

July 2015

Borough of Paramus

www.paramusborough.org



www.paramusborough.org

Mayor
Richard A. LaBarbiera

Council Members

MariaElena Bellinger
Joseph Garcia
Stephen Sullivan
Pat Verile
Donna Warburton
Jeanne Weber

Upcoming Events
Always check the web site
www.paramusborough.org

Paramus Police Department Honor Officers



On Saturday, May 9th, members of the Paramus Police Department departed for a 4 day, 330 mile trip to Washington D.C. as part of the Police Unity Tour. Police motorcycles escorted over 1,800 bicycle riders on this tremendous journey in order to raise awareness of law enforcement

officers who have been killed in the line of duty. This year, Bergen County sadly added two names to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial wall - Christopher Goodell from the Waldwick Police Department and Stephen Petruzzello from the Cliffside Park Police Department. Pictured are Paramus police officers Pete Davidson, Brian Linden, and Tom Schroeder in Washington D.C.

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Support the Paramus Food Pantry

Bring your donations to the July 4th Parade.

Paramus Sunrise Rotary members will collect non-perishable food products along the parade route.

Paramus Senior Center



Renovations at the Borough's senior citizen center continue with the addition of 18 new picnic tables and umbrellas,

all in the traditional Paramus blue. The improvements to the exterior activity amenities will continue, to include renovations to the BBQ facility, covered roofing on the bocce court and plans for expanded picnic deck. New park benches have been installed next to the bocce court donated to the center. The senior center has great activities, services and facilities.



Message from

Mayor Richard A. LaBarbiera

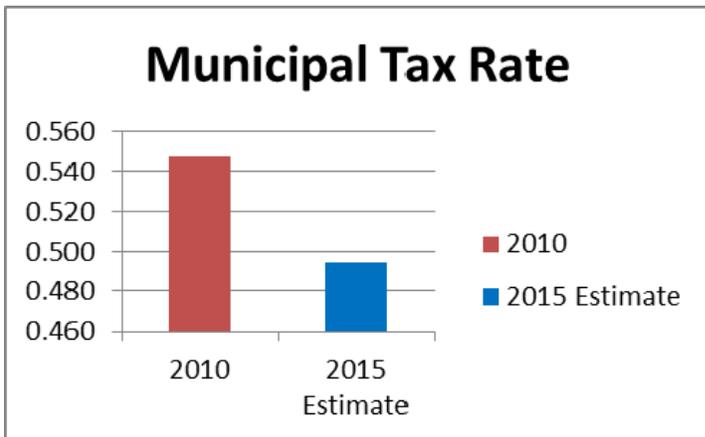


For the fourth year in a row, the Borough of Paramus has been able to reduce the municipal property tax levy on our residents. Last year's \$100.00 reduction in municipal taxes was followed by this year's \$25.00 reduction on the average based assessed home of \$516,210.00. This is being done while providing an even higher level of service to our residents.

We have been able to improve service and contain expenses through a number of steps. There is increased oversight by the Council's Finance Com-

mittee throughout the year. All Department Head Personnel are responsible for preparing their budgets for Finance Committee review and once approved, they are responsible for implementing and containing costs.

Our enhanced finance system provides for better controls and safeguards while at the same time allowing our Department Heads to access their budget accounts online, giving them a real time status of what has been spent, encumbered and funds remaining. Our online requisition system streamlines our purchasing process. The addition of a Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) to our staff ensures that the Borough is getting the best possible price for goods and services and following all New Jersey



Local Public Contracts Law and Regulations.

On the revenue side, our Tax Collection Rate has consistently exceeded 99%. This has helped to increase our fund balance which gives us a bright financial future.

The Borough also has over 50 shared services agreements with other municipalities that bring revenue to Paramus every year. Some of our Shared Services include: repair of other town's municipal vehicles such as fire engines, ambulances, police cars and D.P.W. equipment. Other agreements

include trash and recycling collection, street sweeping and traffic light repair.

When we do need to finance capital projects, Paramus' AA1 Moody's credit rating lets us borrow money at very low rates. Our ultimate goal is to achieve a AAA bond rating.

