

Annual "My County" Poster Contest 2010 Hall of Fame



First Place Poster, drawn by Abigail Iannotta
Franklin Elementary School

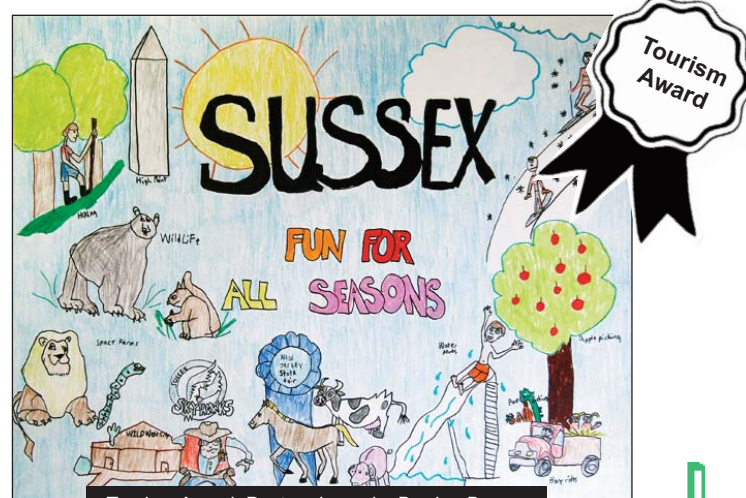
Pictured left is the **1st Place winning poster** of the 2010 "My County" poster contest submitted by fourth-grade student Abigail Iannotta of Franklin Elementary School.

Abigail's poster, along with runner-up posters for 2nd and 3rd place and for a special Tourism Award, will be displayed in the County Building during the annual State Fair held at the Sussex County Fairgrounds August 6 through 15.

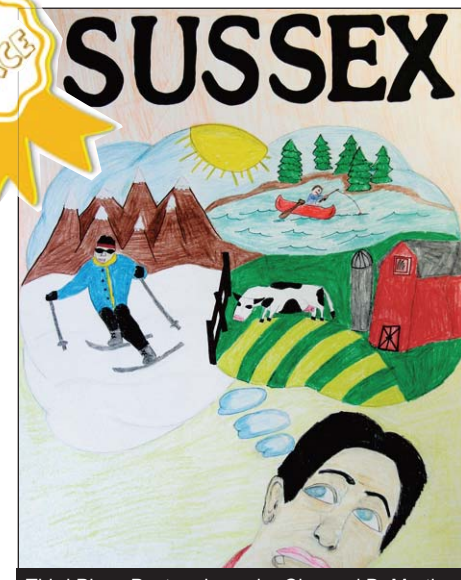
Fairgoers can see the posters on display at the Clerk and Surrogate booths during fair week between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m.



Second Place Poster, drawn by Natalie Kirby
Green Hills School



Tourism Award Poster, drawn by Bradon Berner
Hardyston Elementary School



Third Place Poster, drawn by Giovanni DeMartino
Cedar Mountain School in Vernon

2010 "My County" Poster Contest

Sponsored by Sussex County Constitutional Officers

Erma Gormley, County Clerk • Robert Untig, Sheriff • Nancy D. Fitzgibbons, Surrogate



The Clerk's Office continued making technological strides in 2010 with the addition of a new web-based index management system, thereby expanding the scope of electronic index searches back to 1794. (See page three for more information on this.)

This summer, we also digitized our deed and mortgage records dating back to 1950 and maps dating back to 1818, all of which now are searchable electronically on-site in our records room. These same records will be available remotely via the Internet by summer's end.

Over the course of the last 13 years, I have made it my goal to continuously find ways to cut costs and work more efficiently for the taxpayers of Sussex County. Given the weakened state of our economy in recent years, I have remained especially steadfast in that goal — using technology wherever possible to find new and creative ways for our office to continue to work smarter, streamline our business processes, and serve our customers better and more efficiently.

As my career as your County Clerk comes to a close this December, I want to thank everyone for their support over the years. Special thanks to my skilled and knowledgeable staff, without whose hard work many of our advancements would not have so seamlessly been implemented. It is because they share my dedication to the success of this office that I am now able to reflect on the last decade with pride, knowing that our diligence played an integral role in bringing the Clerk's Office into the 21st Century. And I have every confidence that the Clerk's Office will continue to make strides in the future, taking advantage of new technology as it becomes available to modernize the facility and serve the public to the best of its ability.

Sincerely,

Erma Gormley



Erma Gormley, County Clerk

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Saluting County Service — Retirements & Milestones

The County Clerk's Office is happy to recognize the following employees for their milestones of service to the county ...

