



THE LEBANON LANTERN

SUMMER 2025

Honoring Our Patriots on the Fourth of July



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HOLJES-SHEPPARD PARK TO GET A MAJOR FACELIFT

Holjes-Sheppard Memorial Park and playground are vital and well-loved recreational spaces that have served our community for over 30 years.

The existing playground equipment, installed more than 20 years ago, doesn't meet current safety standards.

The playground equipment is not accessible to all children in our community.

The park lacks covered space for residents and families to gather with shade and protection from the elements.

The storage shed for critical equipment needs to be replaced.

The Plan

Grants have been awarded totaling \$465,000 to provide funding for this project, covering roughly 45% of the total cost. Additional grant applications will be submitted as the project proceeds.

The playground renovation includes the installation of modern, **ADA-compliant playground equipment** and a **rubberized safety surface**, which will significantly enhance inclusivity and reduce injury risk. It will also last longer than other types of new equipment.

A new pavilion will be built to provide shade and protection and support community gatherings. It will also serve as a rental space for family events and local functions.

A new storage barn will replace the old, decaying garage and will house maintenance tools and equipment used by park staff and volunteers. This will ensure that the park remains clean, safe, and well-maintained without relying on distant or off-site storage.

The renovated park will be able to serve as a year-round hub for social connection and outdoor recreation.

Additional Notes

Borough Council supports the renovation and is excited by the possibilities it will bring to Lebanon.

Thanks to our **Administrator** for her diligent efforts to secure funding. Additional funding may be necessary to complete the project – that will be funded through additional grants or a bond issuance.

The renovation is an investment in the future of Lebanon and residents of today and tomorrow.

Lebanon Borough School supports the project.

(continued on page 3)



Bonnie Ogorzalek

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HOLJES-SHEPPARD PARK



For additional information, please go to the borough's website at lebanonboro.com.

RECREATION COMMITTEE PLANS SUMMER AND FALL EVENTS

The **Lebanon Borough Recreation Committee** plays a vital role in enhancing the community spirit and quality of life for residents in the borough. Committed to providing recreational opportunities, the committee organizes a variety of events throughout the year that cater to all ages and interests.

The Recreation Committee has some fun and exciting events coming up. On Aug. 15 from 7 to 9 p.m. we will host **Beat the Heat Bingo**, a free family event with the chance to win prizes. In the fall, you can look forward to our annual Halloween event as well as the Tree Lighting and visit with Santa in December. Last, the Recreation Committee is sponsoring a 5k race on Jan. 1 to kick-off Lebanon Borough's Centennial Celebrations. Details about this event will follow in the coming weeks.

One of the committee's events which recently took place, was the annual Lebanon Borough Music in the Park, which featured live music by The JD Allstars, food and beverages. Thanks to all who participated and came to our event. We hope everyone who attended had a wonderful time.

(Continued on the next page)

RECREATION COMMITTEE PLANS SUMMER AND FALL EVENTS

(Continued from page 3)

The Recreation Committee relies on community involvement and volunteers to bring these events to life. If you are interested in helping out or have any ideas for possible events, please email **Lisa Porcello**, recreation chair, at lporello@Lebanonboro.com. We look forward to hearing from you.



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THE LEBANON BOROUGH GARDEN CLUB BEAUTIFYING OUR TOWN!



Let's beautify our town together! The Garden Club wants to install solar lights on our holiday snowflakes. This project is time consuming and takes additional donations. Please consider donating to the Garden Club. Donations are accepted at Borough Hall. Look for our 2nd Annual Perennial Bulb Exchange on Saturday, Sept. 6 from 10 – 12 noon in the Borough Hall parking lot. Bring three perennials, take three perennials.

Donations of flannel shirts, burlap, old jeans and straw hats are welcome. We are creating unique scarecrows that will be displayed on Main St. in the fall.



