

TO THE PARENTS OF PAL PARTICIPANTS AND
RESIDENTS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD

I. BACKGROUND

West Milford taxpayers paid \$1,800,000 for the acquisition of land and construction of the PAL facility during the 1990's. The Township and the PAL have had an on-going agreement whereby the PAL is legally bound to make regular monthly payments of \$6,000 to repay that debt to the taxpayers. In 2013, after years of making monthly payments to the Township in the amount of \$6,000, the PAL suddenly stopped making repayments to the Township of West Milford. As of December 31, 2014 the PAL is in arrears totaling \$110,000. As a result of the failure to pay this debt, taxpayers, in addition to having funded the original debt of \$1,800,000, are now funding the annual lost revenue in the amount of \$72,000.

II. THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE FACILITY

Concerned about the financial viability of the PAL as well as the fact that the taxpayers of West Milford were owed this funding, the Township has taken steps to assume responsibility of the PAL facility and its programs. This gives the Township the right and the opportunity to own, operate and manage the PAL facility and its programs with the assurance that the funding for programs will sustain such operations.

III. THE STATUS OF PAL PROGRAMS

The purpose of this announcement is to assure the residents and parents of PAL participants that the Administration of the Township has a formidable plan in place whereby full time employees in the Township's Department of Community Services & Recreation will expand their responsibilities and assume the function and management of PAL athletic programs.

Therefore, rest assured that the Township's move to transition the PAL facility is in the best interest of the West Milford residents, taxpayers and PAL participants. Ultimately, the facility will be maintained, the programs will be managed and the Township will seek ways whereby this facility can be an asset to the Township and provide a tax savings to the residents. It is hoped that the PAL Board will cooperate with these efforts to provide for a smooth transition for all who are involved in these programs.