

Friends of Millstone
Township Historic
Registered Properties
Proudly Presents:

Picture The Past



circa 1894



2024

2025

Cover: Smithburg Tavern the Lone Survivor

By the middle of the 1700s, a stagecoach stop called Locust Corner was established here. Over time, new owners and additions were added. The left side of the building was the tavern, and the right side was the farmhouse/hotel. The original section of the tavern building was removed, and a larger addition was erected around 1800 by owner Charles Parker, father of two-time Civil War Governor Joel T. Parker. In 1823, Parker sold the farm, roughly 200 acres, and a house/Tavern to Asher Smith, hence the name Smithburg. In his time, this was a bustling stop for private carriages and Stagecoaches from Bordentown to Long Branches' summer travel, offering dinner to 10-30 guests each day. The stagecoach run succumbed to train travel around the same time as Smiths' death in 1855. Smithburg remained a quaint village, containing a store, sawmill, tavern, and blacksmith shop at various times. It's located on the west side of Monmouth Road, which is considered Millstone Township. The east side is Manalapan, and both corners across from the Inn are Freehold. The address for GPS is 272 Monmouth Road. It stands on the corner of Smithburg Road (CR527) and Monmouth Road (CR 537).



The Friends of Millstone Township is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to furthering public interest in the conservation, preservation, and appreciation of the history of Millstone Township and Monmouth County. It provides the community with educational activities, exhibitions, and hands-on programs. Further, it provides research resources for the history of the Township, as well as identifying artifacts and property significant to our history. The restoration and care of our historic properties in the Township takes great effort and extensive fundraising. We can only achieve our goals with volunteers and donations from community members. Although these are township-owned properties, we are responsible for utility bills and program costs. We fundraise all year to raise enough money to match available grants. Please donate your time to help us save the past. Visit us at savinghistorywithfriends.org



We hope this Calendar brings an enjoyable journey into the Township's past. These yearly calendars are a fundraiser for us. We rely on our sponsors to help deflect the cost of printing. We only ask for a small donation to help with our endeavors throughout the year: school history programs, field days, and special events at the Baird homestead. We also use donations to help match grants for restoration projects. Please check out our website for information on events.

THANK YOU!

Wishing all a very safe and healthy New year!



Remember when this day is over, it's History make yours count!



The information in this calendar, although accurate for its day, is never exactly accurate or complete.
History is always a mystery!

A special recognition to our sponsors throughout these pages, who have helped us cover the cost of printing to make this calendar possible. Please THANK them by considering their business for your future needs.

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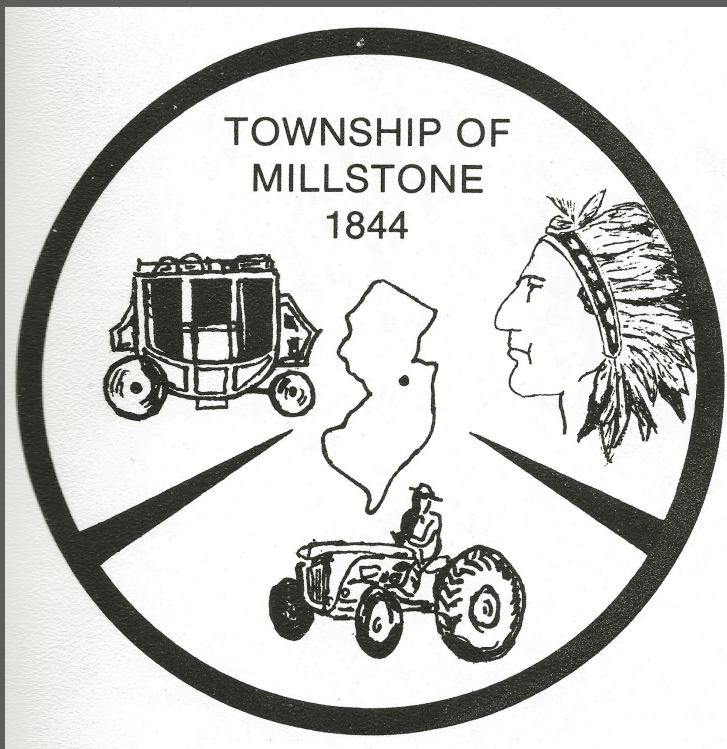
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Jessica Schulze DVM
Meredith Warn DVM



