

Transporter

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Route 73, Moorestown, NJ

NJDOT breaks ground on two projects at opposite ends of the State

NJDOT recently announced that two state funded construction projects have begun. On November 16, NJDOT began construction on safety improvements and operational upgrades to Route 73 in Moorestown and Maple Shade, Burlington County.

NJDOT will increase safety and reduce congestion throughout this stretch of Route 73 by constructing an additional travel lane in both directions from south of Fellowship Road / Fox Meadow Drive to East Main Street / Camden Avenue (CR-537), realign and widen the Route 73 and Fellowship Road / Fox Meadow Drive interchange to provide new dedicated turning lanes, replace the bridge deck at East Main Street / Camden Avenue over Route 73, install two new traffic signals at the exit ramps and improve drainage. The \$18 million state-funded project is anticipated for completion in spring 2012.

On December 7, a groundbreaking ceremony was held for the \$18 million Route 206 safety and operational improvement project in Byram Township, Sussex County.

NJDOT will increase safety and reduce congestion throughout this stretch of Route 206 with an additional auxiliary lane in both directions; install a new traffic signal at the three existing, signalized intersections; Route 206 at Acorn Street, Route 206 at Waterloo and Brookwood Roads, and Route 206 at Lake Lackawanna

Drive, construct a center turn lane along the Route 206 mainline and add new sidewalks on both sides of Route 206 to Lubbers Run and along Route 206 southbound. The project will also realign Waterloo / Brookwood Road with Route 206 to provide a direct T-intersection, improving both vehicular and pedestrian travel and safety. The state-funded project is anticipated for completion by the end of 2011.



Left to right: Bernadette Pasqua, Right of Way North Region, Luis Ulloa, Resident Engineer, Construction North Region, Snehal Patel, Program Manager, Charles Henry, Project Manager, Deborah Hirt, Community Relations, Denice daCunha, The RBA Group, Christine Coppola, Right of Way North Region, Richard Hammer, Assistant Commissioner, CPM.

NJDOT dedicates Blue Star Memorial

On November 6, 2009, NJDOT Assistant Commissioner for Capital Program Management, **Richard Hammer** and representatives from the Office of Landscape Architecture joined the Garden Club of New Jersey and the New Jersey Blue Star Memorial Council at the New Jersey Veteran's Memorial Home in Vineland to dedicate a Blue Star Memorial Marker and commemorative garden designed by the Office of Landscape Architecture. The dedication also marked the 65th anniversary of the Blue Star Memorial Highway Program, a living memorial to past, present and future veterans of the US Armed Forces.

"The Blue Star markers are a unique legacy to those who have made and continue to make the sacrifice of serving in our armed forces. The distinctive Blue Star markers are just one element of the program, yet they are its most well known symbol," said Hammer. "What the Blue Star Highways and By-Ways program also does is beautify our roads. It was an honor to be a part of the anniversary celebration. NJDOT appreciates its role in the Blue Star program and we proudly work to further the program's goals with our partner, The Garden Club of New Jersey."



Left to right: **Joe Bernhardt, George Caruso, Rosemary Dey, Brenda Hammer, Lana Davis, Janet Fittipaldi, Rick Hammer and Dave Earl.**

The New Jersey Blue Star Memorial Council is comprised of four members of the New Jersey Garden Club and one representative each from the New Jersey Department of Transportation Landscape Architecture Office, The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, and the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

NJDOT celebrates 3rd Annual American Indian Heritage Month



Claire Garland

This year's NJDOT observance of American Indian Heritage Month was titled "Respect For All Persons" and kicked off on November 10 with a documentary entitled "Our Spirits Don't Speak English: Indian Boarding School." The film was based on a school in Carlisle, PA that assimilated American Indians to European ideals, religion, beliefs and language as well as learning blue collar trades.

On November 20, Claire Garland, Director of Sand Hill Indian Historical

Association, came to NJDOT as the keynote speaker for the celebration. She travels around the state speaking about American Indian Culture in Monmouth County and New Jersey. "Many places in New Jersey have Indian names such as Manasquan, Hoboken, Matawan, Pennsauken, and Avalon, therefore New Jersey is rich in American Indian history," said Garland. She then asked her audience to "take a step back in time" and spoke about the 1900's and the traditions and beliefs of her family and growing up in Northern, NJ as an American Indian. She also brought along many pictures of her family and other Indian artifacts which were displayed prominently in the Multipurpose Room.

The Committee also held a bake sale and a raffle for gift baskets and an American Indian Portrait painted by **Connie Kimmel** from Professional Services.

