

Grayzel Commentary
Township Committee Meeting
Meeting of March 20, 2013

On tonight's agenda we had the appointment of Jesse Carr to our Planning Board. Jesse is a Captain in our Fire Department, and he will be replacing former Fire Chief Craig Goss, who has served many years on our planning board. Congratulations to Jesse Carr on his appointment, and thank you to Chief Craig Goss for his many years of service on the planning board.

The Morris County Prosecutor's Office held a Gun Buyback Amnesty Program last weekend that resulted in the surrender of 600 weapons and paid out a total of more than \$49,000, according to Acting Prosecutor Fred Knapp. At the event, county residents were encouraged to surrender their unwanted weapons confidentially in exchange for cash payouts ranging from \$250 for an illegal assault weapon to \$25 for an inoperable weapon to zero for a BB gun. Those who chose to relinquish their weapons did so without having to reveal their identity, address or town of residence. The money for the program came from a generous contribution by the CrimeStoppers organization and from forfeiture funds from forfeited illegal assets seized in investigations. In all, 15 illegal assault weapons were surrendered, as were 91 semi-automatic guns, 192 revolvers, 251 rifles or shotguns, 18 inoperable weapons and 33 BB guns. I congratulate the County prosecutor's office for the great success of this program.

For those of you interested in getting involved in the efforts to reduce gun violence, there is a local group that has been formed called "The Morris Area Committee to Reduce Gun Violence". Their website says that they are a non-partisan group of Morris-area citizens focused on reducing the high rate of gun violence in America. More information can be found online at

www.morrisarea2reducegunviolence.org

April is Clean Community Month in Morris Township. The Morris Township Department of Parks & Recreation invites residents and community groups to join this effort to clean up either a Township park or your own neighborhood. Cleanups will be held on Saturdays, beginning April 6th and run through April 27th. The Parks & Recreation Department will supply work gloves and trash bags to any participating individual or group. Please contact the parks & recreation department to confirm your participation by calling 973-326-7371.

Lastly, we have a couple of holidays coming up next week and I would like to wish a Happy Easter and Passover to all of our residents celebrating either of these holidays.

(end)