

HOPATCONG BOROUGH SCHOOLS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Title: **Marching Chiefs Performing at Hopatcong Opening Day**

Art DiBenedetto, Hopatcong Superintendent of Schools, Announces-

The Marching Chiefs were thrilled to be invited by Hopatcong Little League Baseball to continue a 101 year old tradition; the performance of the National Anthem at Baseball Games. Senior Field was packed with community members, celebrating the National Pastime, and the community in general. Although it may have been performed at baseball games by bands even earlier, the 1918 World Series (during World War I) found players saluting the flag and spectators singing along when the band played the "Star Spangled Banner" (not yet our National Anthem) during the 7th Inning Stretch. Soon after, the "Star Spangled Banner" was performed prior to all baseball games, and eventually all American Sporting events.



