

April-June 2017



Borough of Paramus

www.paramusborough.org
(201) 265-2100

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Richard A. LaBarbiera

Council President
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Council Members

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Holly Tedesco-Santos
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RECYCLING PAYS

BY GUY PICONE, SUPERINTENDENT DPW

The Recycling Act of 1981 created the Municipal Recycling Tonnage Grant Program whereby municipalities could receive a rebate for the amount of materials documented as being recycled during the previous calendar year. At that time, the program was voluntary. In 1982, approximately 250 municipalities reported recycling 250,000 tons of materials.

In 1987, the New Jersey Statewide Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act mandated that each municipality submit an annual Recycling Tonnage Report to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) summarizing the amount of material recycled during the previous year. This Act ensures that recycling practices are being enforced.

Last year, Paramus was the #1 rebate recipient in Bergen County, receiving \$143,280.92 from the Tonnage Grant. The total amount received by Paramus since 2003 is an impressive \$970,834.91, which has been returned to the Borough's recycling program in a variety of different ways over the past several years. Improvements made at the recycling center include the acquisition of bins which allow the convenience of 24/7 drop off service of recyclable materials. We have expanded the free firewood give-away program. Composting performed by the borough produces free mulch and wood chips saving taxpayer dollars by decreasing the disposal costs while providing free material for Paramus residents.

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Paramus Recycling Center

PROOF OF RESIDENCY REQUIRED!

HOURS

Monday	7 am - 3 pm
Tuesday	7 am - 3 pm
Wednesday	7 am - 6 pm
Thursday	7 am - 3 pm
Friday	7 am - 3 pm
Saturday	10 am - 4 pm
Closed Sundays & Holidays	

ITEMS ACCEPTED:

- Cardboard**
- Clothes** (usable/clean)
- Commingled Materials**
(bottles, cans, plastic containers)
- Computers and Electronics**
- Metal**
- Newspaper**
- Oil** (used)
- Tires**
(There is a surcharge for each tire disposed of, to be paid at time of drop off.)





Keeping School Children Safer



PARAMUS POLICE DEPARTMENT 201-262-3400



Mayor Richard LaBarbiera and the Paramus Borough Council have welcomed the New Year with five new “School Zone Solar LED Flashing Beacon” systems and two “Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon Solar LED” crosswalk systems. The safety and well-being of the students and residents of the Borough has received a lot of focus by the Paramus Police Department and our elected officials. They have responded by providing a new component to help promote safe and active lifestyles for students, enhance awareness, and improve pedestrian safety. These much-needed beacons will draw attention to crosswalks, speed limit signage, and increase driver awareness and overall safety in these areas.

The five new “School Zone Solar LED Flashing Beacon” systems are located on:

- Century Road at Paramus High School,
- Spring Valley Road at Eastbrook Middle School,
- Roosevelt Blvd. at Westbrook Middle School,
- Midland Avenue at Memorial Elementary School, and
- Midland Avenue at Midland Elementary School.

These systems are programmed to activate during school arrival times, lunch hours, and dismissal times. They serve as early warning devices to alert drivers that they are entering a school zone and to reduce their speed to the posted school zone speed limit.

The two “Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon Solar LED” crosswalk systems are located on Spring Valley Road at the Eastbrook Middle School entrance crosswalk and on Midland Avenue at the Midland Elementary School entrance crosswalk. These systems are push button activated and alert drivers to pedestrian traffic that may be utilizing the crosswalk. Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons have been shown to improve driver yield rates up to 96%. These devices are solar powered.

The Rapid Flashing Cross Walk devices should be used by everyone, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In order to activate it:

Push the activation button • Wait till traffic stops • Cross the street safely

Both systems are compliant with all “Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)” requirements for design, illumination, and color. The Borough of Paramus, Mayor and Council, Police Department, Board of Education, Traffic Maintenance Department, and Borough Engineers all contributed input to this collaborative effort.