A YEAR OF GROWING BETTER TOGETHER AT LBS

Now that we have concluded the 2024–2025 school year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the growth, achievement, and sense of community we have witnessed throughout the year. Our students continue to shine both academically and socially-emotionally, and we could not be more proud of their accomplishments. They have demonstrated resilience, curiosity, and kindness—qualities that will serve them well as they move forward in their educational journeys.

We are grateful to our outstanding faculty and staff for their dedication and commitment to our students. Their efforts create the nurturing and high-achieving environment that defines **Lebanon Borough School**. We also extend our heartfelt thanks to our families. Your continued involvement, encouragement, and partnership have played a vital role in the success of our school community.

Looking ahead, we are excited to continue building on the strong foundation we've created together. Our focus remains on providing an exceptional educational experience that meets the needs of every learner.

To our sixth-grade students—congratulations! We are proud of your growth and wish you all the best as you transition to **Clinton Public School** or wherever your next step may take you. We know you will carry the values and skills you've developed at LBS with pride and confidence.

May and June are always busy and exciting times in an elementary school. This spring was no exception, with memorable events like our Spring Performance of *High School Musical Jr.* and a joyful Field Day. On the next page are some pictures of Field Day, including a surprise relay race that our staff ran. The children were very excited! A special thanks to the Lebanon Fire Company for the end-of-the-day wet-down!

Thank you for your continued support. On behalf of the entire Lebanon Borough School team, I wish you and your families a restful, safe, and happy summer!
(Continued on the next page)

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BETTER TOGETHER AT LBS



2025–2026 Registration

If you or your neighbors have children who will be joining us in September 2025, please register as soon as possible at www.lebanonschool.org. Early registration helps us plan class sections and staffing more effectively.

As we have discussed in the past, this year the district will be applying for Preschool Expansion Aid to provide full-day preschool to all children in the community moving forward. Thank you for your overwhelming response to our community-wide survey, which demonstrated the community's support of moving forward with this endeavor. Please note that our preschool program for the upcoming year is currently full, and we are maintaining a waiting list.

We are planning to offer Preschool and Kindergarten Welcome opportunities for parents and children in August, and more information will be shared with registered families later this summer.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to:

- Mrs. Muia at rmuia@lebanonschool.org
- Mrs. Duell at tduell@lebanonschool.org
- Or me directly at barcurio@lebanonschool.org

Once again, thank you for your continued trust and partnership. I am incredibly grateful to our talented staff and supportive families for making Lebanon Borough School such a special place to learn and grow. We look forward to another successful school year in 2025–2026 as we continue to grow *Better Together*.

Warm wishes for a wonderful summer!

Better Together,
Bruce R. Arcurio, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Lebanon Borough School District



THE PARADE



THE PICNIC

Go to page 16 to see parade float winners



HOME DECORATING CONTEST



FIRST PLACE: 1 LOCUST DR.



SECOND PLACE: 138 MAIN ST.

THE SMART PATIENT SUMMER SURVIVAL GUIDE

Summer brings sunshine, the legendary Lebanon Borough 4th of July parade, festivals and time outdoors, but it also brings risk of heat-related illness. Whether you're lounging in the backyard, running errands or caring for someone more vulnerable, knowing how to protect yourself during a heatwave is essential.

Our bodies work hard to maintain a safe internal temperature, but when the thermometer climbs and humidity levels spike, your natural cooling system, which is sweating, can struggle to keep up. That's when heat exhaustion and more severe forms, like heat stroke can set in.

Watch out for these symptoms, especially in older adults, young children or anyone with chronic conditions:

- **Heavy sweating**
- **Weakness or fatigue**
- **Dizziness or fainting**
- **Nausea or vomiting**
- **Headache**
- **Muscle cramps**
- **Cool, pale, clammy skin**

If not treated quickly, heat exhaustion can escalate into heat stroke, a medical emergency. Symptoms of heat stroke include **confusion, high body temperature (over 103°F), red/hot/dry skin and loss of consciousness. If you see these signs, call 911 immediately.**

Here are some top tips to stay cool and beat the heat:

