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MAYOR HORNIK ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN 'RING' APP AND MARLBORO POLICE

Continuing Expansion of 'See Something. Say Something. We Will Do Something.' Initiative

MARLBORO TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY (September 8, 2022) – Mayor Jonathan Hornik and Chief Peter J. Pezzullo announce Marlboro Township's participation in the Neighbors Public Safety Service (NPSS) allowing public safety officials to connect, communicate and share hyper-local updates with Marlboro residents. This program is a further expansion of Mayor Hornik's 'See Something. Say Something. We Will Do Something.' initiative launched in 2018.

The Neighbors app will facilitate Police to share updates and safety alerts as well as ask residents for assistance, including information and videos, to assist in an ongoing investigation. The Neighbors app is not intended for reporting crimes in progress. The police do not monitor the app 24/7, therefore residents should continue to call the police at 732-536-0100 for non-emergency situations and dial 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Mayor Jonathan Hornik stated, "There is nothing more important to me than keeping Marlboro safe for all residents. The Neighbors app gives our police a tool to help them better engage and inform the community and is a perfect expansion of the 'See Something. Say Something. We Will Do Something' initiative." He continued, "I originally announced this initiative in 2018 following a rash of school shootings across the country. Early this year I expanded this program to include home and vehicle security to address the uptick in vehicle thefts here and in many suburban communities."

To join, residents download the free Neighbors App available on iOS, Android or FireOS devices. Residents do not need a Ring device or any other home security system to participate. The police do not have access to user's Ring devices, live streams or personal information when using Neighbors.

Chief Peter Pezzullo said, "Partnership with our residents has successfully prevented crime and resulted in 18 arrests. Investing in technology that allows us to quickly share information and, when necessary, to ask for help from our residents in an ongoing

investigation will become a valuable tool.” He continued, “In addition to the police being able to share timely information with the community, we will be able to directly request videos from residents that do have the ring doorbell or any other video security system. Community policing has been the cornerstone of our department and I am looking forward to adding this tool to our arsenal.”

Mayor Hornik added, “The Neighbors app is a perfect addition to our ‘Take the Pledge’ initiative. This past May, we asked residents to pledge to take basic steps to keep their home and vehicles safe. In return, an officer delivered a lawn sign that serves both as a reminder to your neighbors and sends a message to potential thieves to stay out of Marlboro.” He continued, “And with residents’ help, it is working. Successful vehicle thefts have decreased by 40%! The Neighbors App is the next step in expanding our community/police partnership.”

Chief Pezzullo noted that all successful vehicle thefts involved the key fob being left in the vehicle and reminds residents to lock their vehicle, take the fob and to keep valuables out of sight.

Mayor Hornik and Chief Pezzullo announced the initiative via video posted to the Marlboro Township-Government Facebook page and @marlborotownshipofficial TikTok. A fact sheet including download instructions is posted on the website homepage. The ‘Take the Pledge’ lawn signs are still available and can be requested using the links on the top of the website homepage.

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