Did You Know?

**Summer Camp**
The Monmouth University Department of Athletics has a wide variety of summer camps available for youths. Check out www.monmouth.edu/athletics for the most recent information on Monmouth University summer camps. For further information be sure to contact the athletics department at 732-571-3415.

**National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Long Branch Chapter**
Monmouth University co-sponsored the third annual Youth Diversity Forum. The forum provides workshops focused on diversity issues to middle and high school students from throughout NJ. Students from the MU Educational Opportunity Fund program facilitated workshops offering insight into their personal experiences and cultural backgrounds. In addition, Monmouth University donated six used computers to the NAACP for the youth in the program to use for homework and organization-related projects.

**Hillel High School graduation was held at Monmouth University**
Monmouth University was delighted to host the Hillel High School graduation this year. Congratulations to graduates from Long Branch.

**Early Literacy Development at Elberon School**
Monmouth University Education students in the Early Literacy Development class participated in the "reading buddy" program at the Elberon School.

Attn: Non-Profit Agencies

Monmouth University Federal Work Study students are available to work in off-campus non-profit or government agencies. This federal program allows the students to work at the agencies at a "discounted" rate. The agency pays only 30% of the student’s salary. This generally works out to be $2.40 to $2.70 per hour. Current participants include the Long Branch YMCA locations, Monmouth County Regional Health Commission, and the SPCA. Please contact Aimee Edmunds at 732-571-3569 for more information on how your agency can participate in this program.

Volume 2, Number 3
Summer 2004

A Community Newsletter From Monmouth University

A Note From
President Gaffney

Dear Monmouth University Neighbor:

It has been a pleasure to meet many of you at University social functions, during athletic events, in our arts venues and “out and about” in Monmouth County. Linda and I have enjoyed our introduction to the region and look forward to summer at the shore.

I understand the value of establishing and maintaining positive relationships between the University and its neighbors. At the same time it is clear that several projects needed to be completed in order to remain competitive and to improve the quality of the University while not increasing the capacity. I have discussed our concepts openly. Also, I have become specifically aware of concerns, in some municipalities, over student residents.

I hope over time to convince you, our neighbors, that while the University will strive to continue to increase student qualifications and campus quality, we also want to understand and address your concerns.

Since 1998 we have publicly discussed our desire to build a multi-purpose activity center (MAC) in the center of the campus, near the Jules L. Plangere Jr. Center for Communication and Instructional Technology building. We have discussed the MAC in informal settings, in presentations, in formal borough Council liaison meetings, during West Long Branch Coalition meetings and to the press. It is a goal for improved competitiveness; not to add to student capacity. But first we need a residence hall, for which we are currently seeking borough (West Long Branch) zoning approval; it would not increase capacity either. While our long-term vision is out in the public, we know we must earn approvals one step at a time.

Regarding student citizen-residents, it is a difficult issue, one with which we wrestle daily; one where Monmouth is seen by peer institutions as quite inventive, one which requires careful attention to all citizens’ rights, one where we expect to continually improve and change. Students who run afoul of the law are not only disciplined by municipal legal systems, but also are subject to the University judicial process – a double penalty. Yet, we try to do more. We will invite landlords in for meetings during the summer, we will advise parents when a student receives a municipal or state summons/citation for an alcohol or drug related infraction, we will continue to meet with the Community Relations Task Force, and we have hired a consultant to gather best practices from other universities.

I aspire to make Monmouth better in every regard, I intend to make our graduates and our neighbors proud of the University. We have capped freshman enrollment again this year, and we plan to continue to raise the qualifications of students.

Monmouth anchors the classic beauty of our larger neighborhood. I invite you to please enjoy our events and the campus at your leisure.

Paul G. Gaffney II
Long Branch History Quiz

Created by Dr. Richard Veit, Assistant Professor, Department of History and Anthropology, Monmouth University

IF WIN A PRIZE!
The third person to send an e-mail to neighbor@monmouth.edu or call 732-571-3526 with the correct answers will win a spectacular Monmouth University prize.

1. Long Branch is famous as a summer resort frequented by seven presidents. Who were the seven presidents?
2. The abolition of seven presidents? A. the right to vote B. the sale of slaves C. the end of slavery D. the end of the Civil War

CONGRATS TO JENNIFER O’HARA
Jennifer O’Hara was the first person to respond to our last quiz and won two tickets to a performing arts event at Pollak Theatre.

