

SPECIAL PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2014

TIMOLAT FARM LANDSCAPE RESTORATION PHASE II – \$38,050



Timolat Farm is located within Huber Woods Park, Middletown. This tranquil property is graced with four tiered ponds, rolling meadows and whispering forests. Unfortunately, Mother Nature had reclaimed the meadows and woods, allowing invasive species to capture the setting. Phase II of this restoration project included meadow clearing, tree removal, stump grinding, and invasive plant species eradication. Native flowers and ferns were planted along the front pond. The funding for this project was provided through a private donation from Kimberly Timolat Short and Cecile Timolat McCaffery (daughters of the Timolat family).

HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATION FOR BATTERY LEWIS – \$10,920

and EXHIBIT DESIGN FOR BATTERY LEWIS – \$16,000

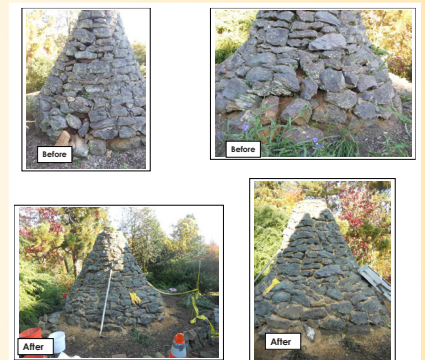
Battery Lewis (located in Hartshorne Woods Park, Highlands) was part of North Atlantic Coastal Defense to defend New York Harbor from German invasion during WWII. The *Friends of the Parks* have hired a professional exhibit designer to develop interpretive displays. The Friends also provided funding for historic research, documents and application fees for the Historic Landmark Designation.



DEEP CUT GARDENS – MT. VESUVIUS RESTORATION – \$19,500

Mt. Vesuvius is a unique peanut stone landscape feature in Deep Cut Gardens, Middletown. These gardens date back to the 1920s. In 1935, the notorious Vito Genovese bought the property and hired landscape architect Theodore Stoudt to design a pseudo-Italian style garden. Mr. Genovese's only insistence was the design include water features and a rendition of Mt. Vesuvius. The miniature Mt. Vesuvius was built from locally harvested peanut stone and was used as entertainment at parties when it belched smoke.

Time and the elements have eroded this landmark. The *Friends of the Parks* funded masonry repairs to restore this unique feature.



DISC GOLF COURSE SUPPLIES – \$6,188

Disc Golf is the hottest rage in tournament team sports. Disc Golf is based on the game of golf, substituting Frisbees and chain baskets. Like traditional golf, courses have obstacles and the lowest score determines the winner. Thanks to the help of the *Friends of the Parks*, the Monmouth County Park System will have two courses at Wolf Hill Recreation Area, Oceanport.

COMMISSION FOR ACCREDITATION OF PARKS AND RECREATION AGENCIES (CAPRA) – \$3,208

This peer-led accreditation review board conducted an on-site evaluation of the Monmouth County Park System in June. The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) provides certification through this process as a way of recognizing park and recreation agencies for excellence in operations and service. The *Friends of the Parks* were happy to host a hospitality event and pay lodging for the accreditation team. In November, the Park System was notified that it was awarded its 4th CAPRA re-accreditation.



HISTORIC LONGSTREET FARM – \$3,060

The farmhouse has custom made shutters and hardware. The staff has a new period Santa suit as well as new flannel dresses.

GREENER NJ DOCUMENTARY – \$2,500

Greener NJ is a nonprofit organization which is producing a documentary on the Monmouth County Park System. The documentary will illustrate the balance the Monmouth County Park System has been able to achieve in promoting active recreation while it preserves and conserves open space and protects our most precious resources – wildlife and fresh water. The *Friends of the Parks* funding allowed Greener NJ to acquire the necessary insurance and permits to begin filming.

MONMOUTH COUNTY PARK SYSTEM PUBLIC INFORMATION– \$340

The visitor waiting area at Dorbrook Recreation Area has a flat screen television (with wall mounting brackets) and multimedia streaming system to run Park System information and publicity.

2014 ANNUAL DISTRIBUTIONS

CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS & PROGRAMS FOR URBAN YOUTH – \$15,469

The *Friends of the Parks* continue to support the Recreation Assistance Program (RAP) by providing 20 scholarships for children from Monmouth County's underserved communities such as Asbury Park, Neptune Township, Neptune City, and Long Branch. These campers are able to participate in week-long summer camps (including door-to-door transportation), summer concerts, boat tours, farm tours, a trip to see the Harlem Globetrotters, holiday parties, and programs at the Park System's Coastal Activity Center in Asbury Park. Proceeds from our Annual RAP Appeal support this effort.



EMPLOYEE EDUCATION & TRAINING – \$8,878

Continuing education is an important component to keeping an organization vital. Monmouth County Park System employees were able to attend national training seminars and in-house training seminars for continuing education thanks to *Friends of the Parks* funding.

PARK BENCHES & MEMORIAL DONATIONS – \$12,166

Deep Cut Gardens and the Henry Hudson Trail will have new benches for visitors to enjoy, thanks to several generous donors. This program enables the donors to honor or memorialize their loved ones.



VOLUNTEER EVENTS, TRAIL TOOLS, NATIONAL TRAILS DAY LUNCHEON, AND HOLIDAY CARDS – \$2,261

The *Friends of the Parks* are proud to show our appreciation for the volunteers of the Monmouth County Park System. We sponsor the National Trails Day Luncheon on the first Saturday in June, provide dessert at the Annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon in March, and pay for Thanksgiving cards and postage. In addition, the *Friends of the Parks* were proud to purchase new tools for the volunteer trail team. These dedicated volunteers maintain over 125 miles of Monmouth County Park System trails.

HOLIDAY TRIP, SEMI-FORMAL, AND DAY AT THE BEACH FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES – \$2,950

Each year the *Friends of the Parks* sponsor the Annual Therapeutic Recreation Semi-Formal at Tatum Park, Middletown. The group also attended a beach outing and *Disney on Ice – Let's Celebrate*. The *Friends of the Parks* paid for admission, refreshments and transportation for participants and chaperons.

UPCOMING 2015 EVENTS:

Wednesday, May 20 – Annual Golf Outing, Hominy Hill Golf Course, Colts Neck
Wednesday-Sunday, July 22-26 – Monmouth County Fair, East Freehold Showgrounds

For additional information, please contact Maria Wojciechowski at
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