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Fax: 609-208-3237

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The Millstone Township Bicentennial Committee sponsored a contest to help promote the Town's history. Richard Smith created the winning logo on the left around 1982. In 2002, the Town requested the Historical Commission to make minor changes. Teresa Lee Lepore, another resident, volunteered her talent.

JANUARY

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



Millstone
Pharmacy
221 Milstone Rd
732-851-4101
"Healthy
Starts Here"

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New Year's Day

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Martin Luther
King Jr.
Birthday

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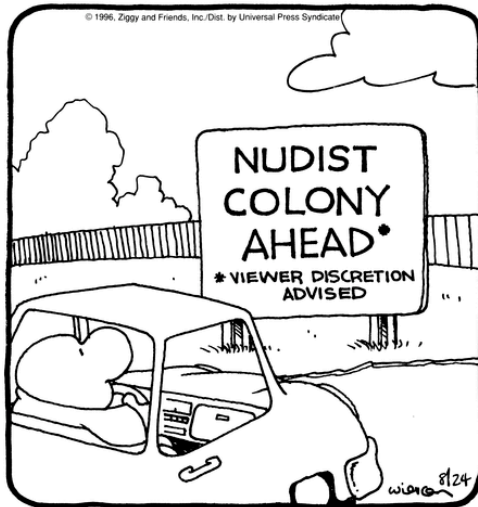
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**BELIEVE IT OR
NOT**

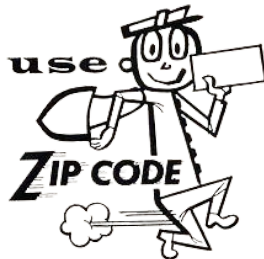


Would you believe there was a sunbathing haven in Clarksburg? In 1953, Mr. Reed Suplee created Sunny Heights Lodge, a nudist resort on roughly 200 acres, one mile from the corner of Rising Sun Tavern Road and Stagecoach Road. Originally, the plans had a three-story hotel to accommodate 200 guests, but big dreams were replaced with trailers and tents. Even though the Township was anti-nudist, the State already had six "unsuited" camps in operation.

The resort had strict protocols that members followed; besides the curiosity seekers, they never had an incident with the town. The sun worshipers came from all walks of life, including many celebrities and professionals, and at one time they even had a movie set on site. Membership for a year was \$130 for a couple and \$12.50 for children. Amenities included a pool, beach, volleyball, and tennis courts, to name just a few. Mr. Surplee sold the facility to Manuel Steinlauf in 1973, who sold it again in 1985, making way for houses off Agress Road. All that remains is a faint dirt road guarded by a sawn-off utility pole that once had S-H-L painted on. It had a good run in the sun....



Millstone Township is surrounded by Monroe, Manalapan, Freehold, Upper Freehold, Jackson, Roosevelt Borough, and East Windsor. It's hard to believe, but because of these boundaries, the Township once had eight different postal codes!



Clarksburg	08510	Cream Ridge	08514
Englishtown	07726	Freehold	07728
Hightstown	08520	Imlaystown	08526
Perrineville	08535	Robbinsville	08691

It wasn't until 2000 that the zips were condense into just 2 post offices, Clarksburg and Perrineville, making life easier for everyone. The zip code (Zone Improvement Plan) was initially created, in 1963 and shortly after Mr. Zip was born. Remember him?

