

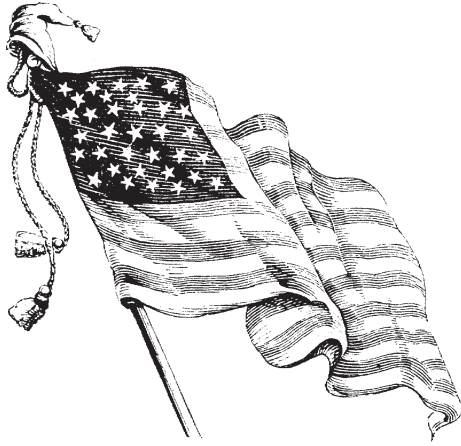
# village NEWSLETTER

www.ridgefieldpark.org

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Ridgefield Park, N.J.

JUNE, 2019



Summer is here! Schools will be closed. Many will enjoy vacations. Clubs and Organizations follow reduced schedules. Still, there are many things to do.

Certainly, here in our Village, our Independence Day Celebration marks our nation's bold declaration of separation from England 243 years ago. Our celebration began 125 years ago in 1894 and we understand we have the longest consecutively held uninterrupted observance in New Jersey. Other communities conducted earlier celebrations, but ours remains the longest uninterrupted celebration in the state. (Bristol, Rhode Island holds the national record for uninterrupted 4th of July observances). We thank and commend our Citizens Committee, chaired by John Tymon, for their year round good work which makes our day possible. Also, we recognize and thank the Village employees, volunteers, organizations, and individuals — all of whom work hard to make the day possible. Congratulations to VFW Post #277, for now observing its 100th Anniversary for being chosen as this year's parade Grand Marshals.

Keep in mind these activities —

- Wednesday night concerts — McGowan Park - 7 PM (Rain date - Thursday night)
- Annual Main Street Street Fair - Saturday, September 21.
- Ridgefield Park High School - All classes Alumni Homecoming Weekend - October 25-27.
- Friday, October 25 — Athletic Hall of

Fame Induction Dinner  
Saturday, October 26 — Football game, scholarship fund cocktail party fundraiser

Sunday, October 27 — Brunch — look for details as the weekend approaches.

Summer Rec programs are in full swing — join the town pool. Visit the Library, enjoy our parks and playgrounds — rent a canoe or kayak in Overpeck Park — Have fun! Be safe!

Commissioner Anlian  
Commissioner MacNeill  
Commissioner Kohles  
Commissioner Poli  
Mayor Fosdick

## RIDGEFIELD PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

### Juvenile Bureau News

The Ridgefield Park Police Department, in cooperation with the Little Ferry Police Department, will be conducting the 15th annual Junior Police Academy Program. The Junior Police Academy will be held from Monday, June 24 through Friday, June 28, 2019 and will be open to boys and girls who will be completing sixth, seventh or eighth grade in June 2019.

Goals of the program are: to expose Village youths to police work through an enjoyable but disciplined forum; to allow members of the police department to interact with Village juveniles in a positive way; and to reinforce the consequences of negative behavior, violence and substance abuse. The week will consist of physical conditioning, military drill, and various hands-on experiences. There will be guests from federal, state and county law enforcement agencies who will provide demonstrations of their expertise. A one-day field trip is also being planned.

Applicants must be permanent residents of the Village of Ridgefield Park. Twenty-five juveniles from Ridgefield Park and twenty-five juveniles from Little Ferry will be chosen to participate in the program. Applications will be accepted on a first-

come, first-serve basis. The applications will be distributed through the school system and are also available at Ridgefield Park Police Headquarters. Parents can contact DSG. Michael Cmielewski at mcmielewski@rppd.org or Det. Robert DiStasi at rdistasi@rppd.org or stop in at police headquarters with any questions you may have.

### Helmet Safety Program

In a positive enforcement effort to make sure young bicyclists, roller bladers and skate boarders are wearing their helmets, Ridgefield Park Police Officers will stop and issue a "summons" to any youth found wearing a helmet while operating such within the Village of Ridgefield Park. The "summons" can then be turned in to any participating local businesses for various items listed on the summons.

The program will run from June 1 until September 30. If you have any questions about the program or the helmet law, please contact Det. Robert DiStasi at rdistasi@rppd.org or Det. Brian Lyons at blyons@rppd.org for more information.

### R.P.P.D. Security Awareness Update

The Ridgefield Park Police Department would like to remind residents to LOCK their car doors. With the warm weather approaching, thieves will go out at all times of the day and night to prey on vehicles that are left un-locked. Thieves will go up and down the street, enter driveways and pull on vehicle door handles until they find an un-locked door. The thieves will then enter the vehicle and take anything of value in the vehicle. Common targets are cell phones, wallets, pocketbooks, packages, laptop computers, loose change and anything else they can get their hands on. If items containing personal information such as driver's licenses, credit card statements, checkbooks, bank statements and any other identifying information are obtained by thieves, this could lead to Identity Theft and Fraud.

The R.P.P.D. has observed an increase in these types of incidents since the warmer weather has commenced. The best way to deter this type of crime is to keep your windows shut and doors locked at all times.

Very rarely have we observed thieves smash a window to obtain items from inside a vehicle but it is also strongly recommended that you not leave electronic devices, electronic device cords, packages, money, wallets, pocketbooks, cell phones or any other items of value in plain view inside of your vehicle even if it is locked. This invites thieves to target your vehicle. The most common occurrences are thieves checking the vehicle door handles to ascertain if they are unlocked and if so moving on to the next vehicle. Please contact the R.P.P.D. immediately if you observe any individuals peering into vehicle windows or pulling on vehicle door handles. If it is possible to provide a description of the actors from a safe distance, please do so as well. **DO NOT LEAVE KEY FOBS INSIDE OF YOUR VEHICLES.**

### **Contractor Scams**

This is the time of year to be wary of “contractors” who come to your home or call you on the phone looking for work. Some will tell you they were just “passing by” and noticed that you needed a new roof, siding or driveway. They may not be contractors at all, not trained, licensed, or insured. These con artists will usually offer to perform the work at a price far below what you would expect to pay for it and more often than not they will require you to pay in advance. The bottom line is that you give them the money and never see them again. Most professional, legitimate contractors never need to go door to door to get work. Don’t sign any contract before reading it and contact an attorney to review it if you are uncertain. Call the contractor’s insurance company and make sure the policy is in effect and ask the contractor for references. If you feel like you are being scammed, contact the police.

## **BOARD OF RECREATION**

Just a reminder to everyone, the Board of Recreation is made up entirely of volunteers who generously give their time to run various programs and activities for the residents of the Village. It operates on a small budget provided by the Village and assists hundreds of residents in various activities. You may contact the Board of Recreation by either email at [boardofrec@ridgefieldpark.org](mailto:boardofrec@ridgefieldpark.org) or calling voice mail at (201) 641-4950 ext. 610. Information on all Board of Recreation activities is at [www.ridgefieldpark.org](http://www.ridgefieldpark.org). Please remember volunteers run these programs and they will get back to

you as soon as possible.

Not all activities are run by the Board of Recreation and the Board will not be able to answer your questions on these activities. To make sure you are calling the right number for assistance, please remember to check our website to see what activities the Board sponsors. Not all sporting activities are run by the Board of Recreation. Baseball, football, wrestling and soccer, for instance, are all run by private organizations and unfortunately, we are unable to answer any questions concerning these activities. The summer concert series is also not run by the Board.

### **Ridgefield Park Board of Recreation Coaches**

For the protection of the Village youth, background checks are mandatory for any person coaching in a Board of Recreation sponsored activity. Each coach must submit to a background check conducted by an outside party before they will be permitted to coach. If you desire further information on the process for the mandatory background check, please contact the Board of Recreation at: [boardofrec@ridgefieldpark.org](mailto:boardofrec@ridgefieldpark.org). No person will be exempt from a background check.

