



Town of Clifton Park

One Town Hall Plaza | Clifton Park, New York 12065 | (518) 371-6651 | Fax: (518) 371-1136

Supervisor Phil Barrett's 2017 Summer Recap

In Clifton Park, the Summer may have begun wet and cold but throughout it was filled with fun and activities galore for Clifton Park families of all ages.

The center of the Town's activities is the Common where the Town officially kicked off the Summer with our annual Fourth of July Parade. Thousands of residents lined the streets of Clifton Park as we took time to recognize and celebrate America. Later that evening, we gathered at the Common and across the Town to enjoy an incredible fireworks show, which was broadcast live by Newschannel 13. The fun didn't stop there. For eight consecutive Sunday evenings, music and song could be heard emanating from the Common. The Not So Common Players performed Fiddler on the Roof and local bands such as Sirsy and Hair of the Dog performed as part of the Town's Sunday Concerts on the Common. A well-known band that performs throughout the Northeast, Yellow Brick Road, highlighted the concert series with a show so realistic you thought you were watching Elton John himself. Wednesday evenings would find the laughter and smiles of children as they enjoyed everything from magic, puppets, singing and comedy as part of our children's event schedule. Both these series of events would not have been possible without the generous support of sponsors like Prestige Services and Northstar Church which provided free refreshments at the children events.

On any given weekday, 650 local children were taking advantage of our full day or half day camps. These camps not only provided a respite for parents but ensured that attendees were exposed to healthy outdoor activities in addition to providing unique educational opportunities. Our partnership with Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute to provide a robotics and a computer animation camp at Town Hall was visited by a writer and photographer from Scientific American Magazine and will be featured in an upcoming issue. Other specialty camps included Chess, Soccer, Basketball, Theater and many other unique opportunities.

Our 13th Annual National Night Out "Hoops at the Common" was another outstanding success this Summer. Over one hundred youth aged six to twelve learned skills from Coach Ali Jacques and the Siena Women's Basketball Team and competed for prizes in the free throw contest. Once again, Rodger Wyland of Newschannel 13 was our master of ceremonies and he provided an opportunity for all the participants to appear live on television during his sports report. Frank Massa and a cadre of volunteers ensured the evening moved quickly and efficiently. In addition, local law enforcement, many first responders and the Town Highway Department displayed their equipment for kids to explore and to educate them on the important work they perform each day. Special thanks to Saratoga County Sheriff Michael Zurlo and State Senator Jim Tedisco for also joining and participating with us that evening.

When the days were hot there was no better place to cool off than at one of our three Town pools. Staffed by lifeguards and managers who live and grew up right in our neighborhoods, they helped to provide a Summer of safe fun for more than 4,500 members and hundreds of campers. In addition, swim classes and lifeguard training were expanded to ensure every child that registered to learn how to swim was provided the opportunity. In all, 620 children learned to swim this Summer right at their own neighborhood Town pool.

Thank you to everyone that made the many Town Summer programs a success. This recap only highlights a portion of the Town programs offered during the summer and it requires many dedicated people to provide a wonderful summer experience to thousands of Clifton Park children and families.

We have a busy Fall that begins tomorrow with Hazardous Waste Day. Also join us in supporting our farms during the Fall, kicking off with Farm Fest on September 16 and 17th. The Nick's Fight to be Healed 5k will take place on the Common in partnership with the Town on the 24th. Then the Fall Shredding Day takes place on October 1st. Be sure to visit our Town webpage at CliftonPark.org regularly for more information or "like us" on Facebook.

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