

# MyMontvale

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE BOROUGH OF MONTVALE

MyMontvale is produced by  
Pascack Valley Community Life.  
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## Montvale Matters

### 'LIKE' US!



"Like" the Borough of Montvale, New Jersey on Facebook for timely updates,

emergency notifications, and community news. You can like the Borough of Montvale, New Jersey by going to the Montvale.org website, or through your own Facebook page.

### FIREARM SAFETY KITS AVAILABLE TO PUBLIC

The Montvale Police Department provides free firearm safety kits to local residents through a partnership with Project ChildSafe, the nationwide firearms safety education program.

The safety kits, which include a gun lock, are available for pickup at the Montvale Police headquarters located at 12 Mercedes Drive.

Residents who own firearms are encouraged to pick up a Project ChildSafe safety kit so that they can securely store their firearms. Each kit contains a safety curriculum and a cable-style gun lock. The locks fit most types of handguns, rifles and shotguns.

## MONTVALE PBA 303 SECOND ANNUAL 5K EVENT



PHOTO COURTESY OF MONTVALE PBA 303

Volunteers from the first-ever PBA 5K in Montvale. The second annual event, to be held on Sept. 20, will benefit the Pascack Valley Navigators.



The Montvale PBA 303 is hosting its second annual 5K on Saturday, Sept. 20 at 9 a.m. The PBA does not keep any of the proceeds from this event. Last year, we raised \$5,000 for the Montvale Recreation Program's Fingerprint and Background Program. We had 175 registered runners and 50 walkers and approximately 300 people total were in attendance. The businesses in our community and beyond came out to support us as well.

This year we will be donating all of the proceeds to the Pascack Valley Navigators. The Navigators is a sports program geared for special needs athletes based in Hillsdale. The program serves any special needs athlete in the Pascack Valley. The all-volunteer staff instructs

special needs athletes in soccer, baseball, basketball and track. We hope to raise \$10,000 for this incredible program. Go to their website (<https://sites.google.com/site/pascackvalley navigators/home>) to learn more.

We are also partnering with a Montvale Girl Scout, Jackie Oteri, who is hosting an Autism Awareness booth at the event. She will also be creating badges for participants to wear to display who is running or walking for that day. Visit Jackie's Web page ([runforawareness.weebly.com/](http://runforawareness.weebly.com/)) to learn more.

The PBA will also have a free, multi-sport course for children and special needs athletes. The course will consist of a baseball, basketball, soccer and track event.

Please email [montvale5k@gmail.com](mailto:montvale5k@gmail.com) for sponsorship opportunities.

# MAYOR'S MESSAGE SEPTEMBER

Welcome to the September 2014 Newsletter!

Last month during tax time, I received a number of inquiries concerning our municipal tax. The question most asked was about the 2 percent cap. It can be confusing to read about a 2 percent tax cap and then have your taxes increased by more than 2 percent. I will do my best to try and explain how that can happen.

There are many different categories in a municipal budget and not all of them fall under the 2 percent cap. Our pension, health benefits, capital, and debt expenses are excluded from the cap, which means the cost of those expenses are not counted when calculating the 2 percent cap. There are towns, within the state guidelines, that raise taxes 7 percent, 8 percent or 10 percent and are still within the 2 percent cap. Our goal is always to have little or no tax increases, but the reality of what it takes to keep Montvale going often prevents us from achieving that goal. Many people consider the cap to be just a feel good number from the state considering all that is left outside the cap. I would tend to agree.

As I mentioned earlier, our goal is to have no increase. In 2013, between the reassessment, reductions in spending, and increased revenue, we were able to roll taxes back to 2009 levels. In other words, your 2014 municipal taxes are lower than those of 2012, 2011, and 2010. It is important to remember that the modest increase this year is increased from our 2013 rate which was our lowest in four years. Take a few minutes to look at previous year's bills and you will see the difference.