COMMUTER SURVEY

Concerned residents brought to the attention of the Mayor and Council the need for commuter bus service to local railroad stations in our neighboring communities. In an effort to assess the need, we have prepared this short survey. If you're a commuter that uses a local railroad station, please complete this survey and return it to the **Office of the Borough Administrator, Borough Hall, 1 Jockish Square, Paramus, 07652**. Your input will be extremely helpful.

Do you use public transportation for your daily commute to and from work?

If you answered no to the question above, would you ever consider using public transportation?

What are the deciding factors?

Which mode of public transportation do you currently utilize?

Where do you currently access public transportation?

Where's your final destination?

What's your usual time frame in the morning and evening for use of public transportation?

How do you rate the convenience of accessing your public transportation options?

Would you be interested in a Borough shuttle from a centralized location to lessen your commuting burden?

Are you willing to pay for these services? If yes, how much?

Do you have any recommendations on where the centralized pick up and drop off point(s) would be?

Are there any special accommodations that the shuttle should provide?

Which local train station would you prefer transportation to and from?

Joseph Cipolla Paramus Senior Activity Center

BY ANNE SCHNEIDER, DIRECTOR (ASCHNEIDER@PARAMUSBOROUGH.ORG)

Are you wondering what's happening at the Joseph Cipolla Senior Activity Center these days?



A new deck is being built in the back for your outdoor pleasure.

Next door, the old Human

Resources building (No. 97) is going to be torn down to make way for further expansion of the Center. Plans for this are currently on the drawing board.

Chair Yoga is now on Fridays at 1:00 pm. Line Dancing struts every Friday at 11:15 am followed by meditation classes at 1:00 pm. Meditation also meets every Wednesday at 9:30 am.

We continue to relax with our yoga classes, dance the time away

with Zumba, and have club meetings with memberships in ever growing numbers!

The Center is also issuing Senior IDs, which will be essential to have for Center activities and trips.



Library Renovation Project

BY LEN LOPINTO, DIRECTOR

Home renovations can be tricky to both manage and live through. You never know what you will find until you are knee deep into the project. The interior renovation project at the Main Library has been no different.



The project, which began with moving over 120,000 books, movies, and music CDs, has resulted in a library that has been completely transformed into a beautiful space for the entire community to enjoy!

The library staff cannot wait to show off the new library to the community. However, there is still some work that needs to be completed. Contractors are finishing the last details, such as painting, flooring, furniture installation, and new interior doors. The electricians are completing the electrical panel upgrades and the HVAC units are being adjusted for a balanced temperature. Audio-visual equipment is being installed in the community room while

the library's internet computers and Wi-Fi are being tweaked. Library staff has been feverishly getting the books, movies, and music back on the shelves and the boxes unpacked and put away.

An exterior landscaping project is also underway. Under the direction of Paramus resident, Bill Comery, and with the assistance and support of the Paramus Rotary Club, Friends of the Paramus Public Library, and Paramus Shade Tree, the project will include new plants and shrubs throughout the grounds, installation of a Story Walk, metal benches and tables and refurbishing the gazebo and bandshell.

Recreation Department—New Program!

BY BOB COWPER, CPRP, CPSI, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF RECREATION

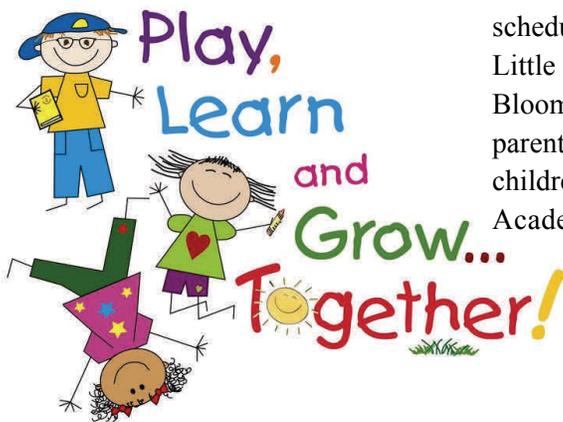
The Paramus Recreation Commission offered a brand new enrichment program for children with “diff-abilities” this Winter. The program featured a multi-disciplinary curriculum that let children with special needs in Pre-K through 4th grade experience many different activities in a safe and educational environment. Activities included gymnastics, basketball, music, art, pet therapy, and more. The program was devised by and overseen by Paramus resident and speech pathologist Barbara Anderson. Fourteen children signed up for the class, a great start for a pilot program! So far the feedback from parents has

