

Puerto Rico Earthquake Recorded At Monroe

By: Christian Ramirez

On Sunday May 16, an earth quake that measure a magnitude of 5.8 on the Rictor Scale hit Puerto Rico. The quake struck mainly on the western side at 1:16 AM. The epicenter of the earthquake was located in the town of Moca and was felt on most of the island. The earthquake was so strong that Mr. Juan Betancourt of Monroe captured it on his seismograph located on the 3rd floor. This is an amazing thing; not because it was a 5.8 magnitude, but because Puerto Rico is located at 2,917.09km from Rochester, NY. And this machine captured this event clearly.

Seismographic machines measure and record the shocks and vibrations of earthquakes. These machines are also used to determine the intensity, direction and duration of ground movement. With his seismograph, Mr. Betancout can detect and record

earthquakes all over the world.

University of Puerto Rico Mayagüez Campus Department of Geology

Event Details

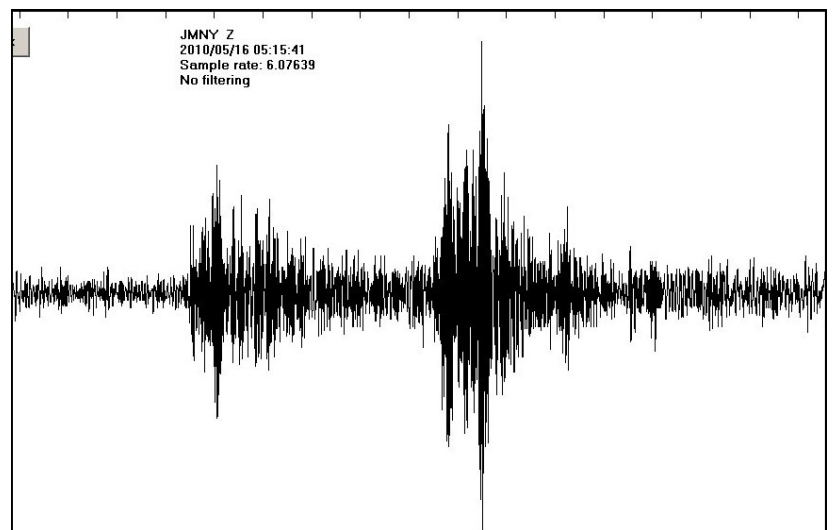
DATE: May 16, 2010 LOCAL TIME: 1:16:10
 LATITUDE: 18.4 North LENGTH: 67.07 West
 LOCATION: 2.1 km northeast of Moca, PR
 21.5 km north-northeast of Mayaguez, PR
 DEPTH: 113.1 km SIZE: 5.80 Mw

The Puerto Rico Seismic Network (PRSN) received reports that this moderate earthquake was reported felt through out

Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, with a maximum intensity of VI (Modified Mercalli scale, MM). At the time of generating this bulletin does not damage has been reported, but the size and location can not be ruled out. No tsunami hazard in Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands.



The image below, was captured by the seismograph in Mr. Betancourt's classroom.



Not 1, But 2 Winners?

By: Alexis Edmondson

If you see Julissa Bermudez or Ashley M. Rivera in the halls, congratulate them both on winning the 2010 Young Citizen



of the Year award for students between the ages of 16-21. These two girls have made our community a better place to live in.

To achieve this award you need to be a

resident of Monroe County, and demonstrate through service and actions values that reflect the full meaning of a free and democratic society. Each student must demonstrate a commitment to public service, must be active in volunteer service, set a positive example to their peers and must demonstrate leadership in school.

Julissa Bermudez was nominated by MCC's STEP (Science & Technology Entrance Program). She is an active student who

participates in community service. Julissa is a very modest person who when asked why she received this award replied, "I don't know." Upon further questioning, we realized all that she has done for her community. Through her voluntary efforts, she has organized medical supplies intended for Haiti, sorted and packaged food through Foodlink, and participated in Clean Sweep at Genesee Valley Park.

Julissa serves as a Monroe Peer Ambassador, takes advantage of any opportunity available to serve her congregation and has also been involved in her church's holiday gift wrapping and distributing efforts. Julissa also takes on family responsibilities of babysitting her siblings when her mother is working.

Ashley M. Rivera is one of Monroe's top juniors academically. She, is also a Monroe Peer Ambassador, trained in Restorative Practices and peer mediation. Ashley is a member of Restore Monroe Youth's Student Leadership Team.