There is also an insurance requirement that all Ridgefield Park Board of Recreation coaches, referees and officials involved in sports programs need to successfully complete a program on the Sports Concussion policy protocol. This needs to be done before anyone participates in a sports program. If you plan on participating in a sport in the future, please be sure to complete this free on-line course at your convenience. You must forward your certificate of completion to the Ridgefield Park Board of Recreation before you will be permitted to participate in any sports program.

The link for this website with the Sports Concussion policy protocol is [www.NJMEL.org](http://www.NJMEL.org). New Jersey law is requiring that all organizations who use the Board of Education facilities comply with this program. The online training section has a link to a 40-minute free concussion training program and mini exam and at the conclusion the coach or parent will be able to print a certificate of completion. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Board of Recreation voicemail at (201) 641-4950 ext. 610 or [rpboardofrec@ridgefieldpark.org](mailto:rpboardofrec@ridgefieldpark.org) and someone will get back to you shortly.

Please also be on the look-out for registration forms and news from the Board of

Recreation on the school district website. A link has been created for community flyers. All forms are distributed electronically now so you can print it from there or on the Village website.

### **Upcoming Board of Recreation activities are as follows:**

**Basketball** - Early registration will again be offered until August 15 only. Early registration fee is \$50.00 for first child, \$40 each additional child. Registration fee for any form RECEIVED after August 15 will be \$55/\$45. Early registration forms should be mailed to the Village Clerk’s office. Registration will be held at Roosevelt School in the fall. Registration forms will be mailed or can be found at the Clerk’s Office and the Public Library. Registration forms can also be found on the internet by going to [www.ridgefieldpark.org](http://www.ridgefieldpark.org) and look under the Board of Recreation link. The Board of Recreation is also looking for qualified referees for the basketball program. If you would like information on being a possible referee, please send a letter to the Board indicating your experience and availability @ 234 Main Street, Ridgefield Park). Also, anyone (adults included) in at least seventh grade (as of September) who is interested in training to be either a timer or scorekeeper for next year’s basketball season should leave their name and phone number on the Board of Recreation voicemail at (201) 641-4950 ext. 610.

Just a note for perspective coaches for next season — all Board of Recreation coaches must be certified by December 31, 2019, in order to coach in the basketball program. The Board will offer a certification class in the fall but if you need to make private arrangements due to your own personal schedule please keep that in mind now and locate a class more convenient to your schedule. If you have any questions in this regard, please contact the Board.

Also, for the safety of our youth, background checks are mandatory for anyone coaching a Board of Recreation sponsored activity. If you desire further information on the process for the mandatory background check, please contact the Board of Recreation at: [boardofrec@ridgefieldpark.org](mailto:boardofrec@ridgefieldpark.org). No person will be exempt from a background check.

PLEASE NOTE: Registrations will no longer be accepted at the evaluation nights in November. Registration will close on October 25 so make sure you get it in on time. Fall registration is scheduled for Friday, September 27, 2019, 6:00 - 8 00 p.m.

and Saturday, September 28, 2019, 10:00 a.m. - 12 noon at the DARE Office on the third floor of the Municipal Building.

**Tennis** - Barry Ruback (201-568-3946) runs this program, which is taught by All Pro Tennis Staff. Registration is scheduled for at the first session at Fellowship Park. Please be sure to leave a cell number. Lessons will take place on Fridays. Sessions will run June 28, July 5, July 12, 19, 26. Lessons are for ages 6 - adults. Fee is \$75.00 per session. Payment is made at the first class. All rain dates will be made up. For further info, contact Barry Ruback directly. Lessons will run:

Fridays June 28, July 5, 12, 19, 26.

5:00-6:00p.m. 6-8 years old

6:00-7:00p.m. 9-11 years old

7:00-8:00p.m. 12 years old and up

8:00-9:00 p.m. Adults

**T2S Basketball Academy** - The Board of Recreation is sponsoring a basketball specific performance enhancement training program to students grades 2-12. T2S Basketball Academy, organized by Larry Umana and Nate Lopez, is an educational approach to simplify the game of basketball. T2S focuses on mastering the fundamentals through fun and innovative drills using proper mechanics, technique and muscle-memory repetition. There will be ongoing registration now and throughout the summer. For further information, interested people can inquire on [www.t2sba.com](http://www.t2sba.com) or email [t2sbasketballacademy@gmail.com](mailto:t2sbasketballacademy@gmail.com), or on Facebook: @train to succeed, or follow T2S on Instagram @t2sbasketballacademy for updates on scheduled training sessions, packages and locations. Sign up now and prepare to train to overcome the competition!

**Competition Cheer Team** - Registration took place in June for children in grades 1-8. Tumbling/stunting classes are offered at registration.

**Acting and Improvisation for Children and Teens** - Learn to Act! Have Fun! Be creative! Build confidence!

Summer Classes for all grades. July 10-August 9 Taught by Rachel Maddock, MA Educational Theatre. Registration forms available at the Clerk's office or online. For info: Voicemail (201) 641-4950 ext. 610 or email: [boardofrec@ridgefieldpark.org](mailto:boardofrec@ridgefieldpark.org)

Students will be introduced to the basic elements of acting through theatre games and improvisation. They will develop an understanding of building an acting ensemble through cooperative group work and will learn spontaneity, physical and vocal expression, pantomime, character explo-

ration and basic playwriting. — Older students will also study advanced acting techniques such as sensory work, monologue work, and basic scene study. — Acting and Improvisation classes are a great way for students to channel their energy and interact in a fun and creative way. — Acting and Improvisation builds confidence and life-long communication skills that can be applied to any field. Studies have shown that students who participate in the Arts have a greater chance of improving their academic performance.

**Summer Recreation** - This program is run by Daina Scheideler. For more information check the Summer Recreation website: <https://sites.google.com/site/rpsummerrec/> or call 201-641-4950 x615.

All Board of Recreation meetings are open to the public. They are held on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building on the third floor in the Dare Room. Anyone with any questions, comments or suggestions is more than welcome to attend any meeting. Anyone needing to speak to the Board of Recreation may call voicemail at (201) 641-4950 ext. 610 and leave a message on the voicemail. If you wish to send a letter, please address it to the Board of Recreation at 234 Main Street, Ridgefield Park. If you prefer to send an email, our email address is [boardofrec@ridgefieldpark.org](mailto:boardofrec@ridgefieldpark.org). For any information concerning Board of Recreation activities or to get a registration form, please go to [www.ridgefieldpark.org](http://www.ridgefieldpark.org).

The Board of Recreation is always welcome to hear your comments.

## SPRING CLEANING

The snow has melted, the rain and wind is beginning to subside, the plants are budding and the trees are blooming. Spring is arriving and your thoughts may be turning to that dreaded ritual of spring cleaning.

With it comes a timely reminder to keep your home safe from the threat of fire. In an effort to make this "Spring Cleanup" a fire safe one, Port Ludlow Fire & Rescue provides the following safety tips:

- Clean your garage of stored newspapers or other rubbish that can fuel a fire.
- Test your smoke alarms monthly.
- To help prevent nuisance alarms, gently vacuum your smoke alarm every six months or as needed.

- Change batteries in smoke alarms, flashlights and carbon monoxide detectors.

- Never borrow smoke alarm batteries to use for toys or other equipment.

- Replace all smoke alarms every 10 years or as recommended by the manufacturer.

- Keep outdoor debris or dead vegetation away from the house.