- **Hydrate constantly** – Don't wait until you're thirsty. Carry a reusable water bottle everywhere.
- **Dress for success** – Wear light-colored, loose-fitting clothes made of breathable fabrics.
- **Plan smart** – Avoid strenuous activities between 11 AM and 4 PM, the hottest part of the day.
- **Cool your home** – Use fans, draw blinds or curtains and limit oven use.
- **Take cool showers or baths** – A quick rinse can bring your body temperature down.
- **Listen to your body** – Rest if you feel dizzy or tired. Don't push through
- **Use sunscreen** – Sunburn can impair your body's ability to cool itself. Choose a broad-spectrum sunscreen (SPF 30 or higher) and reapply every 2 hours, especially if you're sweating or swimming.

Certain medications can increase your risk of heat exhaustion or dehydration. These include:

- Diuretics (water pills)
- Beta-blockers and blood pressure meds
- Antidepressants and antipsychotics
- Antihistamines and sedatives

If you need to escape the heat for a bit, here are some cool spots in Lebanon and Hunterdon County:

- **Hunterdon County Library – North County Branch** 65 Halstead Street, Clinton, NJ A quiet, air-conditioned space to read, rest, or recharge your devices.
- **Lebanon Borough Municipal Building** 6 High Street, Lebanon, NJ Call ahead at 908-236-2425 to check for public hours during heatwaves.
- **Hunterdon Health and Wellness Center in Clinton** 1738 NJ-31, Clinton, NJ Offers public areas, hydration stations and sometimes emergency cooling setups.
- **Local Malls & Grocery Stores** Clinton Walmart, ShopRite of Clinton and other large retailers are often cool and welcoming if you need a break.

This is the time of year when it's most important to check on neighbors, especially seniors and people living alone. Heat can sneak up on those most vulnerable. Follow Hunterdon County Health Department alerts and weather advisories for excessive heat warnings. You can also download apps like **Nixle** or sign up for **Smart911** to stay ahead of dangerous temps.

Smart patients know that prevention is always the best medicine. So, stay cool, stay hydrated and most of all, stay safe this summer.

Councilwoman Marlene G. Baldinger, RN



TACKLING SEASONAL HOUSEHOLD HEADACHES WITH OEM

Summer is here and with it comes a myriad of issues that require our remedy. The following is a list of items and issues that will test our purpose for resolution.

- The installation of window air conditioners is a project that can create a serious water problem between the sill and storm window frame. Poorly tilted units allow water to pool, creating wet floors and eventually rotted sills and window frames. Be sure to tilt the unit downward toward the outside and be sure there is a drain between the window frame and storm window frame to allow for the draining of any water, including rain.
- Another seasonal headache is when birds and insects build nests and the like in outdoor vents such as those for clothes dryers, stove hoods, hot water heaters, etc., that emit carbon monoxide that can be trapped with serious results. Periodically clear vents inclusive of lint accumulation.
- With summer storms that can disrupt electrical power, reporting information to the power company (JCP&L) can assist in restoration of that power a lot faster. Reporting starts with a review and listing of information prior to the outage. Prepare a list ASAP that includes the number of the telephone pole nearest your home. The number is stenciled on the pole; write it down for reference. If you have an underground system, look for the green transformer closest to your home and write that number listed on the unit for a reference. These numbers along with your address will assist in restoration when reporting the outage.
- Before cellar flooding becomes an issue, check and flush out the sump pump area with clean water to assure pump operation before summer rain and floods arrive. Make sure electrical breakers and switches are well marked and identified. Also, remember that excessive flooded basements can be electrical traps when energized sources are under water, stay away.
- Last, when heavy rain is forecast extend leaders from your home gutters away from foundations. Now is a good time to obtain plastic pipe as a temporary measure and then remove until the next storm. It's good insurance for a dry cellar.

Please be advised that with a little planning and forethought, peace of mind is a very good reward.