Also, always keep in mind your municipal tax is less than 25 percent of your total tax bill. The rest is the local and regional schools, and the county, to whom we will be sending over \$5.2 million in 2014. Your local tax pays for your police department and their vehicles, fire department and their vehicles, road improvements and maintenance, snow plowing, our joint court, borough hall and the administrative staff, our senior center, elections, our professional staff, all of our inspectors, field grooming, mowing, and maintenance, fleet gasoline, natural gas, electric, and so on. The average assessed home value in Montvale is currently \$511,000. Given our tax rate, that means the average municipal tax is less than \$230 per month to pay for all these services. The pie chart shows exactly where taxes are being distributed.

Another question that was often asked concerned the state's senior tax freeze program. The state uses a base line amount they arrive at via economic indicators, etc. If a senior citizen who qualifies for the program pays more than that baseline amount, they are reimbursed by the state. However, since Montvale had a hefty reduction in taxes in 2013, many seniors won't be getting a check. They are not being short changed. The taxes they



**Roger J Fyfe**  
Mayor

paid were simply less than the state's base amount, so there is no reimbursement.

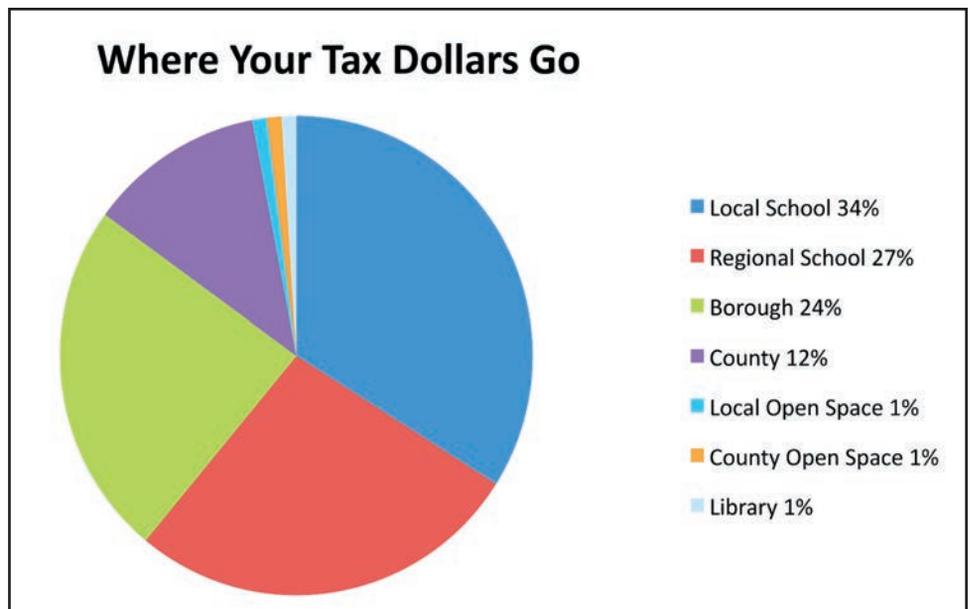
At the Aug. 12 Mayor and Council meeting, our auditor reported on the results of our annual audit. Simply put, the audit concludes Montvale is in great financial shape and conducts its financial operations well within the state's mandated parameters. We have a healthy surplus, reasonable debt, unique revenue streams, and very closely monitored and controlled spending. The S&P recently upgraded our bond rating to AAA, which is as high a rating a municipality can have. One positive benefit of a high rating is receiving the lowest interest rates available should we incur any debt, which we may need to do to augment any new firehouse or equipment that becomes necessary down the road. This Council has been diligent in all its financial matters and serves as a model for the rest of the state. The steps they have taken responding to the economic

crisis are keeping us on the right path.

By now, our 2014 paving program should be complete. Again we ask for your patience as we try to catch up on addressing our neglected streets. It will take a few years to get it all done but it will be done. In the meantime, please report pot holes, etc. to our Pascack Valley DPW. If you feel you are not being serviced as you should, you are welcome to call my office and I will follow up.

Finally, there are a few residential developments on which work has begun. Most were approved years ago but were sat on because of the economy and a down housing market. There will, of course, be noise and some inconvenience during any development. We just need to remember there was noise and inconvenience when the houses we live in were built as well. You can, of course, report any unreasonable issues to the zoning and property maintenance department.

School is now open so watch out for all the kids and the hustle and bustle on the roads and sidewalks.