- Properly dispose of oily or greasy rags. If these items must be stored, they should be kept in labeled, sealed, metal containers.

- If you store gasoline, keep it outside your home in a shed or detached garage. Keep only small quantities in tightly sealed containers. Use gasoline only as a motor fuel — never as a cleaning agent.

- Use outdoor barbecue grills with caution. Place in a safe area away from building, windows, heating, ventilation and air conditioning units or places with high/dead vegetation.

- Never use gasoline to start the fire, and don't add charcoal lighter fluid once the fire has started.

- Use barbecue grills outside only - not under overhangs or balconies, and away from combustibles.

- Check your propane barbecue grill hose for leaks and cracks; never store propane indoors.

## BACKYARD BARBEQUE SAFETY

Fire in the grill, under hot dogs and burgers, is a welcome sight at the family cookout. But fire anywhere else can make your summer barbecue memorable for all the wrong reasons.

Because gas and charcoal grills cause an average of 1,500 structure fires and 4,800 outdoor fires in or on home properties, the NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) offers these sensible outdoor grilling tips to help you keep your cookout safe and fun.

### Getting Ready

- Position the grill well away from siding, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.

- Place the grill a safe distance from lawn games, play areas and foot traffic.

- Declare the entire grill area a "kid-free zone" until the grill has completely cooled off.

- Put out several long-handled grilling tools to give the chef plenty of clearance from heat and flames when flipping burgers.

- If you have a charcoal grill, purchase

**SHOP/DINE AT LOCAL  
ESTABLISHMENTS**



the proper starter fluid and store the can out of reach of children, and away from heat sources.

- If you have a propane grill, check the propane cylinder hose for leaks before using it. A light soap and water solution applied to the hose will quickly reveal escaping propane by releasing bubbles. Have leaking fuel lines repaired before using.

- All propane cylinders manufactured after April 2002 must have overfill protection devices (OPD). OPDs shut off the flow of propane before capacity is reached, limiting the potential for release of propane gas if the cylinder heats up. OPDs are easily identified by their triangular-shaped hand wheel.

- If you are using fluid to start a charcoal grill, use only fluid intended for this purpose. It is extremely dangerous to substitute any other combustible liquid to start the coals. This is especially true for gasoline, which can be ignited explosively by even a tiny spark.

- Apply starter fluid directly to the coals, then reseal and put away the can. Light the coals carefully, avoiding the flame flare-up. Store the can out of reach of children and away from heat sources.

- When you've finished cooking, keep an eye on the grill until it has completely cooled. Charcoal can be soaked with water to speed the cooling process, but use extreme caution to avoid the steam and splatters, which can cause burns.

- Never discard used charcoal in plastic, paper bags or plastic garbage containers and always keep it well away from any buildings or decking.

- Never store propane cylinders in your home or attached garage. They must be stored safely in a detached garage, shed or outside.

A final word about cookouts: Propane and charcoal BBQ grills must only be used outdoors. If used indoors, or in any enclosed spaces, such as tents, they pose both a fire hazard and the risk of exposing occupants to toxic gases and potential asphyxiation.

## **THE 125th CELEBRATION OF OUR VILLAGE'S OBSERVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY IS ON THURSDAY JULY 4TH, 2019**

Ridgefield Park's 125th July 4th celebration is only weeks away. The July 4th Citizen's Committee is working on the final preparations for this year's celebration of

our Nation's Independence.

This year to commemorate the 125th celebration, the committee has created a time capsule to be opened at the 150th celebration — There will be cards for you to write your best memories of July 4th in our Village. They will be available in the Municipal Building, the Library. You can check the website [ridgefieldpark.org](http://ridgefieldpark.org) and Ridgefield Park July 4th committee Facebook page for more information. The capsule will be at each event on July 4th where you can place your card into the capsule. The capsule will be housed in the Public Library until the 150th Celebration.

Ridgefield Park's Fourth of July Celebration Programs will be delivered to residents several days before July 4th — They will also be available at the Municipal Building. We encourage you to read the program and see the people who volunteer to make this celebration possible. When you can, thank them and the sponsors of the trophies and awards.

**READING OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE AND FLAG RAISING** will take place at the Memorial Plaza Euclid Ave and Mt Vernon St at 7:30am **AND THE FLAG RAISING** by the scouts will follow.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT INSPECTION OF THEIR MEMBERS AND EQUIPMENT** take place on Euclid Ave between Cedar St and Mt. Vernon St. at 8:00am.

**THE BABY and Youth Parade** - (chairman Maureen McElroy takes place at 9AM corner of Poplar St- and Euclid Avenue. "COMMEMORATING 125 YEARS OF RIDGEFIELD PARK 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATIONS" is the theme of this year's Youth Parade. It is open to Ridgefield Park residents and out-of-towners. Enter the parade dressed in costumes, in decorated carriages or wagons, ride on a decorated float or on your decorated bicycle. You do not have to incorporate the theme into your entry. Be unique, be creative and most of all have fun.

You must submit a required registration form to be eligible to participate. The form must be mailed to Maureen McElroy 102 Gordon St., Ridgefield Park and be received no later than July 1st. It is too difficult to register the morning of the parade. This form is available in the Municipal Building, Public Library, and on the website [ridgefieldpark.org](http://ridgefieldpark.org) or [mam.4thofjuly@gmail.com](mailto:mam.4thofjuly@gmail.com) Trophies and awards (chairman Donna

Arciuolo) will be given to the winning participants at the end of this parade.

THE CIVIC PARADE (chairman Russell Papay) begins at 11:30AM at Hudson Avenue and Preston Street. The VFW Post #809 Band of Little Ferry in concert with all other bands will begin the parade with the playing of OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM. This year to enhance our 125th Celebration, there will be additional musical acts- Out-of-town Judges under the direction of Chairman Lucille Waggoner will be on the corner of Main St/Preston St to observe the parade participants and select winners for different categories. Awards Chairman Donna Arciuolo, will present trophies to the winners at the end of the parade in Brewster Park. Refreshments at the end of the parade in Brewster Park is coordinated by Ridgefield Park's Fire Department, Vol. Ambulance Corps and Rescue Squad.

### **A reminder to all participants in the Main Parade**

- \* DRIVE CAREFULLY! PLEASE DO NOT THROW ANYTHING FROM YOUR VEHICLES — WALK TO THE CURB TO DISTRIBUTE ITEMS.

- \* ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE PROHIBITED ALONG THE PARADE ROUTE

- \* DO NOT USE ANY SILLY STRING.

- \* JUDGES ARE AT THE CORNER OF MAIN AND PRESTON ST. (THE FIRST INTERSECTION ON THE LEFT AFTER TURNING SOUTH ON MAIN ST. UNIT PERFORMANCES SHOULD BE BRIEF AND ARE PERMITTED AT THIS LOCATION AND AT THE REVIEWING STAND AT BREWSTER PARK

- \* AT THE END OF THE PARADE ROUTE, MAKE A LEFT TURN ONTO BREWSTER AVE., CONTINUE TO THE STOP SIGN BEFORE DISBANDING (ESPECIALLY FLOATS)

- \* HAVE A REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT AT THE AWARDS CEREMONY IN BREWSTER PARK IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE PARADE.

- \* ALL PARADE PARTICIPANTS ARE WELCOME TO ENJOY COMPLIMENTARY REFRESHMENTS COURTESY OF RIDGEFIELD PARK EMERGENCY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

### **The Home and Business Decorating Contest**

(Chairman Alice Brown) is open to Ridgefield Park residents who want to have their Decorated homes and businesses judged. The required registration forms will

be available in the Municipal Building, on the website [ridgefieldpark.org](http://ridgefieldpark.org). or Ridgefield Park July 4th Facebook page. You must submit a registration form no later than 3PM Monday July 1, 2019 Judging will take place after 3PM on Wednesday July 3, 2019 The winners of the Decorating Contest will be announced and awards given at Brewster Park at the conclusion of The Civic Parade. The names of the winners and pictures will be on the Village website [ridgefieldpark.org](http://ridgefieldpark.org) and Ridgefield Park 4th of July committee Facebook page.