Lex Saharic
OEM Coordinator

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SCOUTING IN ACTION: BSA TROOP 200

BSA Troop 200 had a great year! Scouts spent their spring break at the high adventure camp Sea Base in the Florida Keys. Our Scouts did Troop 200 proud catching sharks, winning the cobbler cook off, paddle battles and topping it off with the best skit of the night!

In June, the Scouts spent the week at Resica Falls Scout Reservation and had a great time! The scouts earned and worked on many merit badges including welding, swimming, woodwork, exploration, lifesaving, camping, sports, first aid, personal fitness, electricity, search and rescue, public speaking, basketry and radio. They enjoyed a canoeing trip and so much more.

Congratulations to the following Scouts who advanced to the next rank this year.

- **Ian Bozzi**, Eagle
- **Sean Verlin**, Life
- **Oliver Sudol**, Life
- **Gavin Martorano**, 1st Class
- **Rylen Seelig**, 2nd Class

Congratulations to our 99th Eagle Scout, **Ian Bozzi**. Ian worked on repairing and cleaning up the baseball field at Holjes-Sheppard Memorial Park in Lebanon Borough. **Bo Pardo** will be our 100th Eagle Scout. Bo created a gather and game garden outside the Skunk House at Lebanon Reformed Church. He hopes the community will gather and have lunch at the table and play games available from the game library he created. Congratulations Bo!

Join Troop 200!

Are you a boy between the ages of 10 (5th grade) and 18? Come check out Troop 200 and discover the fun, adventure, and friendships that Scouting offers!

We meet every Monday at 7 p.m., starting in September, at the **Lebanon Reformed Church**.

Our Scouts are active, well-rounded, and involved in many other activities, including: Cross country, basketball, baseball, band, drama club, golf and track & field.

Whether you're new to Scouting or looking for a new troop, we welcome you to visit and see what Troop 200 is all about!



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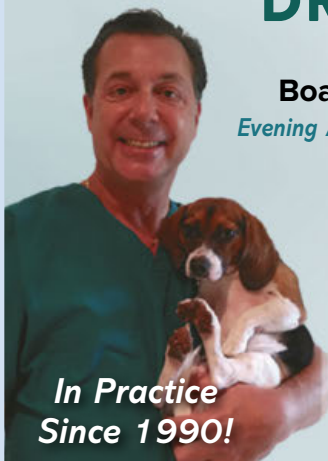
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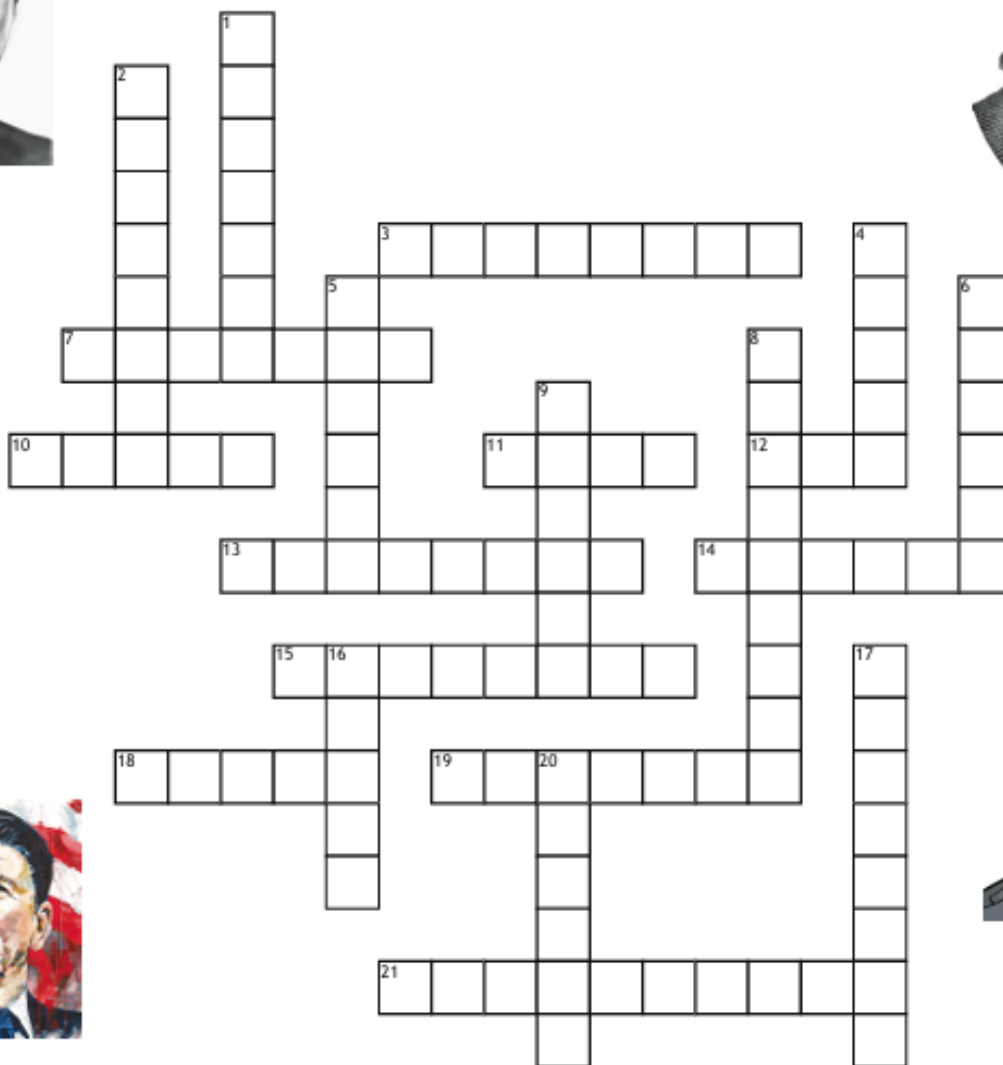


