



# Municipal Messenger

## Township of Morris

Morris County • New Jersey • USA

2009 - Volume VI , Issue I

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:info@seatonhackney.com) or call (973) 644-3355.

## New Jersey's Graduated Driver License

By Morris Township Police Captain Dennis Reilly



The State of New Jersey requires all teen drivers to participate in a Graduated Driver License (GDL) program prior obtaining their unrestricted basic driver license. While young and inexperienced drivers represent only 6% of all licensed drivers, they are three times more likely to be involved in a fatal motor vehicle accident than the rest of the driving population.

Research has shown that certain behaviors contribute to this high fatality figure, specifically inexperienced driving and immaturity in combination with speed; drinking and driving; not wearing seatbelts; distracted driving from cell phone use, loud music, and other teen occupants; and driving while sleepy or at night. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) estimates that implementation of a GDL program will lead to a 20-50% decrease in traffic fatalities among this targeted driving population.

Parents play an important role in the success of a GDL program by ensuring that their children fully comply with all GDL requirements as they learn to drive safely.

The NJ GDL program consists of:

- Special Learner's Permit – Requirements include passing a written test, a vision examination, and successful completion behind-the-wheel training. This permit allows a teen a minimum of six months of supervised driving. After the six months of supervised driving, passing a road test, and becoming 17 years of age, the teen may acquire a provisional license with restrictions.
- Provisional Restricted License – Prerequisites include a minimum of six months of supervised driving, a successful road test, and reaching the age of 17. Restrictions include driving hours, passenger transport, seatbelt usage, and the use of cell phones or other electronic devices.
- Basic Driver's License – After one year with a Provisional Restricted License, the teen may obtain their basic driver license.

The Morris Township Police Department has taken an active role with the GDL program from both an enforcement and educational perspective. Since the inception of this program, officers have sought to identify teens operating in violation of their GDL. In 2007 and 2008 the Morris Township Police Department issued over 55 traffic summonses for violations of the GDL, in addition to other moving violations that may have been the initial reason for the motor vehicle stop.

From an educational perspective, the Crime Prevention Unit of the Morris Township Police Department provides a related program for high school students and their parents at the local high schools. This program covers GDL as well as alcohol and controlled dangerous substance related topics. Parental and/or organizational groups in Morris Township wishing to have an officer come and speak with them concerning the GDL, or any substance abuse related topic, may contact the Crime Prevention Unit at 973-326-7450.

## Morris Township's Historic Heritage – Glynallen

Preservation Commission

By Carol Barkin, Commission Member, Morris Township Historic

One of Morris Township's remaining Gilded Age-era mansions is "Glynallen", built in the years 1913-1917 for George Marshall Allen and his wife, Charlotte. Allen, heir to the Old Crow Whiskey fortune and a world traveler, admired Compton Wynates in Warwickshire, England, the ancestral Tudor castle of the Marquis of Northampton (c.1528), once lived in by King Henry VIII. He hired Charles Berg, a New York architect, and sent him to study the castle and prepare working blueprints so that Allen could build a replica in Morris Township.

A NY Times article in 1914 claimed that "efforts (are being made) to reproduce as accurately as is possible the type and atmosphere of the early Tudor homestead on American soil and if the success is commensurate with the effort, Mr. Allen's Morristown home will undoubtedly be the most perfect example of Tudor architecture, both in respect to the house and landscape, in this country."

Early fame came to Glynallen when it was used as the setting for the 1919 silent movie "Witness for the Defense", which starred the turn-of-the-century Broadway star Elsie Ferguson. The Allen's daughter, Loraine, was married in Glynallen's Great Hall on August 21, 1917, and the Allen home was the site of many festive parties.

Photo courtesy of Morris County Heritage Commission

Over its 95-year history, Glynallen was a single family residence, the offices of General Drafting Company, and again a residence. Located on Canfield Road in Convent Station, the home was purchased in 1997 by Chris and Melitta Shields, who have been restoring the 32,000 sq. ft. mansion with its 66 rooms and 12 bathrooms, Great and Little Halls, landscaping, moat, stonework, and outbuildings. A particularly interesting feature is the dungeon, with its heavy oak door taken from Dannemore Prison, and heavy iron chain and shackles on the walls.