FEBRUARY

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

		 <div>ESTD 2023</div> <div>Jr's Cattle Ranch</div> <div>Meat Wholesaler</div>		<div>9 Brookside Rd</div> <div>jrscattleranch.com</div> <div>Ralph Jr.</div> <div>-917-417-3373</div> <div>Jake-</div> <div>609-495-5682</div>		<div>EAST COAST SALT</div> <div>RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL SALT NEEDS</div> <div>FROM WATER CONDITIONERS TO DE-ICING AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN! VETERAN AND FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1998</div> <div>732-833-2973</div> <div>621 WRIGHT DEBOW ROAD JACKSON NJ</div>		1					
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										Valentine's Day			
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		Presidents' Day											
23		24		25		26		27		28		<div>Penny's Petals</div> <div>240 Stagecoach Rd</div> <div>732-625-9911</div> <div>pennyspetalsnj.com</div>	

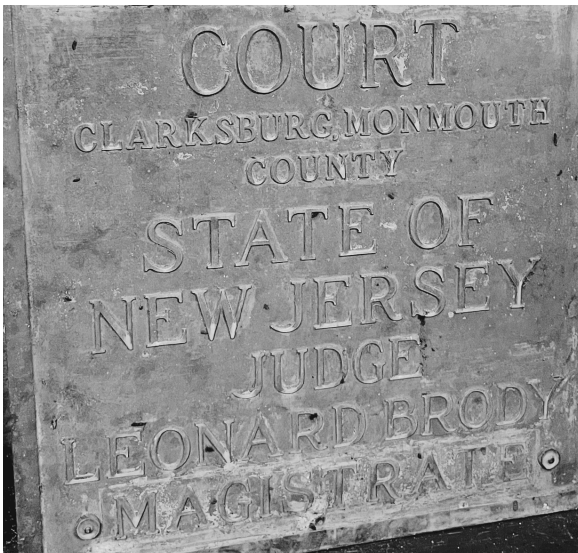
Valentine's Day

Presidents' Day



Tucked in the corner of a private building on Clarksburg Road stands a rusty iron vessel made especially for the accused. The original handcuffs, locked on tight to the top of the door, stand as a witness to the past. Little is known of this structure other than it stands 6' x 6' x 7' in size with a welded iron ceiling and is built into cement blocks. A poor soul had no means of escaping this confinement until he was transported to the county jail in Freehold.

Leonard Brody (1909-1972) held many titles, such as Justice of the Peace or Magistrate, but he was known simply as Judge Brody. He was appointed by the Township Committee, given a title and limited jurisdiction, which was a common practice in small rural towns in the late 1940s.



The original court was held in Mr. Brody's living room. After hearing a case, the Judge would likely escort the accused to the waiting cell. The responsibility didn't stop there; the captive had to be fed, and janitor duties had to be done. Brody's tenure lasted approximately 15 years. The court was moved to the 4-room Clarksburg Schoolhouse (our municipal building) and finally to 215 Millstone Road, where the court is still being heard today.

Court Clarksburg Monmouth County
State of New Jersey
Judge Leonard Brody Manistrate



MARCH

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

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Ash
Wednesday

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Daylight Saving
Begins

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St. Patrick's
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Scotto Brothers Farm
99 Stillhouse Rd
circa 1840
built by Lewis L. Combs
Aerial view 1949



The Scotto Brothers Farm was a bustling agricultural farm on Stillhouse Road that spanned over 200 acres in Millstone Township. Michele Scotto D'Antuono and his wife Filomena Costagliola emigrated from Naples Italy in 1936, and purchased the farm on Stillhouse Road in 1946 from the Nolan family. Their sons Anthony and Frank, together with their families, operated the farm for over forty years. They grew various types of produce including string beans, lettuces, tomatoes, cabbage just to name a few. The produce was loaded nightly into an 18 wheeler tractor trailer that would back into the large bay of the barn. The produce was shipped to markets in New York City, such as the Hunts Point Terminal Market in the South Bronx. The Scotto Brothers both resided in the Greek Revival style farmhouse at the same time and raised their children and grandchildren there. The original address of the property was known as R.D #2 Box 161 Englishtown, New Jersey. The Scotto family were active members of the Millstone Township community and always very active communicants of St. Joseph's Catholic Church. The present St. Joseph's Catholic Church on Stillhouse Road sits on a portion of the original farm, and was donated by Frank Scotto and his family.

