



Find out what the Board of Chosen Freeholders is doing to keep horses in Monmouth County.

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The good thing about living in Monmouth County is when you want to go on vacation, you're already there!

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Recycling earned towns \$800,000 last year, while saving millions in tipping fees at the Reclamation Center.

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The Place You Want to Be

monmouth

in FOCUS

SUMMER
2008

Spring into summer

Gas prices squeezing your vacation budget?

There's plenty to do in your own back yard

Getting panicked at the pump? Fortunately, Monmouth County already is a vacation destination! So why not ditch the distance along with the road map and "vacation" at home this summer?



Sandy Hook Beach Patrol

There's plenty to do right here in Monmouth County. Want to beat the heat? Head east and dip your toes in the surf.

History more your style? Well, Monmouth County is 325 years old. There are more than 32 historic destinations to satisfy your curiosity.

As the price of gasoline continues to soar, more New Jerseyans are making difficult choices. Faced with paying

more at the pump, some say they are brown bagging their lunches, shutting off cable or Internet access and altering their vacation plans and staying home.

So, if having a barbecue in your own back yard sounds like a neat way to avoid summer gas pains, Monmouth County is "The Place You Want to Be."

Monmouth County has 14,000 acres of parks, including the Sprayground at Dorbrook Recreation Area in Colts Neck and the SkatePlex at Seven Presidents Oceanfront Park in Long Branch. Check out more activities and offerings by the Monmouth County Park System at www.visitmonmouth.com

DO MORE WITH LESS!

find out where the fun is by getting your activities guide

With 27 miles of pristine ocean beaches, an array of historic sites, two of the nation's best racetracks, deep sea and freshwater fishing, shopping, theatre, art galleries and numerous upscale restaurants, Monmouth County has it all.

Whether you like to pick your own fruits and vegetables, go antiquing, visit amusement parks or simply dig your toes in the sand and read a book, it's all here. There's also a number of annual events such as the county fair, food and jazz festivals, concerts and a wealth of cultural and ethnic affairs.

Obtain your free copy of "New Jersey's Monmouth County" by calling (800) 523-2587, by e-mail at jdeyoung@visitmonmouth.com, or at the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, 31 E. Main St., Freehold.

See Page 3 for great summer picks!

News & Notes

✓ The Board of Chosen Freeholders adopted a budget that for the first time does not raise taxes. The zero tax increase was achieved by cutting \$8 million in spending from the 2008 budget.

“By bringing in a budget without a tax increase we have created for the people of Monmouth County a window of opportunity through which we may look toward a new and brighter future.”



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Lillian G. Burry
Freeholder Director

✓ In January, the Board of Elections and the Superintendent of Elections consolidated for a yearly savings of \$183,000. The savings were created by abolishing six full-time positions.

✓ Applications for the 2008 Senior Citizen Art Contest and Exhibition may be picked up at the county's Division on Aging, Disabilities and Veterans' Interment Affairs at 21 Main St., Freehold. To request that a copy be mailed, call 732-431-7450, or download the complete application packet from the county's Web site at www.visitmonmouth.com/aging. Visit the Web site for more details.

✓ On April 11, the Board embarked on a strategic plan that will serve as a vision statement for county operations and establish detailed, measurable goals for the delivery of county services, as recommended by the county's Budget Review Committee.

SAVE THE HORSE!

how racetracks impact 'quality of life'

If something isn't done to help New Jersey's ailing horse racing industry, many fear the impact will be felt in an eventual decline of the quality of life in Monmouth County and the rest of New Jersey when breeders move their operations elsewhere and the many horse farms that dot the landscape are lost forever.

“We are fast approaching the critical point where once we begin losing horse farms there will be no turning it around,” said Freeholder Director Lillian G. Burry, who created a “blue ribbon” panel to convince the Legislature to enact measures that would help the industry. “The quality of life in New Jersey is the most important contribution the horse industry makes – in every county.”

The “Save the Horse Committee,” comprising a variety of stakeholders, is dedicating itself to making state officials understand the value of horses and, particularly, horse racing, to the state's economy.

According to a 2007 report by Rutgers University, the economic impact of New Jersey's horse industry is \$1.1 billion a year. Some 13,000 jobs are created by equine operations and racetracks, and



an estimated \$160 million is generated annually in federal, state and local taxes.

“The exodus of horses and breeders will continue until the state establishes a long-term solution to make the racetracks of New Jersey self-sufficient and lucrative for our horsemen,” said Millstone Mayor Nancy Grbelja, committee chairwoman.

There are 176,000 acres utilized by equine operations in New Jersey – 96,000 are directly related to horse activities, and the rest is devoted

to pasture and hay production, according to the Rutgers report.

The biggest threat to the state's horse industry comes from neighboring states such as New York and Pennsylvania, where racetracks have slot machines that are drawing gambling dollars away from New Jersey, said Jerold L. Zaro, a “Save the Horse” Committee member and a commissioner of the New Jersey Sports & Exhibition Authority.

Two of New Jersey's racetracks are in Monmouth County: Freehold Raceway and Monmouth Park, Oceanport.

The “Save the Horse Committee” has endorsed S-1481, a bill by Sen. Sean T. Kean, R-Monmouth, that would allow racetracks to install video lottery terminals in order to compete with other racetracks.

county takes bite out of gypsy moths



You may have seen it floating just above the treetops, a hovering mass of green and white metal with long, skinny arms. Relax, it's just the county's Shade Tree helicopter conducting an aerial assault on those creepy gypsy moth caterpillars.