Although we cannot permit a municipal tax reduction every year, you have our promise that everyone in Borough Hall is dedicated to provide the best service at the least expense this year and in the future.

Mayor Rich

Parks and Shade Tree Department

by Kenneth Raschen, Superintendent

Paramus has been named Tree City USA for 39 consecutive years, a distinction held by very few communities in New Jersey.

Arbor Day and Earth Day are two significant public events that the department takes an active role in the community. This year's Arbor Day, May 29th, the Alpine Learning Center was selected to be the site of a tree planting. Children from

the center created art projects for the event and the Department staff planted beautiful cherry trees. The children at the center learned how the equipment worked and how the trees are planted.

The Borough participated in Earth Day and received thousands of tree seedlings that were distributed to Borough residents for planting at home.

Firemen's Park, located at the corner of Spring Valley Road and Forest Avenue underwent a renovation this year. The starting point of the Memorial Day Parade had a fresh new look. New pavers were installed in front of the Firemen's monuments and new plantings were placed by the Shade Tree & Parks staff. If you're driving past, take a

quick glance to see the renovation!

Residents can donate memorial trees and park benches. Brochures are available in the Commission office and online at www.paramusborough.org.



The Library to receive \$1.3 million for upgrades

by Leonard LoPinto, Library Director



The Paramus Mayor and Council has budgeted \$1.3 million for a Main Library interior remodel. The library will receive the following

upgrades: painting, carpeting, furniture, equipment and shelving. The Mayor, Council and Board of Trustees are happy to announce that the library will be more user friendly, space efficient and aesthetically pleasing. However, there is still more to do to prepare for the project. Staff will be meeting with designers and will

begin creating a continuation of services plan. The remodel is currently projected to begin late fall or early winter.



Moving? Renting your home? What you need to know!

by George Georgeou, Director Building Department

Your belongings are packed, the mover is scheduled...but did you forget something? In order to sell your home there are a few things you must keep in mind before your closing. Have you filled out a Certificate of Compliance for Residential Re-Sale? Have all your Building Permits been finalized?

How To Begin the Process:

A few weeks before your move, stop by the Paramus Building Department (located in the lower level of the Borough Hall) to review your file and pick up a Certificate of Compliance for Residential Resale. The following information is

required to be completed on the form:

- The property address
- Block and lot number
- Seller's name, forwarding address and telephone number
- Buyer's name, previous address and telephone number
- Closing date

While you are here, your property files will be reviewed to confirm that all permits have been finalized. If they are not, we will schedule an inspection for outstanding permits in a timely manner. After com-

pleting your final inspections you may submit the application along with a fee of \$95.00.

A Certificate of Occupancy of a Residential Tenancy is also required for renting your home. The same information as above is required along with the signature of property owner and the new tenant. The application fee is \$25.00.

Upon acceptance of your application, an appointment for a visual inspection will be scheduled with our Fire Inspector. Inspections are Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 9:30 am – 10:30 am. The Inspector will confirm the location of

PARAMUS CULTURAL ARTS COUNCIL

SUMMER 2015

The Valley Hospital
Valley Health System

PARAMUS BANDSHELL
PRESENTS

Berkeley College

TERRIFIC TUESDAYS

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

JULY 7 - TIME MACHINE

JULY 14 - EAGLEMANIA

JULY 21 - CAMEOS

JULY 28 - THE BRONX WANDERERS

AUGUST 4 - MAHONEY BROTHERS

Jukebox Heros Live!



of Paramus



All performances begin at 7:30 pm.

*The bandshell is located behind the Main Library, 116 E. Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652.

For further information or in case of rain, call 201-599-ARTS (2787).



smoke/carbon monoxide detectors and a fire extinguisher. Once you have passed inspection, you will be issued a signed copy of the Certificate of Compliance for Residential Resale, which you will bring to your closing. If you have any questions, or if you need further assistance, we are available from 8:30 am – 4:00 pm. Telephone number: (201) 265-2100 Ext. 2230.