Look for more of Morris Township's historic sites and residences in future issues of the **Municipal Messenger**. If you have questions or comments, please e-mail Sarah Harris at [sarahfh57@aol.com](mailto:sarahfh57@aol.com).

## Your Township Committee

H. Scott Rosenbush, Mayor  
Daniel Caffrey, Deputy Mayor  
Ronald Goldberg  
Jeffrey Grayzel  
Raymond Snyder

Check our website at: [www.morristwp.com](http://www.morristwp.com)  
or refer to your Municipal Calendar for more information on key dates for Morris Township meetings & other activities.

## Acknowledgements

### **Volunteer Senior Editor**

Linda K. Murphy

### **Township Senior Editors**

Karen J. Carman, Admin. Ass't.

Fred J. Rossi, Twp. Administrator

Questions and/or comments may be sent to [kcarman@morristwp.com](mailto:kcarman@morristwp.com)

## **Electronics Industry "Take Back" Programs**

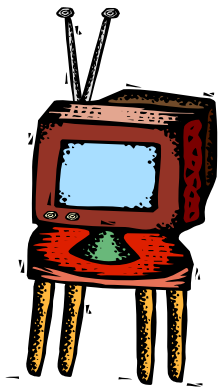
A number of manufacturers and retailers are acting responsibly in the face of a growing electronic waste problem. For information about manufacturers' programs, go to [www.computertakeback.com](http://www.computertakeback.com).

For questions concerning the Township's electronics recycling program, please call (973) 326-7398.

Also please let us know if our special TV program with its pickup and drop-off service was helpful by contacting [rgoldberg@morristwp.com](mailto:rgoldberg@morristwp.com).

## **We Want Your Outdated TV Set – Environmentally Safe Disposal Made Easy**

By Ron Goldberg, Dom La Rosa, and Tom Humbert



At midnight on June 12, 2009, all full-power television stations in the United States will stop broadcasting in analog and switch to 100% digital broadcasting. You probably heard this was coming and prepared for it. Maybe you bought a new, up-to-date TV and didn't know what to do with your obsolete model. Unfortunately, TV's, especially old ones, can contain toxic metals that can contaminate our soil and water. So let us take that TV off your hands without charge.

### **Please don't put that obsolete TV out with your trash!**

The Township Committee, Environmental Commission, and Public Works Department want to ensure your outdated TV does not become toxic waste so we have developed a *one-time program* that will keep your TV out of the landfill. Simply follow these instructions.

### For Free Pickup – You don't have to drive it or ship it anywhere.

- 1) For your TV to be eligible, it must be free of wooden parts, NOT inside a wooden cabinet or part of furniture; and be a 32" diagonal screen or smaller.
- 2) Between April 20 and May 15, call the Department of Public Works (DPW) during business hours of 7:00AM - 3:30PM for item pickup at (973) 326-7398. You will be assigned a pickup time period.
- 3) Place the TV at curbside at the beginning of your assigned pickup period. DO NOT place TV at curbside so far in advance that you overlap normal trash collection service. If your TV is large and heavy, get help to safely move it.

### For Free Drop-off at DPW on Jane Way – You don't need to wait for pickup service or limit your TV recycling to April.

- 1) TV's or any qualifying electronic waste can be deposited at our DPW yard Monday thru Friday from 6:30 AM to 3:00 PM year round. Please stop at the office for instructions when you bring your item in for recycling.

Acceptable materials – TV (32 inches or less), computer, monitor, wires & cables, keyboard and mouse, telephone, fax machine, cell phone, PDA's, household electronics, small stereo, VCR, DVD player, and microwave.

Unacceptable materials – DVD (disk), VHS tape, floppy disk, CD, toaster oven, blender, vacuum cleaner, or any electronics housed in a wood cabinet.

## **Department of Public Works Services Reminder** By James Stoia, DPW Superintendent

**Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Disposal** – The County of Morris provides a program for the safe disposal of HHW such as oil-based paints, paint thinners, gasoline, herbicides, pesticides, acids, car batteries, tube-type fluorescent light bulbs, compact fluorescent light bulbs, propane tanks, and so forth. The County facility is located in Mount Olive and open to county residents by appointment only.

