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TRIBUTE TO VIETNAM VETERANS BY MORRIS COUNTY

Historical Online Project Dedicated on National Vietnam War Veterans Day

"Welcome Home: Morris County's Vietnam Vets," an online collection of data, photographs and facts about the Morris County men and women who served in the Vietnam War, was launched through the official Morris County website on March 29, 2022 in honor of National Vietnam War Veterans Day. The day observes when the last U.S. combat troops departed Vietnam on March 29, 1973.

The project is a collection of names, service narratives, historical information and photographs compiled by the county Office of Planning and Preservation, and it remains a work-in-progress. It is a chapter in a series of online projects known as the Morris County Veterans Compendium, in which the Office of Planning and Preservation has documented the military service of Morris County residents throughout history.

"The Morris County Veterans Compendium was inspired by a WWII veteran in 2009, who expressed that history would forget veterans' service. In order to allay that concern, Morris County works to list veterans in all conflicts," said Jan Williams, a cultural and historic resources specialist with the county.

Prior to U.S. military involvement in Afghanistan, the Vietnam War was the longest conflict in American military history and became the focus of a social and political divide in the nation that never fully healed. Returning military service members were often left unheralded and mistreated, an experience the nation and veterans continue to reckon with to this day.

"In communicating with Vietnam veterans, I was surprised to learn from several that our American soldiers were busy 'winning hearts and minds' in Vietnam, long before we became aware of the phrase. They cared for orphans, villagers, and worked tirelessly to leave Vietnam a better place. Although the veterans mentioned a lingering bitterness about the way they were treated upon return, they choose to focus on the honorable service they rendered during Nam," said Williams.

The public is urged to continue reviewing the downloadable Vietnam collection to offer updates, additions and particularly photographs that will enhance the experience of those, particularly veterans, who view the webpage. Veterans also are encouraged to add tributes to the buddies they lost. Visit: morriscountynj.gov/Morris-County-News/Tribute-to-Vietnam-Veterans-Launched-by-Morris-County. Information may be forwarded to Jan Williams @co.morris.nj.us.

The Office of Planning and Preservation has reached out to the public in the past to build webpages memorializing Morris County residents who served in the nation's armed forces during other eras. An accounting of Civil War men of color affiliated with Morris County was initially launched in 2018, and the office continues to update its list of more than 3,000 residents who were part of The Greatest Generation – Morris County in WWII.

A page dedicated to veterans of the Spanish-American War and Philippine War was launched in 2021.



(above) Charles A. Germershausen of Florham Park served on the United States Navy USS Basilone DD-824. Morris County Distinguished Service Medal. "Triumphus Supra Invisum Victory over the Unseen". This is just 1 of 25 entries for Florham Park residents. For a complete list visit: morriscountynj.gov Information may be forwarded to Jan Williams at jwilliams@co.morris.nj.us.



For the Vietnam page, a Vietnam veteran who was born in Morris County or has been a resident of the county for ten years is welcome to be recognized by submitting his or her information. The families of Vietnam vets who have passed on also may submit their information.

If a veteran has retired out of state, they qualify for listing, too.

The type of information needed for the project includes the names of the Vietnam veterans, their Morris County municipality, their service branch, battles or incidents participated in, and awards or citations issued. Of course, photographs are always appreciated.

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Florham Park Press

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SENIORS PORGRAMS

"What is Pet Therapy all about"

On March 8, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at the Florham Park Community Center, we will have a program presented by the Creature Comfort Pet Therapy of Morristown, N.J. the presentation will be on "What is Pet Therapy all about"? Representatives from Creature Comfort's therapy teams visit people in need of healing comfort due to experiencing grief, loss, pain, recovery, homelessness, food insecurity, disabilities or loneliness. Thousands of people are seen annually and benefit from therapeutic visits by dedicated volunteers and their gentle, calm therapy pets. Creature Comfort will bring therapy animals to their visit.

"Brooklake School Children's Choir"

On March 22, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. at the Florham Park Community Center, there will be a performance by the Brooklake School Children's Choir, under the direction of Ms. Nichole Maldonado the choir will entertain Florham Park Seniors with a wide range of musical songs. The Choir consists of students from the 3rd, 4th and 5th grades. The program will start promptly at 11:00 a.m.

The Florham Park Community Center is located at 111 Ridgedale Avenue, 200 yards behind the Florham Park Town Hall. Note the Florham Park Community Center is also called the Recreation Center (large brown building). Social time is at 10:45 a.m. with coffee provided.

ROBERT FOSTER NAMED PRINCIPAL OF BROOKLAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Florham Park Public Schools

Congratulations to Mr. Robert Foster who has been recently approved by the Florham Park Board of Education to be the next Brooklake Elementary School Principal.

Mr. Foster is a familiar face, dedicating his 10year career in education to the Florham Park School District. During his 10 years, Mr. Foster has taken on multiple leadership and advisory roles. As Dean of Students and the Administratorin-Charge at Ridgedale School, he works closely with administrators, students, and parents to grow every child's capacity to be an active and impactful member of the school community.

During Mr. Foster's tenure in Florham Park, he has been recognized as a highly effective English-Language Arts teacher, a Governor's Educator of the Year Award recipient, part of the district's mentorship program, a Curriculum Council and QSAC committee member, grade level Team Leader, athletic coach, co-founder of the RMS National Junior Honors Society Program, and a graduate of the Florham Park School District's Leadership Training Academy.

He has also served as part of the Ridgedale School transitioning team whose role is to articulate with Brooklake staff and administration to assist with students transitioning from Gr.5 to Gr.6 at Ridgedale Middle School.

Additionally, he is respected by his FPEA peers by being elected in a leadership capacity as the FPEA's vice-president.

