

### Reminder

Farming Season is here again!  
Please be courteous of farm vehicles sharing our roads.  
Please observe the laws and exercise caution.



#### Millstone Township Committee

Mayor Nancy Grbelja  
Deputy Mayor Robert Kinsey  
Committeemen  
Elias Abilheira  
Ray Dulfanian  
Steven Sico

#### Millstone Township Open Space & Farmland Preservation

Pat Butch, Chairwoman	Diane Morelli
Cory G. Wingerter, Vice Chairman	Rich Mullarkey
Tony Alves	Tony Romano
Manny Blanco	Kristin Schloss
Charlie Denardo	Merrill Siedman

#### Millstone Township Agricultural Advisory Council

Anthony Romano, Chairman	Shirley Pinhas
Chet Halka, Vice Chairman	Gary Wilson
Pat Butch	

### Right to Farm

The Smith family operates a vegetable farm. Mr. Smith wants to construct a new barn 15 feet from the property line. Since a municipal ordinance requires a 25-foot setback, he is told he must apply for a variance.

The Murphy family operates an equine breeding facility. Several years ago, houses were built on adjacent property. Initially, the neighbors enjoyed seeing the horses in the pasture. Over time, they become less interested in the horses and began to complain about the odor. They believe the farm is affecting the quality of life in their neighborhood.

Conflicts between farmers, municipalities, and non-farming neighbors are common. The Right to Farm Act affords responsible farmers with protection against municipal regulations that constrain farming and public and private nuisance actions. For complete information on this Act, visit [www.millstone.nj.us](http://www.millstone.nj.us)

For more information on the Open Space & Farmland Preservation Council or the Agricultural Advisory Council,  
Call 732.446.4249 x103

**We're on the Web!**  
[www.millstone.nj.us](http://www.millstone.nj.us)

# Millstone Township

## Open Space & Farmland Preservation Council



July 2007 Bulletin

### Clambake Fundraiser Results

The OSFP Council hosted a Clambake at the Clarksburg Inn on Sunday, June 3. The goal of the event was to raise funds for the preservation of additional acres in town. More than 200 people attended the event to feast on the delicious seafood and enjoy the company of friends.



Bad weather may have cancelled the children's bounce house and the performance of The After Effect jazz band, but it didn't dampen the day!  
**The Council raised \$9,980 from this event!**

Thanks to the Agricultural Advisory Council and the Trailblazers for their help serving the food. Special thanks to our many sponsors who provided everything from the lobster and clams to the dessert and drinks:



Halka Nurseries  
Lomurro, Davison, Eastman & Munoz, PA  
Leon S. Avakian, Inc.  
Chapter House and Tiger's Tale Restaurants  
Harris Surveying, Inc.  
Michael J. Hennessy & Associates, Inc.  
GEM Realty Associates, LLC



Coppola & Coppola Associates  
CME Associates  
William E. Antonides & Company  
Yorkanis & White, Inc.  
Michael B. Steib, Esquire  
Johnson Realty Services  
Gerry Baldachino  
Dr. Scott Palmer, NJ Equine Clinic

### McFie Preservation

On February 13, 2007, the Township preserved the McFie Property on Agress Road. As the owners of the original Agress Family home, the McFies have done a commendable job keeping the spirit of this historic homestead.

In addition to preserving their property, the McFies also agreed to grant a trail easement which will eventually join the two County Parks, Old Perrineville and Rocky Brook. Residents will be able to enjoy hiking, cross country skiing, and horseback riding while enjoying the scenic views for miles from Perrineville to Assunpink.





### How Do We Fund Open Space & Farmland Preservation?

The Township will often purchase a bridle/walking trail easement on a farm when it is being preserved. In these cases, the preservation of the farmland is funded through the State Agricultural Development Committee, which was spotlighted in our last newsletter. The trail, however, is funded through Green Acres. Other times, the Township may wish to purchase land for open space or recreation purposes. Such purchases may also be funded through Green Acres.

The Green Acres Program was created in 1961 to meet New Jersey's growing recreation and conservation needs. The Green Acres Program comprises four program areas: State Park and Open Space Acquisition, Local Governments and Nonprofit Funding, Stewardship and Legal Services, and Planning and Information Management.

