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MONMOUTH COUNTY PARK SYSTEM HONORS VOLUNTEERS

COLTS NECK— Gracias, merci, danké! No matter how you say it, everyone likes to be appreciated. On Sunday, March 4, it was the Monmouth County Park System's turn to say thank you during its Annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony at Hominy Hill Golf Course, Colts Neck. There was much to be thankful for. In 2011, 1,088 people volunteered 24,161 hours of service and assisted with Park System facilities, programs and events.

On any given day, volunteers can be found assisting with therapeutic riding lessons, leading a trip or assisting in offices. They also garden, lend a hand at cleanups and monitor endangered birds. Docent volunteers welcome visitors and share information about exhibits, programs and facilities. The Park System's Trails Team, a group of volunteers dedicated to building and maintaining over 120 miles of trails, travels throughout the county to assist staff. Many special events and races such as Earth Day Celebrations, Thompson Park Day, Monmouth County Fair and the Timberbrook Triathlon depend on volunteers to run smoothly.

These are just some of the ways that volunteers help the Park System. Although the event only lasts a few hours, the appreciation the Park System feels for its volunteers continues indefinitely. During the ceremony, Board of Recreation Chair Edward J. Loud, Vice Chair Fred J. Rummel, and Commissioner Thomas Hennessy, Jr., joined Park System staff in honoring one hundred sixty-two volunteers who gave 40 or more hours of service in the past year.

Here's a list of volunteers who gave more than 40 hours in 2011:

Pam Adams, Middletown
Samantha Antonaccio, Keyport
Angela Antonaccio, Keyport
Mark Daniel Bankin, Holmdel
Joy A. Barrie, Neptune City
John Bauer, Ocean Grove
Jim Baye, Ocean
Anita Belkin-Evans, Howell
Joan Berg, Lincroft
Rosemary E. Bettikofer, formerly of Shrewsbury
Pete Brady, Middletown
Sandy Burn, Red Bank
George Byard, Matawan
Mary Byrne, Middletown
Nik Caporossi, Freehold
Pam A. Carlsen, Port Monmouth
Robert Carlson, Middletown
James Carney, Middletown
Julia Castellano, Middletown
Kevin N. Chambers, Ocean Grove
Elizabeth M. Clarke, Tinton Falls
Lance C. Cox, Freehold
Linda Csernica, Little Silver
Judy Curry-Phipps, Atlantic Highlands
Eric Dalton, Keyport
Robert D. DeBarba, Fair Haven
Sandra De Murley, Allenhurst
Franki DeSaro, Red Bank
Lisa C. D'Orazio, Holmdel
Jennifer R. Dumas, Fair Haven
Barbara L. Eckert, Keyport
Rachel A. Elice, Morganville
Deborah Elsinger, Shrewsbury
Brett C. Farrell, Colts Neck
Patricia A. Farrell, Old Bridge
Fred R. Feldman, Freehold
Michael Flatley, Toms River
Carol D. Fornwald, Long Branch
Taylor A. Franzreb, Locust
Victoria M. Frotton, Leonardo
Julia Guercio, Red Bank
Susan L. Halle, Middletown
Patrick Hannan, Manasquan
Laura C. Hardy, Little Silver
Laura M. Harold, Manalapan
Paula Harvey, Atlantic Highlands
Amanda Hintelmann, Rumson
Julie Hunt, Red Bank

Mayah J. Irizarry, Long Branch
Linda Jensen, Freehold
Kevin S. Johnson, Holmdel
Justin M. Johnson, Union Beach
Sharon Keenan, Highlands
Ed Keller, Aberdeen
Edward W. Keller, Aberdeen
Kyle J. Kelly, Monmouth Beach
Edward P. Kelly, West Long Branch
Caitlin Klein, Tinton Falls
Olivia M. Knecht, Red Bank
Katha A. Larity, W. Keansburg
Linda Lawton, Eatontown
Laura Lazzari, Aberdeen
Sarah J. Lin, Marlboro
Natalie D. Lindsay, Freehold
Jeanette Lingelbach, Navesink
Patricia Mahon, Shrewsbury
Madeline J. Makstein, Fair Haven
Ralph Maratea, Lakewood
Debbie Matulonis, Red Bank
Norman T. Mayers, Highlands
Marie B. Mazza, Long Branch
Corinne H. Mazzocchi, Wall
Maureen A. McCahery, Bradley Beach
Elaine A. McColgan, Middletown
Patrice McCoy, Freehold
Caitlin E. McGrane, Red Bank
Megan V. McVeety, Little Silver
Carol E. Migrala, Spring Lake
Leona L. Mostowski, Piscataway
Tony Mrozinski, Middletown
Bonnie Muir, Long Branch
Janice Mundy, Freehold
Akwasi S. Owusu-Akyaw, Freehold
Kristen Palframan, Middletown
Joan E. Phillips, Colts Neck
Betty Randall, Eatontown
Robert L. Randall, Eatontown
Theresa E. Reese, Eatontown
Leslie E. Roche, Freehold
Anthony Rosati, Middletown
Christine L. Rowland, Fords
Gail C. Sanderson, Lincroft
Jay Schaeffer, Keansburg
Barbara Schinkel, Eatontown
Stephen Schinkel, Eatontown
Marlis Schlegel-Steadman, Rumson
Alexa J. Schyerynec, Aberdeen

