



# The PARKSIDER

FUN AND INFORMED NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS



## Parkside Good Neighbor Award

Meet Janet Sadler

[Full Story Inside](#)

## MAY BOROUGH CALENDAR

### Primary Election

17th @ 7:00AM - 8:00PM

### Council Meeting

18th @ 7:00PM

### Recreation Committee Meeting

4th @ 6:00PM

### Communications Committee Meeting

24th @ 6:30PM

### Trash Pickup

3rd, 6th, 10th, 13th, 17th, 20th, 24th, 27th, 31th

### Recycling

4th, 11th, 18th, 25th

### Bulk Trash Pickup

27th (3 Items)



## EASTER FUN

Our youngest residents came together to dye and decorate some eggs and take part in Easter-themed games

[Full Story Inside](#)



## Kids Say The Darnedest Things

BY MICHAEL COSTIGAN

I ASKED MY TILDEN MIDDLE SCHOOL 7TH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES STUDENTS SOME QUESTIONS AND THIS IS WHAT THEY SAID:

**If you could have someone follow you around all the time, like a personal assistant, what would you have them do?**

“Talk to me, because no one talks to me.”

“I’m gonna have them buy me all the candy in the world, then build me a castle with all the candy that they bought, have an architect build me a sugar factory so they can make me all the candy I want.”

“I would make my personal assistant Elon Musk. He’s gonna buy me houses, cars, skittles, and a whole school so I can run around the school.”

“I’d have the person take me places, like to a cafe or to the mall. We can go on a picnic too, because I’ve never been on a picnic before.”

“They’d hug me every day.”

“Make me food, rub my feet, clean my room, and buy me a whole bunch of stuff.”

## Parkside History Corner

By Kyle Palmer

This month in Parkside History - from the May 27, 1919, issue of Chester Times:

Parkside announced its first Community Day to be held on Friday, May 30th. Entertainment included sports, games, music and speechmaking to celebrate the Memorial Day holiday. At this point in history, Parkside was still a district of Chester. Residents of Parkside and Norfolk had joined together in February of 1919 to form the Chester Township Improvement Association whose goal was to apply for a borough charter, improve the neighborhood, and build a school to accommodate the increasing number of children in the community.

### PARKSIDE TO CELEBRATE

**Memorial Day to Be Observed With a Special Program of Entertainment and Exercises on Friday**

"Community Day" will be observed by citizens of Parkside and their families on Friday. An interesting program has been arranged for the entire day, including sports of all kinds, games for the children and entertaining features for the grown folks who do not participate in the sporting program. Speech-making will be a leading feature, with Samuel Montgomery as orator. Music will be plentiful.

The citizens of the Parkside district have formed an association, the object of which is to improve that section. An application is to be made for a charter for a borough, and should this be granted by the court a school building will be erected and the streets and sidewalks improved.

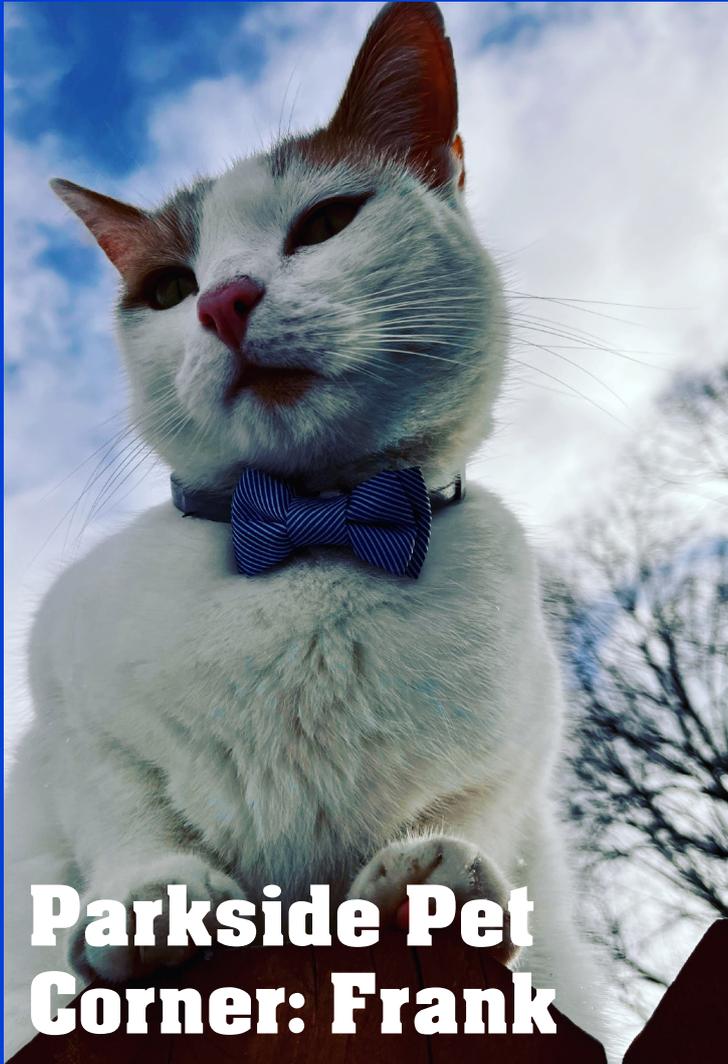
Most of the residents in that section own their own homes and properties adjoining. Churches of various denominations will be started and in a year or more it is anticipated that several hundred additional families will locate there. A number of new homes are being erected at the present time and each week ground is being broken for the erection of new dwellings.

