



Municipal Messenger

Township of Morris

Morris County • New Jersey • USA

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Mayor's Message

By Mayor H. Scott Rosenbush

Dear Neighbor,

Welcome to the "new & improved" *Municipal Messenger* where we will highlight news and activities in Morris Township. Our town offers hundreds of programs and services to our residents!

Unfortunately, not all of us have enough time to look over the annual calendar and make note of key dates like the Blood Pressure Screening Program, our annual Township Day, or the Fall Leaf Pick-up Schedule. We hope that this newsletter will prompt more people, like you, to take advantage of programs and events such as these. If you would like to know more about a specific program, please look on our web site at www.morristwp.com or call town hall at (973) 326-7400.

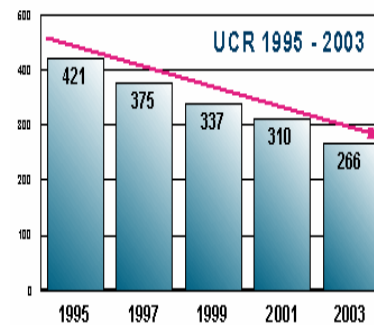
I want to personally invite you all to our Township Day on Sunday, June 13th. At that time we will dedicate the new gazebo at Ginty Field. This beautiful facility was entirely donated to the Township and we plan an appropriate celebration – please join us!

We hope that you enjoy this new *Municipal Messenger*. I want to invite your ideas and suggestions for future editions – topics, departments, people, and so forth. If you have any comments, concerns, questions or complaints about the Township I would like to hear them. Please send your suggestions to my attention at Morris Township Town Hall – 50 Woodland Ave, Convent Station, NJ 07961 or by e-mail: srosenbush@morristwp.com.

Morris Township: A Safe Community Just Got Safer!

By Captain Gary Adams, Morris Township Police Department

The report is in, the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) that is. The UCR is an index compiled by law enforcement agencies throughout the United States and reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to track crime trends. The following chart shows the UCR for Morris Township since 1995 and illustrates a trend in crime reduction over the past years. We are very proud of the relatively low crime rate in our community.



We Still Need Your Help! Much of what the Police Department accomplishes is achieved because of alert residents, like you, who call us about suspicious activity, cars, or persons. In most cases, it is the prompt call which provides the necessary information for the Police Department to put an end to criminal activity. The Police Department cannot emphasize enough how important it is to call us

at the time the suspicious activity is observed. When you are unsure whether to call or not to call, let us decide on the level of action to take based upon the information you provide.

Alert Township residents have helped us solve three of our six residential burglaries last year. Of the three, one occurred on Harter Road at 1:15 in the afternoon, one on Spring Valley Road in the late afternoon, and the third on Canfield Road at 11:30 in the morning. License plate numbers, as well as a description of the suspects obtained by alert residents, helped us make an arrest in all three of these crimes.

In one case a burglar was caught while trying to escape onto the roof of a home. In another, our detectives were able to locate a suspect's car in Newark, complete surveillance of it, and eventually make an arrest of a suspect who had a long history of narcotics offenses and burglaries. Without help from our alert citizens, these persons may not have been apprehended – and would have been able to return to our community to burglarize more of our residences.

Please do not hesitate to call us as soon as any suspicious activity is observed! Just dial 911!

2004 – 2005 School Budget Vote Held April 20

Based on information from the Morris School District

Morris Township voters approved an increase in the 2004-2005 Morris School District Budget on April 20th. The new budget provides a comprehensive educational program for our children, plus funding for initiatives including an increase for special education services; an evaluation of program delivery at Frelinghuysen Middle School and Morristown High School; and extensive staff development and curriculum revision in selected subject areas. As a direct result of this budget, the school portion of the tax rate in Morris Township will increase by 6.9% (\$0.085 per \$100 of assessed valuation). On a home assessed at \$400,000, school taxes will increase by approximately \$340 per year.