The American Indian Heritage Month Committee members include: **Philip Boone**, Chairperson, Access Design; **Robin Sterns**,

Co-Chairperson, Civil Rights; **LeRoy Gould**, Freight Planning; **David Mudge**, Capital Program Support; **Bernard Michaeli**, Environmental Solutions; **Connie Kimmel**, Procurement and **Vicki Tilghman-Ansley**, Civil Rights.

Transporter

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Jon S. Corzine

Commissioner
Stephen Dilts

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NJDOT Toastmasters Club celebrates six years

On November 17, NJDOT's Toastmasters Club celebrated its sixth anniversary with a luncheon in the Ewing MOB. Club President, **Andy Swords**, Statewide Planning, and Sergeant-At-Arms **Nancy Girton**, welcomed the distinguished guests and members.

"NJDOT's Toastmasters Club adds value to the Department in so many ways," said Commissioner

Steve Dilts. "Communication is key in conveying the complex nature of our mission. The lessons that are learned in this club are invaluable to that task."

The celebration was also joined by Area Governor's Gil Stamler and Deborah Darbee, who gave out the Competent Communicator and Competent Leader awards.



Giving a 1-2 minute Table Topic Speech, Eddy Exantus entertained the audience.



Archana Shankar-Inamdar gave the audience the "Word of the Day." Participants were encouraged to use the word Maven when they spoke during the meeting.



NJDOT wins National award

On November 5, **Patricia Ott**, NJDOT's Director of Traffic Engineering and Safety accepted an award on behalf of NJDOT and the Rutgers Transportation Safety Resource Center (TSRC), from the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Roadway Safety Foundation in Program Planning, Development and Evaluation, for the **Plan4Safety: Crash Analysis and Decision Support Tool**.

Plan4Safety is an online comprehensive crash

analysis software application that supports traffic safety teams with 144 distinct pieces of data including crash types, injury levels, cell phone use, alcohol impairment, seatbelt use, property damage, driver information, etc.

"This application gives safety teams valuable accurate and consistent information for improvements to our most high-risk and vulnerable areas, said Commissioner Steven Dilts. "An aerial map helps us to visualize traffic issues and plan ahead for future projects to improve road safety cost effectively."

NJDOT's Golf Outing proves a great success



The annual NJDOT golf outing was held in October. Pictured from left to right are this year's low net winners. They are **Alex Manukas**, **Warren Wentzel**, and **Kevin Isler**. The event was held at Mountain View Golf Course, and was a great success. Next year's outing is scheduled for Friday, September 10th at Mountain View Golf Course. Anyone interested in participating can contact **John Zim** at 609-530-2314.

Standing with their 2009 NJDOT Golf Outing trophy are Alex Manukas, Warren Wentzel, and Kevin Isler.

NJDOT celebrates the Holidays



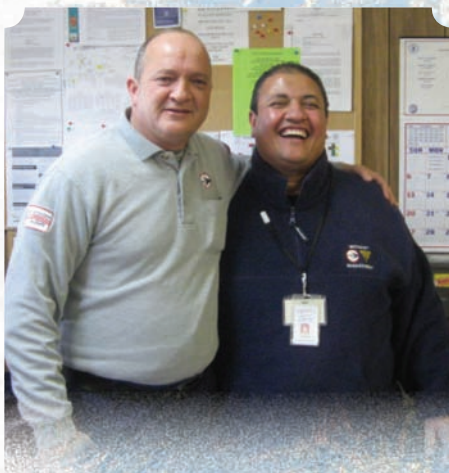
Philip Nicodemo and Bernard James, Central Region.



Left to right: (Santa Claus) John Zoltanski, Meg Frampton, Janice DeJohn, Linda Davino, Joan Gaspersz, Cherylanne Wilson, (Santa's helper) Deb Hirt, Celeste Giancola, Commissioner Dilts, Suzanne Tomlinson, and (Mrs. Claus) Shari Leichter.



Commissioner Dilts draws the winning ticket for the Employee Memorial Committee raffle baskets from Jeannine Savage in Region South.



Mark Eidson and Maged Gabriel, Traffic Operations - North



George Caruso and Deb Hirt



Left to right: Talayia Little, John Zoltanski, Anna Vereen, Bill Carter, and Chico Murray.



Left to right: Cora Sue Santopietro, Sue Leedom, Iris Gerald, Nancy Girton, Commissioner Dilts, (kneeling) Jackie Brown, Caroline Carmody, Bill Beans, Phyllis Stubbs.



Shari Leichter and Dennis Motiani