A Community Newsletter From Monmouth University

Volume 10, Number 3
Ocean Township

Fall 2012

A Note From
President Gaffney

Dear Monmouth University Neighbor:

I hope you and your family are safe after Superstorm Sandy. Thanks to the hard work of many dedicated University employees, Monmouth University was able to keep the University community functioning and safe during the crisis as well as provide shelter for our neighbors in need.

Monmouth University's MAC/Boylan Gym served as the biggest evacuation center in New Jersey for residents impacted by Sandy. The University was proud to offer a temporary home for the evacuees and the talent to run evacuation facilities, but most important was the incredible level of cooperation among the many organizations who cared so remarkably well for so many neighbors victimized by the storm. My hat is off to Sheriff Golden and his senior staff and our own Police Chief Bill McElrath for setting the tone of cooperation. When experts review evacuation operations around the state, I feel this cooperation will be judged as model.

Monmouth University students continue to give back to the community by organizing fundraisers and events for victims of Sandy. I look forward to seeing you on campus soon. The University is filled with activities and events for you and your family. Please visit www.monmouth.edu for more information.

All the best to you and your family,
Paul G. Gaffney II

Did You Know?

MU’s Student PR Firm and PRSSA (Public Relations Student Society of America) volunteered at a local soup kitchen, sponsored a food drive for a homeless shelter and the SPCA, and organized a coat drive.

Monmouth University donated backpacks to local school children through the Boys & Girls Club.

Students volunteer on a regular basis at Meal at Noon soup kitchen at the Second Baptist Church in Long Branch.

Members of MU’s Circle K Club volunteered at Soup d’Shore, a soup kitchen at St. Luke’s Church in Long Branch established by Professor John Buzzra and the Entrepreneurship class.

At “Rock and Register,” Hawk TV held a voter registration drive and raised funds for the FoodBank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties.

Students volunteered for the 2nd Annual Ride for the Ronald McDonald House in October.

Monmouth University received the Education Award from Council on Compulsive Gambling for its outstanding education programs on campus at an awards dinner on October 18.

Institute for Global Understanding - Project BAM, a mentoring program with Monmouth volunteers and students at Asbury Park High School started its fourth year in October.

During the summer MU Orientation, Orientation Leaders visited Asbury Park High School to share leadership skills with students entering the 9th grade.

Through service learning, students are interning at organizations such as Move for Hunger, Lunch Break, Family Promise, the American Cancer Society, and the Long Branch Senior Center.

Glory Days: A Bruce Springsteen Symposium took place at Monmouth in September and was attended by music and scholars from around the world.

Students from The First-Year Service Project’s collected 194 coats and clothing items for donation to Soup D’Shore Soup Kitchen in Long Branch and Red Bank’s Lunch Break.

Monmouth University hosted Founders’ Day October 10.

The Convocation Address was delivered by Batman movie producer and former Ocean Township resident Michael E. Uslan, who received an honorary degree “doctorate in comics” during the event.

Michael E. Uslan has brought some of the most memorable films to the big screen. He is one of the highest-grossing movie producers of all time, with The Dark Knight alone passing the $1 billion mark.

During the ceremony, Monmouth University also honored Professor Emeritus of English Donald B. McKenzie and Associate Professor Emeritus of Art Arie van Everdingen, who received the prestigious President’s Vision Award. John O’Donnell’67, retired engineer from Honeywell Business and Commuter Aviation, received the 2012 Distinguished Alumni Award.

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Ocean Township Cheerleaders March in Homecoming Parade

Ocean Township high school cheerleaders marched in Monmouth University’s homecoming parade on October 20.

Monmouth University Recognized as One of America’s Best Colleges

Monmouth is one of the fastest-rising universities in its category (Regional Universities North) in the U.S. News & World Report rankings of “Best Colleges” over the last decade. MU climbed from a Tier 3 institution in 2001 to a Tier 1 institution in 2005; since then, the University has risen from a Tier 1 ranking of 76 to this year’s Tier 1 ranking of 37. Monmouth has been included in The Princeton Review’s “Best 377 Colleges” for eight straight years. Also, the Leon Hess Business School is included in The Princeton Review’s “Best 296 Business Schools.”

In less than a decade, Monmouth’s academic quality (as measured by incoming students’ average GPA) has increased dramatically, from 2.98 in 2004 to 3.38 in 2012. MU is among the best-value private universities in New Jersey—it’s in the bottom third of cost and the top third in academic quality.

Welcome Students

This fall, the University welcomed 109 undergraduate students and 62 graduate students from Ocean Township to campus.

Students Give Back to the Local Community at the 13th Annual “Big Event”

On October 6, students and employees participated for the 13th consecutive year in The Big Event. Organized by the Student Government Association, approximately 400 students assisted at local food pantries, cleaned beaches, helped neighbors move furniture or clean a yard, painted rooms, landscaped and more. Over the past 12 years, almost 3,800 members of the Monmouth Family have served the community at this event.

Comments, Questions, or Feedback?

Call the Office of Public Affairs at 732-571-3526 or e-mail ask_pa@monmouth.edu with your comments and questions.
Community Garden
Donates 2,400 Pounds Of Fresh Produce To Local Community Agencies
Monmouth University's Community Garden exceeded its harvesting goal and has donated to date 2,400 pounds of fresh produce to local organizations and individuals in need. Local agencies that benefited from the donations include Lutheran Church of the Reformation Community Food Pantry, Soup D'Shore at St. Luke's Methodist Church, Long Branch Senior Center, Ronald McDonald House, and American Recreational Military Services.

For more information on the Monmouth University Community Garden, visit www.monmouth.edu/communitygarden.