Green Acres goal is to purchase land to protect environmentally sensitive open space, water resources and other significant natural and historical open space. The land becomes part of the statewide system of parks and forests, wildlife management areas and natural areas. To date, more than 1.2 million acres of open space and farmland have been preserved in communities across the State.

### Lee Farm Acquisition

The Township Committee announced recently that Millstone Township will be purchasing approximately 168 acres Lee Farm. The farm, located on Red Valley and Trenton-Lakewood Roads, is slated to be used for recreation purposes. Funding for the project will come from several sources:

- > The Monmouth County Municipal Open Space Grant Program awarded the Township a \$250,000 grant
- > Green Acres funding will be used for the portion of the property that meets their funding requirements
- > The Township will issue a bond for the remaining balance.

The Township expects to close on the property this year.



### Community Map Fundraiser

The OSFP Council & Recreation Commission created and distributed community maps to all Township residents. The map details the streets, parks, open space and preserved farmland within the Township. Advertisements for local businesses covered the cost of the map and allowed for a profit of approximately \$4000. Special thanks to the following advertisers:

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|---|---|
| Prudential NJ Properties<br>Matthew Merritt,<br>Prudential NJ<br>Properties | Hartland Landscaping<br>Carolyn Shen, Century 21<br>Gloria Streppone,<br>Century 21 |
| Clarksburg Inn<br>Heilbrunn, Pape &<br>Goldstein Law Offices                | Computer Remedies<br>Kumon Learning Center<br>Halka Nurseries                       |
| Tiger's Tale & Chapter<br>House Restaurants                                 | Bright Meadow Farm<br>Donn Sharer, Allstate<br>Insurance                            |
| Harter Equipment<br>33 Commercial Realty<br>Abel                            | Vesuvio Pizzeria &<br>Trattoria   |
| Century 21 Action Plus<br>Realty  | Kiddie Academy<br>U.S. Water Treatment Co.  |
| H&H Gas   | Preferred Electrical<br>Contractors Co.   |
| Julian Katera Design<br>Noreika Sales                                       | Advantage Fire &<br>Security  |

Copies of the map are available at Town Hall.

### SPOTLIGHT ON A LOCAL FARM

#### Penny's Petals

234 Stage Coach Road, Millstone Township, NJ 08510 (732) 625-9911

In April 2007 another local farm was preserved in Millstone Township. The Restine family, whose farming roots run deep in Monmouth County have placed approximately 20 acres of land on Stagecoach Road in preservation. This land has been in the family since 1944. What was once a small self-service flower stand, Penny's Petals is now run by third generation family member Jennifer Restine.



The operation has grown over the years and will become a full garden center by 2008. PJ Restine leases 150 acres of land from other land owners to grow flowers which he sells wholesale.

Penny and Jennifer offer personalized design service for any occasion ranging from a balloon and flower birthday bouquet to working with a bridal party. Local delivery is available and just recently they began to offer wire service floral delivery.

In the spring and summer month's products available include designed patio pots, annuals, perennials, flats, herbs and vegetable plants. Later in the summer mums, pumpkins, kale, cornstalks and scarecrows are added. In the fall they take special orders for all holiday table centerpieces and in December they sell wreaths, grave blankets and poinsettias.

With the exception of a few weeks in January, Penny's Petals is open all year round Tuesday thru Sunday.



### Halka Nurseries

We all know that Halka Nurseries' trees have been transplanted to some pretty impressive places-the White House and numerous memorials to name a few. So what are the plans for the trees at the corner of Back Bone Hill and Stillhouse Roads?

Half of this 30-acre site is the holding facility for 386 trees that will ultimately become part of the World Trade Center memorial. Reflecting Absence, the name of the memorial, will remember and honor the thousands of men, women and children who died in the attacks of February 26, 1993, and Sept. 11, 2001. The planting boxes were recently filled with swamp white oak and sweet gum that have been culled from five states. The trees will be pruned, fertilized, and watered until they are ready to be moved in 2009.



The other half of the site will be used for trees that will be used at the Martin Luther King, Jr. memorial that is currently under construction at the National Mall in Washington, DC. Halka will nurture these large, majestic trees-oaks, pines, magnolias, elms and cherries-until they are ready to be transported in 2008. The Memorial will convey three fundamental and recurring themes throughout Dr. King's life - democracy, justice, and hope.