Information provided by
Anthony Scotto's daughter
Mariagrace Scotto Welsh

APRIL

Sunday

Monday

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April Fools' Day

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Passover
Palm Sunday

Maundy
Thursday

Good Friday

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Easter

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PIZZA
Nick's
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MUSIC: THE STARENADERS

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Millstone Township NJ

1951

About Bessie Cutter Perlman 1905-2003



There is not enough room here to list all of her lifelong achievements, she was a remarkable woman! To list a few of her accomplishments; She was the first kindergarten teacher for the deaf; and hard-of-hearing children in NJ schools for the deaf. She was the co-founder of Millstone PTA and was known as the "Mother of NJ Special Olympics". She devoted over thirty years to this cause. Today, there is still an annual golf tournament known as the Perlman Cup held in her memory. It benefits the Special Olympics.



Committees for the dance include Mrs. Casper, tickets and publicity; Mrs. Preston and Mrs. Ruther, music; Mrs. Nurko and Mrs. Charles Noreika, decorations and floor arrangements; Mrs. Sangillo and Mrs. Joseph Pogranieny, admissions; Mrs. Van H. Searby and Mrs. Robert Mount, refreshments; Lee A. Casper, amplifying system; Van H. Searby, police and parking; George H. Nurko, transportation of chairs.

Music will be by the "Starenaders," with Howard Holubaur, caller.



MAY



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



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National Day
of Prayer

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Cinco de Mayo

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Mother's Day

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Memorial Day



Its history ended on July 30, 2009, leaving one lone survivor (cover) from the mid-18th century Taverns. Their purpose was to serve food and drink and provide lodging for the traveler and their animals. A law in 1668 required every town to have at least one public house for weary travelers. In Millstone's borders, we had nine known taverns a few miles apart at various times from the early 1700s. Stone Tavern, Robbins Tavern, Clarksburg Inn, Burnt Tavern, Perrine's Tavern, Union House, Smithburg Inn, Carrs Tavern and Burke Tavern. Over the decades, they became a necessary part of the villages, acting as eateries, lodgings, town halls, post offices, and courtrooms.

Legislation for the granting of licenses for Inn keepers passed in 1797. Taverns were highly regulated because of the liquor they provided. The Innkeepers were respectable and well-liked in the community; they strictly kept the law and peace under their roof. In the early days, a license cost \$10.00, and a petition was provided to the courts signed by the upstanding men in the village as witnesses to the establishment's good reputation. The license had to be displayed and renewed each year, with the added inconvenience of traveling to the Freehold courthouse.

Photo 1970s

JUNE

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Flag Day

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Father's Day

Juneteenth

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Millstone

Millstone Shares itself for the "New Deal".



One thousand two hundred fifty-three acres of rich Millstone farmland was sold in 1933 to carve out what we know today as the Borough of Roosevelt. Eight farmers sold their land collectively for a total of \$96,000. This undertaking was the brainchild of Benjamin Brown, an immigrant from Russia. The project, first called Assifa, meaning Assembly in Hebrew, was changed to New Jersey Homestead in December 1933. A New Deal program created by President Roosevelt was creating homestead communities across the U.S.

A=Assunpink wildlife
B=Clarksburg Rd (Route 571)
C=S.Rochdale Ave D=future school
E=Garment factory.