2009 Employment Anniversaries

Susan Geimer: 20 years
Sheryl Talmadge: 20 years

2010 Employment Anniversaries

Carol Skalecky: 15 years
Cheryl Marquez: 10 years
Robin Braun: 10 years
Genevieve Lyons: 10 years

2010 Retirements

Erma Gormley: 20 years
Christel Odom: 8 years

Elections in Sussex County this year - Important Dates and Deadlines

2010 Scheduled Elections & Campaign Report Filing Dates

Any candidate running for office (county, municipal, school or other) must file campaign finance reports with the State Division of Elections (see box below for mailing address). Further, a **complete copy** of each report also must be filed with the County Clerk. A schedule of filing dates follows:

Annual School Election — April 20, 2010

Last day to register to vote in School Elec: March 30, 2010
 29-Day pre-election March 22, 2010
 11-Day pre-election April 9, 2010
 20-Day post-election May 10, 2010

Municipal Elections — May 11, 2010

Last day to register to vote in Municipal Elec: April 20, 2010
 29-Day pre-election April 12, 2010
 11-Day pre-election April 30, 2010
 20-Day post-election May 31, 2010

June Primary Election — June 8, 2010

Last day to register to vote in Primary: May 18, 2010
 Deadline to change party affiliation: April 19, 2010
 29-Day pre-election May 10, 2010
 11-Day pre-election May 26, 2010
 20-Day post-election June 28, 2010

General Election — November 2, 2010

Last day to register to vote in GE: October 12, 2010
 29-Day pre-election Oct. 4, 2010
 11-Day pre-election Oct. 22, 2010
 20-Day post-election Nov. 22, 2010

MAIL CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS TO:

NJ Election Law Enforcement Commission
 P.O. Box 185
 Trenton, NJ 08625-0185
 WEB: www.elec.state.nj.us

PACs & CAMPAIGN QUARTERLY FILERS

1st qtr – April 15, 2010 3rd qtr – October 15, 2010
 2nd qtr – July 15, 2010 4th qtr – January 15*, 2011
**15th is Saturday; plan for Friday delivery*

Reflecting on 2009, despite the “Great Recession,” Sussex County’s Clerk’s Office remained profitable for county and taxpayers

Sussex County’s Recording Division collected \$1,443,548 in fees for transactions and documents processed and placed on record during 2009. Realty Transfer Tax collected from real estate transactions gave Sussex County an additional revenue of \$735,679, with the State of New Jersey realizing a revenue of \$1,021,929 generated from such realty transactions in our county.

When comparing the county revenue generated from the Recording Division to the division’s total operating expenses in 2009 of \$844,237, Sussex County realized a profit of \$1,334,990 as a return on the operation of the Recording Division. That’s a profit of \$2.58 for every tax dollar spent.

Document Volume in 2009 Totaled 36,194

Deeds	4,196	Passports	839
Mortgages	16,972	Notary Oaths	560
Cancelled Mortgages	3,904	County ID Cards	300
Miscellaneous	3,212	Maps	706
Notices of Settlement	5,098	Licenses	0
Trade Names	399	Disclaimers	8

SUSSEX COUNTY CLERK’S OFFICE

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Regular Office Hours

Mondays – 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
 Tuesday through Friday – 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



Erma Gormley,
 County Clerk

County Clerk’s Office digitizes maps and early indexes

New ImageSync system offers electronic search of land records index dating back to 1794

Sussex County Clerk Erma Gormley is pleased to announce that the Clerk’s Office continues to use technology to its advantage, this time with the recent installation of the state’s first ImageSync system and the digitization of its filed maps, which date back to the early 1800s.

ImageSync is a web-based index management system designed for quick and easy access to historical indexes and instruments. The system complements the electronic land records management system (LRMS) already in place at the Clerk’s Office, which allowed for on- or off-site electronic searches of records from 1950 to present. ImageSync, which is currently limited to onsite searches only, allows the public to electronically search deed and mortgage records from 1900 up to 1950.

In addition, the new system provides access to a digitally imaged index of records that dates back to as early as 1794. The new stand-alone system, developed by Foveonics Technologies,

operates similarly to the clerk’s existing LRMS in that searches are done by entering the property owner’s last name in the search field.

Also new in the summer of 2010 is the availability of digitally imaged maps filed with the Clerk. Subdivision and wetlands maps dating as far back as 1818 now are searchable online. Maps are searched by entering either the map title/name or the filed map number. Once accessed, maps can be scaled to print on an 8.5 x 11 sheet or the user can choose to zoom in on a particular section of a map and print only a portion of the whole. Filed maps continue to be available onsite for viewing in the Clerk’s Records Room as well, and copies still can be ordered at a cost of \$6 and up, depending on size.

For more information about ImageSync or any of the services offered by the Clerk’s Office, visit us at 83 Spring Street, suites 204 and 304, or visit us online at sussexcountyclerk.com.

Department of State raises passport fees

The U.S. Department of State issued a revised schedule of fees for passport application services, **effective July 13, 2010**, as follows:



U.S. Passport Book for First-Time Applicants and Minors			
	Passport Fee Payable to Department of State	Acceptance Fee Payable to Acceptance Facility	TOTAL First-Time Applicant Fee
Adults (age 16 and over)	\$110	\$25	\$135
Minors (under age 16)	\$80	\$25	\$105

U.S. Passport Card for First-Time Applicants and Minors			
	Passport Fee Payable to Department of State	Acceptance Fee Payable to Acceptance Facility	TOTAL First-Time Applicant Fee
Adults (age 16 and over)	\$30	\$25	\$55
Minors (under age 16)	\$15	\$25	\$40

NOTE: If your passport is not more than 5 years expired, you may renew it through the mail and save the \$25 Acceptance Facility Fee. However, if your passport is more than 15 years old, you will have to renew it **in person** and pay the \$25 fee.

OTHER SERVICE FEES:
Additional Visa Pages: \$82
File Search Fee: \$150
Expedite Processing: \$60