

WATCHUNG RECREATION
COORDINATOR'S REPORT

October 7, 2015

1. The *Fishing Derby* held on September 12th was a great success with over 70 children registered from 2 to 13 years of age and over 120 fish caught. Thanks to Joe Nappe and his coordination of the members of the Warren Blue Ridge Sportsmen and Mark McCarthy for capturing amazing photos of the event. The Warren Blue Ridge group was a big help with the tackle and bait and we thanked them for their prize donations of fishing poles, reels and tackle boxes. The prizes were a wonderful addition to the trophies for the children that may not have caught a fish. Also Karl Baumle from the former Optimist Club of Watchung continues to help the Recreation Commission with his expertise, measuring the fish and supplying additional bait. Karl worked tirelessly to accommodate the onslaught of fish caught on a consistent basis. Mary Ann Weber worked the table with Mr. Baumle keeping track of the children's names and the size of the fish as they were caught. Bill Jacques handled the registrations of all the children along with John Pennett, Dave Mobus and Chris Murphy who also helped out at the event. Councilwomen Deb Joren handed out the trophies and Mayor Stephen K. Pote greeted the residents throughout the morning and was very excited to see all the children and their families enjoy the day in honor of the beloved former Mayor Gerald M. Mobus. A thank you was sent to the Echoes Sentinel for their full page coverage of the event in the "Happenings in the Hills" and photographer Debbie Weisman as she did a wonderful job capturing the highlights of the day. The total expense for the event came to \$199.74.

2. The details of the *Harvest Festival* are in progress. So far we have secured a DJ, a Fire Truck slide and a climbing tower and slide amusement for the event along with a popcorn and cotton candy machine. These have all been reserved from Seashore Amusements who we used last year for our event. Ralph Diem offered to operate the hay ride again for us this year but will run the ride behind the pavilion where it can be better supervised. M. Onuska has offered to help pick up the BJ's order. Swift Farms will supply 150 pumpkins and 200 bales of hay and will help set up the hay stack with the help of the DPW who will also help out during the event and with the clean-up. The girl scouts offered to run the sand art table again and Buffalo Wild Wings will bring corn dogs and wings along with coupons. Great Clips will do face painting and colored hair gel and hand out coupons. The PD will have a table and tent with apple cider and Blue Ridge Sportsmen will be making Funnel Cakes. The library will supply the paint and run the pumpkin painting table. The CERT Team is not available to volunteer as they have prior commitments. The boy scouts have not confirmed if they are available for the event. In order to add some new ideas to the event we will run a "Bring your own decorated or carved pumpkin" contest. We still have a costume contest and also use any leftovers from prior events such as the few 30 packs of hot dogs that have been frozen and left over from the Community picnic and several cases of waters and juice packs as well a mixed case of soda.

3. *Field Use fees* collected to date amount to \$1070.00. Fees have not yet been collected for the last tennis program and the new programs are starting with youth classes, adult classes and toddler, mommy and me classes all running for five weeks starting the third week of October.
4. *Adult Basketball* being held in the Bayberry School Gym started Friday, Oct. 2nd and will run from 7:00pm to 9:00pm through June 10, 2016. Women's Volleyball will be available Monday nights from 7:00 to 9:00pm at Valley View School which started Sept. 21st and run through May 18, 2016. Also available to our residents are programs run in Warren and Green Brook for both Volleyball and Open Gym Basketball.
5. The new *Basketball System* is in the final stages of completion. The cement piers are in place and the installation contractor is just waiting a few days for the concrete to completely set before adding the new poles and backboards. Once the system has been installed we will look into getting the macadam courts patched and painted.
6. The *drainage at Mobus* will be handled through Building and Ground. They are waiting for one more estimate and will be completed sometime in the spring.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Linda Monetti

Recreation Coordinator