## PROGRAM COVER ART DESIGN CONTEST -

This year's entries are from grades 1-6. students attending schools in the Ridgefield Park School District. The entries will be judged at the May meeting of the Fourth of July Committee. The first place winner's entry will be on the program cover. The second place winner's entry will be on the inside of the back cover of the program

**GRAND MARSHAL** Committee, Chairmen Mercedes and John Haines, have announced that the Ridgefield Park Fourth of July Citizens Committee will be voting to select this year's Grand Marshal at the committee's May 20th meeting.

## JULY 4TH 2019

**7:30 AM** - Reading of the Declaration of Independence-at Memorial Plaza on Euclid Ave north of Mt. Vernon Street

**7:45 AM** - Boy and Girl Scouts will raise the American Flag at the Memorial Plaza on Euclid Avenue at Mt. Vernon Street

**8:00 AM** - Fire Department July 4th Ceremonies- members and their equipment will be inspected at Euclid Avenue between Cedar and Mt Vernon St.

**9:00 AM** - Baby and Youth Parade - Euclid Avenue and Poplar St. Participants will walk or ride Poplar Street to Mt. Vernon Street and back around the island. Selected Honor Students from schools in Ridgefield Park will be recognized at this parade. Awards will be given out at the end of the parade.

**11:25 AM** - The bomb blasts and playing of the National Anthem by bands at the beginning of the parade route, Hudson Avenue and Preston St. is the start of the parade

**11:30 AM** - the main Parade begins. Read the program for the parade route and select a place to enjoy the parade. Trophies and awards will be given to the winning participants at the end of the parade in Brewster Park (Main St and Brewster Ave).



**WE ARE ON FACEBOOK. SEARCH RIDGEFIELD PARK 4TH OF JULY COMMITTEE. IT IS UPDATED WITH INFORMATION AND PICTURES OF PAST JULY 4TH CELEBRATIONS.**

## THE COMMITTEE:

John Tymon, Dayle Roberts, Barbara McCoy, Karen Fosdick, Commissioner

John Anlian, Russel Papay, Maureen McElroy, Eileen McElroy, Dianne Barbieri,

Donna Arciuolo, Jean Lennart, Lucille Waggoner, Sonny Yotka, Mercedes and John Haines, Marge Sellen, Kevin Coyle, Donald Jump, Lisa Infantino, Capt Charles Gneiding, Alice Brown, Howard Hendricks, Leslie Olsen and Loretta Vorhees

The July 4th Citizen's Committee wishes every one a safe and happy Fourth of July. We appreciate and thank everyone who helped to make this day possible.

## WE HAVE A GREEN BUSINESS RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Our community businesses are doing great work in sustainability which inspired the Village of Ridgefield Park to create a Green Business Recognition Program to recognize and certify businesses that implement and encourage sustainable business practices.

Any business in the Village may apply for recognition as a "Ridgefield Park Green Business". Any resident can nominate a business. And it's free!

They must accomplish at least 3 practices from the New Jersey Sustainable Business Registry <http://registry.njsbdc.com/resources> to certify. Or 2 practices and have been awarded a StyrofoamFree Certification from the Sustainable Jersey Bergen County Hub.

Go to [www.ridgefieldpark.org/boards](http://www.ridgefieldpark.org/boards), select Environmental Commission or

Green Team option and click on Green Certification for Village Businesses in the left column to read and complete the survey.

Stop in today and congratulate these Ridgefield Park Green Businesses. Look for more in the coming months.

Consolidated Packaging Group

Gina The Baker

Java Day

The Fire Pit

The Coaches Corner

ART MORA

Rising Sun Academy

Environmental Commission or the Green Team members will work with local business who want to achieve state level certification and help them register with the The New Jersey Sustainable Business Registry.

Congratulations to Consolidated Packaging Group, Gina The Baker and ART MORA who are New Jersey Sustainable Business Registry certified.

Have questions? Email [envcomm@ridgefieldpark.org](mailto:envcomm@ridgefieldpark.org)



## ARBOR DAY

Saturday, May 11, 2019, a bright, sunny day at Riverside Park, was the setting for The 40th Annual Ridgefield Park Arbor Day Celebration! Presentations from Flo Mueller, Shade Tree Commission, Mayor George Fosdick, Commissioner John Anlian the liaison to the STC were followed by Connie Campbell Sheehan singing "God Bless America." STC member Virginia Pizzuta spoke about Kerstin Keyser, a valued and loved STC member who passed in March; Kerstin worked diligently to improve the lives of Village residents and she will be sorely missed. An elm tree was planted in her memory in Hunter Park.

Students at Grant, Lincoln and Roosevelt schools composed poems for the 2019 Arbor Day Poetry Contest on the beauty and power of trees, based on the Arbor Day Organization's suggested theme "Trees are Simply Amazing."

Marsha Rosen, STC member, presented the cash awards to the poetry contest winners whose work will be displayed at the Ridgfield Park Library. The winners from each school:

#### **Grant School**

First Place: Yanida Prado, 5th grade, "Beautiful Trees!"

Second Place: Abigail Peguesa, grade 5, "Trees Are Simply Amazing!"

Third Place: Astrid Fernandez, grade 6, untitled

#### **Lincoln School**

First Place: Bianca Quijada, grade 5 "Lady in Pink"

Second Place: Gabriela Martinez, grade 6, "Trees Are simply Amazing"

Third Place: Jeremiah Ramos, grade 5, "Cherry Blossoms"

#### **Rosevelt School**

First Place: Allan Mendoza, grade 5, "Roosevelt's Tree Rap"

Second Place: Alejandro Izquierdo, grade 5, "The Prettiest Tree"

Third Place: Inho Chu, grade 5, "Pink Blossom Tree"

STC appreciates the efforts of so many who contributed to the Arbor Day Program including: Dyan Thiemann, who coordinated the contest among the schools; Eric Koenig Ridgfield Park Junior-Senior High School principal and his students who were judges for the poetry contest; Dr. Angela Bender Grant School principal, Joseph Neubert Lincoln School principal, and Matthew Perrapato Roosevelt School principal whose students contributed poems; and Catherine Cole of Office Works Etc. who donated time and materials.

Last but not least, special thanks to Alan O'Grady DPW supervisor, Donna Rose-McEntee DPW Secretary and all the DPW members who planted 60 trees this spring and year round inspect, prune, and remove trees. They also fill the gator bags of the newly planted with water all summer to help the trees get a good start.

Enjoy the trees and help take care of them. To actively encourage and involve more Village residents to help take care of the trees, STC has started a Block Ranger Program. Each volunteer would have a small area to check trees for damage, pruning needs, replacement, etc.

The STC also needs members who could devote more time on work such as choosing tree sites, ordering trees, prepar-

ing planting lists, notifying utility companies and property owners about planting sites, attending state tree conferences, and planning programs such as Arbor Day. The work is varied and interesting; the reward is a great feeling of accomplishment in the spring when the beautiful, leafy trees line the Village streets. For more information, the STC can be reached at [shadetreecomm@ridgfieldpark.org](mailto:shadetreecomm@ridgfieldpark.org) or at 201-641-4950, ext. 640 or attend a meeting. The STC meets at 7:30 pm on the second and fourth Mondays in the third floor conference room in Town Hall. Your involvement in the Block Ranger Program or STC would have a significant positive impact on the health and beauty of the Village trees in your area.