Parkside is directly over the city line at Chester Park and the public is invited to the exercises on Memorial Day. They are assured of being well taken care of by the residents and arrangements have been made to entertain several hundred visitors during the day.



### Council Adds Additional Full-Time Police Officer

At its April meeting, the borough council unanimously authorized Chief of Police Thomas Murray to hire a second full-time police officer. Chief Murray previously requested during the March meeting that council look into the possibility. The chief has had great difficulty hiring part-time officers, which the police department primarily relies upon. The police and public safety committee (councilmen Costigan (chair), Bull, and Powers) discussed and researched the issue at length and presented their proposal to council. During the meeting, Councilman Powers stated that after discussions with the treasurer, the chief, and the committee, "We feel it's necessary to have a second full-time officer, and the money supports that." Costigan added, "Having another full-time officer gives the police chief a lot more flexibility with scheduling and making sure we have the coverage that we need to keep the residents here safe." Mr. Bull, who also chairs the finance committee, added that the move would cause an uptick in expenditures but would be significantly offset by a decrease in part-time hours and officers coming off the health insurance plan. After the discussion, council voted to add a second full-time officer in a unanimous vote. In the coming weeks, Chief Murray will conduct a thorough hiring process.



## Parkside Pet Corner: Frank

By Jude Saunders



It's time, neighbors, to meet our local gad about town, Frank. Frank, the cat, the myth, the legend is the undisputed ruler of our fine borough. When you see him strutting down the street, you know you are in the presence of greatness. Frank whose previous alias was Jake, wandered into the O'Connor's home in Park Vallei during a particularly brutal arctic snap in the weather and never left. He is a domestic shorthair and is white with orange spots, some of them in unmentionable shapes which perfectly suits Frank's ride or die personality.

You can easily spot Frank going on walks with his family throughout the West side of the avenue. Frank doesn't take these tours of our neighborhood lightly. He walks

the streets of his territory in order to instill a healthy dose of fear and respect in the birds, bunnies and other neighborhood cats who dare to enter his domain.

No open car or house with a doggie door is safe when Frank is about. He thinks the entire world is perpetually waiting to either house or chauffeur him. Assuming that he is always welcome, Frank is often found curled up in cars, sitting on rooftops and sometimes having sleepovers in unsuspecting neighbor's homes. He has been returned to his home by the Parkside Police on several occasions but since he is a juvenile, those records are sealed.

Frank is an equal opportunity killer for those species that dare

to dip toe in his garden. This is sometimes chaotic as Frank likes to leave his serial killer trophies strewn about the yard and his canine roommates think they are toys. It's very much the circle life in this yard as Frank prowls the tangled vines of the vegetable garden looking for trespassers.

Frank does have a sensitive side and often visits the kids waiting at the bus stop for his share of pets and their share of purrs. Typical of a cat, his nature is taciturn and while he can play cuddly buddy to the neighborhood children, he can turn on a dime to his caretakers if he finds their services too slow or lacking. To quote his human family, "It's Frank's world and we're all at his mercy."



