

Weekly Update from
MAYOR JAMES R. BARBERIO

Warm weather has finally arrived, and if you are like me you have been waiting for the endless long, cold days of winter to end. Nothing beats the sound of a baseball bat hitting a ball to signal that spring has finally come. Unless of course you are our Parks and Forestry Department, then for you, planting and maintaining our 29 parks becomes a priority of the season. These are the people who make sure that the equipment and fields at all the parks is kept in good shape. That being said, I'm pleased to report that the tennis courts at Powdermill Park have been repaired and are ready for use, and if you are from the Lake Hiawatha area, you will notice that new benches have been installed, as well as repairing the brick pavers at Hiawatha Park. Safety is always a concern of mine and I like to ensure that all of our residents feel their welfare is in good hands when using our parks.

Speaking of parks, I was extremely pleased to attend the groundbreaking ceremonies for the Parsippany High School and Parsippany Hills High School turf fields. This is a long awaited welcome addition to the athletic programs at both schools and will bring pride to the teams, kids and the town.

I would like to make mention of three organizations that have worked with our Department of Public Works donating their time and effort in keeping the "Pride in Parsippany." Thanks go to the youth group of the Chinese Christian Church of New Jersey and to St. Gregory's church along with the Whippany River Watershed Action Committee for street cleanups on South Beverwyck Road and Reynolds Avenue. I know it isn't easy to give up your time and I deeply appreciate that these groups care as much about the community as I do by volunteering and lending a hand.

Sometimes questions regarding fluoride in our drinking water are brought to the attention of the Mayor's Action center. Recently, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services released a new recommendation lowering the amount of fluoride allowed in each liter of drinking water. The reason for this is because there are many sources of fluoride in toothpastes and mouth rinses now that weren't available when the first recommendations came out. I'd like to clarify any confusion regarding the township's water by simply saying we do not add fluoride to our drinking water.

Shortly, you may notice the demolition of the old Weichert building on the corner of Route 46 and North Beverwyck Road. I am always pleased to welcome new businesses to our town and I hope you will too as a new Bank of America branch joins our community.

Just a reminder that Friday, May 22nd, the Senior Citizens of Parsippany will be hosting a Tricky Tray to raise money for their scholarship fund. Doors open at 12:30pm at the Community Center. Also, next weekend is Memorial Day weekend and last minute preparations for both the ceremony at Veteran's Field and the Memorial Day parade are being made. Please check back next week for upcoming information regarding both of these events.

Until next week!

Mayor James R. Barberio