



# Essex County Parks Archives

Essex County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs

SEPTEMBER 2017

ISSUE 9

## Upcoming:

### 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The Essex County Parks System will be 125 years old in 2020! How would you like us to celebrate the first ever county park system? Please let us know.

## News:

Backstage Library Works has completed microfilming the news clipping scrapbooks of the Essex County Park Commission. The scrapbooks contain articles about the Essex County Parks from 1894 to 1974. A wonderful resource on the selection, construction, and facilities of each park, they also provide an overall timeline of the first county park system and trends affecting the parks. The microfilm is available for research at the Newark Public Library as well as the Parks Archives. Digitization is planned for next year.

115 Clifton Ave., Newark, NJ 07104  
973-268-3500  
archives@parks.essexcountynj.org  
[www.essex-countynj.org](http://www.essex-countynj.org)

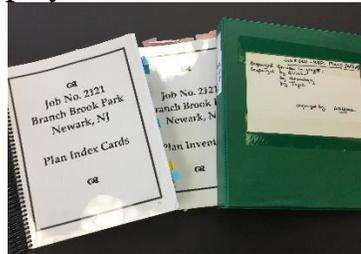


Essex County Executive  
Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.  
and the Board of Chosen Freeholders

*Putting Essex County First*

## Donations Processed

The staff of the Essex County Park System Archives has recently processed several donations from previous Parks employees and others with a connection to our parks.



- Arleyn Levee provided lists of plans of Branch Brook Park available at the Olmsted National Historic Site.
- Historic preservationist Kathleen P. Galop and former Cultural Affairs Director Ben Schaffer each gave papers from projects they developed while employed with the Parks Department.
- Materials from the family of Vincent Gabriele, masonry foreman in the 1940s, Sergeant Pedalino (age 91), and other former Park Police give a glimpse at the work done in the parks.
- Vaclav Benes donated his papers from years serving as a member of the South Mountain Conservancy, a friends group dedicated to that particular park.



Just some of the donated items



These materials are now available for research at the Archives, 115 Clifton Avenue, Newark, NJ. We are also interested in adding other relevant materials to our holdings. Call 973-735-6231 or email archives@parks.essexcountynj.org for an appointment.