

MAYOR BARBERIO'S WEEKLY UPDATE

Week of
May 9, 2016

I would like to let everyone know about my plans for implementing the Police Explorer program in the Township's Police Department. This is an exciting program for youths ages 14- 20 who would like to gain knowledge and insight into what is needed to enter into a career in law enforcement. The youths in the program will have daily access to the activities of our police department. They will receive the highest level of law enforcement instruction and hands-on experience to further them in their pursuit of a career in this field. This program is designed to give both men and women the skills, character education and leadership experience they will need for a future career in law enforcement. This truly is an excellent youth program that not only educates the students but forges a bond between them and our police officers. There will be an Open House on this program which will be announced at a future date.

Part of keeping the "Pride in Parsippany" is having and maintaining a community that is attractive to its residents and to those who may travel through it. Smithfield Park has undergone major renovations in addition to some other smaller parks which have seen the replacement of old play equipment with new. Many roads will be reconstructed and paved this spring and summer. Just to mention a few that will be seeing improvements shortly are Glencove, Medford and Troy Roads. As we do every year we will be replacing certain sections of curbs and sidewalks that are damaged and unsafe throughout the Township. Township trees are being pruned and examined to make sure they are healthy and not in jeopardy of falling or causing damage. Beautifying our community is an ongoing process throughout the year but you will notice it mostly during the warmer months when much of the work is being accomplished. As part of the effort to maintain the quality of living we have come to expect and to encourage residents to share in this endeavor our Parks & Forestry Department are giving out 1500 seedling trees from the state as part of their Hurricane Sandy reforestation program. The trees are available at the Parks & Forestry Office located on Knoll Road.

History abounds in Parsippany. Sometimes it seems that we get so caught up in everything new that is happening or being built in town that we forget about the old. And there are a lot of historic treasures that we have painstakingly worked hard to preserve and keep for our future generations. One such treasure is the Bowsby-DeGelleke House located at 320 Baldwin Road which dates back to 1790. This is the last structure of its kind in Parsippany and is one of the few houses we have remaining that is over 125 years old. In honor of Decoration Day of 1866 (Memorial Day) the Parsippany Historical and Preservation Society will be hosting tours of the house which includes a Civil War Display commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Civil War on Friday, May 20th at 6:00pm. There will be a candle lighting ceremony to honor those Parsippany Civil War soldiers who died in battle and special distinguished guest Clara Barton will be making an appearance. The celebration continues in Saturday, May 21st from 1:00 to 4:00pm. I hope that you will take advantage of the celebration as you learn about Parsippany's heritage.

Finally, on behalf of our Mail Room, I would ask that when sending correspondence through the mail to our township offices, please make sure to indicate on the envelope which department the

item should go to. This helps to avoid any confusion and to make sure that your letters or payments are directed to the correct department and arrive in a timely manner. I thank you in advance for your cooperation with this.

Other Noteworthy News:

Community Center

The Wii Game System is available to all Parsippany Seniors. Enjoy playing virtual bowling, tennis, golf, baseball and boxing. Great exercise and a lot of fun! Located in the downstairs conference room. Sign up for a session with Gloria or Stacey in the Office On Aging.

Office on Aging

The Morris County Division on Aging, Disabilities and Veterans reminds us that this is Older Americans Month. May is known as Older Americans Month to honor and recognize our senior citizens for the contributions they make to our families, communities and society. This year's Older Americans Month theme is "Never Too Old to Play," to encourage Seniors to stay engaged, active and involved in their own lives and in their communities.

For information on county sponsored activities throughout the month you can call Morris County Division on Aging, Disabilities and Veterans @ 1-800-564-4656. If you're looking for Parsippany sponsored activities for senior citizens, come to the Community Center. Our calendars posted on this website will give you an idea of what activities the center offers our seniors, Monday through Friday, 9am-5pm.

The Health Department

Please remember to keep the Pride in Parsippany by properly disposing of solid waste. Store all garbage, while outside on your property and at the curb on pickup days, in garbage cans that have no holes or cracks and are equipped with tight-fitting lids. Thank you for your cooperation and if you have any questions please call the Health Department at 973-263-7160.

Parsippany Library

Students in grades 4-5 are invited to visit the Parsippany Library on Tuesday, May 24 at 4:15 pm for games and crafts featuring the Dork Diaries series by Rachel Renee Russell. If you are looking for popular series for children, the Parsippany children's department has the latest *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* books and *Big Nate* books. If your child has read every *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* book, the children's librarian can suggest a new series.

Enjoy an evening of jazz at the Parsippany Troy Hills Library on Wednesday May 18, 7pm. The Jefferson Jazz Ensemble will feature jazz and swing favorites from the 40's to the 70's. Get into the groove with the songs performed by Frank Sinatra, Peggy Lee, Glenn Miller and many other popular artists of the day. To register for this free program go to the library's website: parsippanylibrary.org, or call the library at 973-887-5150 x210.

Hiawatha Library

Now that our spring story time series of programs has ended, Lake Hiawatha Library will still offer fun programs for preschoolers during the month of May. **Baby Playgroup**, from 11 – 12 p.m. on Wednesdays, May 11, 18 and 25, is for infants and toddlers under 24-months of age. This program offers a time for parents to connect with each other while their children play with age-appropriate, educational toys provided by the library. Parents are asked to supervise their children during this “free play” program. No registration is required. **Learning Lions**, for children ages 30 months to 5 years, will be offered on Friday, May 13, from 11-11:45 a.m. During this program, children practice skills related to early literacy, STEM concepts and social studies, through a story and related activities. Registration is required. **Music and Movement**, a story time full of songs and dancing, for children ages 2-5, will take place on Thursday, May 19, from 11-11:30 a.m. Registration is required. Finally, **Turtle Art Storytime**, for children ages 2-5, is scheduled for Monday, May 23, from 11-11:45 a.m. Children will listen to a turtle story and make a cute turtle craft to take home. No registration is required. Check our calendar of events for more programs at www.parsippanylibrary.org!

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