Things to Do on Campus

Shadow Lawn Stage at Lauren K. Woods Theatre
Lovers by Brian Frield
Performance dates: June 25 - 27, June 30 - July 4, and July 7 - 11
Arsenic and Old Lace by Joseph Kesserling
Performance dates: July 16 - 18, July 21 - 25 and July 28 - August 1
Ticket prices are $13 to $20. To reserve tickets contact Monmouth University’s Lauren K. Woods box office at 732-263-5730.

CHILDREN’S THEATRE AT MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY
Designed to captivate and entertain children
Sunday, August 8th, at 2 p.m.
Rapunzel
A witty, tongue-in-cheek retelling of a classic favorite with a moral about parent-child relationship. It will have young audiences rejoicing.
Tickets are $10 and can be purchased through Pollak Theatre’s box office by calling 732-571-3483.

Jewish Studies Program

Monmouth University, in coordination with Congregation Magen David of West Deal, presented a special outreach program this summer. The Summer Jewish Program, generously supported by the ARAMARK Charitable Fund through the Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program is designed to build bridges to Judaism and the Jewish communities on- and off-campus.

On July 1, 2004, from 8:00 pm to 10:30 pm, Hazzan Moshe Tesone and his Oriental Ensemble performed songs and music of the Sephardic Community. In between the music performance, the film The Last Marranos was screened. The Last Marranos is a riveting and moving documentary about the history of anti-Semitism and oppression faced over the centuries by Jews in Portugal. Forced to accept a conversion to Catholicism in 1497, Portuguese Jews practiced their true religion in secret for centuries afterward. Even today, the 100 or so remaining Jews in the village of Belmonte must observe their rituals clandestinely. In addition, a “mazza” of Syrian Oriental appetizers were served, under kosher supervision of the Jersey Shore Orthodox Rabbinate (JSOR). This event was free and open to the public.

Photography and book exhibits on the Sephardic Experience were held at Monmouth University’s Wilson Hall, Room 106, from June 25 through July 2. The exhibits included a copy of the Aleppo Codex, the earliest known Hebrew manuscript comprising the full text of the Bible, and 29 facsimiles from an illuminated Hebrew Bible of the 15th Century. The exhibit included a copy of the Aleppo Codex, the earliest known Hebrew manuscript comprising the full text of the Bible, and 29 facsimiles from an illuminated Hebrew Bible of the 15th Century.

Monmouth University Students Volunteer at Stella Maris Retreat Center and Help Clean Up Beach in Long Branch

Monmouth University students did some landscaping work at the Stella Maris Retreat Center and helped clean up the beach in Long Branch during the third annual “Big Event” on March 27th. This year more than 300 students and employees volunteered at this one-day community service project sponsored by the Student Government Association. Students and employees spent the day performing service projects, like painting, cleaning, clearing brush, or visiting senior citizen centers and working with school children, as a way to express their gratitude to the surrounding communities for their support and allegiance to Monmouth University.

BIG EVENT is a Big Success!

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Congraulations to Professor Judith Nye

Provost Thomas Pearson presented Long Branch resident Judith Nye with the prestigious Distinguished Teacher of the Year award for 2004.

Provost Thomas Pearson stated: “Dr. Judith Nye has long been one of Monmouth’s most outstanding teachers. Dr. Nye is known for her meticulous preparation for classes. Her creative ability in eliciting critical thinking from students draws them into comment and prompts them to articulate new concepts and questions. She is a truly distinguished teacher.”

Her husband, Richard Sa, is the director of Compliance and Special Events in the Department of Facilities Management at Monmouth University. They live in Elberon, New Jersey, where they spend their hours away from Monmouth pursuing home renovation and raising Keeshonden dogs.

Celebrate Oceanfest July 4th in Long Branch

Monmouth University is pleased to serve as a proud sponsor of one of the biggest summer events at the Jersey Shore. Oceanfest at Long Branch is an annual family-style Independence Day celebration that attracts more than 300,000 people. The day-long festivities take place on the oceanfront promenade and include a sand-sculpting competition, food for all tastes, crafters, games, entertainment, and a dazzling fireworks display over the Atlantic Ocean. For more information call the Long Branch Chamber of Commerce at 732-222-0400.