

Monmouth Reform Temple 332 Hance Avenue Tinton Falls, NJ 07724

Cantor Gabrielle Clissold 732-688-0661; cantorclissold@monmouthreformtemple.org www.monmouthreformtemple.org

PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT: Jordana Steinberg,

MRT Officer Administrator 732-747-9365 X210 jordana@monmouthreformtemple.org



MRT religious school students and their parents participated in Mitzvah Day doing service projects to help the community. Here they pose with the beautiful patriotic cards they created for American veterans.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monmouth Reform Temple Performs Mitzvahs for Community

Tinton Falls: Every year the entire membership of the Monmouth Reform Temple (MRT) in Tinton Falls joins together to perform Mitzvahs or good deeds on its official Mitzvah Day which was Sunday, May 7.

"Mitzvah Day - a day of Tikkun Olam - a day of giving to those in need. There are many who need our help, and this is an opportunity to give to our community. Service to others is a part of our Jewish community," states Mitzvah Day Committee Co-Chair Marcia Rachlin.

The good deeds included weeding, tilling, and planting the temple garden that supplies food pantries in Asbury Park with tons of fresh produce every year. Several teams were also engaged in yard and basement cleanout on the temple grounds. Two teams were offsite cleaning a beach in Sea Bright as well as the Henry Hudson trail of debris. Nine members met to prepare food at the Center for Asbury Park to stock their freezers.

The youngest members of the temple along with adults participated in crocheting projects and planting flowerpots to give to senior citizen residents for Mother's Day. The children also created festive, patriotic cards to send to American Veterans, and painted "hearts of hope" to send to children battling terminal illness through the Give Kids the World and the Hearts of Hope nonprofit organizations. The latter was an initiative led by MRT Bat Mitzvah student Rosie Conway. Another MRT student, Lyra Seligman, led a food donation drive for the Monmouth Day Care Center, a continuation of her Bat Mitzvah project for the past several years.

Mitzvah Co-Chairperson Dean Ross also organized the concluding day picnic lunch for all the volunteers.

He stated, "It is the heart of this temple to perform community service work in the spirit of our Jewish values. Mitzvah Day is one of our favorite activities when our whole congregation gets together to do these good deeds."

For more information on the Monmouth Reform Temple visit the website at https://www.monmouthreformtemple.org/.

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Left, During Mitzvah Day, MRT members till the soil to plant vegetables in their Gan Mazon Garden to donate to food pantries.



Left, Huyen and Sienna Kitchen decorated and planted Mother's Day flowerpots for delivery to Senior Citizen residents during the MRT 2023 Mitzvah Day celebration.



Right: MRT volunteers gathered to clean a beach in Sea Bright as part of their volunteer efforts on Mitzvah Day.





(left) The MRT 2023 Mitzvah Day celebration which featured over a dozen projects to improve the community was led by Dean Ross and Marcia Rachlin pictured at the Volunteer Welcome sign.



(left) MRT congregants also volunteered to cook food to stock the fridge of the Asbury Park Center food pantry during Mitzvah Day.