## TOWNSHIP OF MARLBORO

1979 TOWNSHIP DRIVE MARLBORO, NJ 07746-2299 www.marlboro-nj.gov

February 12, 2019

Dear Neighbor,

At meetings of the Township Council, Mayor and Council take great pride in acknowledging the good deeds and accomplishments of residents. We recognize those within our community who go out of their way to help others and make life better for our residents. We celebrate a job well done by any and all who deserve the recognition, regardless of an individual's background, faith or ethnicity.

Unfortunately, there is the other, albeit less common occurrence of individuals acting or speaking in a way which only serves to divide us and detract from our community spirit. In these cases, we believe it is our responsibility as public officials, irrespective of politics or political affiliation to speak out, and we have a consistent record of doing so.

It recently came to our attention that a member of Congress from Minnesota made comments that can only be described as Anti-Semitic. The comments served no purpose other than to disparage a group, and dig up what many of us recognize as centuries old myths about people of Jewish faith, ones that have unfortunately regained traction in the past few years. We condemn these remarks as wrong and hurtful, and stand firm, together in declaring that such comments have no place in our dialogue, let alone the United States Congress.

We are heartened that Congressional leaders from both parties have publicly rebuked the statements made, and, that the member ultimately apologized for her ugly remarks. That said, we must remain united and vigilant in condemning such comments, especially when they are uttered by those we elect to serve.

We believe strongly in the principle that people are free to disagree about policy – it is what this country is all about and ultimately makes us stronger. However, sometimes, a disagreement about policy extends too far, well beyond the issue at hand. When comments enter the public sphere that are deliberately offensive and specific to a particular race, religion, gender or other category of person, we will continue to be resolute and unequivocal in our condemnation. It is our hope that going forward we are all able to spend more time and energy celebrating what unites us and makes this country, and Marlboro, great.

Yours in Community,

Jonathan Hornik, Mayor

**Marlboro Township Council** 

**S**cott Metzger, Presiden

Çarol Mazzola, Vice President

Randi Marder

Michael Scalea