been positive so we plan to offer similar programs again in the future. If you are interested in enrolling your child in future “diff-abilities,” please reach out to Bob Cowper at rcowper@paramusborough.org to be added to a mailing list. Once the details of the next offering are available, you will be contacted.

The Recreation Commission will continue to offer educational programs in the Community Room at Petruska Park. Returning favorites include: Explore Science, Abrakadoodle Art, Bricks4Kidz Lego, and KiddieGym Ping Pong. We are excited to announce two new additions to our schedule this Spring: Bloom Yoga and Little Ivy Academy. Two sections of Bloom Yoga will be offered, one for parent and toddler and one for children ages 4-8. The Little Ivy Academy will be offering a new

program called GameMakers: Classic Adventure. This program, for grades 6-8, teaches the basics of designing and programming an adventure style video game. Space for all Community Room programs is limited, so sign up today!

We are also collecting survey responses for a variety of potential Summer programs. These include a Parent & Child “Tot Tour” program as well as a package of cultural trips for children in Grades 7-8. For families, we would offer a variety of trips if enough interest is shown. These trips include various baseball, soccer and lacrosse games including local teams. For a full list of possible activities, please review the last page of the Spring 2017 brochure. Those interested should reach out to Sue Regan at sregan@paramusborough.org.



Handicapped Playground Scheduled for Construction



The Borough has received a grant to construct a new ADA-compliant playground. Requests for Proposals for an architect to be selected for the project has been announced.

The playground will be constructed in the front section of Petruska Park, adjacent to the current playground.



Shade Tree

BY KEN RASCHEN, SUPERINTENDENT, SHADE TREE DEPARTMENT

FREE TREE SEEDLINGS FOR PARAMUS RESIDENTS



The Paramus Shade Tree and Parks Commission, in partnership with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Forestry

Division, will be the North Jersey/Bergen County distribution center for the New Jersey Forest Service's "Sandy Tree Recovery Campaign." Super-storm Sandy left communities all over New Jersey with many dead, damaged, or destroyed trees. These trees were located on both public and private lands, and created a defining feature of many neighborhoods and provided numerous benefits to residents and visitors. Through the New Jersey Sandy Tree Recovery Campaign residents can replant trees on their own property. Tree seedlings are available to all New Jersey residents. **The Paramus Shade Tree and Parks Commission will be handing tree seedlings out at Paramus' annual Earth Day Celebration sponsored by the Paramus Environmental Commission on April 23, 2017. The Celebration will be held at the Paramus Band Shell behind the Main Library, 116 E. Century Road, from approximately 12:00 pm until 3:00 pm.** Each participating community has been allotted a limited quantity of trees so every community that wishes to participate is able to do so. Seedlings will be handed out on a first-come first-served basis. The

seedlings will all be "bare root" and will range in size from six (6) inches to twenty four (24) inches in height. Planting instructions and a fact sheet will be handed out with the seedlings.



PARAMUS MULCH AVAILABLE TO PARAMUS RESIDENTS

The Paramus Shade Tree and Parks Commission has been making "Paramus Mulch" for over 40 years. Paramus mulch is a soil additive for vegetable gardens and planting soil mix. It is 100% recycled leaves and is highly organic. It must be blended into the existing soil for lawn renovations otherwise it will become a semi-impermeable layer, restricting the flow of water, air, and nutrients into the root zone of the grass. The mulch can be picked up at the north parking lot of Petruska Park, 475 Farview Avenue.