RECREATION COMMITTEE CROSSWORD

Name/Address: _____



U.S. Presidents



Across

- 3. Who was the only bachelor President?
- 7. Which President played the saxophone?
- 10. Which President was the first to have a telephone in the White House?
- 11. Who was the heaviest U.S. president?
- 12. Who was the first U.S. President to appear on television?
- 13. Who was the first left-handed President?
- 14. This President's nickname was "The Gipper."

- 15. Who was the first American born President?
- 18. Which President was the first President born outside the continental United States?
- 19. Which President killed a man in a duel?
- 21. Which President had a putting green installed near the Oval Office?

Down

- 1. Who was the shortest President?
- 2. Which President's likeness was on the five hundred dollar bill?
- 4. Which President had the most children with fifteen?

- 5. Who was the first President to be born west of the Mississippi River?
- 6. Who was the only President to have a Ph.D?
- 8. Which future President wrote the first draft of the Declaration of Independence?
- 9. Which President was nicknamed "Old Rough and Ready?"
- 16. Who was the first U.S. President to live in the White House?
- 17. Which President was the last non-democrat or republican elected to office?
- 20. Which President was the first President to be sworn in by his nickname?

THANKS TO THE LEBANON BOROUGH FIRE COMPANY!

A heartfelt thanks from the borough to all the members of the **Lebanon Fire Company** for their quick response and action at the end of May in putting out a large structure fire at 1 Cokesbury Rd.

"To every member of the fire company, thank you for protecting our community with such professionalism and bravery," said Councilwoman **Marlene Baldinger**, chair of the borough's public safety committee. "We are deeply grateful. Thanks again to all!"

FOURTH OF JULY PARADE FLOAT WINNERS!

Best Theme:	Garden Club of Lebanon Borough
Most Original:	Troops 200/288/121
Best Children's Float:	4H Drill Team
Most Patriotic:	Daughters of American Revolution

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

Graduation ceremonies were held on June 12 for the Class of 2025. **North Hunterdon** graduated 376 seniors and **Voorhees** graduated 243. We wish them well in all of their future endeavors.