# MONTVALE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Hello Montvale:

The “if you see something, say something” philosophy worked out well for MPD this summer. Several residents noticed unusual activity in their neighborhood recently. They reported the suspicious activity to the police which led to an investigation into narcotics dealing. Several individuals were arrested for drug distribution and nearly two pounds of marijuana as well as a large amount of steroids were confiscated.

Summer is over and school is back in session. Drive carefully. Use extra caution in the school zones and in the area of school bus stops. Remember to stop and wait on both sides of the road for a stopped school bus with its flashing lights on. Parents, please use extra caution when dropping off and picking up on Memorial Drive and in the Fieldstone area. Be courteous in those areas and follow the traffic rules. It will make the school pick up and drop off less stressful for everyone.

PHHS parents: The morning drop-off and parking lot situation at PHHS is always congested. To help alleviate the problem – carpool, leave early, and encourage your kids to walk if you live close enough



to the school. Be patient. Follow the instruction from the school officials and the police officer posted for traffic. The volume of vehicles frequently exceeds the capacity of the driveway, so again - be patient.

**PHHS football fans: Regular parking for the games will be in the front lot of the school. Akers Avenue will have “NO PARKING” signs posted during football games.** Handicap parking will still be allowed in the Board of Education offices on Akers Avenue.

This year we are doing a pilot program with a School Resource Officer (SRO) placed primarily at PHHS, but will also regularly visit the other Montvale schools.

Officer Cruise has been assigned to the schools as our first active SRO. We are looking forward to the continued relationship between the Pascack Valley School District, the Montvale public schools and the Montvale Police Department.

You can follow the Montvale Police Department on Twitter and on Facebook for messages, traffic alerts and local reminders.

Stay safe,  
Chief Jeremy Abrams

## MONTVALE ACCESS



We are working on building a group of volunteers to help put together a TV schedule of programs Montvale residents would enjoy viewing. We use Verizon Channel 35 and Cablevision Channel 77 to broadcast the Mayor and Council monthly meetings. We’ve also added a few town events for your viewing pleasure. At this point we need content to air and I am looking for volunteers to help with ideas as well as collecting or filming.

We also need people to help with filming, editing, scheduling and a lot of other behind the scene interactions. We are looking to build this group with local people to help make a program the whole town would enjoy. **NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!** We can all learn from each other. If you are interested in our group, join us at Borough Hall, the first Tuesday of the month, at 7 p.m., second floor, conference room 1, send an email to [montvaletvaccess@montvaleboro.org](mailto:montvaletvaccess@montvaleboro.org), or call and leave a message at 201-391-5700, ext. 251.

Bill Lagno  
Station Manager

## MONTVALE PUBLIC LIBRARY



### SEPTEMBER'S SPOTLIGHT:

#### Friends of the Library Book Sale

Saturday, Sept. 27 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, Sept. 28 from 1 to 4 p.m. Come visit one of the best book sales in the area!

### LOOKING AHEAD TO OCTOBER

#### Adult Department

“Ancestry.com Basics” – Afternoon and evening classes from Oct. 20 through 23; registration begins Monday, Oct. 6.

### FOR INFORMATION ON LIBRARY SERVICES AND PROGRAMS:

Visit the Montvale Library’s website at [montvale.bccls.org](http://montvale.bccls.org), email the Library at [movlcirc@bccls.org](mailto:movlcirc@bccls.org), or telephone the Library at 201-391-5090. Stop by and visit us, too!

# MONTVALE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

## ADULT PROGRAMS

### 30+ BASKETBALL

This program is for men and women 30 years of age and older. This program is held on Monday evenings from 8 to 10 p.m. in the Memorial School gymnasium. This pick-up game style program will begin Sept. 8 and will continue through May 2015. Fee: \$75 for residents; \$95 for non-residents, if space permits.

### ADULT CRAFT CLASS

It's time to decorate your house for the upcoming fall season. This fun craft class will help you relax and make some decorations for the upcoming seasons. This eight-week class meets on Tuesday evenings in the Memorial School art room from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Classes began Sept. 9. Fee: \$60 (plus the cost of supplies). Instructor: Mrs. June Hanna.

