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Town of Morristown Updates From Mayor Timothy P. Dougherty

Contact the Mayor directly by email at mayor@townofmorristown.org



Living in a Robust Cultural Community



Looking to see a good show? How about fabulous art? You can hop on a New Jersey Transit train and head into New York City. Or, you can stay right here in the greater Morristown area where you have access to incredible performances and art forms of every taste. A few examples of the opportunities follow:

Individual Highlights:

Living in a Robust Cultural
Community

Grow it Green

Master Plan - Traffic

Retirement Living

Upcoming Town Events

The Mayo Center for the Performing Arts continues to bring into town first rate singers, dancers, comics and more. While tickets to see Steely Dan in September have sold out, Broadway actors Kelli O'Hara and Brian Stokes Mitchell are also coming to the Center this fall, as is the comic/writer David Sedaris. For more information: <http://www.mayoarts.org>

Also, just down the road from Morristown is the F.M. Kirby Shakespeare Theatre where Ben Johnson's 1610 rowdy and lunatic comedy. "The Alchemist" will play from August 6 thru 24. The theatre will also offer the wonderful historical play, "Henry VIII," starting October 15. The plays take place on their main stage at the Drew University campus. For more information: www.shakespearenj.org .

Morris Arts and The Morristown Partnership are continuing their summer, "Meet Me in Morristown" street fairs that include sidewalk sales, music, and art events to be held on the last Thursday of August and September. For more information: <http://www.morrisarts.org/events/meet-me-in-morristown/>

The above is merely a short list of the cultural opportunities that exist in Morristown and its local communities. You can find much more information by going to: www.morristowntourism.org or www.morristowngreen.com/calendar.

Do your own research of what you enjoy. The payoffs can be magical.



Grow it Green

Grow it Green (GIGM) is a local non-profit working to build community through collaborative projects centered around food, education, and shared outdoor spaces. GIGM was founded in 2009 with the opening of the Early Street Community Garden (ESCG), where people continue to grow their own flowers, herbs and vegetables, while making new friendships and community connections. Last year the Town of Morristown was able to purchase the site of the ESCG, forever ensuring the land for future generations. The Town was able to purchase the site without spending municipal tax dollars. GIGM operates the community garden at no cost to Morristown residents. They are currently raising funds to redesign the garden and create a new public park in the front of the garden.



Grow it Green Morristown's second transformative project was the creation of the Urban Farm at Lafayette Avenue. Located behind the Lafayette Learning Center on Hazel Street, the Urban Farm is New Jersey's largest school garden. The Urban Farm supports the education of local children while providing much needed fresh produce to area food pantries like the Community Soup Kitchen, Interfaith Food Pantry, and Table of Hope at Bethel AME Church. The Farm also hosts regular events and classes for the public. For more information on GIGM and how you can join this wonderful organization please check GIGM's webpage. www.growitgreenmorristown.org



Master Plan Update – Traffic Circulation for Automobiles, Pedestrians, and Bicycles

The Town Administration is actively implementing core elements of the town's Master Plan, which was unanimously approved earlier this year. As many Morristown residents and workers know, pedestrian, bicycle, and automobile circulation were main areas of concern in the Master Plan. An agreed upon objective was to ensure that these transportation choices were given equal attention as new designs and improvements were implemented. As we all focus on the development and preservation of the great neighborhoods of Morristown, with a particular emphasis on the downtown and train station areas, we are working to ensure that all neighborhoods benefit from various circulation improvements around town. Below is a list of projects completed, underway, or planned with the intent to calm automobile traffic, and provide more walkable, bike friendly streets. To learn more about Morristown's Master Plan go to www.townofmorristown.org.