Most recently, Ashley won the Princeton Prize for Race Relations for her involvement in Restorative Practices. She is a member of the National Honor Society, the

Teacher Spotlight: Ben Harper

By: Jasmine Heath

Math. You either like it, love it, or hate it. Our spotlight this month falls on a teacher trying to make the “math” world a little more interesting, Ben Harper- but you probably refer to him as Mr. Harper. Mr. Harper is a rare kind of teacher. Not because this is his first year teaching here, but for the simple fact that he is the only math teacher that is teaching 9th – 12th grade Geometry throughout the whole school. You can find him on the 3rd floor in the room that every teacher “noticeably” only gets to stay in once a year; room 341.

At first glance Mr. Harper seems like your ordinary math teacher and he is. Yet, he’s also a golf and chess lover, a martial artist, a math attacker and an inspiration. Mr. Harper came into the math world when he was attending college at MCC. Originally Mr. Harper did not know what he wanted to do with his life in college. Still undecided about what he wanted, Mr. Harper applied himself to liberal arts to cover all of his elective courses in college. But when his grades came in, he found that he was doing great in all his courses except for math. He then came to the decision to aspire to go into the math field to overcome his bad math skills and he became a math teacher. After achieving his goal he transferred from MCC to Brockport College. Mr. Harper then went on to teach at Fredrick Douglas for 6 years and East High School for 2 years. When he applied to teach at Monroe he successfully obtained the job. This year marks Mr. Harper’s 9th year of teaching.

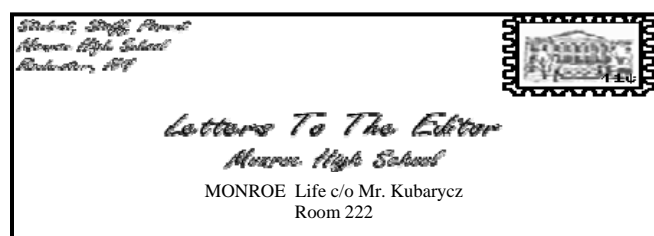
When it comes to teaching math Mr.



by Christian Ramirez

Harper doesn’t play the “make up your own formula” game. He does it straight by the book while using “cooperative learning” along with “collaborative pairing” of his students. He’s been teaching for 9 years so he knows what he’s doing. Harper says his life is devoted to, “teaching and

living a positive life and continuously focusing on improving”. When asked about his passion for teaching he says, “I love it and enjoy it and it comes with it’s challenges but can’t think of anything else I’d rather do”. My last question for Mr. Harper was if it was possible for him to go back in time and change his career; would he? His reply was, “No, I love my job too much and I could never see myself doing anything else but teaching math, helping all my students and other fellow workers throughout the years”. Mr. Harper is truly another one of a kind, dedicated teacher in our school. Now let’s see if he gets to stay in room 341 next year.



Young Citizen, from PAGE 1

PRIS2M Team, and a very talented artist who designed our “Park Bench on Parade” and recently hosted the ArtPeace Shakedown and the Transfer of Flags Ceremony (see below).

These two girls have done so much to achieve success. They deserve this award and have done a terrific job for the community.

A 121 year old Tradition: Transfer of Flags Ceremony



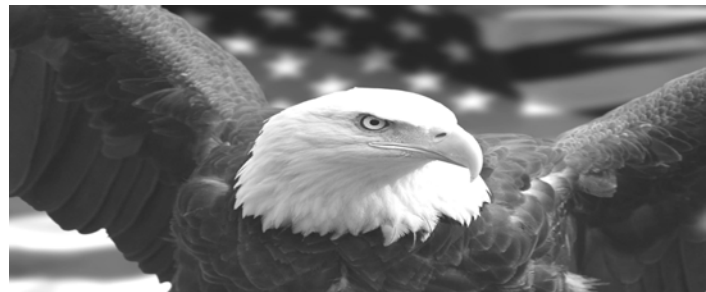
by Christian Ramirez

Every year, the District, with the support of Bausch & Lomb, recognizes each school’s top students in academics and citizenship. The students, known as Standard Bearers, are honored at the Transfer of Flags ceremony which will be held at Monroe High School.

This year will mark the 121st observance of the ceremony, the oldest surviving tradition in the District.

