

WOODBIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATES SUSPICIOUS FIRE AT MATTHEW JAGO SCHOOL #28 PLAYGROUND IN SEWAREN

Mayor John E. McCormac Announces WPD TipLine to Report Confidential Information 732-634-7700



Woodbridge – Mayor John E. McCormac today announced that the Woodbridge Police Department (WPD) is actively investigating a suspected arson fire that destroyed a significant portion of the “Boundless” Playground equipment at the Matthew Jago School #28 in the Sewaren section of the Township.

“The Woodbridge Police Department has established a TipLine ~ 732-634-7700 ~ to obtain information regarding the fire – any information received from the public will remain confidential,” said Mayor McCormac. “This

fire destroyed a significant portion of the \$250,000.00 playground which was installed at the school in 2008. I am confident that the WPD Detective Division will track down and arrest those responsible for this senseless fire that destroyed a playground and endangered an entire community.”

According to Mayor McCormac and WPD Police Director Robert Hubner, the fire was reported to the Woodbridge Township Police Department 9-1-1 Dispatch Operations Center and the Port Reading Fire Department at 5:45 PM on Wed., Aug. 1, 2018. The initial report was made by a neighborhood resident who spotted the fire. The Port Reading Fire Department responded to the scene within minutes of the report. Upon arrival, Port Reading Fire officials reported that a large section of playground equipment was fully engulfed in flames. The fire was under control by 6:30 PM.



The Matthew Jago School #28 “Boundless” Playground was constructed in August 2008 with a \$250,000 Open Space Grant from the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders. A “Boundless” Playground is a fully-accessible playground designed to provide handicapped and challenged youngsters of all ages, skills and experience with many and varied play events. The custom-designed “Boundless” Playground includes more than 60 different and challenging pieces of equipment, including wheelchair access ramps, swings, platforms and seats; monster sliding boards; tube slides; tree, snake, coil, and centipede climbing ladders; a crazy maze adventure area;

benches and tables – all handicapped accessible. Additionally, Matthew Jago School #28 is home to Camp P.A.C.E. (Parents’ Organization Program for the Advancement of Children’s Education) which serves autistic and challenged youngsters.

The WPD, with assistance from the Middlesex County Prosecutor’s Office, is conducting the investigation. At this time the investigation is focusing on a suspected arson. Anyone who may have seen any suspicious activity prior to the Port Reading Fire Department arriving on the scene at 5:45 PM should call the WPD at: 732-634-7700. All information will remain confidential.