### HATHA YOGA



Yoga will increase flexibility, physical strength and energy. Yoga will also improve concentration, emotional stability and the ability to relieve stress through relaxation. Two, one day/week classes will be offered in the Recreation Center. The first class will

meet Monday evenings from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Classes began Sept. 8. The second class will meet Friday mornings from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Classes began Sept. 12. Registration will take place on the first session of each class. Residents and non-residents 18 years of age or older are invited to participate. High School students may participate if registered by an adult. A mat or towel should be brought to each class. Fee: \$80 for residents; \$100 for non-residents for this eight-week class. Instructor: Debra Broadman.

### TAEKWON-DO

TaeKwon-Do, the Korean Art of Self-Defense, is the scientific use of the body through physical and mental training for self-defense in unarmed combat. The program will be available for adults and H.S. age students accompanied by an adult from 8 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday evenings. This eight-week class began Tuesday, Sept. 9, in the Recreation Center. Fee: \$80 for residents; \$100 for non-residents. Registration will take place on the first day of class. Instructor: Mario Liriano; 5th Degree Black belt.

### TALKIN' BASEBALL



If talking about baseball as it was in years past is your thing, please join us at our monthly meetings. The group meets the first Wednesday of each month at 8:15 p.m. in the Recreation Center (entrance is behind the community center). There is no fee for this program.

### TENNIS

A magnetic locking system is installed on the court gates of both the Memorial Drive and Chestnut Ridge tennis courts. This system has proven to be an effective way to reduce the number of non-registered people using our courts. Each year residents who wish to use the courts must register to receive their new access card.

Membership registration for the 2014 season which runs from March 1 through Dec. 31, may be purchased at the Borough Hall during normal business hours.

CATEGORY	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT
Adult	\$30	\$60
*Student (14-18)	\$10	\$20
Family	\$50	\$100
Senior Citizen	FREE	FREE
*Students registering alone, must register as an adult.		

### TENNIS LESSONS

Looking to improve your tennis game? This program will be offered through the Montvale Recreation Department, and taught by Bill Bess and Tom Pisaturo of Tennis Dynamics. Lessons will be taught for the beginner and the intermediate player. Instruction will be limited to a maximum of eight participants per group. Classes will be offered for kindergarteners through adults. Two separate days of lessons will be offered independently of one another. The cost for the six-week program (one day/week) is \$80 per person for residents; \$120 per person for non-residents. Lessons will be given at the Memorial Drive tennis courts. Please note the courts will be reserved for lessons during the length of the program. Monday classes began on Sept. 15. Saturday classes will begin Sept. 20. Loaner rackets will be provided for those people who do not own their own racket but are interested in playing.

REGISTRATION will take place on Wednesday, Sept. 10 from 6:45 to 7:30 p.m.

#### Monday lessons

Grades K-2 – 4 to 5 p.m.  
Grades 3-5 – 5 to 6 p.m.  
Grades 6-8 – 6 to 7 p.m.  
H.S. & Adult – 7 to 8 p.m.



#### Saturday lessons

Grades K-2 & 3-5 – 2 to 3 p.m.  
Grades K-2 & H.S. & Adult beginner – 3 to 4 p.m.  
Grades 6-8 & H.S. & Adult intermediate – 4 to 5 p.m.

### TRAIN TO RUN OR RUN/WALK A 5K

Is completing a 5K race on your list of fitness goals? This six-week beginner run or run/walk program is designed for individuals (adults and children age 10 and up and children must be registered with a parent) who have never run before, or who have not run regularly, and want to complete a 5K (3.1 mile) race. Our weekly classes will start with short run/walks, so you can ease your body into running, avoid injury, and stay motivated. By the end of six weeks, you'll be ready to tackle a 5K. In addition to weekly group classes, you'll also get suggested at-home workouts and supplemental information about running via weekly emails, so you'll get support even when you're not

# MONTVALE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

with the group. All group classes will be held outdoors, on the streets of Montvale, so you get used to running outside, just like you will for your 5K race. The class will meet outside of the Recreation Center (located behind the Community Center next to Huff Park) on Thursdays from 6 to 7 p.m. Classes began Sept. 11. The cost of this program is \$60 for residents; \$80 for non-residents. If you are interested in this great new program, contact Christine Luff directly at christine\_luff@yahoo.com for pre-course information. Instructor: RRCA-certified running coach and personal trainer Christine Luff.

