



CONTACT: Karen Livingstone or
Communications
732-842-4000, ext. 4256

klivings@monmouthcountyparks.com

Patti Conroy
Visitor Services
732-842-4000, ext. 4247

pconroy@monmouthcountyparks.com

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CURRIER & IVES: TELLING THE STORY OF HARNESS RACING AND 19TH CENTURY AMERICA EXHIBIT AT HISTORIC WALNFORD



UPPER FREEHOLD — History lovers of Monmouth County rejoice! The Monmouth County Park System's Historic Walnford in Upper Freehold will be displaying a collection of rare, original Currier & Ives lithographs. Entitled "The Story of Harness Racing by Currier & Ives," the exhibit will be on display in the Waln House from Wednesday, October 1 through Sunday, November 30. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for the site's historic buildings and 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for its grounds. Admission and parking are free.

This exhibit is on loan from The Harness Racing Museum & Hall of Fame, located in Goshen, New York. Goshen, a colonial village known as "The Cradle of the Trotter," is the

birthplace of trotting. Today, the sport is known as harness racing; its horses are Standardbreds. The museum's brilliant showcase celebrates harness racing's history and heroes. The Harness Racing Museum & Hall of Fame is home to the world's largest collection of Currier & Ives trotting prints, and its educational exhibits are dedicated to the preservation and promotion of America's first pastime.

This show of more than 30 original lithographs features a selection from The Harness Racing Museum & Hall of Fame's main collection. It is sponsored by grants from: the Patricia S. Winder Fund; the CTW Foundation, Inc.; the Thomas W. and Florence T. Murphy Fund of the New York Community Trust, the State of New York; and the Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund.

The more than 30 lithographs illustrate, in an artful way, harness racing's important role in American culture and history. Prints depicting great trotting horses, bucolic mid-19th century scenes and comedic adventures convey a picturesque view of Americana prior to the advent and development of photography.

For more information on "The Story of Harness Racing by Currier & Ives" exhibit or Historic Walnford, please visit www.monmouthcountyparks.com or call 609-259-6275. For persons with hearing impairment, the TDD/TTY number is 711. The Monmouth County Park System, created in 1960 by the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders, is Monmouth County's Open Space, Parks, and Recreation agency.

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