

## Increasing Use of Technology Controls Cost and Improves Service

By Mayor Robert E. Nace

Morris Township has grown nearly 44% – from 16,000 to 23,000 people – between the last two census periods. Our focus on increasing the use of technology is a key ingredient in helping us provide high-quality services to our community while maintaining essentially the same number of employees over this period of time.

Over the next year, we plan to offer additional and enhanced services facilitated by the use of technology. At the same time, we will be using technology to manage our costs in an effective manner, reducing our budgetary expenses wherever possible.

Here are some of the highlights of our plans for 2006:

- This year we will replace our old telephone system with a state-of-the-art Voice over Internet Protocol (VOIP) system that will reduce our communications costs by up to 50%.
- At the same time we will be able to provide high speed communications links to all municipal facilities at no increased cost to the taxpayers.
- We will also be implementing new recreation tracking software that will enable us to better manage our pool memberships. Our new technology-assisted renewal process will enable our pool members to renew on-line over the Internet and to pay by credit card, if desired.
- Following the introduction of our new recreation software, we will begin adding the ability to pay for other Township services via credit card as well.
- We are also working on an agreement with Verizon which will allow that company to provide Cable, Internet, and VOIP telephone service to our residents. We are looking for this agreement to provide greater competition among television service providers for our community's residents.

We are constantly evaluating new technologies to help us reduce costs and to provide better and improved services to our residents. For more information about the use of technology within Morris Township, please visit our website at [www.morristwp.com](http://www.morristwp.com).

## Township Acquires Doremus Property As Open Space

By Thomas Kenny, Special Projects Coordinator

In April 2006 Morris Township acquired another parcel of land as open space. Located on School House Lane and anticipated for use as passive recreation, this 5.4-acre property is contiguous to another recently acquired open space parcel known as the Spence property. Both parcels are located within the Washington Valley Historic District, a residential and agricultural area predating the American Revolution.

In addition, the Doremus property is near 900-acres of county-owned land making it an excellent buffer area for the upper reaches of the Whippany River watershed.

This latest land acquisition was made possible through cooperation among property owners, Richard and Sharon Doremus; the Township Committee; the Morris Land Conservancy, an open space advisory organization based in Boonton, NJ; and Morris Township's Open Space Committee.

The Township purchased the property for \$550,000 and will soon file an application under the NJ Green Acres program for reimbursement of up to 50% of the total eligible acquisition costs. The Doremus land purchase will increase Township-owned open space to nearly 500 acres.

## Pool Improvements

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- one year during the following year as well.
- The regular pool hours have been revised, opening at 10:00 am on weekdays.
- Healthier food choices, such as fresh fruit, will be offered at the concession stands based on parental feedback. You should know the concessionaire has warned us that when healthier food is offered, very few people buy it. Let's prove him wrong!
- Additional play equipment, including a water slide for the Ginty pool, will be installed.

We plan to throw a preseason party for the entire community at the Streeter Pool on Friday, June 16, from 5:30 pm

## Your Township Committee

Robert E. Nace, Mayor  
Richard A. Watson, Deputy Mayor  
Kathleen G. Hyland  
H. Scott Rosenbush  
Jan Wotowicz

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

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

to 8:30 pm to show the public the renovations we have made and to introduce the pool program to new residents. We look forward to seeing you all there and encourage your feedback to help make these excellent facilities even better.

For more information, please visit the Morris Township website at [www.morristwp.com](http://www.morristwp.com) or contact the Recreation Department at (973) 326-7370.

## Recognize Special People With A Pathway Paver

*Morris Township's Memorial Pathway at Ginty Field is your opportunity to recognize special people in your life.*

If you have a family member or other special person you would like to recognize, purchase an engraved brick paver in their name. Acknowledge those who have made a difference in your life or someone you loved who passed away.

To order by mail, send your contact information, your desired paver message, and check made out to the Township of Morris to:

**Attn: Paver Project  
PO Box 7603  
Convent Station, NJ 07961-7603**

Please call (973) 326-7400 if you have questions or visit our website at [www.morristwp.com](http://www.morristwp.com) for the order form.