## KID'S CORNER

### TAEKWON-DO

TaeKwon-Do, the Korean Art of Self-Defense, is the scientific use of the body through physical and mental training for self-defense in unarmed combat. Program will be offered two days/week for children in Grades K-8. The K-4 grade class will be offered Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 7 p.m. Classes began Tuesday, Sept. 9. The 5-8 grade class will be offered Tuesdays and Thursday's from 7 to 8 p.m. Classes began Tuesday, Sept. 9. The program will be held in the Recreation Center. Fee: for this 16-session class is \$120 for residents; \$180 for non-residents (space permitting.) Registration: first day of class. Instructor: Mario Liriano; 5th Degree Black belt.

### TENNIS LESSONS

See above information in Adult Program Section.

### ME AND MY DOLL SEW TOGETHER



This weekly class is perfect for the fashionista girl who loves to dress-up with her doll. This fun experience will teach your daughter to cut, pin and sew using computerized sewing machines. The girls will design and sew an outfit for their doll and an exact replica for themselves that she and her doll will model at the last day Fashion Show. The class will be held on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Recreation Center. This eight-week, two hours/week class began

on Sept. 9. The fee for this class is \$160 and an additional \$60 for materials. The class is for girls 5 and older. The instructor is Mrs. Manrique.

## UPCOMING EVENTS / PROGRAMS

### 18+ COMPETITIVE BASKETBALL

Residents 18 years of age and older can participate in this competitive style pick-up game format. This program begins on Jan. 7 and will continue through May. Games are played on Wednesday nights from 8 to 10 p.m. in the Fieldstone School gymnasium. Fee: \$50 for residents and \$75 for non-residents.

### BIDDY BASKETBALL

This program is an introduction to basketball for boys and girls in Grades K-2. This program is designed to be more instructional than competitive. Smaller basketballs and lower baskets are used. This program is held on Saturday mornings in the Memorial School gym. The program will begin Dec. 6. Fee: \$80.

To give maximum "touches" for each child, each grade level will be divided into two sessions. The groups are divided by last name.



### YOUTH CHESS

This program will offer instruction to children interested in learning the dynamics and strategies of chess. The class will run for eight weeks. The club is open to children from Grades K-4 grade. First time and experienced chess players are welcome. Different levels will be offered. It is recommended that each child bring their own chess set to the class. Space will be limited. The fee for this class is \$80 for resident students. The chess program will begin later in the fall. Information about this program will be available online (montvale.org) and sent home through the school's Wednesday folder.

### ADULT VOLLEYBALL

This program is for men and women 18 years of age and older. Adult volleyball will be held in the Memorial School Gymnasium "B" from 8 to 10 p.m. The program will begin Jan. 6 and will be held on Tuesday evenings through May. Fee: Residents is \$50 and the non-resident fee is \$75.



### GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

This girls volleyball program will begin Tuesday, Jan. 6. This eight-week program will be offered to girls in Grades 5-8. The girls will play in the Memorial School Gym from 6 to 7 p.m. Registration will take place the first night of the program. Fee: \$80 for residents and \$100 for non-residents. The instructor for this program is volleyball coach Debbie Katz.

### HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL

This year's Halloween Carnival will take place on Friday, Oct. 24 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Fieldstone Middle School. All young children, witches and goblins in Grades Pre-K-4 are invited to attend this special event. Due to the popularity of this event, we must limit participation to residents only.

If you have an idea for a program, or would like to become an instructor, email us at the address above. (Please don't speak with Mr. Freeman at school.)

### FIELD USE

Applications and Hold Harmless forms must be completed and returned to the Borough Hall Building Department, c/o Jeff Fette, with Liability Insurance and payment. Forms are available online and at the Borough Hall front counter. Permits will be given according to availability.

