## MAYOR BARBERIO'S WEEKLY UPDATE Week of October 19, 2015

This week I was privileged to speak at the Welcome Home Vets of New Jersey's annual fundraiser held in East Hanover. Welcome Home Vets of New Jersey is probably an organization that is unfamiliar to many people. The Wounded Warrior Project has achieved greater recognition on a national level in raising awareness for our injured service members but that does not lessen all the contributions made by other organizations in support of our service men and women. I fully support any group that wishes to take care of our military families, our soldiers and our veterans. As we go about our daily lives we don't often think about the men and women both at home and overseas protecting us and our freedoms. But they are out there doing just that and they deserve our respect and our support, especially when they return to civilian life. Welcome Home Vets of New Jersey provides assistance with housing, legal and financial issues, job placement, medical bills and other social services. I listened to returning GIs at the fundraiser who spoke of the difficulties of re-acclimating and economic stresses and how this organization gave not just them but also their families courage and the ability to move on. I hope by mentioning this outstanding organization of people and the good that they do, it will encourage others to reach out and think about these stalwart men and women and what they have given for their country and how we can give back to them.

I am pleased to announce that Parsippany has been awarded two grants: The Stickley Museum at Craftsman Farms has been awarded a Morris County Historic Preservation Trust Fund grant for its much needed window restoration project. And we were also awarded the NJDOT Highway Safety Fund grant program for 2015, which is under the Safe Corridors Act. This fund promotes public safety and is distributed to towns that are responsible for law enforcement within the Safe Corridors.

Speaking of safety, October is Fire Prevention Safety Month. Our Fire Prevention Bureau has been visiting all elementary schools with the fire safety trailer providing education and instructions on what to do in the event of a fire. Now too, is a good time to make sure all the batteries in your smoke detectors are in working order and replace those that are not. Smoke detectors save lives and this is a small thing to do in order to ensure the safety of your family.

Businesses are growing in Parsippany and I've attended many ribbon cuttings this month. Paul Miller has expanded with the opening of a new Porsche dealership on Route 46 near Cherry Hill Road. This business joins the family of other Paul Miller dealerships in Parsippany.

On a final note, I would like to thank everyone who donated a costume to the Parsippany Library for their costume swap. Children were able to choose from over 45 costumes making this a Halloween to remember. Also, please remember that this upcoming Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup> I will be hosting the Township's Annual Trunk or Treat in Veterans Park from 4pm to 6pm. Please join me for a fun filled safe afternoon that everyone can enjoy!

## **Community Center**

The Bridge Group at the Community Center is looking for more card players. Bridge is played every Tuesday between 12 noon and 4pm. There is no charge and no reservations are needed. The only requirement is a basic knowledge of the rules.

## **Parsippany Library**

Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am is the Preschooler Halloween Hop. Preschoolers can come dressed in their costumes and dance to some Halloween tunes. There will be a mini trick or treat station too.

## **Water Department**

Receive your water bills via email from now on. eBill notification is now available. This process will generate an email when your current water/sewer bill is ready for viewing on www. Parsippany.net under the appropriate link. Your current charges, usage, reading date and due date will be accessible and you will no longer receive a bill by regular mail.