Veterans Memorial Brick Paver Project



The Office of Veterans Affairs initiated the Memorial Brick program in the beginning of the year. Applications for a brick donation are available in at Borough Hall, 1 Jockish Square, the Office of Veterans Affairs, North 97 Farview Avenue, or through the Borough web site www.paramusborough.org

Bricks come in two sizes, 4" x 8" for a three line memorial dedication or an 8" x 8" for a six line memorial dedication. The appropriate



military symbol can also be engraved on the brick.

For additional information about the Veterans Memorial Brick project or additional Veterans programs through the Borough, contact the Veterans Affairs

Officer, Sam Casiello, Office of Veterans Affairs, North 97 Farview Avenue, Paramus, NJ 07652 201-265-2100 ex 6111, serviceofficer@paramusborough.org

Mini-Golf Course Is A Location Attraction

by Andy Schuckers, Superintendent



If you're looking for something to enjoy with your entire family—from kids to grandparents—and you don't want to battle the highway traffic, the Paramus mini-golf course is an ideal choice. Now open every day from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., weather permitting, this little course is a golfing challenge and a local history lesson all in one.

While enjoying the cool breezes and the warm sun, you can see the sites--the Boardwalk, the George Washington Bridge, the Behnke farm, the Statue of Liberty, and the Garden State Parkway, to name a few--as you play 18 challenging holes. When you finish, you'll even see the famous Abbott and Costello. Every-

thing has been freshly painted and a new carpet has been installed.

The cost to play is \$6 for children and \$8 for adults. If you're planning a birthday party, group outing, or fundraising event, Paramus mini-golf may be just the right choice. Please call 201-447-6079 x13 for further information.

Mini-Golf Library Days will be held on July 29 and August 19 (rain dates: July 30 and August 20). Just bring your library card and play for half price.

One internet reviewer called the course "awesome," while another described it as "super creative, with a lot of good twists and turns." Join your friends at the course and write your own review!



Adopt-A-Bench Program

A park or athletic field utility bench is a wonderful way to memorialize or honor a loved one. Adopt-A-Bench for a birthday, anniversary, new baby, graduation – it is the perfect gift for any occasion! Although the plaques take about eight

weeks for production and installation, a personalized certificate can be provided immediately to notify the recipient that a bench has been adopted in their honor.



Park Bench



Sport Field Bench

For more information on selecting and personalizing your bench, contact the Paramus

Shade Tree and Parks Department, Office of the Superintendent at 201- 265-2100 ex.4120 or email kraschen@paramusborough.org

The Adopt-A-Bench program was established in 2013. Park Bench locations are available at:

- Jockish Square
- Fairway Oaks Park
- Parkway Sports Plex
- Petruska Park
- Besen Park
- Faber Park
- Sirianni Park
- Mele Park
- Madison Park
- Reid Park

Those Dreaded Potholes!



Winter 2015 had longer-sustained colder temperatures compared to the last few years. Because the warmer weather didn't arrive until later in the season more potholes were created this season.

Potholes form when water seeps through cracks in the asphalt road surface into the

underlying ground below, weakening and / or eroding the soil structure. When temperatures drop, moisture below the road surface freezes and then expands, forcing the pavement to rise. Passing traffic causes the pavement to break, creating the pothole.

Potholes on borough streets are repaired by the Department of Public Works employees. By repairing their own potholes, Borough residents save quite a bit of money on their taxes. When outside pothole repair companies are contracted, costs can be triple or quadruple what it costs the borough to do the repairs themselves.

Recently the DPW was able to purchase a "Hot Box". This cost-saving piece of equipment keeps the asphalt hot throughout the day and allows whatever asphalt may be left over to be reheated and used the following day so none of the material goes to waste. The Hot Box holds up to four tons of asphalt, reducing trips to the plant for additional supplies.

Important information to report a pothole:

- State of NJ: <http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/commuter/potholeform.shtm>
- GSP or NJT: <http://www.state.nj.us/turnpike/maintenance-issue.html>
- Bergen County Hot Line: 201-646-2808
- Paramus: www.paramusborough.org or 201-265-2100 x 3100

Grant Activity for Paramus a Success!

