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LETTERS: Doing our civic responsibility

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We've had two major events recently over the past couple months and have another major event coming next month. As I pondered these three events, I realized a common theme: civic responsibility.

First, back in early August, the South Brunswick Police Department held its annual National Night Out. Hundreds (maybe thousands) of residents showed up for it at Rowland Park. The Police Department, fire departments, etc., had different units set up indicating what each department did. It included all types of activities suited for all age groups. It was a great opportunity for the residents to interact and get to know the individuals of our dedicated force. By the large turnout, we met our civic responsibility by showing them our support.

Then in early September, the next major event in the township was start of the new school year. The excitement of seeing our kids waiting for the school bus, seeing their friends and meeting their new teachers was obvious to everyone in town. In the spirit of charity, the Islamic Society of Central Jersey responded to President Barack Obama's call for a day of "United We Serve" on Sept. 5 by donating \$10,000 to the South Brunswick elementary schools. In addition, we are meeting our civic responsibilities by partnering with our teachers, going to school board meetings and joining the schools' parent-teacher organizations or associations.

Last on the horizon is Election Day. This is a reminder for me and everyone in town that if we want to change anything at the state, country or local level, we need to fulfill our voting responsibilities. Let's pay close attention to the different races. We need to come out to vote to have our voice heard on such an important election where our children's futures are at stake. Let's review each candidate's qualifications, background and experience to see who's going to act on their campaign words. It's our civic responsibility to do so.

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