- The Morristown Police Bureau continues to work closely with the New Jersey Department of Transportation, and has changed traffic signals synchronization which has resulted in an immediate improvement in traffic flow, especially around the Green during rush hours and the lunch hour.
- Utilizing Special Police Officers posted at locations that have been identified through analysis to assist with moving traffic. Locations include South Street at South Park and Speedwell Avenue at Spring Street.
- Conversion of Lafayette Avenue from three lanes to two lanes between Ridgedale Ave. and the Railroad Station (Safe Routes to Transit Project).-Completed
- Curb extensions and restriping on Mills Street and Ford Avenue. -Completed and Underway
- Curb extension and narrowing of the Lidgerwood Parkway-James Street intersection. -Planned
- Restriping of Pine Street, Washington Avenue, Abbett Avenue, Franklin Street and Entrance Avenue.-Completed.
- Speed humps on Garden Street.
- Implementation of painted bicycle symbols and arrows and "Bicycles May Use Full Lane" signs on South Street, Franklin Street, Elm Street and Speedwell Avenue. -Completed
- Speed humps on Cobb Place and Garden Street. -Planned and Completed
- Speedwell Avenue Streetscape.-Underway

Morristown is a Great Place to Retire

Morristown is both a terrific place to live and a wonderful place to retire. As the baby boomers are reaching retirement age, they are giving retirement an image makeover. Many who retire today are physically and mentally fit. They want to reside in an area that offers a broad array of cultural and social stimulation. They want access to theatre and diverse cultural events, an assortment of restaurants, interesting activities, hiking and bicycling trails (as well as golf) and excellent transportation.



Our community is rich in all these resources, plus we have access to the preeminent Morristown Medical Center and three wonderful colleges - all within five miles of the Morristown Green. Morristown is also ideally situated. Within one hour, you can get to New York City by train, bus, or car. Within a half hour, you can fly direct to innumerable destinations in the world from Newark International Airport. We even have easy access to all the varied opportunities afforded by the New Jersey Shore, Pennsylvania and upstate New York.

Morristown is a great place to live at any age!

Upcoming Town Events

Morristown Jazz and Blues Festival (August 16, 2014)



The fourth annual Morristown Jazz and Blues Festival will be held on Saturday, August 16, 2014 from Noon to 10:00pm. Taking place on the Historic Morristown Green, the event provides FREE music all day, featuring jazz and blues artists in a family friendly setting. This year's artists include: Trio Da Paz, Bucky Pizzarelli's Guitar Summit, Winard Harper & Jeli Posse, Mikey Junior Band and Matt Schofield Trio. For more information, please visit www.morristownjazzandblues.org.

Morristown Festival of Books (September 26-27, 2014)

If you love a good book and wish to know what new ones are coming out, you'll want to show up for the first Morristown Festival of Books planned for September 26 - 27 with events staged in various easy-to-walk to Morristown venues.

Fiction and non-fiction authors will be present, as will writers of children's and young adult books. William D. Cohan, author of *The Price of Silence*, concerning the controversial 2006 legal case against three members of the Duke lacrosse team, will give the opening talk on September 26 at the Mayo Center. While there is a \$20 fee for his talk, other events are free. Book signings by the approximately 20 authors will take place on the Vail Mansion lawn. For more information, please visit www.morristownfestivalofbooks.org.



Morristown Farmers Market (Sundays through November 23, 2014)



The Morristown Farmers Market, a Morristown Partnership event, is being held every Sunday through November 23, rain or shine. The market is located on the Morristown Parking Authority surface parking area at Spring and Morris Streets from 8:30 am to 2:00 pm. In addition to local produce, special events are offered featuring event sponsors, local businesses, live music & more! For more information, please visit www.morristown-nj.org.

Meet Me In Morristown (Last Thursdays of August and September)

This event is organized through the collaboration of the Morristown Partnership and Morris Arts. The monthly events are designed to encourage people to come to the Morristown downtown area to shop and dine, while being entertained by local artists and musicians. For more information, please visit www.morristown-nj.org.

Morristown Festival on the Green (Sunday, September 28, 2014 from Noon to 5:00 PM-Rain or Shine!)

For more information, please visit www.morristown-nj.org.



Your Feedback Is Welcome

Send questions, comments and/or suggestions for future issues to mayor@townofmorristown.org.