The Mayor and Council of the Borough of Paramus have worked diligently to adhere to sound financial practices in order to provide fiscal relief for residents of the Borough. This has included streamlining Borough services, developing and adhering to a 5-year capital program and sensible bonding for large projects. In addition to these efforts, the Borough has also sought to tap into grant funding through federal, state, foundation and corporate sources to offset the costs for important municipal projects. In order to effectively tap into these resources, the

Borough retained the services of Millennium Strategies LLC in February 2013. The Caldwell-based firm is responsible for providing grant writing services on behalf of municipal, county, board of education and non-profit entities throughout the State. Since the onset of this relationship, the firm has been responsible for assisting to bring in nearly \$1,200,000 in grant funding. Grants that have been secured by the Borough range in size and focus. Some examples of grants secured include \$623,592 in funding from the U.S. Department of Justice COPS Hiring Grant

Program for the hiring of new police officers; a \$62,370 grant from the U.S. Soccer Foundation's Safe Places to Play Program for the construction of a turf soccer field at East Brook Middle School; and a \$10,000 grant from the Dr. Pepper/Snapple's Keep America Beautiful Program for the purchase and installation of recycling cans within all Borough Parks. In addition to grants that have been secured, the Borough currently has a total of eight applications totaling over \$560,000 that are under review by various funding agencies at this time.

"The ability to obtain these grants has helped provide the Borough with the opportunity to fund meaningful projects that will help increase the quality of life within the Borough at little or no additional cost to the taxpayers", stated Mayor LaBarbiera. The Mayor further stated that "the Borough will continue to work diligently over the remainder of the year to tap into new grant opportunities so that it may continue funding future projects in a responsible and cost-effective fashion."

Preventing Melanoma (Skin Cancer)

by Judith Migliaccio, Health Officer/Director



Most people like to get a little sun. Its warmth and light can relax us and boost our spirits. However, the benefits come with a dangerous tradeoff. Skin Cancer is the most common form of cancer in the US. In 2011, there were more than 65,000 cases of melanoma,

which is the most deadly form of skin cancer. Melanoma can spread to other parts of the body and causes over 9,000 deaths every year. It can be caused by too much exposure to ultraviolet rays from the sun or sources such as indoor tanning. The State of NJ has restricted the availability and use of indoor tanning by minors, and the Borough of Paramus is playing a major role in skin cancer prevention efforts as well. This

year the Borough has increased the number of shade umbrellas at the Municipal Pool. The Paramus Board of Health is once again offering a free skin cancer screening to be conducted at the municipal pool on **August 12th** between the hours of 1:30 pm and 3:30 pm for all Paramus residents, courtesy of Dr. Monika Srivastava, MD of Advanced Laser and Skin Care Center.

Tips to enjoy what the sun has to offer without risking your health are:

1. Find shade, especially during midday hours.
2. Wear a wide-brimmed hat, sunglasses, and other protective clothing outdoors.
3. Use sunscreen with a SPF15 or higher, even on cloudy days.
4. Avoid indoor tanning. People who use tanning beds are 2.5 times more likely to develop squamous cell carcinoma and 1.5 times more likely to develop basal cell carcinoma.

July 4th Events Schedule



This year the Borough of Paramus 4th of July Committee will be honoring those who serve and protect Paramus, our Emergency Services Departments: Police, Fire, Rescue, EMS, and OEM.

Thursday, July 2: Paramus Community Orchestra Performance, 7:30 pm at the Paramus Band Shell, rain date 7/3

Friday, July 3: Frank "Dutch" Cleenput Annual 4th of July Softball Game, 8:15 pm at the Cliff Gennarelli Sports-Plex

Saturday, July 4: Independence Day Parade, Sponsored by Columbia Bank, 9:00 am Start Time

Sunday, July 5: Fireworks Show, Sponsored by Westfield Garden State Plaza, 6:30 pm Gates Open at the Cliff Gennarelli Sports-Plex

Paramus National Night Out



August 4th, 5 PM–7 PM

On Tuesday August 4, 2015 the Paramus Police Department will be holding the annual National Night Out event on the grounds of the Paramus Public Library. The event will take place from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm followed by the "Terrific Tuesday" concert series featuring The Mahoney Brothers band.