Why all the work and attention to trees?! A few reasons: The net cooling effect of a young, healthy tree is equivalent to ten room-size air conditioners operating 20 hours a day-U.S. Department of Agriculture. Healthy, mature trees add an average of 10 percent to a property's value-USDA Forest Service. The planting of trees means improved water quality, resulting in less runoff and erosion. This allows more recharging of the ground water supply. Wooded areas help prevent the transport of sediment and chemicals into streams. -USDA Forest Service

#### **SIDEWALKS**

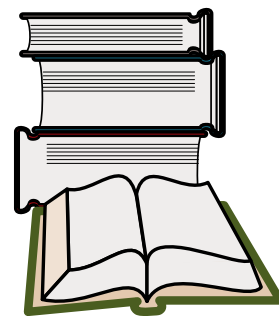
The STC has the Sidewalk Safety Program for sidewalks that need lifting or replacing due to Village shade tree roots-Anyone interested in the program should obtain a form at Town Hall and return the completed form to the STC to initiate inspection.

Currently, there is a waiting list, but submit your application now because work is done according to the date the application is received.

All reimbursable work **MUST BE PREAPPROVED BY A STC MEMBER** and done by a **STC APPROVED CONTRACTOR**. Property owners will not be reimbursed for work done without pre-approval by STC or by a contractor who is not STC approved. Property owners are required to pay the contractor and then submit the invoice to the STC for reimbursement.

#### **REMINDERS**

According to Village Ordinance 3-79 no one can fasten any sign...garage sale, lost Pet, etc. to any Village shade tree.



## **@YOUR LIBRARY**

#### **Afternoon Tea**

The Friends of the Library will host its annual Afternoon Tea on Sunday, 9/22 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. A full menu of savorys, sweets, and tea will be served in our library turned into a tea room. Tickets (\$15.00 each) will be available in August and tickets will not be sold at the door. This event generally sells out so purchase your tickets early. Proceeds benefit the Friends of the Library.

#### **Going on a Trip? Take the Internet With You!**

The library now offers free Wi-Fi hotspots for patrons to take with them on trips. These portable devices allow patrons to connect to the internet wherever they are without having to rely on phone signals or local internet providers. It's as easy as checking out a library book. One of the many things made possible through the Friends of the Library. For more information, please visit the library.

#### **Share a Universe of Stories this Summer!**

Summer is right around the corner, and with it comes the library's excellent array of summer programs for readers of all ages! We have a wide variety of reading incentives and prizes to give away, so be sure to check our calendar at [www.ridgfieldparkpubliclibrary.org](http://www.ridgfieldparkpubliclibrary.org) frequently for details. While you're there, please consider signing up for our electronic mailing list so that you'll receive our monthly newsletter highlighting the programs we offer. We promise not to clutter up your mail box with a slew of emails and we definitely never share your email address with any company, agency, or person-your privacy is very important to the library. Registration for programs begins on 6/20 for children and young adults, and 6/24 for adults.

#### **Program Highlights**

A full listing of our programs appears at [www.ridgfieldparkpubliclibrary.org](http://www.ridgfieldparkpubliclibrary.org)

This is also where program registrations are accepted.



### **Universe of Stories Reading Program for Children-Registration begins 6/21**

Children will get a Summer Reading kit and a guided level booklist to aid in their summer reading. Our main goal is to help you maintain and improve your child's reading level, and have fun! As children read throughout the summer, they will earn points towards prizes and raffle tickets, for a chance to win one of the grand prizes to be raffled off at The Universe of Stories Magic Show on Tuesday, August 20. Reading is a skill your child will need to succeed. Let us help them have fun practicing. This is for children of all ages up to 6th grade. Continues throughout the summer.

**Universe of Stories - Adult Summer Reading Program-6/26-8/22,** There will be no book discussions, no meetings and no logs to keep. There will be movies, special programs and weekly drawings for prizes and a grand prize at the end of the program. The first twenty-five (25) participants to register will receive a reading starter kit when they sign up. Then all summer long when you check out a book you will get a chance to enter in the weekly drawing and a grand drawing at the end of the program.

**Coder Dojo-Thurs., 6/27, 7/25, 9/26,** 7:00-9:00 p.m. Want to know the intricate magic of computer coding? Learn a skill that turns your child's future into their present! Kids and teens ages 9 to 17 meet with mentors to explore the world of computer coding. Registration is required.

**Return Of It Came From Beyond the Library!-Fri., 6/28, 8/9, 8/16,** 6:00 p.m. Join our summer series of weird cinema, ranging from art house flicks to cult classic schlock. This program is for adults only. Refreshments will be served. Registration is required.

**YA Game Day-Tues., 7/2, 7/9, 7/16,** 7/23, 7/30, 8/13, 8/20, 8/27, 9/3, 9/10, 9/17, 9/24, 3:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Teens gather at the library for video games, board games, card games, snacks, and socializing. Bring a friend! For 7th grade and up.

**Monster Chronicles-Wed. 7/3, 7/10,** 7/17, 7/24, 7/31, 8/14, 8/21, 8/28, 9/11, 9/25, 3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. Create a character and form a team to battle monsters in this RPG inspired by the likes of Supernatural and Stranger Things. For 7th grade and up. Registration is required.

**Knights of the Reading Table-Wed., 7/3, 7/10, 7/17, 7/24, 7/31, 8/7, 8/14, 8/21, 8/28, 9/4, 9/18,** 5:30-7:30 p.m. Create a character and take part in an epic RPG adventure. Build alliances, battle monsters,

and embark on an awesome quest. For 7th grade and up. Registration is required.

**Adult Video/Board Game Night-Fri., 7/5, 8/2, 9/27,** 6:30-8:30 p.m. Need a night out, do you like to play video games or board games, why not come to the library. We will be hosting a video/board game night for adults only, with refreshments. We will be playing video games and will also have some board games set up if anyone wishes not to play video games. This program is for **adults only**. Registration is required.

**Bingo-Sat., 7/6, 7/13, 7/20, 7/27, 8/3, 8/10,** 11:00-11:30 a.m. For all ages up to grade 6. Drop in, cool off and win prizes playing Bingo!

**Teen Book Club-Mon. 7/8, 8/12, 9/9,** 4:00-5:00 p.m. Dive into the world of Young Adult Fiction, discuss awesome books, and expand your reading horizons in our Teen Book Club! **July:** *How It Feels to Float* by Helena Fox. **August:** *The Candle and the Flame* by Nafiza Azad. **September:** *On the Come Up* by Angie Thomas

**My Gym Class-Mon., 7/8, 11:00-11:45** a.m. Please join us for an interactive and engaging fitness class led by a My Gym instructor from the North Bergen facility. This program is especially designed for children ages 22 months- 4 years old and a parent/caregiver. It is sponsored by My Gym: Children Fitness Center. Space is limited. Registration is required.

**DIY Storytime Jr.-Tues., 7/9, 7/23, 8/6,** 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Our young patrons will enjoy listening to a story and then creating something awesome with their parent/caregiver. Space is limited. Registration is required. This program is geared around children ages 2-5.

**Out of this World Storytime-Wed., 7/10, 7/17, 7/24, 7/31,** 3:00-4:00 p.m. Come join us with your school age children ages 5-9 for an "out of this world" storytime experience wrapped around STEM. Each week we will enjoy stories, and a craft about the solar system or the constellations. Registration is required. Books read can be added to the child's summer reading log sheet. Summer readers will also get an extra raffle ticket for prizes that will be drawn at the conclusion of our summer reading program.

