

MAYOR BARBERIO'S WEEKLY UPDATE
Week of August 10, 2015

The group of young men and one lady from Clean Communities visited me in Town Hall which served a two-fold purpose. They wanted to meet the Mayor and I wanted to thank them for their assistance in keeping Parsippany clean. These young people were an enthusiastic group who seemed truly appreciative of being able to perform duties for the Township. Paid through a Clean Communities grant, they were happy to have summer jobs. What a great job they did assisting the Road Department with repair of catch basins, picking up garbage along the roadside, helping out the water department and doing whatever was asked of them to show how proud Parsippany can be. Every year we look forward to their arrival and this year, they did an amazing job. Thank you all.

With reference to my previous comments about the importance of safety in the Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills, I am announcing a significant collaboration between the Township and the Morris County Sheriff's Office.

I met with Undersheriff, William Schievella, to discuss numerous opportunities in community outreach with the Sheriff's Department. One important initiative that has worked well in the past is contact with the Asian community to provide education and awareness programs about specific crimes and scams inherent to their population. They are planning to continue the program again this year and possibly to include other groups as well.

Another of the upcoming collaborative law enforcement community policing programs that has had a positive outcome is Operation Take Back. Co-hosting with the DEA and the Morris County Sheriff, Parsippany will actively participate in setting up a location to collect unwanted medications.

The strategies set forth by the partnership between the Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills and the Morris County Sheriff's Office are meant to develop and implement recommendations and ideas that can help to establish public safety while building public trust. Community policing emphasizes proactive problem solving and developing solutions to conditions pertaining to public safety. Rather than simply responding to crimes once they have been committed, community policing concentrates on preventing crime and eliminating the fear that it creates.

Working together with the Morris County Sheriff's Office empowers Parsippany to create a community policing initiative that will enable us to foster stronger community relations with the public as we continue to ensure their safety.

Even though the Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills is safe, we are always looking for ways to improve upon the quality of driving by Township employees. The SafetyFirst program ensures the safety of not only our employees, but of those motorists on the road that our Township vehicles may encounter. With approximately 325 Township vehicles on the road, safety is a priority for Parsippany-Troy Hills and SafetyFirst helps us to achieve that level of protection.

The reason why I instituted this program is to assure that the residents of Parsippany are made to feel secure and have confidence that we are doing everything in our power to provide proper training and enforcement of employees who have direct contact with the public.

How to Report a Driver: Decals are on the back of the vehicle in a visible location with a phone number and identification number.

All Motorists have to do is call the number on the decal to report drivers for offenses or to compliment them on their driving.

Last Friday night, I attended the 146th Children's Day in Mount Tabor. I am always amazed at the wonderful job they do and how everyone always looks forward to this event. I was happy to witness the coronation of Noah Munn as King and Hannah Ververs as Queen. In honor of this event, I gave certificates and a small gift to the King and Queen. The following night, I had the honor of walking in the parade with all the celebrants.

Girl Scouts

This past week, I attended the Gold Award ceremony for six amazing young women. Olivia Dauber, Amanda Farkas, Margaret Moutis, Caroline Nelson, Priyanka Yalamanchili and Katy Zicker earned the highest award that a Girl Scout can earn. Their projects were indicative of the leadership and organizational skills they learned as well as their sense of community and commitment. This is only the beginning of many future successes. Good luck girls.

Engineering

The road improvements in Mount Tabor have been completed. The project included the installation of new drainage, curbs and paving on portions of Wesley Place, Asbury Place, Embury Place, Banghart Place, West Morris Avenue, Hedding Place, and Sommerfield Avenue.

Library

Lake Hiawatha Branch Library will host a drop-in LEGO program on Wednesday mornings August 19, and 26. We encourage all ages to come between 11 – 12noon to use their imagination to build fantastic LEGO creations! The library provides LEGOS and DUPLOS, or you may bring your own sets. Each creation will be displayed for the week in the library.

The end of summer is upon us. The pressure to get summer reading assignments done is on. The Parsippany Public Library has purchased copies of the titles on the school reading lists in e-book and e-audiobook downloadable formats as well as stocking the shelves with multiple copies of each title. To access the downloadable format books, go to the library's webpage. Click on the word DIGITAL, and select e-books and a-audiobooks. Search for your title. All you will need is to download the reader, and log in with your library card and PIN. Call any branch of the library to set your PIN if you need to.

Calling all teens. On August 14th from 6:30 - 8:30 pm come celebrate the end of summer reading at Teen Activity Night with a night of pizza and fun activities, grades 6 -12. Please register first.