Carol Smith, Middletown
Brittany L. Snyder, Lincroft
Sarah A Stewart, Belford
Jason M. Stone, Port Monmouth
Jennifer M. Streltsova, Freehold
Alex Sundt, Red Bank
Dianne L. Swenson, Highlands
Ellen B. Terry, Millstone
Gail B. Tewell, Matawan
Margo Thornton, Tinton Falls
Patricia A. Thul, Eatontown
John R. Townend, Farmingdale
Molly Tumulty, Red Bank
Joseph Turtel, Ocean Township
Olivia C. Vaccaro, Atlantic Highlands
Emma Q. Wade, Locust
Jackie West, Little Silver
Joel Whitman, Fair Haven
Cara M. Wiebalk, Tinton Falls
Harmon Willey, Little Silver
Daniel F. Williams, New Brunswick
Sandra Wolfe, Howell
Laura D. Wrobley, Freehold
Richard A. Yackel, Red Bank

These volunteers gave over 100 hours of service:

Werner Aehlich, Holmdel
Andrew Antonioli, Brielle
Mary R. Baechle, Hazlet
Patricia Bernstein, Colonia
Christine Bremseth, Tinton Falls
Emma Caccavale, Highlands
Larry Canale, Rumson
Sharon Capriotti, Tinton Falls
Barbara Carroll, Colts Neck
John P. Connors, Ocean
Andrew Damato, Freehold
Louise DelCollo, Colts Neck
Barbara Duggan, Freehold
Gladys Elena Dunn, Toms River
Harden Fowler, Tinton Falls
Ruth Gariepy, Hazlet
Judith A. Green, Middletown
James Henry, Lincroft
Joyce Henry, Lincroft
Kiley A. Hetem, Middletown
Stephanie Marie Hunt, Neptune

Gerry Lingner, Long Branch
Lois Lyons, Tinton Falls
Michael S. Mastropaolo, Red Bank
Deirdre A. Messina, Marlboro
Barry I. Miller, Middletown
William Murphy, Red Bank
Eileen Murphy, Red Bank
Frank Nofi, Freehold
Alex Osnato, North Middletown
Deborah A. Palumbo, Monmouth Beach
Taylor A. Polito, Colts Neck
Ellen Rice, Keyport
David E. Roche, Freehold
Linda A. Rovder, Monmouth Beach
Kelly Shafer, Aberdeen
Natale C. Siclare, Middletown
Eleanor C. Swanson, Long Branch
Monica C. Valente, Cliffwood Beach
Barbara A. Venanzini, Matawan
Elaine M. Weigl, Howell
Paul J. Zarella, Jr., Bradley Beach

To learn about Park System Volunteers, please visit www.monmouthcountyparks.com or call (732) 842-4000. For persons with hearing impairment, the TTY/TDD number is 711. The Monmouth County Park System, created in 1960 by the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders, is Monmouth County's Open Space, Parks and Recreation agency.

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PICTURED – l to r (standing) Public Information Officer Karen Livingstone, Coordinator of Volunteers Melissa Kelly, Park System Secretary-Director James J. Truncer (sitting) Volunteers James Henry of Lincroft, David E. Roche of Freehold, Andrew Damato of Freehold, and Recreation Commissioner Chair Edward J. Loud. Mr. Henry has volunteered over 6,000 hours; Mr. Roche over 1,000 hours; and Mr. Damato over 1,000 hours.