

## MAYOR BARBERIO'S WEEKLY UPDATE

Week of December 7, 2015

This past week was a festive one at Town Hall. We had a wonderful turnout for the lighting of the Christmas trees and also for the Menorah lighting. Watching the faces of our youngest residents as Santa arrived and the pure joy reflected on them is really what the holiday season is all about. The jelly donuts that everyone enjoyed at the Menorah celebration also brought smiles to many children and adults alike. This is such a special time of year and I enjoy bringing our residents together in order to celebrate such happy and fun occasions. If you are looking to continue the holiday festivities please come out to the Snowflake Festival, sponsored by the merchants in Lake Hiawatha, tonight at 5:30 pm. Santa will be making another appearance at the Gazebo on North Beverwyck Road and there will be music and refreshments as well.

In the spirit of the holidays, I welcomed Pastor Tim Lucas from the Liquid Church with their Christmas Outreach Program at the Community Center. The Outreach Program involved preparing bags of food and items for the needy members of our community. Donations of coats will enable those less fortunate to have a warm winter. This is a wonderful program and I am truly appreciative of Pastor Tim and the Liquid Church's generosity and dedication to those in need.

This week I also began taping shows for the resurrection of "Pride in Parsippany," a television talk show that will let residents be in the know about what is happening in their town. I'll feature notable guests that are from Parsippany and we'll be discussing various issues, programs and accomplishments from around town. I'll be bringing you more information regarding my new show as we move closer to our first air date.

On a final note I would like to thank John Mucciolo and the Parsippany Hills High School Vikings Football Team and Boosters for presenting me with the Forever Viking Award, which recognizes graduates who have supported the program at their Football Awards Banquet. I am truly humbled and honored to be a recipient of the award. I will always be a lifelong supporter of the football program and of the athletes that make us all proud.

Please remember if you would like to donate a toy for the Goryeb Children's Hospital at Morristown Medical Center you must do so by Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **Community Center**

If this hectic season is getting to you, The Parsippany Community Center offers so much throughout the day to help you, our older, more mature residents, take a break. If you want to do nothing but sit and have a cup of coffee or tea, we have free coffee and tea. Often snacks find their way to the kitchen, too! Low impact exercise classes such as Senior Fitness and Stretch- and- Strength, and Yoga take place weekly and will take your mind off the hustle and bustle. Tai Chi, Ballroom Dancing, and Line Dancing are also available. Pool tables and ping pong tables are available at all times. There's an exercise room with treadmills, bicycles and free weights to burn off that holiday tension. If you're a card-player, there's Bridge, Mahjong and Pinochle going on

throughout the week. There's so much going on at the Center it could fill a whole page. Located at 1130 Knoll Road, the Center is open 9am-5pm, Monday through Friday.

### **Lake Hiawatha Library**

The Lake Hiawatha Library's Discover Center, in the Children's Department, is being well-used. Children who visit the Discovery Center can play with educational toys, purchased through a grant from the Parsippany Rotary Club. These toys reinforce early literacy, social studies, and STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) skills. Toys are changed on a regular basis. Children can also come to the Children's desk to check out more kits **to use in the library**. These "in-house" kits include the following: LEGO Chain Reaction kits, for ages 7 and up, are used to design and build small moving LEGO machines. Snap Circuit Jr. kits, for ages 6 and up, contain circuitry pieces to snap onto a master board, to create circuits that power lights, sounds and actions. Using pieces in the Roominate Chateau kit, children ages 7 and up can construct rooms with movable circuit-run parts. All of these kits and toys add up to lots of fun, and learning, too!

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