**Movies for the Over 18 Crowd-Thurs., 7/11, 8/1, 9/5,** 2:00 p.m. All movies are on the first Thursday of the month starting at 2:00 P.M. So why not come by, enjoy a cup of coffee or tea, a donut and a free movie on us.

**Mind Reading Game Show-Thurs., 7/11,** 7:00-8:00 p.m. Flavian Petrulio will read your mind and make you laugh as he reveals answers to some very funny questions! **STEM Jr.-Fri., 7/12,** 2:00-3:00 p.m. Why do bubbles pop? Learn the science behind bubbles: Make bubble solution, wand, and of course children will have fun blowing bubbles. The program is sponsored by Suez Water Education and is designed for children PreK-4th grade. Registration is required.

**Live-Action Clue!-Fri. 7/12,** 5:30-7:30 p.m. Play out the roles of Colonel Mustard, Ms. Scarlet and the rest of the gang in this real-life version of the classic whodunit game-Clue! For grades 7 and up. Registration is required.

**Movie Monday-Mon., 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5, 8/12,** 1:00 p.m. Want to cool down and enjoy a new release family movie? Free popcorn will be provided but you may bring your own favorite snack to enjoy. A list of movies will be available at the library and on the children's summer reading page: at <https://www.ridgefieldparkpubliclibrary.org/summer-reading-2019>. This is a drop in program, no registration is required.

**STEM program-Thurs., 7/18,** 6:00-7:00 p.m. 3, 2, 1 BLAST OFF is all about Rockets! Learn about these amazing machines as you design your own rocket. The program is designed for children entering Grades 1st-5th. Space is limited. Registration is required. This program is sponsored by the Friends of Ridgefield Park Public Library and Art Kids Academy.

**RP Library Summer Concert-Fri., 7/19,** 6:00-7:00 p.m. Bringing the playfulness of the Summer season right to you! Acclaimed Concert musician Dr. David Underwood will showcase composers who pay homage to this romantic, languid but exciting time of year. Travel with him on the boardwalk and perhaps even see a rainbow in the blue skies, enjoying the wistful thoughts that Summer creates in all of us. This program includes timeless pieces/songs such as Vivaldi Seasons: Summer, Over the Rainbow, Summertime, Let's Twist Again, Blue Skies, Summer of 42, Last Summer Rose, Summer Breeze plus more! Pop, classical and jazz genres are covered in this concert.

**Teen Movie Day-Sat., 7/20, 9/7,** 1:00 p.m. Join us at the library to watch some new movies and some old favorites! Snacks will be provided.

**Ice Cream Sundae Party-Sat., 7/20,** 1:00-2:00 p.m. Cool off in the library with an ice cream sundae in honor of National Ice Cream Day!

**Fun with Food Storytime-Tues., 7/23, 9/24, 7:00-7:30 p.m.** Enjoy listening to a story and creating a cool food based on that book. Registration is required. Space is limited.

**Uno Tournament-Thurs., 7/25, 1:00-2:30 p.m.** Do you love playing uno? Show off your card skills with a friendly competition for the one and only "Uno". Prize will be given to the top player and snacks provided for all! Registration is required for children entering Grades 2nd-6th.

**Anime Daze-Thurs., 7/25, 8/29, 9/26, 3:30-5:00 p.m.** Fans of Japanese cartoons and comics join us for anime viewings, discussions, and snacks. Doesn't matter if you're an otaku or a newbie! For 7th grade and up.

**Library Lock-In-Fri., 7/26 and Sat. 7/27, 5:30 p.m.-6:30 a.m.** A giant sleepover in the library! Hang out, watch a movie, play games, read, and enjoy snacks during our Library Lock-In. Prizes await you! Dinner and breakfast will be provided. Registration and permission slips are required.

**Adult Book Club-Mon., 7/29, 8/26, 9/30, 7:30-8:30 p.m.** Join us the last Monday of the month for a fun and lively discussion of our book club pick. July: American Duchess by Karen Harper August: Miracle Creek by Angie Kim September: Lovely War by Julie Berry

**DIY for Kids-Thurs., 8/1, 8/8, 8/15, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.** Do you like to make things? If so, this is the program for you. Each week, kids will get the opportunity to select a project to make. This program is geared towards children ages 3rd-6th grades. Registration is required.

**Crocheting for Kids-Wed., 8/14, 8/21, 8/28, 9/4, 9/11, 9/18, 9/25, 6:30-7:30 p.m.** Children in grades 4-adults can learn how to crochet or teach others something. Make something for yourself or a gift for someone special. Beginners, immediate or advanced crocheters are welcome. This is a drop in program, no registration is required.

**Carol Simon Levin, Living History Presenter-Thurs., 8/15, 7:00-8:00 p.m.** Presents Reclaiming Our Voice: Woman Suffrage in NJ. Carol Simon Levine will be portraying Lillian Feickert, president of the New Jersey Woman Suffrage Association from 1912-1920, who lived in both Plainfield and North Plainfield. She will tell the story of the role of New Jersey women in the long struggle for women's suffrage.

**Bibliocon Sat., 8/17, 1:00-4:00 p.m.** Teens can come in dressed up as their favorite characters from books, movies, comics, or whatever else they can imagine for an afternoon of games, snacks, trivia, crafts, and a truly terrible film. Registration is required.

**End of Summer Reading Finale-Tues., 8/20, 7:00 p.m.** Children that have participated in the summer reading program are invited to join us for a special event, Universe of Books Magic Show with Brian Richards. Winners of the Summer Reading program will be announced at the end of the magic show. Registration is required.

**After Hours Nerf War-Fri., 8/23, 5:30-7:30 p.m.** Create teams, play as a lone-wolf, and battle it out with nerf guns in this fun, after hours program! Registration is required.

**ESL Conversation Class-Mon., 9/9, 9/16, 9/23, 9/30 6:00-6:30 p.m.** Talk with native speakers and other language learners about current events, travel, money, family, holidays and much more. For adults 16 years old or older. This program is provided in partnership with the Friends of Ridgefield Park Public Library.

**ESL Conversation Class-Tue., 9/10, 9/17, 9/24 10:00-10:30 a.m.** Talk with native speakers and other language learners about current events, travel, money, family, holidays and much more. For adults 16 years old or older. This program is provided in partnership with the Friends of Ridgefield Park Public Library.

**STEM Book Club-Fri., 9/20, 4:00-5:00 p.m.** This program is for children in Grades 2nd-4th with a focus on discussing non-fiction books and a corresponding STEM activity or craft. Registration is required. Space is limited. Topic: Hydroponics. Book shared: Plants Live Everywhere! by Mary Dodson Wade.

**Amy McCarroll Afternoon Tea-Sun., 9/22, 2:00-4:00 p.m.** Join the Friends of the Library for a full menu of savorys, sweets, and teas. Tickets (\$15.00 each) go on sale in August. This event always sells out so get your tickets early at the library. Proceeds benefit the Friends of the Library.

**Homework Help-Mon., 9/23, 9/30; Wed., 9/25, 3:30-4:00 p.m.** The library is offering afterschool homework help for children in Grades K-6th. Teens can sign up to help kids with their homework. Register online, great for community service hours!

## **RIDGEFIELD PARK GREEN TEAM AWARDED \$2,000 SUSTAINABILITY GRANT FROM PSEG FOUNDATION**

RIDGEFIELD PARK, NJ – The Village of Ridgefield Park's Green Team was awarded a \$2,000 Sustainable Jersey capacity-building grant funded by the PSEG Foundation. It was one of 37 grants distributed by Sustainable New Jersey to municipalities in fifteen New Jersey counties.

