



2005 - Volume II , Issue I

Municipal Messenger

Township of Morris

Morris County • New Jersey • USA

Mayor's Message

By Mayor H. Scott Rosenbush

Welcome to the 2005 *Municipal Messenger* where we will highlight news and activities in Morris Township. I invite your ideas and suggestions for future editions – this newsletter is for you!

Since 9/11, I have heard many people say that they wish that they could help somehow during or after a disaster. There is a program called Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) that is designed to educate people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their community. This course is for members of the community that want to assist in emergency operations and the local Fire, First Aid, and Police Department. In addition, we have our own Domestic Violence Crisis Response Team (CRT) in Morris Township. Please read more about these programs in this newsletter and volunteer where you can.

We are pleased to have recently improved allocation of parking spaces at the Convent Train Station providing more metered spaces for residents. In order to take advantage of these spaces, you must have a Resident ID on your mirror (available from the Township Clerk's Office). We hope this change will make it easier for you to use this parking lot.

We are proud to invite everyone to visit the new Morris Township website at www.morristwp.com. This site is an easy and convenient way for people to learn more about our town and get important information online. There is information ranging from the recreation calendar to meeting agendas, public safety, voter registration, and much more. If you would like to know more about a specific program, please use the website or call the municipal offices at (973) 326-7400.

Morris Museum Announces Gift of Renowned Murtoth D. Guinness Collection

By Emily Evans

On November 10, 2004, the Morris Museum publicly announced that it was awarded the Murtoth D. Guinness Collection of historical mechanical musical instruments and automata, one of the most significant of its kind to be found in the world. Sixty objects from this extraordinary 700-piece collection are currently on view at the Morris Museum in the exhibit *Musical Machines and Living Dolls*.



Murtoth D. Guinness, a descendant of the Guinness brewing family and an early leader of the Musical Box Society International, spent more than 50 years assembling the collection of rare mechanical musical instruments and automata dating from the late 16th century to the early 20th century. The musical boxes, street organs, multi-instrument devices, orchestrions, and mechanically activated life-like figures reflect exquisite craftsmanship, innovative technology, and dynamic sound.

Automata are mechanical figures designed to mimic human and animal movements and many have musical components. Magicians, singing birds, acrobats, and others showcase the talents of their makers and constitute

one of the largest and finest collections of its kind in the world.

"For more than 90 years, the Morris Museum has been a vibrant educational and cultural center in New Jersey," said Steven H. Miller, executive director of the Morris Museum. "We are honored to share this extraordinary collection with the public. The museum looks forward to being an international destination for this unique subject."

To house the collection, the museum plans to build a new wing with a suite of galleries that will be interactive, engaging, and include educational adventures in sight and sound for the entire family. This wing is scheduled for completion in 2006. Ultimately, the museum envisions permanent, changing, and traveling exhibitions of the Murtoth D. Guinness Collection.



The Morris Museum is located at 6 Normandy Heights Road (at the corner of Columbia Turnpike) in Morris Township, NJ. Live demonstrations of several objects from the Guinness Collection are performed Tuesday - Friday at 3 pm and Saturday - Sunday at 2 pm. For more information, call (973) 971-3700 or go to www.morriismuseum.org.