National Night Out is a free event meant to assist the Police Department with interacting with the Paramus community. There will be informative displays from all of the Paramus emergency services and many community partners. Hot dogs and beverages will be provided during the event. Parking will be at the Paramus High School with shuttle service provided for those who are in need. The Police Department looks forward to having a two way in person conversation with the residents of Paramus.

NEW PHONE EXTENSIONS FOR BOROUGH DEPARTMENTS

GENERAL NUMBER 201-265-2100

Administration	2210
Affordable Housing/COAH	2220
Borough Clerk	2200
Building	2230
Building & Grounds	1181
Board of Adjustment	2241
Borough Engineer	2243
Planning Board	2242
DPW	3100
EMS	5200
Finance	2250
Fire Prevention	2290
Golf	201-447-6079/x6150
Health	2300
Human Services	6100
IT	2310
Mayor & Council	2210
Municipal Court	2320
OEM	5100
Payroll	2260
Pool	6140
Recreation	201-265-9321/x6130
Senior Center	6120
Shade Tree	4120
Tax Assessor	2280
Tax Collector	2270
Animal Control	201-652-4554
Quality of Life	3120
Senior Bus	3150
Veterans Affairs	6110
Historic Commission	2360
Environmental Commission	2361
Substance Abuse	2362
July 4 th Committee	2363
Police Department	201-262-3400
Rescue	5300
Park Rangers	4130
Community Policing	5500
Fire Department	5560
Library	201-599-1300

Borough of Paramus

www.paramusborough.org



One Jockish Square
Paramus, New Jersey 07652

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
PARAMUS, NJ
PERMIT NO 67

ECRWSS

PARAMUS RESIDENT

HELP US FIND YOUR HOME IN AN EMERGENCY, EVERY MINUTE COUNTS
A VISIBLE HOME ADDRESS HELPS 911 RESPONDERS LOCATE YOUR ADDRESS FASTER

Why Should Everyone Recycle?

by Guy Picone, Superintendent DPW



An excellent question to ask! First and foremost, recycling is a mandated state law in New Jersey.

In order to prevent a future solid waste crisis, we all need to make the terms **REDUCE, REUSE, AND RECYCLE** part of our everyday vocabulary and incorporate them into our busy lifestyles.

REDUCE: Each person disposes of about five (5) pounds of garbage every day. Reducing the amount we throw away is the first step toward reducing the amount of garbage that ends up in landfills.

REUSE: One of the keys to controlling the amount of material we throw away is to reuse products as many times as possible. Reuse also conserves natural resources because fewer products have to be manufactured.

RECYCLE: By separating your recyclable materials from your garbage, you can conserve natural resources, save energy, save money and reduce the amount of garbage that is landfilled.

For example, last year Paramus residents collected and recycled: 5,150 gallons of waste oil, 1,265 tons of com-

mingled containers, 2,248 tons of paper & cardboard, 213 tons of metal, and 72 tons of electronics which generated \$174,131 of revenue, enabling the Borough to pass this savings on to the taxpayers.

As an added bonus, Paramus received over \$103,000 in additional grant money because we are so proactive at recycling. When we recycle, we not only generate extra revenue, we reduce disposal costs which increase every year as landfill space becomes less available. In 2014 Paramus recycled 64,013 tons of material. Had this material been sent to a landfill the dis-

posal costs would have been \$4,160,845!

Recycling is a win – win – win situation for everyone!

Paramus Farmers Market

Wednesdays
June 10 thru September 30
2 pm - 6:30 pm
North Parking lot of Petruska Park
475 Farview Avenue
North of Midland

Bring your family and friends
Sponsored by the Paramus
Environmental Commission
www.paramussec.org