President Gaffney is Grand Marshal of Columbus Day Parade
Monmouth University President Paul G. Gaffney II was the Grand Marshal of the Columbus Day Parade in Long Branch on October 7. He walked the parade route with Monmouth University's pep band and cheerleaders.

HawkStars Monmouth University's Kids Club for fans in 8th grade and under
HawkStars will experience Division I college athletics by meeting athletes and coaches, cheering on the Hawks at sporting events and participating in fun campus activities.

The membership benefits include:
- An official HawkStars T-Shirt
- Free admission to the Kid-Zone at all home basketball games
- The chance to be a ball boy/girl at home basketball games
- Free admission to all home Football, Women’s Basketball and five Men’s Basketball games (children 5 and under are free for all home games)
- The chance to be on the court during home basketball games
- Invitation to “meet & greets” with athletes
- An official membership card
- A birthday card from Shadow

And much more!

To enroll, contact Shadow@monmouth.edu, or call 732-263-5498.
Urban Coast Institute
Future Of The Ocean Symposium
On October 26

Permanent environmental scientist and advocate Professor Jesse Huntley Ausubel, director of the Program for the Human Environment at The Rockefeller University, gave the keynote address and received the National Ocean Champion Award at the Future of the Ocean Symposium. Renowned environmental scientist and advocate Professor Jesse Huntley Ausubel, director of the Program for the Human Environment at The Rockefeller University, gave the keynote address and received the National Ocean Champion Award at the Future of the Ocean Symposium on October 26.

The UCI also presented Ocean Leadership Awards during the 2012-2013 academic year. The former Chief Justice will give select lectures on campus during the year. Former New Jersey Governor Brendan T. Byrne served as Monmouth University's 2011-2012 Public Servant in Residence. President Paul G. Gaffney II stated: “We are honored to have Chief Justice Zazzali join our campus. His knowledge and experience are invaluable and will bring a ‘real world’ perspective to our students, faculty, and staff.”

The public servant in residence program, coordinated by the Office of Global Initiatives and the Department of Political Science and Sociology, was created in 2000 to provide a venue for public officials who wish to share their expertise with students and the campus community at Monmouth University.

Monmouth University
Awarded $301,215 Grant for Suicide Prevention Program

Monmouth University has been awarded a grant in the amount of $301,215 to be used over three years from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration to assist in its efforts to prevent suicide and enhance mental health services to students in crisis.

The grant will fund the Promoting Wellness and Resiliency program at Monmouth University. The program is a University and community partnership whose purpose is to enhance prevention, identification, and service utilization for all students, particularly those with mental and behavioral health problems which elevate their risk for suicide ideation, attempts, and completions.

By the end of the grant, it is expected that over 700 gatekeepers and providers and the Monmouth University student body of approximately 6,000 will be offered training in mental health and suicide awareness, identification and referral/help-seeking and be exposed to public awareness messages.

Former Chief Justice
of the NJ Supreme Court to Serve as Public Servant in Residence

The former Chief Justice will give select lectures on campus during the year. Former New Jersey Supreme Court Chief Justice James R. Zazzali will serve as Monmouth’s Public Servant in Residence during the 2012-2013 academic year. The former Chief Justice will give select lectures on campus during the year. Former New Jersey Governor Brendan T. Byrne served as Monmouth University's 2011-2012 Public Servant in Residence. President Paul G. Gaffney II stated: “We are honored to have Chief Justice Zazzali join our campus. His knowledge and experience are invaluable and will bring a ‘real world’ perspective to our students, faculty, and staff.”

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Monmouth University
Served As Biggest Evacuation Center In New Jersey

Monmouth University hosted the biggest emergency evacuation center in New Jersey for residents impacted by Sandy. Over 1000 people were housed in Multipurpose Activity Center (MAC) and Boylan Gymnasium.

The Monmouth County Sheriff's Office and the Monmouth University Police Department organized and operated the Center that included critical participation by emergency services groups, social/welfare organizations and health and EMT personnel. Invaluable was the security and processing support provided by New Jersey Air Force and Army National Guard units.

Monmouth University creative engineers and electricians, plumbers, carpenters, tireless custodians and communications personnel enabled the Center to operate around the clock for over a week. MAC/Boylan Gym had sleeping and eating sections, a child play area, as well as an infirmary located in the Athletics training room.

All county services were headed by Undersheriff Mickey Donovan.

Monmouth Receives Awards for Tourism and Environmental Achievement

• Monmouth University received the Anchor Award at the 3rd Annual Big Wave Awards ceremony, presented by the Jersey Shore Convention and Visitors Bureau on October 17 at the Sheraton in Eatontown. The Award honors businesses for being a force for positive change and an asset to the Jersey Shore community.

• Monmouth University received the Environmental Achievement Award from PlanSmart NJ for its initiatives in creating a green campus at their Annual Awards Dinner on November 8. Monmouth was recognized for being the first independent university in New Jersey to sign a comprehensive green operation agreement with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and was selected as one of the most environmentally responsible college in the United States and Canada by The Princeton Review.

Health Science Center
Opened This Fall

The Department of Psychological Counseling moved from Edison Hall to a new off-campus location at the Monmouth Park Corporate Center on Route 36 in West Long Branch, just three miles from the main campus. The new location, dubbed the Monmouth University Health Sciences Center, will initially offer 10,000 square feet of custom-built classroom and office space for the graduate level classes in Psychological Counseling. An additional 10,000 square feet are scheduled to be developed at the same location in anticipation of the fall of 2013 debut of a new Physician Assistant Program. The Center offers food service and many of the amenities of the main campus.

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