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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HARD-COVER COPIES OF *THE MONMOUTH COUNTY PARK SYSTEM: THE FIRST FIFTY YEARS* NOW AVAILABLE

LINCROFT – Hot off the presses and ready to enjoy, *The Monmouth County Park System: The First Fifty Years* is now available for purchase. Funded through the Friends of the Monmouth County Park System, this handsome hard-cover coffee table book examines the evolution of Monmouth County’s nationally recognized parks and the rich history of its 38 sites. Written by Clifford W. Zink, the publication commemorates the Park System’s 50th Anniversary with 176 full color pages featuring 423 photographs.

Freeholder Director Lillian Burry calls the book, “A wonderful celebration of the Park System’s past and the role it has played in enriching the lives of our citizens; *The First Fifty Years* illustrates the county’s commitment to preserving open space and providing exceptional recreational opportunities to all residents.”

Filled with first-hand accounts and old photographs, the book chronicles how the Park System was built, parcel by parcel. By taking an in depth look at its parks, gardens, golf courses and beaches, the book illustrates how the Park System has become more than the sum of its acreage – it’s a place where residents can explore nature, learn a new sport or hobby, take a class or simply escape, even if just for a while, the stress of everyday life. Readers will see what has been accomplished in the past five decades and imagine what the next fifty years hold.

Reasonably priced at \$40, the book can be purchased (cash or check only) during normal business hours at the Thompson Park Headquarter Building or the Thompson Park Visitor Center, both located on Newman Springs Road in Lincroft. Those wishing to use a credit card should call the Friends of the Parks at (732) 975-9735.

To learn more about the Park System, please visit www.monmouthcountyparks.com or call the Park System at (732) 842-4000. For persons with hearing impairment, the TTY/TDD number is 711.

The Monmouth County Park System is celebrating its golden anniversary of keeping the county green and livable, since the Board of Chosen Freeholders created the first county park in 1960. Today, the Park System has grown to over 30 sites totaling more than 15,000 acres and offers approximately 4,000 recreation programs and activities, making it the perfect place to come outside and play.

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PICTURED – *The Monmouth County Park System: The First Fifty Years* celebrates the Park System’s 50th Anniversary and is available for \$40.