Of the 37 grant awards, there were four \$20,000 grants, seven \$10,000 grants and twenty-five \$2,000 grants that will fund a range of projects including green infrastructure, park restoration, single-use plastic reduction campaigns, raingardens, environmental resource inventories, creative placemaking, green team capacity building and more.

"We are very pleased to accept this grant and commend the PSEG Foundation for their leadership," said Ridgefield Park Mayor George Fosdick. "The grant will be instrumental in helping our new Arts Association hold our first Summer Arts Fest. Art is an important part of our community and we thank the PSEG Foundation for helping us celebrate it."

According to Mark Olson, Chairman of Ridgefield Park's Green Team, the grant will be used immediately by the Ridgefield Park Arts Association and will fund an upcoming Summer Arts Fest scheduled for Saturday June 15 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Main and Grove Streets.

"From climate change, to water, waste and equity issues, so many of the big sustainability concerns are reaching a crisis point. This investment in sustainability projects will have lasting benefits to New Jersey," said Randall Solomon, executive director for Sustainable Jersey. He extended his congratulations to all of the towns that received grants. "We're seeing exciting results from previous grant projects, and we are looking forward to similarly productive, innovative progress from the current group of awardees," Solomon added.

The PSEG Foundation has contributed 1.9 million dollars in funding to the Sustainable Jersey grants program for municipalities and schools. "Supporting local municipalities in their efforts to build sustainability programs puts resources where they're needed and aren't always available, and PSEG is proud to do so" said Barb Short, president of the PSEG



Foundation. “Sustainable Jersey helps bring real change and has a lasting impact to neighborhoods throughout New Jersey.”

“Without the grant our Arts Association would not have been able to host this type of event,” said Olson. “This grant will allow the Arts Association to make the event free to the public and at the same time it will help to bring the community together to enjoy live music, dance, fine art/painting and sculpture.”

“This festival is all about embracing cultural diversity, and it is diversity that allows us to share the best music and art,” said Olson. “The Arts Fest will be an event where residents will come together to eat dinner on the street and gather around the first 100 feet of Grove Street to listen to music, enjoy some art, and learn about future projects the Arts Association has planned for the Village.”

According to Solomon, proposals were evaluated by an independent Blue-Ribbon Selection Committee. The Sustainable Jersey grants are intended to help municipalities make progress toward a sustainable future in general, and specifically toward Sustainable Jersey certification. Nearly 90 percent of the New Jersey population lives in a registered or certified Sustainable Jersey community. Currently 450 municipalities, or 80 percent of New Jersey municipalities, are registered with Sustainable Jersey.

The Village of Ridgefield Park is one of 148 municipalities in the state to have achieved the Bronze Level of Certification from Sustainable New Jersey.

## BECOMING STYROFOAM FREE

There is good news about styrofoam. Yes we know the food containers contain a chemical polystyrene which leaches into your food and drinks and is harmful to humans. And that this form of styrofoam can't be cleaned because its chemical structure traps lipids and absorbs oil and grease molecules. So styrofoam food containers are not recycled.

BUT, thanks to a big push from the Ridgefield Park Green Team and their work with the Sustainable Jersey Bergen Hub, we have a Styrofoam Free Award Program to recognize restaurants and food service companies who don't use styrofoam. It means when you are served or pick up your takeout it isn't in a styrofoam container. Paper or aluminum with plastic lids is used.

Who is styrofoam free — Baked

Meringue, Chocolates With Love, Gina The Baker, Jarett's Waffle Wagon, The Coaches Corner, Dante's Pizzeria & Restaurant and MK Valencia. If you are a business or know a business which is styrofoam free let the Environmental Commission know @ Ridgefield Park. org.

PLUS — We are among the first communities in Bergen County to have a styrofoam recycling. It is located at the DPW on 24 Industrial Avenue. Styrofoam used for shipping or EPS can be recycled. That is the packaging material (foam sheets, foam coolers and foam packaging) that manufacturers may use to ship a new appliance or furniture.

Use this link to learn more — <https://www.ridgefieldpark.org/green-team/pages/eps-recycling>

## DON'T LET MOSQUITOES BUG YOU!!!!

Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water and the larvae, known as “wigglers” mature in the water and then fly off as adults to search for warm-blooded creatures (that means you) to bite.

Here's what you can do. Check your yard for any standing water, such as flowerpot saucers, garbage pails, children's wading pools, or blocked gutters etc. For things such as birdbaths or decorative fountains, the water should be checked for “wigglers” drained and changed regularly.

So do your part in the fight to reduce the number of mosquitoes in the Village, and thoroughly check your yard, especially after a rain, for any containers holding water and dump it out! Mosquitoes transmit disease! Let's all do our part to control them!

Please share this information with your neighbors, because the less standing water there is to breed in, the fewer mosquitoes there will be to bug us!

## SOLAR ENERGY — SOLAR PANELS

Because our sun is a natural nuclear reactor, it releases small packets of energy called photons, which travel the 93 million miles from the sun to Earth in about 8.5 minutes. Every hour, enough of these photons impact our planet to generate enough solar energy to theoretically satisfy global energy needs for a whole year. Solar energy works by capturing the sun's energy and turning it into electricity for our homes or business.

Solar technology is improving and the cost of going solar is dropping rapidly, so our ability to connect the sun's abundance of energy is on the rise.

A report from the International Energy Agency in 2017 show that solar is becoming the world's fastest-growing source of power—marking the first time that solar energy's growth has surpassed that of all other fuels. In the near future, we will all be enjoying the benefits of solar-generated electricity.

**How Do Solar Panels Work?** When photons hit a solar cell, they knock electrons loose from their atoms. If conductors are attached to the positive and negative sides of a cell, it forms an electrical circuit. When electrons flow through such a circuit, they generate electricity. Multiple cells make up a solar panel, and multiple panels (modules) can be wired together to form a solar array. The more panels you can deploy, the more energy you can expect to generate.

**What are Solar Panels Made of?** Solar panels are made up of many solar cells. Solar cells are made of silicon, like semiconductors. They are constructed with a positive layer and a negative layer, which together create an electric field, just like in a battery.

**How Do Solar Panels Generate Electricity?** Solar panels generate direct current (DC) electricity. With DC electricity, electrons flow in one direction around a circuit. This example shows a battery powering a light bulb. The electrons move from the negative side of the battery, through the lamp, and return to the positive side of the battery.

With AC (alternating current) electricity, electrons are pushed and pulled, periodically reversing direction, much like the cylinder of a car's engine. Generators create AC electricity when a coil of wire is spun next to a magnet. Many different energy sources can make work this generator, such as gas or diesel fuel, hydroelectricity, nuclear, coal, wind, or solar.

AC electricity was chosen for the U.S. electrical power grid, primarily because over long distances, it is less expensive to transmit. However, solar panels create DC electricity. How do we get DC electricity into the AC grid? We have to use an inverter.

**What Does a Solar Inverter Do?** A solar inverter takes the DC electricity from the solar array and uses that to create AC electricity. Inverters are like the brains of the system. Along with inverting DC to AC power, they also provide ground fault protection and system stats, including voltage and current on AC and DC circuits, energy production and maximum power point tracking.

From the beginning, central inverters have dominated the solar industry. The introduction of micro-inverters is one of the biggest technology shifts in the Solar Panels industry. Micro-inverters optimize for each individual solar panel, not for an entire solar system, as central inverters do. This enables every solar panel to perform at maximum potential. When a central inverter is used, having a problem on one solar panel (maybe it's in the shade or has gotten dirty) can drag down the performance of the entire solar array. Micro-inverters make this a non-issue. If one solar panel has an issue, the rest of the solar array still performs efficiently.