The homesteaders worked and lived in a self-contained community, from the garment factory to raising livestock and growing their own food, sharing in all of the profits. Great plans were made for this cooperative colony; however, great turmoil also followed this project from its start. The Federal government agencies who handled this venture kept changing hands. Yet, on July 10, 1936, the new settlers moved into their community. Life for the Jewish pioneers was challenging, but they persevered along with the fledgling borough, which was created in 1937. The self-contained, self-sufficient community lasted for a short time. The town's name was changed in 1945 following President Franklin D Roosevelt's death in honor of his "New Deal."

In depth of Roosevelt's history can be found at their website: rooseveltnj.us and rooseveltartsproject.org where you can read the complete story of the struggles, triumphs and the remarkable will of Benjamin Brown.

Photo from Benjamin Johnson



JULY



Sunday

Monday



Tuesday

Wednesday

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Saturday

 Inspections * Consultations * Repairs * Pumping "Quality Work & Service, Just Ask your Neighbors" 732-360-0808 voice * 732-360-0809 fax www.anortonsepticsservicesnj.com	1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5
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Once upon a time, in 1938, a resort was created off of Squan Rd in Millstone. William Felsh purchased a 100-acre tract of land and created a 40-acre lake in the middle. This was accomplished by damming up the Toms River tributary. Major excavation was done, including an estimate of 2000 trees that were removed to be used for building the dam, bridges, and cabins.

Uklei was named after Lake Ukleisee located in Germany.



Felix Toporek, son Clement
wife Josephine and daughter Geraldine.

The lake lost its dam and bridge connecting both sides of Squan Rd. Millstone and the County were not amicable about replacing either. All of Mr. Toporek's efforts went unheard, and the rest is history. Today, there is Squan West and East, never the twain shall meet...

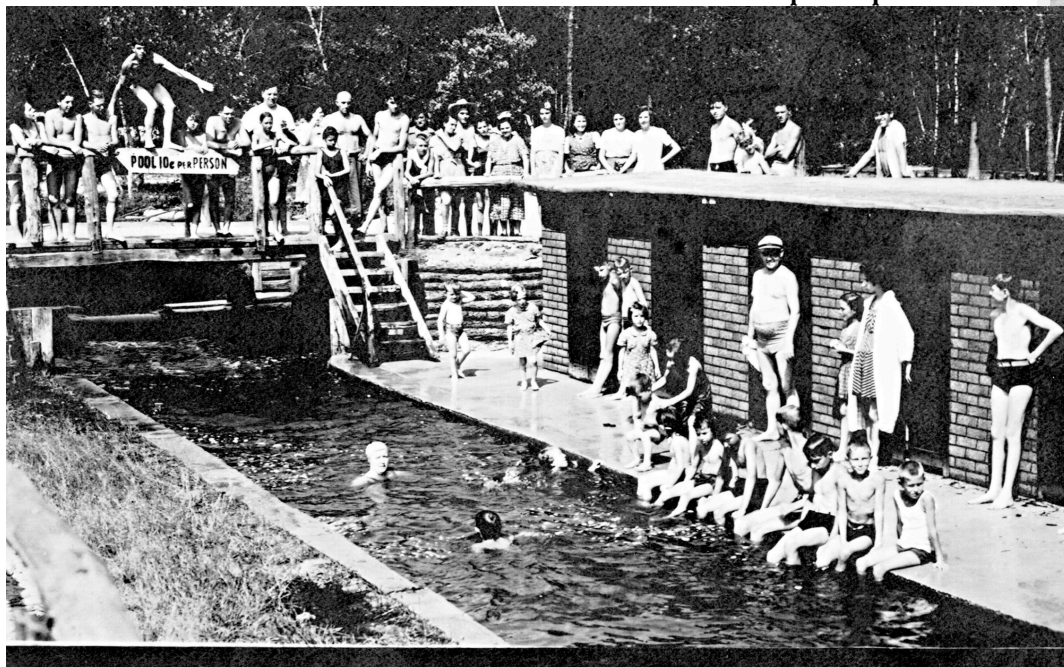
The property reverted back to its natural state. Millstone Township protects this watershed since its the headwaters to the Barnegat Bay.