Monmouth County increased the number of woodlands being sprayed for gypsy moth caterpillars this year to 7,815.

The figure includes a portion of Naval Weapons Station Earle along the Route 34 and Route 35 corridors, which this year was sprayed from the air for the very first time.

“The county began spraying on May 13 and followed the hatching egg masses south to north,” Freeholder Deputy Director Robert D. Clifton said, noting that the

county's Mosquito Extermination Commission helicopter was pressed into service, as well.

“Spraying doesn't control all of the larvae, but it slows them down,” he said.

Towns that were sprayed this year are: Howell, Wall, Freehold Township, Colts Neck, Marlboro, Millstone and Tinton Falls.



Rob Clifton
Freeholder

Recycling netted towns \$800,000

Municipalities that recycle with Global Recycling Solutions, which has a facility at the County Reclamation Center in Tinton Falls, earned more than \$800,000 in rebates last year.

Towns that recycle cans, bottles, cardboard and newspapers with Global Recycling received an average of \$32.69 for every ton of recyclables collected in 2007. More than 26,000 tons of recyclable materials were recovered last year alone.

“This is a remarkable achievement we should all be proud of,” Freeholder William C. Barham said. “It’s good to be green.”

Christopher Murray, superintendent of the Monmouth County Reclamation Center, said, “Not only do the towns derive benefit from the revenues received, but they avoid paying \$74 a ton for

landfill disposal if this material was not removed from the waste stream. Last year, this was a \$2 million dollar savings.”

The county continues to encourage taxpayers to recycle more aggressively. “Every ton of recyclables recovered that does not go into the landfill extends the life of the landfill, which benefits all of us,” Barham said.



Bill Barham
Freeholder



LUNCHTIME SERIES ON ENVIRONMENT

Efforts to think green and act in an environmentally friendly manner are being embraced by government. Cities, counties and states are beginning to look at making greener choices to save money and to address urgent issues related to global warming.

Many local governments are already getting green by choosing alternative building materials, utilizing renewable energy and embracing green water management techniques.

Beginning May 15, Freeholders Barbara J. McMorrow and John D’Amico Jr. began hosting a free lunchtime series on the environment to facilitate a green dialogue among government entities.

The lunchtime series is being held in the Hall of Records, Freehold.

In Monmouth County, which has 53 miles of shoreline, it is particularly important to address those things that can cause a rise in sea level.

“Coastal counties such as ours are particularly vulnerable to changes that will accompany a rising sea level. This includes increased rain and flooding

and the loss of protective natural barriers,” McMorrow said. “Steps being taken in cities and counties across New Jersey are making news every week, and it is absolutely necessary that we share that information.”

Upcoming luncheons will feature:

JUNE 19

Andrew Topinka of Technical Group Service will address ways to make old buildings green.

JULY 17

John Batinsey, Eatontown, will discuss ways to reduce lighting pollution without sacrificing security.

Pre-registration is required by calling 732-683-8837, or by e-mailing freeholdermcmorrow@gmail.com



Barbara McMorrow
Freeholder

To read more county news or find an array of services, please visit the county Web site at

www.visitmonmouth.com



4 *fabulous* ways to enjoy your summer at home

Kaboom Fireworks on the Navesink River

See them from Marine Park in Red Bank
Largest fireworks display in New Jersey
July 3

Ocean Fest in Long Branch

Fireworks, food, entertainment
on the Oceanfront
July 4

Haskell Invitational Race

at Monmouth Park Racetrack, Oceanport
Premier race day
August 3

Ocean Township Italian Festival

at Joe Palaia Park
August 6 thru 10

“Monmouth County is one of the finest vacation spots on the Eastern seaboard. The beaches, farms, parks, dining, theaters and shopping give the county its flavor.”



John D’Amico Jr., Freeholder

monmouth county celebrates 325

The County's actual birth date is March 7, 1683, when an Act of the Provincial General Assembly divided the Province of East Jersey into four counties: Bergen, Essex, Middlesex and Monmouth.

Freeholder Director Lillian G. Burry said, "It's hard to imagine what Monmouth County was like back then. One thing is certain: we have a rich and proud history. For example, the battle that was the turning point in the Revolutionary War happened right here."

On June 28, 1778, Gen. George Washington rallied retreating militia to rout the British at the Battle of Monmouth.

See the battle re-enacted June 21 and 22 at Monmouth Battlefield State Park.



Does someone you love require long-term care?

Monmouth County operates two long-term care facilities: the John L. Montgomery Care Center in Freehold Township and the Geraldine L. Thompson Care Center in Wall. Both provide nursing and rehabilitation by committed, caring staff. Find out more at www.visitmonmouth.com/carecenters

don't miss these events:

JUNE 22

Pick a winner at the 325th Anniversary Race to be held at Monmouth Park Racetrack, Oceanport.

JULY 20

Shrewsbury Library Showcase with live jazz by the John Colianni Quintet and Strictly 60s rock 'n' roll. See the new Eastern Branch library.

JULY 23 THRU 27

The Monmouth County Fair at East Freehold Showgrounds is a fun destination for the entire family.

AUGUST 16

Molly Pitcher presentation at the Monmouth County Library Headquarters, Manalapan.

SEPTEMBER 28

Bring the whole family to the Harvest Home Festival at Longstreet Farm 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

OCTOBER 11

Monmouth County history comes alive on Archives Day at the Monmouth County Library Headquarters, Manalapan.



Seated: Lillian G. Burry. Standing (from left) John D'Amico Jr., Barbara J. McMorrow, William C. Barham and Robert D. Clifton.



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Board of Chosen Freeholders
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