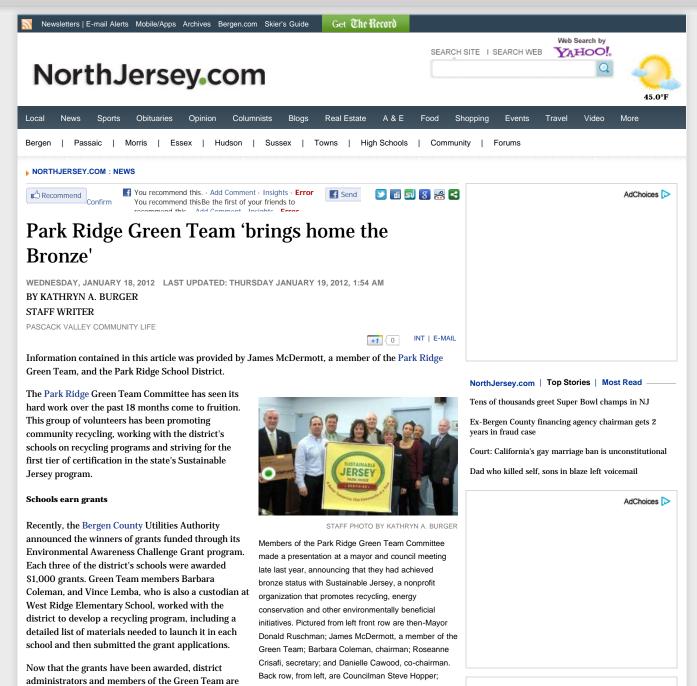
New York Magazine's 2011 "Best Doctors" results are in:









establishing protocols for recycling efforts at the schools.

Green Team members George Bottinor, Betsy
Thomason and Vincent Lemba; and Terence Maguire,
then-council president.

State certification

The Green Team also reached a milestone, earning the Sustainable Jersey bronze certification. Founded in 2009, Sustainable Jersey is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that supports community efforts to reduce waste, cut greenhouse gas emissions and improve the environment.

To become Sustainable Jersey-certified, municipalities must submit documentation that verifies the completion of the required sustainability actions, meeting a minimum of 150 action points to be certified at the bronze level. In addition, municipalities must create a Green Team and select at least two of seven priority action options. Park Ridge completed three of the seven by conducting an energy audit for Borough Hall; a municipal fleet inventory, and registering all municipal buildings with the ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager, the Environmental Protection Agency's online interactive energy management tool that allows municipalities to track and assess energy and water consumption in their buildings.

Green Team members attended a mayor and council meeting late last year, and announced the certification and presented a plaque from Sustainable Jersey verifying the certification. In accepting the award, Mayor Donald Ruschman praised the group for its efforts on behalf of the borough. "I am proud of this accomplishment for our community and appreciate the efforts of the Green Team volunteers," he said.

Park Ridge is one of 96 out of 354 registered municipalities to have attained certification. Currently, 62 percent of New Jersey's towns and cities have registered to become certified. Nearly 75 percent of New Jersey's population lives in registered/certified Sustainable Jersey communities.

Goals and objectives

The Park Ridge Green Team is currently planning community initiatives and programs and also discussing the goal of achieving the silver certification that requires the completion of additional priority action options. Those interested in volunteering for the Green Team or who would like to attend a meeting can contact the group at greenteam@parkridgeboro.com.

Email: burger@northjersey.com

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