

## MAYOR BARBERIO'S WEEKLY UPDATE

Week of November 9, 2015

Last week I congratulated the Parsippany High School Marching Band for winning the State Championship title. This week I am congratulating them on their major success – winning First Place in the Group IV 2015 National Champions and 2015 Espirit DeCorps Award held in Allentown, Pennsylvania. Two huge wins back-to-back is no small feat and the students, faculty and parents are to be commended for their dedication, hard work and a job well done.

It is always a pleasure to have students come to Town Hall. Yesterday, Cub Scout Pack 142 took a tour of our Municipal Building to learn and better understand what local government is all about. Although this visit fulfilled their requirement in earning their government badge, they left with a greater knowledge of the daily operations in each office and what it means to govern a municipality of our size.

On the flip side, it is always my pleasure to be invited to our schools to speak with the students and discuss government. This week by invitation, I met with the third graders from Intervale School. Their eagerness to learn and their intelligent questions spoke volumes regarding our future government leaders.

On a very serious note, this upcoming week I will be attending the League of Municipalities in Atlantic City. I am privileged to be co-sponsoring a resolution with other mayors regarding human trafficking. This resolution entitled “NJ Mayors Urged to Provide Leadership in Ending Human Trafficking at the Local Level,” addresses this horrendous crime which takes place at the local level and how it is up to every municipality in the State of New Jersey to raise awareness and educate the public regarding this modern day form of slavery. The victims are extremely vulnerable to these criminals and nearly 21 million people are exploited this way worldwide. Our own police department works diligently to prevent this criminal act from occurring in our Township. It is imperative to have zero tolerance laws and protocols in place and to partner with the community in order to abolish this abuse. I believe this resolution will make a difference by educating and enlightening local leaders, educators and the public to what can be done to eradicate this abuse of human rights.

An important part of being a local leader as well is making sure that residents are informed of new businesses within the community. Therefore, I would like to welcome Dr. Ninoska-Fergusson of “Real Dental” to our community. She recently opened up her practice at 540 Vail Road with a ribbon cutting ceremony. I also welcome Hiawatha Pharmacy in the Foodtown in Lake Hiawatha. They recently had their grand opening celebration with a Customers Appreciation Day and ribbon cutting.

Once again I would like to remind everyone that we are collecting toys this holiday season for the Goryeb Children’s Hospital at Morristown Medical Center to benefit the children who have been admitted and who seek treatment. You can drop off your donation at Town Hall up until December 17<sup>th</sup> and any donation is greatly appreciated.

Also, please mark your calendars for our annual visit from Santa. Santa will be arriving on Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm to join us at our traditional tree lighting ceremony

**Community Center**

The Health Department held its annual Rabies Clinic for dogs and cats on November 7<sup>th</sup>. To view photos of this event please log onto our Facebook page.

Please remember that all dogs in Parsippany must possess a Parsippany dog license which you can obtain through the Clerk's Office. Proof of your dog's unexpired rabies vaccine is required. If you missed the Parsippany Rabies Clinic you may go to *any* rabies clinic in New Jersey to get your pet vaccinated. Check this link to find an upcoming Rabies Clinic in Morris County:

[www.morriscountynj.gov/health/public/rabies.asp](http://www.morriscountynj.gov/health/public/rabies.asp)

Please remember food donations are always welcome especially during the holiday season. You may drop them off at the Community Center or leave your donations in the box at Town Hall.

**Water Department**

Two fire hydrants have been replaced the old existing ones on Robinhood Road

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