully fun activities for ourselves and our little ones but also helping to instill in our youngest community members a great sense of citizenship, service, and pride! For more information or to join our club, please visit our MOMS Club of Morris Plains page on Facebook or Meetup.com.

8th Grade Food Truck Festival
Big Success!

The Borough School 8th grade class wants to pass along a big thank you to the community for their support in the first-ever food truck fundraising event. It was a huge success. More than 600 people from the community and surrounding towns came to the event. The class raised $2,000 more than their original goal. All proceeds from ticket sales, donations, and water sales will reduce the ticket costs for each student’s trip to Washington D.C. later this year. It was great to see everyone out enjoying the activities and good food. Thanks to all the food trucks, volunteers, vendors, and planning committee for making it a successful event. We look forward to the next one!
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 16th, 2018.

CHRISTMAS TREE SALE
Sponsored by the VFW and Morris Plains Fire Department
Mon-Fri, 11 am - 9 pm; Sat & Sun, 9 am - 9 pm
Beginning Sunday, November 25th
Visit the VFW on Route 53 to purchase a beautiful Christmas tree for the holiday season!

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING
AND SANTA'S ARRIVAL
Sunday, December 2nd
6:00 PM at the Freight Station
In the event of inclement weather, Santa will arrive at the Community Center.

PUBLIC MENORAH LIGHTING
Saturday, December 8th
7:30 PM at the Freight Station (Merchant Block)
Bernard Brothman, Coordinator

The Borough Council will hold its ANNUAL REORGANIZATION MEETING on Thursday, January 3rd, 2019 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 18th, 2019. Please submit articles and pictures to plainstalknews@gmail.com.