On June 3, the cast and crew of **Fiddler on the Roof** (VHS Theatre's most recent production earlier this spring) performed at the Papermill Playhouse Rising Star Awards Ceremony. They received nine nominations! It was the first time (at least in the last 40 years) that VHS students have been invited to showcase their talents at such an event. It's basically like a Tony Awards-type production for HS NJ Theatre. **Andrew Finck** won the award for Best Music Director!

On June 2, students and staff from the **North Hunterdon Theatre Organization** were nominated for Best Lighting Design and Best Production Set Design at the 2025 BergenPAC High School Musical Awards.



CONGRESSMAN KEAN MOVES MAIN DISTRICT OFFICE TO LEBANON

In May, Congressman **Tom Kean, Jr.** relocated his main district office to Lebanon, at 100 Corporate Dr, Suite 106. The district office was previously located in Bernardsville, New Jersey.

"My office always strives to provide the best possible service to constituents across our district, and that mission will continue as we head to a new space in Lebanon on May 1," Kean, Jr. said in a press release.

Lebanon Mayor **Jim Pittinger** added: "I am so glad to bring the residents of Lebanon Borough closer to our nation's capital" with the opening Kean, Jr.'s new office. "The congressman has been a great partner to the Borough, and we are honored to welcome him to Lebanon."



Photo credits for this issue:

Sam Berger, Rich Burton, Greg Crawford, Lisa DeRoze, Jeff Lutz, Lisa Porcello

Help Us Care for Union Cemetery: Volunteer

Do you have loved ones buried at Union Cemetery in Lebanon? Are you interested in local history, or do you want to see this peaceful resting place well maintained for many years to come? If your answer to any of these questions is yes, you're invited to make a difference by volunteering with the Union Cemetery Association.

Association volunteers have completed the foundational work of creating bylaws and ensuring the cemetery is in compliance with rules and regulations. Moving forward, becoming a member will involve attending quarterly meetings and helping with cemetery cleanup twice per year. New members will be voted on at the association's annual meeting in November. For more information, email unioncemetery100@gmail.com.

Cemetery Wall Update



Thanks to all who donated to help replace the 145-year-old cemetery wall! We have a BIG goal of raising \$200,000, but we are committed to doing everything we can to raise the needed funds. You can be part of this critical project by mailing donations to the Union Cemetery Association of Lebanon; Attn: Treasurer; PO Box 100; Lebanon, NJ 08833 or by visiting our GoFundMe account.

You can donate in honor or memory of a loved one, and with your approval, donation information will be shared on our website. The Association is also exploring ways to recognize donors on the new wall. Thank you in advance for your community spirit and your generosity! We are looking forward to unveiling a beautiful new wall that everyone can enjoy.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

August 2025

All meetings are held at Borough Hall unless otherwise noted.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Senior Bingo 1 p.m.	5 Historical Cmte 5 p.m.	6 Snr Game Day 1 p.m.	7 Enviro/Shade Tree 5 p.m.	8	9
10	11	12 Land Use Board 7 p.m.	13	14	15 Beat the Heat Bingo 7 p.m.	16
17	18 Senior Bingo 1 p.m.	19	20 Snr Game Day 1 p.m. Council 7:30	21 LBSA 7:30 p.m.	22	23
24	25	26	27 Senior Mtg 1 p.m. Rec. 6 p.m.	28	29	30
31						

September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Labor Day	2 Historical Cmte 5 p.m.	3 Snr Game Day 1 p.m.	4 Enviro/Shade Tree 5 p.m.	5	6
7	8	9 Land Use Board 7 p.m.	10	11	12	13
14	15 Senior Bingo 1 p.m.	16	17 Snr Game Day 1 p.m. Council 7:30	18 LBSA 7:30 p.m.	19	20
21	22	23	24 Senior Mtg 1 p.m. Rec. 6 p.m.	25	26	27
28	29 Senior Bingo 1 p.m.	30				