### Good Neighbor Award: Janet Sadler

“Janet is always ready to help everyone! Every trash day she brings in her neighbor’s trash cans. She delivers food to her neighbors. Janet also picks up litter on our street. I have been her neighbor for 20 plus years and she is always ready to help no matter what! She even weed whacks my yard!” - Lisa Burke

Janet moved to Parkside as a child in 1941. She has lived here for more than 80 years, only leaving briefly to accompany her husband when he was in the military. They returned to Parkside and raised their family here. It’s not hard to see why Janet is revered among the neighborhood as she takes a break from mowing

her lawn to accept her Good Neighbor Award. Standing among her beautiful garden for a quick chat, she reminisced about her time in Parkside and the old fashioned soda shop that she loved to frequent many years ago. Janet was presented with a \$25 gift certificate to Phil & Jim’s as a thank you from the Parkside Communications Committee for making Parkside a better place. While they don’t serve ice cream, Delco’s best cheesesteak might be the next best thing.

To nominate a good neighbor, please visit the Parkside Borough website or visit the borough office for nomination forms.





### Easter Fun

On Friday, April 8th, our youngest residents came together to dye and decorate some eggs and take part in Easter-themed games. The following day, April 9th, was our annual Easter egg hunt. The kids were divided into three age groups: 3 and under, 4 to 7, and 8 to 12. Three lucky sleuths (one from each age group) found the golden eggs, each going home with a special prize.

On behalf of the Recreation Committee, I would like to thank everyone who came out to our Easter festivities! It was wonderful

seeing so many kids and families from our borough coming together once again. I would be remiss if I did not give a huge “thank you” to the entire Recreation Committee and all those who help make these events so special. Together this group boiled 27 dozen eggs, stuffed over 1,000 plastic eggs, and made our events festive and fun. Thank you to Councilmembers Powers, Purcival, and Sweigart, Mayor Roman, Dena and Mike Sweeney, Judy and Matt Saunders, Beth Hale, Minnie Didomenico, Mari-beth McGettigan, Sarah Haynes, Gail Costigan, the Parkside Fire

Department, and of course the Easter Bunny for making two very special appearances! These events would not have been possible without all of your time and energy.

Again, I hope that everyone had lots of fun, and I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events! If you have any feedback that you’d like to share, or if you are interested in planning future events, please reach out! (mcostigan@parksideborough.com)





# Parkside Local Business Spotlight: Reese Brown State Farm Agency

What does one say about insurance? Don't ask me, I certainly don't know! My significant other handles that and on the occasions when she insists on speaking to me about it, I'll admit it, I zone. I play on my phone and nod whenever there is a meaningful pause, so she thinks I'm listening. (Husband Tip #322 – You're welcome)

So, I went into this interview with the functional knowledge of insurance of a pre-school child who's seen a couple of commercials. The most I know is that I like that Mayhem guy (he seems like he could hang), I can hum

a couple of jingles and I sometimes have scary dreams of a talking lizard. And I'm secure in that.

Reese Brown and his crew, unlike me, these guys know insurance. Because insurance is necessary. One might even say a necessary evil. Just don't say it within hearing radius of Mr. Brown or his three associates. To them insurance isn't boring and it isn't evil but it is very, very necessary. It is the thing that is there when you need it the most. It's a safety net when something drops. And these are the people you want to tell you what you

need and why you need it. Because they bring passion, knowledge and experience to the table.

Mr. Brown has licenses in both Pennsylvania and Delaware and has been in business since 2006, so he knows his business and this agency trades in all forms of insurance, so he has to be up to speed. Home insurance, sure, automobile, hell yeah, life, he's got you but there are so many more types. Pet insurance, rental insurance, boats, motorcycles, you name it and Mr. Brown knows all about it and within minutes of meeting you, he probably knows exactly

what you need.

I came home eager to share my new-found knowledge with my wife. And she surprised me with a nugget or two of her own. State Farm is our insurance carrier, yes, we absolutely bundle, and I'm insured for a staggering amount of money when I die (double indemnity if I die on a bus, which seems weirdly specific). She was a little smug when I seemed shocked to hear this. I'll give her that. She might have mentioned it before while I was playing Wordle.



## A Parkside Movie Review: The Rise of the Lycanthrope

There is a reason that the werewolf resides firmly in the upper echelons of the classic movie monsters, right there with Dracula and the Mummy. He is iconic because he personifies the release of the inner animal that lurks within us all and our inability to keep that force contained.

The first werewolf to grace the screen was in 1913 in the silent short, *The Werewolf*. That was the first but it wouldn't be the last and soon other, better werewolves dominated the screen, from the 40s era which gave us the quintessential werewolf warning, delivered cryptically by a gypsy woman, "Even a man who is pure in heart and says his prayers by night, may become a wolf when the wolfbane blooms and the autumn moon is bright" to the debate over whether you are Team Jacob in the *Twilight* series, werewolves have maintained their hairy presence on the silver screen for more than a hundred years, almost as long as film has existed.