#### **How Does a Solar Panel System Work?**

Here's an example of how a home solar energy installation works. First, sunlight hits a solar panel on the roof. The panels convert the energy to DC current, which flows to an inverter. The inverter converts the electricity from DC to AC, which you can then use to power your home. It's beautifully simple and clean, and it's getting more efficient and affordable all the time.

However, what happens if you're not home to use the electricity your solar panels are generating every sunny day? And what happens at night when your solar system is not generating power in real time? Don't worry, you still benefit through a system called "net metering."

A typical grid-tied Solar Panel system, during peak daylight hours, frequently produces more energy than one customer needs, so that excess energy is fed back into the grid for use elsewhere. The customer gets credit for the excess energy produced, and can use that credit to draw from the conventional grid at night or on cloudy days. A net meter records the energy sent compared to the energy received from the grid.

**How much energy can my solar system generate during a cloudy day?** While of

course solar panels need sunlight to produce energy, it's important to learn how cloudy conditions can affect the efficiency of solar energy generation and how factors such as partial shade can impact your solar system power output.

Yes, solar panels still work in cloudy weather — they just might generate less power, depending upon the quality and efficiency of your panels.

**Does a Cloudy Day Affect Solar Energy Generation?** Anyone who has gotten sunburned on a cloudy day knows that solar radiation penetrates clouds. For that same reason, solar panels can still produce electricity on cloudy days. But depending on the cloud cover and the quality of the solar panels, efficiency can drop to anywhere from 10 to 25 percent of the energy output seen on a sunny day.

**3 Key Facts About Solar Panels and Cloudy Weather** Here are a few important things to remember:

1. Solar power can work well in typically cloudy, cold locations. New York. San Francisco. Milwaukee. Boston. Seattle. All of those cities can experience quite inclement weather, from rain and fog to blizzards, yet all of them top the list of U.S. cities that see the highest level of savings thanks to solar installations. The cost of electricity — not the number of cloudy or cold days — is the biggest factor in determining whether solar saves people money on their electric bill. In New York and San Francisco, for example, the high cost of electricity makes solar installation worth the investment for home

and business owners.

2. Solar doesn't need hot weather to generate electricity. Solar panels actually work best in places that are sunny and cold. When panels get above about 77 degrees Fahrenheit, they tend to work less efficiently. That doesn't mean they won't work in traditionally hot places such as Phoenix (which is No. 6 on the list of cities with the greatest solar savings). Again, electricity costs — not the weather — play a bigger role in how solar PV can save homeowners money.

3. While partial shading — whether it be from natural or other sources — can decrease the amount of solar energy your system is generating, solar systems are engineered to prevent the effects of shading from causing all energy production to stop. If, say, 20 percent of the solar PV panels are shaded by a tree limb, only 20 percent of the system's energy production is temporarily diminished — but no more. Again, qualified installers know how to design your system so shading issues won't be a problem. That's why it's important to work with a qualified solar panel installer. SunPower handpicks dealers nationwide to exclusively sell its solar technology. These are locally based businesses with expertise in your community's weather and installation rules and regulations, so they're the best sources of knowledge on how solar will work on your home.

It doesn't hurt to keep in mind that Germany — a leader in renewable energy that's famous for its lack of sunlight — accounts for about 25 percent of the world's solar power output and achieved its strongest growth in half a decade last year, according to a recent Greentech Media article. That's good evidence that going solar is about saving on your energy costs and helping the planet — not about the weather.

Internet Source: SunPower Blog, EnergySage.com





# **WEDNESDAY IS CONCERT NIGHT**

**All Concerts for SUMMER 2019 will be held at McGowan Park (located along Bergen Turnpike, Ridgfield Park, NJ). Each Wednesday concert starts at 7:00 pm.**

**In the event of RAIN OR INCLEMENT WEATHER, the concerts shall take place at the KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL located at 106 Bergen Ave., RP**

**\* June 26<sup>th</sup>-Wed. – EXSOULLENCE DANCE BAND  
Non-Stop Mix of Music that Spans Generations and Styles.**

**\* July 3rd -Wed. – ANGEL FELICIANO  
Classical and Broadway favorites**

**\*July 10<sup>th</sup>-Wed. – LARRY UMAÑA & his Latin Jazz Project  
Latin Jazz & Salsa**

**\*July 17<sup>th</sup>-Wed. - RUTHERFORD COMMUNITY BAND  
Broadway, Popular, & Classical Music**

**\*July. 24th -Wed. – NASH EAST COUNTRY BAND  
Country Western Music**

**\*July 31st - Wed - JULIAN & DOMINIQUE  
The Duo of a Thousand Voices**

**\* Aug. 7th-Wed. – CORNUCOPIA  
Swing to the Big Band Music from the 1930's & 40's**

**\*Aug. 14th -Wed. - THE WALDWICK COMMUNITY BAND  
Broadway, Popular, & Classical Music**

**\*Aug. 21st-Wed. – JOE KENNEY  
Ridgfield Park's Own Home Town Boy**

**\* Aug. 28<sup>th</sup>- Wed. – TAXI  
Rock, Pop, & Roll through the Years  
with Paul "Swami" Simeone**

**COME & ENJOY THE MUSIC ALONG THE WATERSIDE**

**For further information: Ridgfield Park Village Clerk's Office (201) 641-4950;  
JOHN ANLIAN (201) 943-1110 or LISSET TORRES (201) 280-0674**



## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



Recycling Center hours are Monday through Saturday, 9am-12 noon.

Please do not arrive after 12.

Even if the gates are open-it may not be safe for you to enter.



The following items are NOT picked up at the curb-You may bring these items to the Recycling Center:

- Fluorescent light bulbs
- Car batteries (regular batteries go in household garbage)
- Used cooking oil
- Antifreeze
- Motor oil and oil filters
- Propane Tanks
- Paint Cans
- Helium Tanks

On July 4<sup>th</sup> our DPW employees will be working to make things run smoothly for the village during the 125<sup>th</sup> Annual Fourth of July celebration.

**There will be NO Thursday pick-up of Garbage or TRASH on July 4<sup>th</sup>!**

Garbage will be picked up on the next scheduled date-July 8<sup>th</sup>.

The once a month TRASH pick-up for the North side of town will be rescheduled to July 11<sup>th</sup>.

Please do your part and remember to properly dispose of your garbage.



**YARD WASTE**—Place at the curb the night before collection.

- Mt. Vernon & South is picked up on Mondays
- North of Mt. Vernon is picked up on Tuesdays

Yard waste consists of weeds, grass clippings, branches twigs and clippings from bushes and flowers. Branches should be cut into 4 foot lengths and tied into bundles. **NO DIRT OR ROCKS!** It must be placed in a dumpable container (35 lb. limit) or a brown bag. **Please DO NOT dump yard waste in the street.**



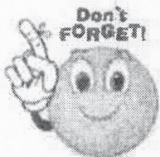
Please remember to rinse out your trash/recycling cans regularly.

Dirty receptacles are unsanitary and attract pests!

Your Garbage crew thanks you!

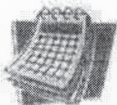
### DON'T FORGET...

You must call in the following items for "**White Goods**" collection by Tuesday for Wednesday collection.



- Tires
- Bicycle
- Lawnmowers
- Snow Blowers
- BBQ Grills
- Treadmills
- Air Conditioners
- TVs
- Computers
- Printers
- Stoves
- Refrigerators
- Dishwashers
- Hot Water Heaters
- Washers/Dryers

Your address will be added to a list. Place your items at the curb on Tuesday night and a special truck will pick up on Wednesday morning starting at 6am. Call 201-440-4860



Mark your Calendars ... Paper Shredding, Saturday October 12<sup>th</sup> 9am-1pm @ DPW

