



Municipal Messenger

Township of Morris

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Mayor's Message

By Mayor H. Scott Rosenbush



I am honored to be chosen by my fellow committee members as Mayor for 2009. Morris Township is an outstanding place to live and work, and we intend to keep it that way. We have a very full year ahead of us and plenty of challenges.

We already know that the sagging State economy will have a direct and negative financial impact on Morris Township this year. When combined with increasing unfunded State mandates such as COAH, the pressure on local taxes is expected to be substantial.

My top priority will be managing our costs and their direct impact on local taxes. Everything within our control is on the table. Each of our departments must evaluate any and all areas of potential savings including sharing or outsourcing of services. For example, while our Open Space acquisition program has been extremely successful, I will recommend that we temporarily suspend collection of our Open Space tax for 2009. We are also investigating potential savings through solar energy projects. Despite this environment we will strive to continue to deliver the services that our residents have come to expect.

I am proud to be allowed to serve Morris Township, and I look forward to working diligently on its behalf and representing it proudly this year. Please contact me if you have any questions or comments. I want to know what's on your mind. You can reach me at srosenbush@morristwp.com or 973-326-7360.

Seaton Hackney Stables Restoration

By James Slate, Township Engineer

The Township of Morris recently received an award from the New Jersey Society of Municipal Engineers for Intergovernmental Cooperation. The award was associated with the restoration of Seaton Hackney Stables. The Township Engineering and Building Departments worked directly with the Morris County Park Commission to help facilitate the project, allowing it to be completed on time and significantly under budget.

In 1958, the County Park Commission accepted the donation of the stables from Mr. and Mrs. Paul Moore. It was their desire that the stables and riding facilities become a park and equine facility to be enjoyed by the public. The County has honored that request and the recent restoration ensures its continued use well into the future.

The facility provides Township and County residents the opportunity to enjoy equestrian activities such as riding lessons, competition riding, birthday parties for children, boarding, therapeutic riding for people with special needs, and trail rides.



Since the opening of the facility, the Township Recreation Department has added a new program that takes advantage of the equine training facilities. Activities at the stable also provide an economic benefit to Township businesses such as a local deli and other support businesses. Both the Township and the County continue to benefit from this cooperative effort.

Seaton Hackney Stables offers fun for the whole family and is conveniently located at 400 South Street, close by Morris Township's Ginty swimming pool and Morris County's Loantaka Brook Reservation park and trails. For more information about Seaton Hackney, please e-mail info@seatonhackney.com or call (973) 644-3355.