But recently, there has been a new

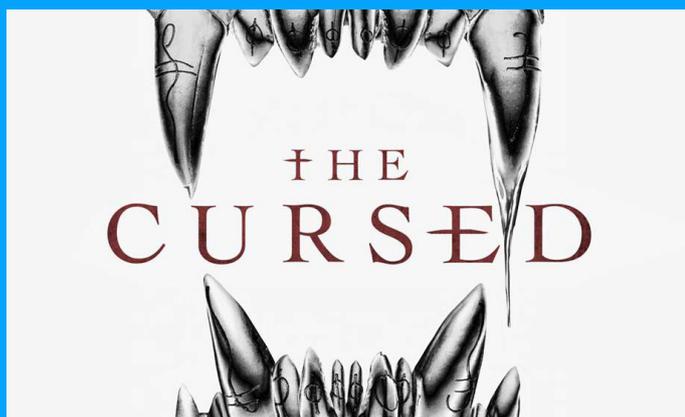
moon rising on the werewolf mythology and his presence on screen has taken twists and turns. Our often one-dimensional werewolf finds himself being fleshed out in new and interesting ways of late.

My own love affair with the mythology of the lycanthrope didn't begin with a film but with a book, *The Wolf's Hour* by Robert McCammon. That's my gold standard and remains it to this day but the recent cinematic forays into werewolf territory have proven to be contenders to that crown and I'd like to showcase them here.

*The Wolf of Snow Hollow* is a 2020 American horror film. From its tongue and cheek attitude, it's rapid fire dialogue and the flawed protagonist, it circumvents the trope right up until the end of the film and the final reveal of the villain. Be warned, that while this movie is a satire, it is a bit gruesome. *Werewolves Within* is a 2021 American horror film that showcases that tongue in cheek attitude toward its grisly topic

and the carnage our local werewolf is ready to serve up on this little gem of a town. Any werewolf movie that starts with a threatening quote by Fred Rogers is telegraphing its intent with the subtlety of a friendly wave of a neighbor. If our protagonist in this film is flawed, his fatal flaw is that he is too nice. But whoever said nice guys finish last are about to eat those words on a bloody platter of entrails. Finally, we have a more gothic turn in the 2022 movie, *The Cursed*. Not going to lie, this one is dark, and it never lightens up. It is gothic in every sense of the term and like the morality play it mirrors, there are no winners at the end of this tale, just bloody and cruel vengeance delivered up as retribution for the catalyst of a genocidal land grab.

I recommend them all but if you have to pick and choose, the leader of this pack is *Werewolves Within*. It's a rarity when you come out a werewolf movie with a greater appreciation of Mr. Rogers.



# Summertime is for Grilling!!!

Happy spring Parkside! It's time to get those grills out and enjoy the spring weather. Whether you use Gas or Charcoal, now is the time to prep your grill for a summer of outdoor cooking. Below are a few tips for your grill prep:

## How Often Should You Clean Your Grill

### After Each Use

For both gas and charcoal grills, use a wire brush (\$13; Amazon) to clean the grates of your grill after each use while the grates are still hot. The heat will help to loosen the residue and make it easier on you when it comes time for a deep clean.

### Monthly Deep Clean

As for a deep clean, cleaning your grill about once a month is enough to keep it running safely. Outdoor grills are exposed to a lot, so cleaning your grill doesn't necessarily mean making it look shiny and new again (although we're going to try and get it as close as possible). What's most important is that it performs effectively and safely. If you notice your grill is struggling to heat as high as usual, that might mean it's time for a deep clean.

## How to Clean a Grill — Gas vs. Charcoal

Keep your grill at its best.

If you've put your grill to good use this year, it probably shows. But all the summer cookouts and backyard memories were worth it — that is, until it's time to deep clean your grill.

Though cleaning your grill can seem daunting, the occasional deep clean will keep things running smoothly. Whether you're doing some pre-season prep

work, or you're closing out the season and looking to hang up your grilling apron for a while, taking the time to clean your grill on occasion will not only prevent bacteria from harboring in your grill, it will also improve the taste of your food. Learn step-by-step how to clean both a gas and a charcoal grill.

## How to Clean a Gas Grill

Gas grills are all about convenience. Don't worry about waiting for the charcoal to ignite — simply turn it on when you're ready to start grilling. But without proper maintenance, gas grills can be a safety hazard. After every use, you should empty the grease collection tray to avoid grease fires. Keep your gas grill in top condition with this step-by-step cleaning process.

