

Mayor Kurtz's SwiftReach for Jun 17, 2022

HELLO. IT IS JUNE 17th. PLEASE STAND BY FOR A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR. IT WILL REPEAT ONCE.

GOOD FRIDAY EVENING, NEIGHBORS. THIS IS YOUR MAYOR GREG KURTZ.

I WANT TO BEGIN BY THANKING THE HARD-WORKING RECREATION DEPARTMENT STAFF FOR KEEPING THE POOL, SPLASH PAD, AND OTHER PARK FACILITIES OPERATING ON SCHEDULE THE PAST THREE WEEKS. INDEPENDENCE, LIKE MANY OTHER COMMUNITIES, HAS HAD A DIFFICULT TIME HIRING SEASONAL STAFF THIS YEAR.

ONE REASON, MANY YOUNG PEOPLE ARE INVOLVED IN SPORTS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES YEAR-ROUND. ANOTHER REASON IS THE NATIONAL LIFEGUARD SHORTAGE. THANKFULLY THE REC DEPARTMENT OFFERED IN-HOUSE LIFEGUARD TRAINING, WHICH HAS HELPED US TREMENDOUSLY.

SOME CITIES HAVE HAD TO CLOSE THEIR POOLS OR HAVE DRAMATICALLY REDUCED HOURS BECAUSE OF STAFFING ISSUES.

WE ARE NOT THERE, PLEASE KNOW THAT THE CITY WILL NOT OPERATE ANY OF OUR FACILITIES WITHOUT ADEQUATE STAFFING – PERIOD. IT'S A SAFETY ISSUE.

SPEAKING OF SAFETY, IF YOU SEE ANY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD, THE PARK, OR AROUND TOWN – CALL THE NON-EMERGENCY POLICE LINE – 524-1234.

TOO OFTEN, PEOPLE PICK UP THEIR PHONE TO POST SOMETHING ON SOCIAL MEDIA, RATHER THAN CALL POLICE.

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING. INDEPENDENCE POLICE DO AN OUTSTANDING JOB, AND THEY WANT TO MAKE SURE OUR COMMUNITY STAYS SAFE AND SECURE.

UNTIL NEXT FRIDAY, STAY SAFE, STAY COO, EAT SOME ICE CREAM AND AS ALWAYS, GOD BLESS.