



## Newsletter | June 2020

### Mayor's Message



With summer approaching and the COVID-19 outbreak beginning to slow down, residents and businesses are adjusting to our 'new normal'. Here in Town Hall, we are developing our plans for a gradual re-opening, which will start with the return of full-time on-site staffing and eventually include public access to Town Hall. In the meantime please remember that all Town offices are 'virtually' open and available over phone and email. There are also exterior payment drop boxes for tax, sewer, and court payments. If you have any trouble reaching town services please contact my office at (973) 292-6629 or via email at [Mayor@townofmorristown.org](mailto:Mayor@townofmorristown.org).

It is with great sadness that the festival committee has determined there is too much risk to hold the 10th annual Morristown Jazz & Blues Festival. The event has been postponed until August 21, 2021. I know everyone looks forward to this annual event, and the impact of not holding this summer's show will be felt deeply by the entire community, but the safety of everyone is paramount.

And finally, a very special congratulations to the Morristown High School Class of 2020. I am sorry that your senior year was disrupted by this pandemic, but the adversity of the past few months doesn't diminish your success over the past 13 years. You have accomplished something special and the Morristown community is proud of you. Despite school closures, activity cancellations, and stay-at-home orders, you completed the year with determination and resiliency! And while these are not the lessons you expected to learn, I believe your perseverance and optimism will serve you long into the future. Whatever lies ahead, I know your contributions and leadership will make the world a better place.

As many of you know, the state will allow outdoor graduations to occur after July 6th. The Morris School District has not yet announced plans for the ceremony but I look forward to attending when the time comes. Stay tuned.

**- Mayor Timothy Dougherty**

## Changes to the 2020 Primary Election



The primary election has been **postponed to July 7, 2020** due to COVID-19. This includes primaries for President, U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives, 25th District of the New Jersey Legislature, and county and municipal elections, as well as county committee elections. For more information please visit [morriscountynj.gov](http://morriscountynj.gov).

As per Governor Murphy's executive order, every registered Republican and Democratic voter will automatically be mailed a vote-by-mail ballot for the July 7 Primary Election. Unaffiliated/Undeclared voters will receive an application to request a vote-by-mail ballot. The election will be primarily a vote-by-mail election, with a limited number of consolidated polling places.

In response to the public health emergency and to curtail the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) the Morris County Board of Elections is closed. Any questions can be emailed to [elections@co.morris.nj.us](mailto:elections@co.morris.nj.us).

## Message from the Morristown Parking Authority

Parking rules and regulations are currently in effect on parking meters. In Lots- daily tags must be paid at kiosk or display the current monthly permit. Enforcement will commence on June 1st. Parking is available in most MPA lots and garages. Please call (973) 539-4810 with any questions. Thank you and stay safe.

# Need Food?

## These organizations listed below can help.

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### **Nourish.nj (formerly the Community Soup Kitchen)**

36 South Street (70 Maple Ave on Saturdays) | (973) 267-0709 | [nourishnj.org](http://nourishnj.org)

Bagged lunches can be picked up daily from 11:30 - 1 pm at Church of the Redeemer with the exception of Saturdays when lunches can be picked up at St Peter's Church. Canned and non-perishable food items will also be available.

### **Interfaith Food Pantry**

2 Executive Drive, Morris Plains | (973) 538-8049 | [mcifp.org](http://mcifp.org)

People already enlisted in the home delivery program will continue to receive their home deliveries but will be asked to pick their groceries up at the door. The IFP supplies canned & boxed goods as well as fresh dairy, grains, and meats. (registration required)

### **Table of Hope @ Bethel AME Church**

59 Spring Street | (973) 267- 8912 | [bethelmorristown.org/table-of-hope](http://bethelmorristown.org/table-of-hope)

M-F, 5:30 - 7 pm Hot meals served to go daily

Thursdays 2 - 2:45 pm Groceries

Mobile Food Pantry - 10:30-12 pm PAL Facility at 33 Baldwin Road, Parsippany, and 1 - 3 pm Dover City Hall at 211 North Sussex Street Route 90.

## NJ: The Road Back Update

Since Governor Phil Murphy announced his vision, **“The Road Back: Restoring Economic Health Through Public Health”**, over a month ago, there has been considerable progress in the fight against Covid-19. With hospital data showing steady declines, the state has moved forward through stage 1 of re-opening and is approaching stage 2. Some of the actions taken have included:

- The re-opening of state and county parks
- The re-opening of beaches and boardwalks
- The resumption of elective surgeries
- The resumption of non-essential construction
- The re-opening of drive thru and drive up entertainment and religious services.
- The resumption of non-essential retail business through online and curbside service.
- In person sales at car dealerships, motorcycle and bicycle shops
- Loosening of restrictions on outdoor recreation such as golf, batting cages, camping, and tennis courts.
- Beginning July 6th, schools WILL have the opportunity to hold outdoor graduation ceremonies that comply with social distancing – ensuring the health and safety of all in attendance.

## The Time for the Census is NOW

As of May 24th, Morristown's census response rate was 55.6%. We must do better! Responses can be submitted either online, by mail, or by phone. All responses are kept confidential and private. It's the law. Your responses cannot be shared and cannot be used against you by any government agency or court in any way. For more information please visit [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov).

## Morris County COVID-19 Drive Thru Testing

The County of Morris, in partnership with Atlantic Health, is offering drive-thru COVID-19 testing at the County College of Morris, Center Grove Road, Randolph, NJ 07869, in parking lot 1.

In order to be tested, you MUST

- have a COVID-19 test prescription from your healthcare provider
- read and accept the consent form
- Sign up for an appointment online – visit the **COVID-19 testing page** for details.

Residents with appointments must show up in a vehicle - you cannot walk or bike through the testing center. If you do not drive, someone else is allowed to drive. The person who is being tested must provide a drivers license or viable personal identification and a clear-to-see printed version of a medical prescription at the arrival checkpoint. There is no fee for the test.

[\*\*More Information on Morris County COVID-19 Testing\*\*](#)



## Festival Postponed

Mayor Tim Dougherty has announced that the Morristown Jazz & Blues Festival slated for Saturday, August 15, has been postponed until 2021 due to concern over the spread of Covid-19.

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## Burnham Pool

At this time we have not opened the registration for Burnham Pool memberships and there is no opening date to announce yet. Please check the website for updates.

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## Road Work and Construction Updates

### 2020 Curb, Sidewalk, and Drainage Improvements, Phase III

- Western Ave
- Clinton Pl/Clinton St
- Ridgedale Ave at Morris
- Cory Rd at Speedwell

### Tree Well Widening and Biochar Soil Amendments

Areas throughout town

### Sports Court repairs

Lidgerwood Tennis Court Rehab is in process and should finish next month.

Please stay posted to the [townofmorristown.org/activeconstruction](https://townofmorristown.org/activeconstruction) and [facebook](#) for announcements and updates. Projects and dates are subject to change.

## contact us

200 South Street, Morristown, NJ 07960

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