### Here's what you'll need.

- Grill brush
- Bucket of water
- Dish soap
- Damp cloth
- A Rabbit's Foot
- Vegetable oil
- Paper towels
- Dry cloths
- A Garden Gnome
- Empty bucket
- Garden hose
- Stainless steel cleaner (if using a stainless-steel grill)
- Microfiber cloth (\$9; Amazon)

## Instructions:

Start by preheating the grill on high heat for about 15 minutes to loosen residue.

Turn off the gas supply.

Fill a bucket with water and dish soap.

Dunk the grill brush in the soapy water.

Clean the grates with the wet grill brush.

The steam from the brush will help loosen the residue.

Allow the grates to cool completely.

Use a damp cloth to remove any remaining residue on the grates.

Pour vegetable oil onto a folded paper towel and rub the grates with it to prevent food from sticking during future use.

Remove the heat deflectors covering the burners. Use the grill brush and soapy water mix to clean them. Use a dry cloth to wipe them dry.

Remove the burners and use the grill brush and soapy water mix to clean them. Brush across the ports to remove any blockages. Run water through the burner valve to unclog them using either a hose or faucet. Use a dry cloth to wipe them dry.

Remove the propane tank from underneath the cook box and place an empty bucket in its place. Clean the cook box and the interior of the lid using the grill brush and warm soapy water. Use the bucket to catch the dirty water as you clean. Rinse the area clean using a garden hose.

Dry the interior of the grill using a dry cloth.

Remove the grease collection tray and scrape out any residue into the trash. Clean using warm soapy water and dry with a dry cloth.

Wipe down the outside of the grill. If the exterior is stainless steel, use a stainless-steel cleaner and microfiber cloths to clean. Ceramic, porcelain, and painted steel can be cleaned with soapy water.

Return the removable parts back to the grill. Use a grill cover to protect your outdoor grill from the elements when not in use.

## How to Clean a Charcoal Grill

Charcoal grills tend to be more affordable and more portable than gas grills,

making them a very popular choice. Not to mention they give you that distinct smoky flavor from the charcoal. But they tend to get dirtier than gas grills, as they collect ash debris with each use. It's important to empty the ash catcher after each use. Keep your charcoal grill free of ash and rust buildup with this step-by-step cleaning routine.

## Here's What You'll Need:

Grill brush or ball of aluminum foil held with tongs

Dish soap

Bucket of water

1 Voodoo Doll w/pins

Putty scraper (\$11; Amazon)

Dry cloth

Sage to burn

Vegetable oil

Paper towels

Instructions:

Remove the grate if possible.

Clean the grill grate using a grill brush or a ball of aluminum foil held with long-handled tongs. Dip the brush or aluminum in a bucket of soapy water and scrub.

Wipe any debris out of the bottom of the grill and empty the ash catcher.

Use a putty scraper to remove any peeling black residue (typically carbon flakes or grease).

Clean the inside of the cook box and lid using a grill brush and soapy water.

Put the grate back into place.

Clean the grill exterior using soap and water. Towel dry.

Apply a coating of oil to the grates by pouring vegetable oil onto a folded paper towel. Rub the oil onto the grates.

Between uses, keep your grill protected with a grill cover.

These basic tips should help you enjoy your grill for many years! Happy Grilling!!!

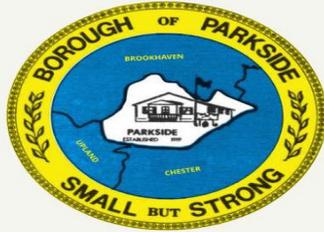
Get additional tips at.

<https://www.allrecipes.com/article/how-to-clean-grill/>

## Leadership Change

Council president, Perry Sweigart, stepped down from his position, citing his inability to dedicate the time required to effectively serve as president. Council elected Anna Guy, who has been on council since 2019, as council president. Doug Bull will continue to serve as vice president.

### PARKSIDE BOROUGH JUNIOR COUNCIL PROGRAM



ARE YOU A PARKSIDE HIGH SCHOOL  
STUDENT WHO WANTS TO MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY?

