



Mayor Barberio's Weekly Update Week of June 27, 2016

This coming Monday July Fourth, is a defining moment in our nation's history. It is the 240th anniversary of our nation's founding document, the Declaration of Independence. I love this holiday because it brings out the patriotism in all of us. It is a time to celebrate our heritage and give thanks for the freedom and liberties fought by the first generation of many of today's Americans. When I see the American flag displayed, I am filled with pride and emotion and I hope you feel the same. July fourth is a day of family celebrations with picnics, barbecues and fireworks with emphasis on the American tradition of freedom. So enjoy the holiday whatever your plans may be and I invite everyone to attend Parsippany's fireworks on Monday July Fourth at Parsippany Hills High School on Rita Drive. The concert featuring The Trip will begin at 6:30 pm and fireworks will commence at dark.

In an effort to keep Parsippany safe, I made two important promotions within our police department this week. I was very proud to promote Sergeant Paul Schulze to lieutenant. Having served seventeen years on the force after working as a Morris County Corrections Officer, Paul was the recipient of multiple awards and commendations. Officer Michael Sprung has been on our force for the past nine years and signed on with Parsippany after returning from the Marine Corps. He received six lifesaving awards and multiple citations. I promoted him to sergeant to supervise in the patrol division.

Lt. Dowd, the newly appointed Director of Security, and I have been working on upcoming ideas for the SRO Program in the schools. We have selected an anti-bullying program to be attended by elementary school students this fall. And the new Police Explorer Program has had an exciting beginning with a notable amount of signees.

Now that summer is in full swing, you will notice the beautiful flowers that adorn the township planters. Parks & Forestry has just completed all the plantings and finished planting trees for the season. Our free summer concert series will be starting on July 14th and I would like to thank two of our sponsors for their generosity - Provident Bank for Time Machine and ConnectOne Bank for the Cameos. Please check the website for the upcoming schedule.

With the holiday weekend fast approaching, this week has been a busy one for the Township. As you may know, Parsippany is an active participant in Sustainable NJ. We are cognizant of reducing our carbon footprint and work hard to raise awareness, educate and motivate Parsippany businesses to enhance environmental protection and improved quality of life. As a shared community responsibility, we have joined forces with Cerbo Garden Center to participate in CSA which stands for Community Supported Agriculture. This exciting new program, in conjunction with the Mayor's Wellness Campaign, is a way for members of the local community to be involved with local agriculture to support sustainable farming practices and locally grown produce and eat healthy. By purchasing a share, it entitles members to receive a weekly box of fresh picked produce off the farm from July through October. I stopped by Cerbo's on Thursday to meet with them and discuss this exciting venture. So please watch for the article written by Bill Westhoven soon to appear in the Daily Record.

The Parsippany Office of Emergency Management Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (R.A.C.E.S.) volunteers participated in the National Emergency Communications Field Day Exercise this past weekend, Saturday, June 25 and Sunday, June 26, 2016 which I attended. The objective of the event is to challenge licensed Amateur "Ham" Radio operators across North America to set up an emergency communications station, and operate their radios for a continuous 24-hour period. It was quite an eye-opening experience. In the event of a disaster, our RACES volunteers are crucial in communicating with the public when all other modes of communication might be down.

Community Center

The movie, Tracks, will be shown on Friday July 8th, 2016 at 1:00 pm. It is the remarkable true story of Robyn Davidson, a young woman who leaves her life in the city to make a solo trek through almost 2,000 miles of sprawling Australian desert. Rated PG – 13; 2 hrs.

Want to learn how to crochet? Or do you know how to crochet, but want some comradery at the same time? Crochet Club meetings are every Thursday at 1:30 pm. Call the Office on Aging at 973-263-7351 with questions.

The Bridge Group at the Community Center is looking for more card players. Bridge is played every Tuesday between 12 noon and 4pm. There is no charge, and no reservations are needed. The only requirement is a basic knowledge of the rules.

The Health Department's Podiatry Clinic was held on July 1st. Our next Podiatry Clinic is on September 30th, and is open to Parsippany residents, sixty years and older. Call 973-263-7157 to schedule an appointment.

Parsippany Library

This summer, parents who work during the day can take their children to evening and Saturday programs at Lake Hiawatha and Parsippany Libraries. Upcoming evening programs at the Lake Hiawatha Branch include Sciencetellers (July 7, 7pm), Eyes of the Wild (July 12, 7pm), Juggling shows (July 21, 6:30 pm or 7:00 pm), Bubble shows (July 26, 6:30 or 7:00 pm), and Rizzo's.

The 2016 summer reading club begins on June 27 at the Parsippany Library. Children can pick up a copy of the summer reading log at the children's services desk beginning on June 27. They will receive a small prize each week for reading. Participating in the Parsippany Library's summer reading program benefits children academically as well. In 2010, a study carried out at Dominican University found that "Students who participated in the public library summer reading program had better reading skills at the end of third grade and scored higher on the standards test than the students who did not participate." Join the club today and enhance your child's reading skills.

Strange Animals of New Jersey

The Make It and Take It Children's Craft series will be held at Lake Hiawatha Library on Saturday mornings, 11:00, and will run from July 2 through July 9, and July 23 through August 13. Lake Hiawatha Library's 2nd Annual Science Fair will be held on Saturday, July 16, at 1:00 pm. Check the Library website for more details, or stop by the library to pick up a program calendar.

Learn about manatees off the NJ coast, animals that can change their sex at will, barn spiders by the thousands and many other interesting local animals. Adults and children over 10 are invited.

Speaker: John Andrews, natural sciences enthusiast. Register online www.parsippanylibrary.org.

Lake Hiawatha Branch Library Monday, July 11 @7pm.