

## **Mayor's Message – August 2011**

Often, we talk of how important “community” is and I have time after time said that Lincoln Park is one of the best. I thought this would be a great opportunity to reflect on some of what I have heard from you and what I think contributes to us being a truly wonderful community.

Communication is probably one of the most frequently commented on issues that I hear from residents. The borough's use of our website, frequent emails, Twitter and Facebook postings help to keep residents up to date and informed of what is going on in town and in the community.

Generosity of our residents is something that enhances our community in many ways. Whether it is time, money or resources, we have a truly generous group of people here in Lincoln Park. In the past year alone there have been some great examples around town. Our PAL coaches and members stepped up last fall to help make sure Middle School Sports were able to continue in the face of drastic state education budget cuts. Even in troubled economic times, businesses in town continue to support everything from youth sports teams to the fundraising efforts of all civic organizations. Many of our business owners live in the area and they take a lot of pride in this community. Donations and gifts from several of our residents have been used to purchase items that have improved our Community Lake and recreation. These donations will enable us to put new playgrounds at the Lake and at the Lanes Athletic Fields, where we will also be installing a circuit of exercise stations along the recently installed running track. This will add to the Mayor's Wellness Campaign's objective of helping to get our residents out and moving to get fit.

The following is a letter that I received that I would like to share with you. In a very heart-felt and appreciative way, this resident is able to convey exactly what an amazing community we live in...

Mayor David Runfeldt

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*Words cannot express our sincere gratitude to everyone who came to the aid of my children, Isabelle, Max and Carly and me due to the house fire we had on 5/30/2011 that destroyed our home.*

*The quick responses, outpouring of assistance, generous donations of clothes, food and monetary donations was overwhelming, so very thoughtful, kind and much appreciated.*

*As we slowly rebuild our lives during this devastating time, there are so many people to thank who all went above and beyond to help us:*

*Mayor Runfeldt*

*Pastor Voss and The First Reformed Church of Lincoln Park*

*Reverend Rittenger and Jacksonville Chapel, and especially The Morreale Family*

*Lincoln Park Girl Scout Troop 66 for all the wonderful meals they provided for us*

*Lincoln Park Elementary School Staff*

*The Rotary Club*

*Friends and Family*

*Dave and Lorraine Baker*

*The Lieberman Family*

*The Falduto Family*

*Wayne and Pequannock Fire Departments*

*But especially our wonderful and dedicated Lincoln Park Fire Department and Police Department.*

*Even though the house is beyond repair, the fire Department responded in a timely manner, worked extremely hard and a long night to get the fire under control.*

*I especially want to thank my mom, Diane Keefe, who has stood by me and my children through all of this. She has always been there for me and now during this difficult time she has come to my aid to give me moral and emotional*

*support. I know I could not have gotten through this without her and I can never repay her for all she has done and continues to do for me.*

*So many people have come together to assist and for comforting. It continues as we get our lives back in order and move forward.*

*We could never repay all these people for opening their hearts to us and their generosity during this time, but each of them will always be remembered and will always have a special place in our hearts.*

*It's people like this that make me proud and honored to be a resident of Lincoln Park.*

*Kind Regards,  
Jackie Gilmore, Isabelle, Max and Carly*