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

October 2025

All meetings are held at Borough Hall unless otherwise noted.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Snr Game Day 1 p.m.	2 Enviro/Shade Tree 5 p.m.	3	4
5	6	7 Historical Cmte 5 p.m.	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Land Use Board 7 p.m.	15 Snr Game Day 1 p.m. Council 7:30	16 LBSA 7:30 p.m.	17	18
19	20	21	22 Senior Mtg 1 p.m. Rec. 6 p.m.	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween	

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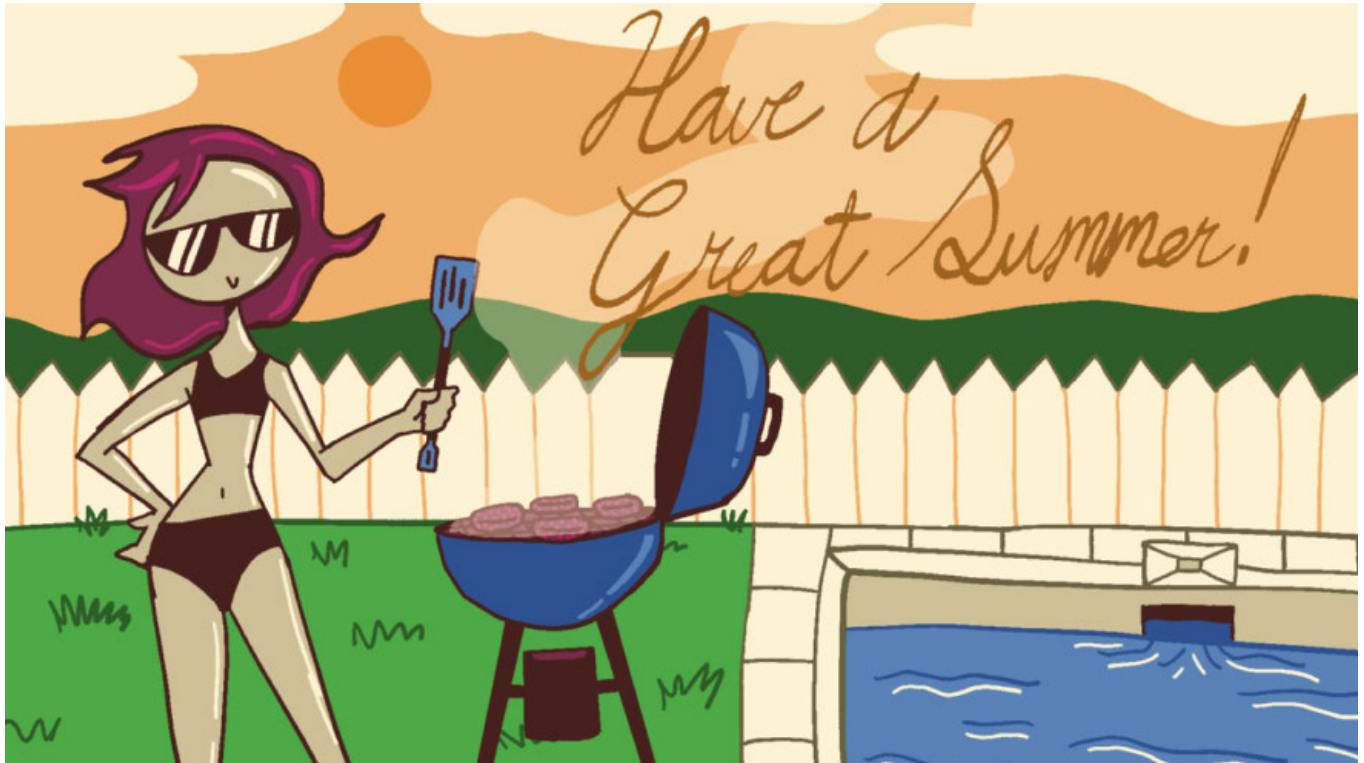
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