Mr. Foster comes to Brooklake with practical experience in curriculum writing, HIB and BTAM matters, the district's safety and security



(above, l-r) Dr. Steven Caponegro, Superintendent; Mr. Robert Foster, Brooklake School Principal (Start date April 17th); and Mr. Brian Perillo, Board of Education President.

operating procedures, a progressive discipline and restorative practice model, scheduling, and familiarity with the Florham Park community.

Mr. Foster stated that he is excited to continue his career within the Florham Park Schools and have the opportunity to serve as Principal of the Brooklake Elementary School. He looks forward to bringing his passion for education and supporting students, staff and community members while ensuring that every child is provided with challenging, relevant, and dynamic learning opportunities.

Mr. Foster's official start date will be Monday, April 17 th . Prior to this date, Dr. O'Connor will continue to serve as Acting Principal to assist with Mr. Foster's transition and that of the staff, students and school community.



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5K AND FOOD TRUCK FEST – APRIL 30TH

The Florham Park PBA Local 78 is proud to host its first 5K & Food Truck Festival, in conjunction with Mega Bite Events, on April 30, 2023. The day's festivities will include a 5K race starting at 10:00 a.m. followed by a food truck festival starting shortly after the conclusion of the race. The race will be held on a certified 5K course off Park Ave. in Florham Park. The food truck festival will feature dozens of food trucks, live bands throughout the day, entertainment and games for the kids, as well as beer and wine options for the adults. Tickets for the race and festival can be purchased in combination or separately. Come by for the race and stay a while or just stop by for lunch and a drink! For more buy tickets, information or to visit MegaBiteEvents.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The original 'Real Housewives of New Jersey' 7:00 pm on March 14 in the Florham Park Library Historian Lesley Parness introduces the original 'Real Housewives of New Jersey' in this engaging presentation as she takes everyone back to the Colonial era. Growing plants both Native American and from their homelands. these women turned their soup pots into the "melting pot" that is America. Light refreshments will be served following the program. Admission is free.

"George Washington and Morristown, New Jersey...Perfect Together" by Joel Farkas

April 11, 7 pm, also at the Florham Park Library The Historical Society of Florham Park was founded in the 1930s to save and preserve the Little Red Schoolhouse. Located on the corner of Columbia Turnpike and Ridgedale Avenue the former schoolhouse was converted into a museum.

Learn more about The Historical Society of Florham Park contact Rich and Christine Davidson at RDavidsonFP@gmail.com or call 973-377-3713.

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KNITTING AND CROCHETING FOR A CAUSE

community-based group of knitters and crocheters who meet weekly to create shawls for those in the community who are undergoing medical procedures. The shawls are meant to be used as a comfort during times of stress due to an illness and recovery, or loss. The group meets

The Florham Park Prayer Shawl Ministry is a every Tuesday morning from 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. in The Florham Park Senior Center. New participants are welcome. Members provide their own yarn so donations of skeins of yarn are always appreciated. For more information, please call Kathy Memoli 973-377-7611, or Pat Schwartz 973-377-0156.



(above, l-r) Kathy Memoli, Olga Petrilak, Pat McMahon, Pat Babb

Courtesy photo

AMERICAN LEGION CORNED BEEF DINNER MAR 12

#43 have completed plans for their Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner held annually for close to 60 years.

The Auxiliary will serve a Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner and Corned Beef Sandwiches on Sunday, March 12 from 1-5 p.m. at the Madison-Florham American Legion Post #43, 20 Ridgedale Avenue in Florham Park.

For a complete dinner including "home baked" Irish Soda Bread and dessert a donation of \$15 is suggested. Also available, will be a Corned Beef Sandwich at a suggested donation of \$10. Take out will be available as well.

Unit President Fran Derin of Florham Park invites all residents of the area to join Auxiliary members for dinner on Sunday, March 12 to many of their neighbors there.

The ladies of American Legion Auxiliary Unit show support for the volunteer and financial support they provide in the area to our veterans in need.

> The annual fundraiser has also made it possible over the years to sponsor the following in our local communities: local high school girls to Girls State, an annual leadership development program; provide gifts and monetary assistance to the Valerie Fund that provides support and assistance to children with cancer; Family Promise providing help for the homeless in Morris County; Special Olympics and supporting college scholarships at various levels of the organization for children and grandchildren of veterans.

> The ladies of Unit #43 look forward to seeing





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ADDRESS	BEDS	BATHS	GARAGE	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	DOM
173 Rockwood Rd	5	5.1	2	\$1,995,000	\$1,900,000	95
75 Lincoln Ave	6	8.2	3	\$2,095,000	\$1,835,000	103
149 Braidburn Rd	5	3.1	2	\$1,320,000	\$1,425,000	44
3 Myrtle Ave	5	5.1	2	\$1,475,000	\$1,400,000	7
5 Willow Way	6	5.1	2	\$1,295,000	\$1,250,000	126
13 Cunningham Dr	3	2.1	2	\$999,999	\$1,000,000	57
57 Townsend Dr	4	3.0	2	\$999,000	\$999,000	9
8 Cherokee Trl	3	2.2	3	\$969,900	\$920,000	98
4 Dirlam Dr	3	2.1	1	\$906,540	\$906,540	28
9 Dirlam	3	2.1	1	\$906,540	\$906,540	8
5 Dellwood Dr	5	2.1	2	\$849,000	\$895,000	10
16 Orchard Rd	4	2.1	2	\$795,000	\$867,000	12
2 Vanderbilt Blvd	2	2.0	2	\$689,000	\$727,551	8
4 Vanderbilt Blvd	2	2.0	1	\$630,000	\$610,000	7
15 Northern Ave	4	3.0	1	\$599,000	\$600,000	17

Source: GSMLS, select properties sold 12/1/2022-2/16/2023



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