Photos from James Toporek early 1940's

Holmeson is located on the corners of Rt 571 & Rt 537.
Mt. Holly Rd is Rt 537 Monmouth Rd.

The resort was sold in the spring of 1943 to Felix Toporek. Unfortunately, in September of the following year, a great hurricane swept through the East Coast, causing extensive damage, namely to bridges, roadways, and dams.

Pool 10 cents per person



AUGUST

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

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The Woolen Mill was first featured in November of the 2024 calendar, now on savinghistorywithfriends.org website. It was once located on the Manalapan Brook, which runs through the Charlستons Spring Golf Course on Smithburg Rd. This land was settled by Joseph Preston and wife Sarah about 1705. Joseph built a water wheel fulling mill around 1740 on his 300 acres. James M. Smith owned it in 1862 and sold it to Robert T Blain in 1868. At that time it was known as the Blain Woolen Mill and Factory Mill Pond. By then the first floor was turned into a grist mill, while the second floor was now the Woolen Mill. Mr. Blain sold the business in 1898.

Post card photo circa 1910. Taken from the book "Images of America Manalapan and Englishtown" Richard J. Dalik

SEPTEMBER

Sunday

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Thursday

Friday

Saturday

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Labor Day

Fall Begins

Rosh Hashabah

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This Photo was taken around 1950, with daughter Phyllis Kreutner waiting for customers, as the younger daughter Sylvia helped inside. Both girls were born upstairs in the residential part of the building.

On the right side of the photo shows the lace factory. The old Grange Hall stood in front of that building.

Esso gas was a trade name for ExxonMobil. Gas was 25 cents and diesel was 29 cents.

Those were the days!



Here is another wonderful photo of the 1820 Clarksburg Village Store, also shown in our 2001 and 2022 calendars. Each photo shows the progression of time, from horse and buggy to the automobile. The store was once located on Stagecoach Road, west of the Municipal School Building. When Pennington Washington Elmer owned it in 1888, it was considered the biggest store in Western Monmouth County. It had three floors and sold everything from a sewing thimble to a boat anchor and everything in between. Murray Kreutner purchased it in 1932. He continued the P.O. until 1966, when Mrs. Elsie Kreutner, the Postmistress, retired, selling it to Sy and Annette Littman shortly after.

photo from Sylvia Kreutner Kelin

OCTOBER

Sunday

Monday

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Saturday



JamesDeFilippis
D.D.S.
306 Sweetmans
732-792-0033

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Yom Kippur

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Columbus
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Halloween

Tre Colore
Pizza & Italian
Restaurant
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This is a drawing from 16-year-old Charles Gravatt (1902-1997). A talented boy's perspective on the inside of the Charles Horner store in 1917, on Stagecoach Rd (featured in October). The store was built in 1820 by Judge John G. Ely. It had many owners until its death on April 24th, 1972, when a lightning bolt struck the Grange Hall next door. The store itself was diagonally across from the Clarksburg Inn (pictured in June). A few names of people that once owned the store. You might recognize them for the roads that they are named after in town. Ely, Mount, Allen, Straham, Pennington Washington Elmer (Penn Elmer) Horner and Kruetner.

Drawing from Daniel Gravatt

NOVEMBER

Sunday

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Thursday

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Saturday



EAST COAST SALT

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NORHEASTERN

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northeasternsupply.com
484 Monmouth Rd Clarksburg