Mulch is free of charge to Paramus residents with the following restrictions: no dump trucks or other commercial landscape contractor vehicles; loading must be by hand—no front end loaders. Landscape Contractors may contact the Shade Tree and Parks Commission office at 201-265-2100 ext. 4120 to arrange to pick up mulch for a nominal fee. Paramus mulch will be available from approximately April 3 through May 5, 2017. Both locations are randomly monitored by the Paramus Police and Park Rangers to check for proof of residency.



From the Office of the Borough Clerk

BY ANNEMARIE KRUSZNIŚ, BOROUGH CLERK



VOTER REGISTRATION: For those wishing to vote in the Primary Election on June 6, 2017, the Borough Clerk’s Office will be open Tuesday, May 16, until 9:00 pm.

PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

June 6, 2017 - 6:00 am to 8:00 pm

Mail in ballot applications can be obtained from the Borough Clerk’s office and/or Bergen County Clerk’s Office.



Passport services are available Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 3:30 pm.

Appointments are necessary. Please call 201-265-2100 ext. 2200 during business hours to make and appointment.

For overseas travel information, visit www.state.gov/travel



GARAGE SALE PERMITS

The Borough Clerk advises that Garage Sale permits are required.

The application fee for a permit is \$15.00.

Applications and online payment options are available on the Borough’s website:

www.paramusborough.org

Health Department Annual Weight Loss Challenge

BY JUDITH MIGLIACCIO, HEALTH OFFICE / DIRECTOR (JMIGLIACCIO@PARAMUSBOROUGH.ORG)



The Paramus Board of Health and Mayor’s Wellness Campaign along with their partners, Valley Hospital and Gold’s Gym, invite you to join the **5th Annual Paramus Weight Loss Challenge.** It’s easy to talk about getting healthy, but now is the time to start! The Challenge includes weekly weigh-ins, free health and fitness classes, bi-weekly group meetings, free-1 month membership to Gold’s Gym, and for the first 75 people to register, free pre- and post- cholesterol and blood sugar screenings.

Paramus Weight Loss Challenge

Kickoff began Tuesday, March 7 at the Paramus High School Cafeteria. Pre-challenge weigh-ins and blood pressure screenings were taken while participants enjoyed healthy snacks, got challenge details and took the Gold’s Gym Fit Test.

The Paramus Weight Loss Challenge is made possible through the collaboration of: The Borough of Paramus Health Department, Gold’s Gym, The Mayor’s Wellness Campaign, Community Health Improvement Partnership (CHIP), and Valley Hospital.

Borough of Paramus

www.paramusborough.org



One Jockish Square
Paramus, New Jersey 07652

PRESORTED

STANDARD

US POSTAGE PAID

PARAMUS, NJ

PERMIT NO 67

**PARAMUS
NEW JERSEY
PROUD TO BE
STIGMA-FREE**

PARAMUS RESIDENT

Credit Cards Now Accepted at Certain Borough Department Counters

BY TONY LJUBICICH, IT DIRECTOR

Beginning January 1, 2017 residents have the ability to pay by credit card for all licenses/permits *and* property taxes at the following department counters:

- Building Department,
- Borough Clerk's Office,
- Health Department, and
- Tax Office.



American Express, Discover, Master Card
& Visa are accepted.

Online payments are now accepted at www.paramusborough.org.

Click the Licenses & Permits link, Pay Property Taxes Online and/or Pay Utility Bill Online for the following licenses/permits:

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

- Certificates of Occupancy Residential Resale
- Certificates of Occupancy Residential Tendency
- Certificates of Occupancy Business

BOROUGH CLERK'S OFFICE

- Bazaar or Flea Market
- Business License
- Film & TV License

- Garage Sale License
- Going Out of Business Sale
- Gold Buyer/Second Hand Buyer License
- Grease Trap Only License
- Hotel/Motel License
- Landscaping Permit
- Massage Establishment Business
- Massagist License
- Motion Picture Theater License
- Outdoor Auction License
- Solicitor/Canvasser/Peddlers & Hawkers License

TAX OFFICE

- Property Taxes
- Utility Bill