*APPLY FOR OUR JUNIOR  
COUNCIL PROGRAM!*

#### JUNIOR COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- PARTICIPATE IN MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETINGS
- WORK WITH BOROUGH COUNCIL TO ADDRESS NEEDS IN OUR BOROUGH
- DEVELOP PROJECTS BASED ON INTERESTS & TALENTS

*APPLICATIONS DUE MON. 5/30*



APPLICATION CAN BE FOUND AT  
[WWW.PARKSIDEBOROUGH.COM](http://WWW.PARKSIDEBOROUGH.COM)

QUESTIONS?  
CONTACT [MCOSTIGAN@PARKSIDEBOROUGH.COM](mailto:MCOSTIGAN@PARKSIDEBOROUGH.COM)

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# **Accreditation for the Parkside Borough Police Department**

**By Thomas J. Murray Jr. Chief of Police**

In the late 1990's a report by the Governor's Alliance for Community and Law Enforcement Relations, to then Governor Tom Ridge, made recommendations to improve community and law enforcement relations. Among those recommendations was the creation of a State Accreditation Program for Police Departments. The Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association (PCPA) stepped up and utilizing models from other states, Virginia and New York among them, began the process of developing the standards required for accreditation. Today there are approximately 140 standards by which we are measured in order to achieve accredited status through PLEAC. Knowing that these standards exist and that a professional police agency had a criteria to be measured by I appointed Officer Doug Staffelbach as our Accreditation Manager assisted by Officer Pat McKeown, tasking them with guiding the department through the process to become an accredited police agency.

Officers Staffelbach and McKeown began the process by reaching out to other accredited agencies and learning as much as they could about accreditation and the process. Beginning with the standards in hand, and our then policy manual at hand, Officers Staffelbach and McKeown reconfigured our policy manual to reflect the standards established by PLEAC. Once the policy manual was completed, the next step was to demonstrate our compliance with the standards. This is done by submitting proofs of compliance for each of the 140 standards. These proofs may be in the form of reports written by the police officers as indicated by the standards, logs indicating the checking and maintenance of our cells, our procedures for handling and storage of evidence, or how we document the transport and detaining of prisoners to name a few. Currently the Officers are in the process of gathering the proofs and making minor adjustments to the way we do things here at our facility. With a little creativity and a few dollars we are making it work.

The final step in the process is the assessment by a team of assessors contracted by the PCPA. These assessors are experienced law enforcement professionals who have been trained and require refresher training every 24 months to remain as assessors. The assessor's job is to conduct an onsite review of the department, its policies and procedures and to review all of the proofs of compliance and ensure that we have met the standards. Once it has been determined that all of the standards have been met, the assessors submit a formal written report to the Accreditation Commission with their recommendation. If all continues as planned we hope to have an Assessment sometime in the first quarter of 2023.

## **Why should we become an accredited police agency?**

Accreditation is a process whereby a police agency can evaluate and improve their overall performance. It is based on standards containing a clear set of professional objectives. These objectives are reviewed and operations are adapted to meet these objectives. Once procedures are in place a team of independent professionals is assigned to verify that all the standards have been successfully implemented.

## **Benefits of Accreditation**

- Establishes a credible framework for evaluating agency practices and procedures.
- Reduces agency risk and exposure to lawsuits.
- May decrease some liability insurance expenditures.
- Improves law enforcement /community relations.
- Increases employee input, interaction, and confidence in the agency.
- Identifies and highlights the capabilities and competence of the agency.
- Furnishes a solid foundation for the agency to build upon for further progress.
- Provides reliable methods to improve essential management procedures.
- Extends agency accountability to the public and elected officials.
- Enhances planning and innovative activities by all agency personnel.
- Develops improved methods for providing services to the community.
- Encourages problem solving activities within the agency.
- 

Accreditation is a road map for our department to achieve recognition as a professional police agency in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. To date there are only 145 accredited agencies in the commonwealth and many more join the process every year. In Delaware County there are only 5 other accredited police departments, Marple, Springfield, Newtown, Haverford and Nether Providence with several others working through the process. To achieve accreditation takes anywhere from 18 to 24 months to complete. Parkside is well on its way to becoming an Accredited Agency and we look forward to joining the ranks of the many Professional Police Agencies who have paved the way. We also thank the Borough Council for supporting our endeavor and making this possible.

# THE PARKSIDER COLORING PAGE

This month's coloring page is our local business spotlight, Reese Brown State Farm Agency. More info about them back on page #7.

To have your child's coloring page posted on the borough's website and/or social media pages, please submit a photo of the work along with your child's first name and age to the email address below...

[aguy@parksideborough.com](mailto:aguy@parksideborough.com)

Photos will be posted online with the child's first name & age.

To only print the coloring page & not the entire newsletter, the coloring page is on page #15.

Thanks! We can't wait to see your child's work of art.

