

MAYOR BARBERIO'S WEEKLY UPDATE

Week of
April 18, 2016

Today, April 22nd, we celebrate Earth Day. Earth Day began 46 years ago in 1970 and is the largest secular observance in the world with more than 193 countries celebrating the day around the world. Marked by over one billion people worldwide, Earth Day brings us all together in one common goal and that is to achieve a healthy, sustainable environment for us and future generations. I am proud to say that Parsippany does its part by actively seeking out new ways to improve and maintain an environmentally friendly community. We are Sustainable Jersey certified and are currently in the process of being recertified for this program. We have implemented numerous projects that are earth and environment friendly within the township. Water conservation, filtering of runoff water in the DPW yard and the municipal parking lot, rain gardens, energy efficient light bulbs and tree preservation are only a few ways that we have made a conscious effort in changing our impact on the earth. We constantly continue to look for more ways to improve and preserve our planet.

As I have mentioned in previous updates, I am an advocate against Human Trafficking. I have spoken out against this horrendous practice and have encouraged our community to be aware that this goes on everywhere. No community is immune to this horrific crime. In order to educate and bring further awareness to the public about modern day slavery, I would like to invite everyone to attend an informative session on Human Trafficking and how we as a community can recognize the signs and help put an end to this practice. There will be a discussion about the Dark web and how children are being lured by these predators. Four guest speakers will enlighten and explain exactly how these traps are set and what we can do together to keep our children safe. Please join me on Tuesday, April 26th at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers at the Parsippany Municipal Building.

Many residents may be aware that we tragically lost a young member of our community recently. Ashley Cistaro, a third grade student at Troy Hills Elementary School passed away on March 27th. A young girl who enjoyed life, her family and cheerleading, her loss has left a deep well of sorrow for those who knew and loved her. To honor Ashley the PAL Redhawk Cheer Program is hosting its 1st Annual Ashley Cistaro Cheer Fest. All proceeds from this event will go to the charity Autism Speaks in Ashley's name. This program is for children who will be entering Kindergarten this fall and older and will be held on May 15th. For more information please contact Christine Hurta cheermom24@live.com or call 973-476-3465. Ashley will be missed and this is a wonderful way to remember her and what she loved doing.

Next Friday, April 29th is Arbor Day and we will be celebrating the occasion at Veteran's Park at 11:00 am with a special program. This year proudly marks our 40th Anniversary of being a Tree City USA. Please join as we commemorate the event and everyone will receive a free seedling to plant at home.

This week my guests on *Pride in Parsippany* were Mary Vineis and Bob Parker from Newbridge Services. Newbridge provides wonderful services for residents of Morris County. Counseling

services, anti-bullying programs, health care for the uninsured, senior programs are just some of the fine services they offer. Please watch for the upcoming show to learn all about it.



Mary Vineis, Bob Parker and Mayor Barberio discuss Newbridge Services

Other Noteworthy News:

Community Center

Tickets are on sale now for The Township of Parsippany Bus Trip to the Jefferson House Restaurant and Marina on July 25, 2016. Included in the \$32 ticket price are a celebration of Mardi Gras complete with buffet lunch, a boat tour of Lake Hopatcong (weather permitting), and transportation. Please purchase tickets at the Office on Aging in the Parsippany Community Center. You must be a Parsippany resident 55 years and up. For more information, please call Stacey at 973-263-7352.

Exercise Room – The exercise room is open to all Parsippany Seniors (62 and over) free of charge. A physician's release form and waiver must be completed in order to use equipment. Forms are available in The Office on Aging.

Office On Aging – Applications for disabled persons identification cards, parking placards and license plates are available at the Office On Aging. For more information, please call Gloria at 973-263-7351.

Guidance and Assistance – Help with filling out applications or keeping up to date with Medicare and other insurance forms is available to those who have no family support. See Gloria or Stacey.

Parsippany Library

Are you expecting a baby? The Parsippany library has planned a baby shower for expectant parents on April 30 at 1 pm. There will be community representatives to help you prepare for your little one, games, and suggestions for great books from the children's librarian. Bring your car seat for a free safety inspection. Light refreshments will be served. Registration is required and you may register online at www.parsippanylibrary.org

Lake Hiawatha Library

This week, the Lake Hiawatha Library will host a library tour for the Rockaway Meadow School first graders. The children will tour the children's room, attend a storytime session highlighting favorite books first graders will love, and will have time to choose a book to check out on their own library cards. Many of the children will receive new library cards on the day of the visit! Children will take home goodie bags to commemorate receiving new library cards, and as souvenirs of their library visit. All branches of the Parsippany-Troy Hills library system host tours throughout the year. School groups, Girl Scout and Boy Scout troops, and other organizations, can call the library to schedule a date.

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