To schedule an appointment, call the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority (MCMUA) at (973) 829-8006. The facility is open on select Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. Drop-off events are held periodically at the Morris County Public Safety Training Academy, 500 West Hanover Avenue, Parsippany. Please visit [www.mcmua.com](http://www.mcmua.com) for more information.

**Fluorescent Light Bulb Recycling** – The Home Depot has launched an in-store compact fluorescent light bulb recycling program. Please place your compact fluorescent light bulb in a plastic bag and bring to your local Home Depot for safe and easy recycling. Call your local Home Depot for further assistance.

**Medical Waste** – If you are taking medications by injection, please do not put the syringes in with your garbage or recycling. Protect our DPW employees! Please register for the free Safe Syringe Disposal program at Morristown Memorial Hospital. Call (973) 971-4177 for details.

**Electronic Equipment Recycling** – Our electronic recycling program was a success in 2008. Residents of Morris Township have recycled 18 tons of unwanted computers, monitors, cell phones, televisions, and so forth at a savings of approximately \$1,500 dollars in disposal fees. Please do your part in participating in recycling acceptable equipment.

**Proper Disposal of Fireplace and Woodstove Ashes** – Wood ashes retain enough heat to ignite combustible materials for several days. Dispose of wood ashes in a metal container that can be tightly closed, douse with water and stir. Place the closed container outside your home away from combustible materials for several days. Please be ABSOLUTELY SURE your container is COLD before disposing them.

**Township of Morris**  
 P.O. Box 7603  
 Convent Station, NJ 07961-7603  
[www.morristwp.com](http://www.morristwp.com)  
 (973) 326-7400

PRST STD  
 U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
 Permit No. 102  
 Morristown, NJ

**TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING HOURS**  
 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

<p><b>BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS</b>        CALL (973) 326-7360</p> 	<p><b>WANT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD FEATURED IN AN UPCOMING ISSUE OF MUNICIPAL MESSENGER?</b></p> <p><b>SUBMIT ARTICLE &amp; PICTURES TO LKMURPHY@OPTIMUM.NET</b></p>	<p><b>SATURDAY, MAY 9<sup>TH</sup> HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION</b>        FREE BUS TOUR OF LOCAL HISTORIC SITES        10:30 AM TO NOON</p>  <p>RESERVATIONS REQUIRED        CALL 973-326-7360</p>	<p><b>BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING</b>  <b>APRIL 15<sup>TH</sup> &amp; MAY 20<sup>TH</sup></b>        9:00 AM TO NOON        MUN. BLDG., NO APPT. NECESSARY</p> <p><b>SMAC CLINIC (BLOOD &amp; HEALTH SCREEN)</b>  <b>APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup></b>        BY APPT. CALL 973-326-7390</p>
<p><b>PANCAKE BREAKFASTS</b>  <b>FAIRCHILD FIREHOUSE</b>  <b>SUNDAY, APRIL 5<sup>TH</sup></b>        BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY FROM 8:00 AM TO NOON</p> <p><b>HILLSIDE HOSE COMPANY</b>  <b>SUNDAY, MAY 3<sup>TH</sup></b>        HOSTED BY THE LADIES AUXILIARY        FROM 8:00 AM TO NOON        CHECK TWP. WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO</p>	<p><b><u>PLEASE VOTE</u></b>  <b>MORRIS SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION</b>  <b>TUESDAY, APRIL 21<sup>ST</sup></b>        POLLS OPEN        2:00 PM TO 9:00 PM        CALL 973-326-7430 FOR ADD'L INFO</p> 	<p><b>POOL REMINDERS</b>  <b>SATURDAY, MAY 30<sup>TH</sup></b>  <b>SWIM TEAM &amp; SWIM LESSON SIGN-UPS AT GINTY &amp; STREETER POOLS</b>        12:00 NOON</p> <p><b>GINTY &amp; STREETER POOLS OPEN FOR THE WEEKEND</b>  <b>JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup> - 7<sup>TH</sup></b>  <b>JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup> - 14<sup>TH</sup></b>        SAT., 11 AM TO 6 PM        SUN., 12 NOON TO 6 PM</p>	<p><b>FIRE AND FIRST AID VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED.</b></p> <p><b>HELP US HELP YOU!</b>        FIRE DEPARTMENT        (973) 326-7460</p> <p>FIRST AID SQUAD        (973) 539-1776 AFTER 6 PM</p> 