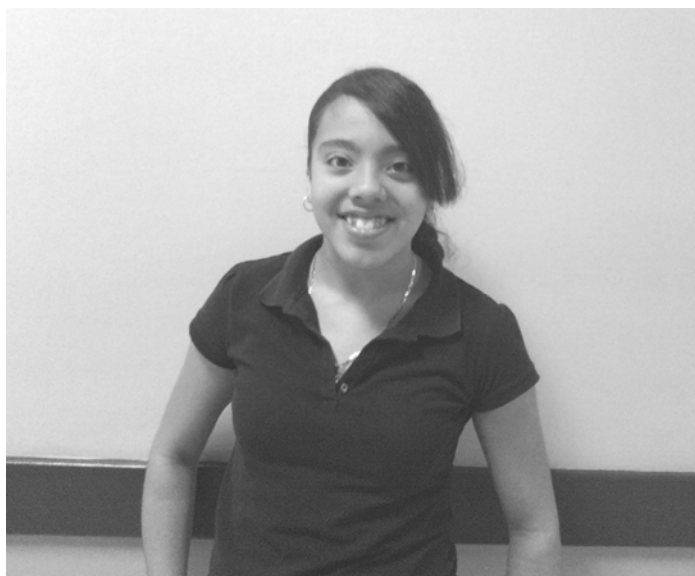
Rochester businessman and Civil War veteran Captain Henry Lomb, who presented the medallions until his death in 1908, began the ceremony in 1889. Bausch &

Lomb still provides the medallions for the event each year. The ceremony was held on Sunday, May 16th at 1:30 p.m.



2010 Arson Prevention Poster Winner:

By: Carmen Mercado



If you see Thalia Davila in the halls, give her a smile. She is one of Monroe’s 7th grade up and coming artists. Thalia won the 2010 Arson Prevention Billboard Contest. She designed and created a poster for the contest

that took 1st place. Thalia will be honored by seeing her artwork become a billboard in the city of Rochester.

If you would like to see Thalia’s billboard, it will be located at 248 Monroe Avenue on the east side of Woody’s at Linwood place between Alexander and Union streets. Congratulations Thalia. Great job on your poster Thalia. Keep working hard on your art skills. We are sure that we will see more of your work in the future.

News Bits and Bites

Apple Store: Eastview Mall

By: Faith McGinniss



On Thursday April 29th students took a trip to the Apple store in Eastview Mall to show off their handy work. Ms. Steffen's class got to show off their podcasts from 2:45 until 4:00. The students who participated had a great time and had wonderful projects to show off. Juan Mora told Ms. Steffen "So many people looked at my work and told me how good it is. I was never so proud in my life." Congratulations to all the students who participated on their fantastic work and opportunity to show it off.



Monroe's Green Sweep

Have you noticed that it's a little bit cleaner around the school grounds? There isn't as much litter and garbage left over from the winter's snow? Last month, the Restore Monroe Your Leadership Team ran Monroe's Green Sweep.

They worked on picking up trash and debris in the yards on Prince Street and Alexander Street trying to beautify the grounds around our school and it's surrounding neighborhood. The place looks so much better! Make sure you think twice about dropping that candy wrapper or juice bottle. The team worked real hard to making this area look nice again.

The team has future plans for planting flowers and shrubs, so be on the lookout for them.



Bryant and Stratton Exit interviews



United Way 2010 Campaign

By: Alexis Edmondson

Thank you Monroe Staff Members! Our school ranked the 4th highest in fund raising for the United Way in the district. Together we raised \$9475 dollars, and are still going strong. We would like to thank all of the 55 staff members that donated this year.



We would also like to thank all the people that came out to the United Way cook out Wednesday May 14th. It was such a lovely day. In 2009 we raised a lump sum of \$10,418 dollars, but our percent of giving was only 19.81%. This year it was 32% participation for the building. Once again, a big thank you.



By: Faith McGinniss

The Art Peace Shakedown took place this month. The opening reception took place on May 7th at Village Gate. For those who were unable to attend the opening, the exhibition was left up until May 15th. It was tons of fun with entertainment by the Ruckus Juice Jug Stompers and the Slam High Poetry Team. There was also a silent auction to raise money for the Open Door Mission which turned out to be very successful. If you were unable to attend the function you can check out cool pictures at www.artpeaceshakedown.org.

Monroe's Regents Review Classes have resumed. You must see your counselor to sign up for the classes. Weekday sessions meet for one hour, from 2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Saturday sessions are from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Bus passes for Saturday sessions are available in Mrs. Bridges' office and can be picked up at anytime on Friday.