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Pearl Harbor
Day

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Veterans Day

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Thanksgiving

Hunting in rural Millstone was a way of life in the old days. There was a time when you could walk for miles without an issue of property lines. All the farmers gladly welcomed the hunters since they kept down the deer population. There were three deer clubs in the area: The Cross Pile Hunting Club, Fin Fur Feather and Backbone Hunt. The clubs all had strict guidelines and safety protocols without any incidents. The practice of displaying their deer in front of the Clarksburg Inn was a tradition along with being in competition with the other clubs. Families with children would stop to view the years take. Times changed, and the farms turned into developments. New residents didn't appreciate the display. Assunpink wildlife area was created, giving way to new inexperienced hunters. Clubs were getting blamed for the misuse of hunting privileges. Eventually, the young bucks (men) became older and the clubs were no longer willing to deal with the public's opinions or the loss of hunting property. All things must come to an end, but we still have the deer population issue. The end of hunting season brought game night dinners open to the public and held at the Elks or Clarksburg Inn. Most were charitable events, giving back to the community.

L-R

Danny Gilland,
George
D'Andre, Larry
Brasch, Stan
Moslowski,
Jimmy Ugi,
Donald
Eldridge, Tony
Corvasce,
Steve Tantille,
Dan Gravatt,
John Noland,
Troy Clark,
Bob Stenson,
Tom Metzler,
Bob Corvasce,
John Malsbury,
Gary Klein,
Larry
Lindstrom,
Billy D'Andre,
Art Petrenko
and his boys.



Photo from Daniel Gravatt abt 1982

DECEMBER

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday


Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

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Restaurant
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The National Anthem and Why it still matters today

A snippet of history: The War of 1812, also known as the 2nd War for Independence. Our liberties once again tried just 30 years after the Revolutionary War. Great Britain was in a conflict with France. Both sides attempted to block neutral America from trading with the other. Complicating resentment and interference with America's trade and expansion to the West, Great Britain continued to provoke hostility against America. The turning point came when the British Navy's practice of kidnapping American merchants' vessels and pressing its men into service. James Madison, our 4th president, signed a Declaration of War on June 18th, 1812, against this hostile treatment of its citizens. In 1815, a Treaty of Ghent (Belgium) was signed between both countries, ending the war, and an "Era of good feeling" followed.



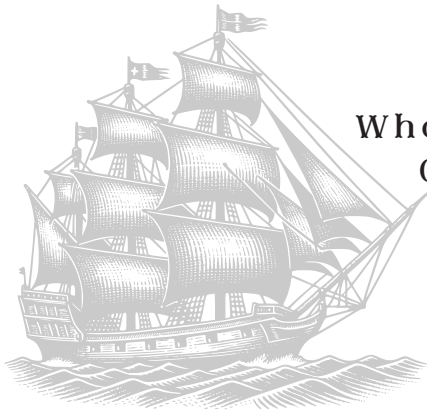
But did you know?

During the war, British troops marched into Washington and Alexandria, Virginia, burning all the important buildings. The Royal Navy headed for Fort McHenry, and 19 ships commenced bombarding shells and rockets for nearly 25 hours. Frances Scott Key, a 35 year old lawyer, involved himself in negotiation between British forces to release a 65-year-old physician and good friend, Dr. William Beanes. The release went well, but the timing wasn't. Bean was being detained on the Royal Navy's vessel, and the imminent attack on the Fort was about to occur. Both gentlemen now had a ringside seat as history unfolded between the rocket's red glare and the bombs bursting in air. Amid the chaos, words came to Mr. Key that he quickly wrote down on the back of a letter, describing the scene he witnessed during the day's break.

But why do we sing it?



America has been in deep despair since entering World War I in 1914, and people were searching for something to ease the burden of reality. On September 5, 1918, in game one of the World Series in the 7th inning, the U.S. Navy started to play the Star-Spangled Banner. The standing crowd began to salute the flag, and all began to sing the tune, forever encapsulating the feeling of pride for our nation. In 1931, President Herbert Hoover made the song the U.S. National Anthem. To this day, it's sung all over America whenever people gather for an event. It has a great importance to our history and love for country, and it shows respect for all those who gave the ultimate sacrifice, so all of us can enjoy the privileges we have today.



Oh, say! can you see by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming;
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there:
Oh, say! does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Frances Scott Key's Manuscript