**CO-PRESIDENTS**

**SCOTT L. FORMAN**  
NJ Lenders Corp

**STEVEN FOX**  
Morgan Stanley

**1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

**TOM DAVEY**  
Davey's Locker

**VICE PRESIDENT**

**TOM CHAPMAN**  
Tom A. Chapman DMD

**TREASURER**

**DORIS SUTICH**  
Perfect Limo

**SECRETARY**

**THOMAS HARTEL**  
John M. Hartel, Co.

**COUNSEL**

**IRA KALTMAN, ESQ.**  
Beattie Padavano, LLC

**ADOLPH ROMEI, ESQ.**  
Beattie Padavano, LLC

**Board Members**

**MICHAEL FORMAN**  
NJ Lenders Corp

**Linda Mitchell**  
Massage & Whole Body Health

**Anna Brodley**  
Fish Window Cleaning

## Montvale Chamber of Commerce - *Open Enrollment*

### Business Membership

- **Cost: \$125.00**



**Benefits:**

**Business Networking and Community Events:**

- Discounted price for Montvale's annual Street Fair
- New Jersey and New York Chambers of Commerce: Business networking with hundreds of area and regional businesses, great opportunity to generate significant business and new relationships.

Montvale Chambers web-site individual company page::

- Your contact information along with company logo
- A detailed description of your products or services
- Photographs of your products or services
- A separate tab titled "Promotions", will allow you to scroll through a list of promotions/coupons/certificates and direct you to your company's individual page where clients/customers can print out your offer or certificate..
- **Thousands of local and regional web-site hits per month!**
- Web-site: [www.MontvaleChamber.com](http://www.MontvaleChamber.com)
- Click on the "Join Us" tab



**Like Us  
On  
facebook**

### September Event

#### NJ Lenders Corp.

Montvale Office

Business Network with Area Chambers and members of the Montvale Business Community. *\*Bring plenty of Business Cards*

102 Chestnut Ridge Rd  
Tuesday September 23rd  
5:30 - 7:30

# MONTVALE IN OCTOBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Service Key</b> Local Mtg. Household Trash Recycable Pick-Up			<b>1</b> West	<b>2</b> District 3 & 4 Yard waste pickup Historic Preservation 8:00 p.m.	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> East	<b>7</b> Central Planning Board Mtg. 7:30 p.m.	<b>8</b> West	<b>9</b> District 1 & 2 Yard waste pickup	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> East <b>Columbus Day -</b> administrative offices closed	<b>14</b> Central Mayor & Council Mtg. 7:30 p.m.	<b>15</b> West	<b>16</b> District 3 & 4 Yard waste pickup	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> East Environmental Commission Mtg. 7:45 p.m.	<b>21</b> Central Planning Board Mtg. 7:30 p.m.	<b>22</b> West	<b>23</b> District 1 & 2 Yard waste pickup	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> East	<b>28</b> Central Mayor & Council Mtg. 7:30 p.m.	<b>29</b> West	<b>30</b> District 3 & 4 Yard waste pickup	<b>31</b>	

## MONTVALE OFFICIALS

### ADMINISTRATION

#### ADMINISTRATOR/MUNICIPAL CLERK

Maureen Iarossi-Alwan - [miarossi@montvaleboro.org](mailto:miarossi@montvaleboro.org)

### MAYOR AND COUNCIL

#### MAYOR

Roger J. Fyfe (R) - [mayorfyfe@montvaleboro.org](mailto:mayorfyfe@montvaleboro.org)

#### COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Salvatore J. Talarico (R) - [stalarico@montvaleboro.org](mailto:stalarico@montvaleboro.org)

#### COUNCIL

Theresa A. Cudequest (R) - [tcudequest@montvaleboro.org](mailto:tcudequest@montvaleboro.org)

Rose Curry (R) - [rcurry@montvaleboro.org](mailto:rcurry@montvaleboro.org)

Mike Ghassali (R) - [mghassali@montvaleboro.org](mailto:mghassali@montvaleboro.org)

Leah J. LaMonica (R) - [llamonica@montvaleboro.org](mailto:llamonica@montvaleboro.org)

Timothy E. Lane (R) - [tlane@montvaleboro.org](mailto:tlane@montvaleboro.org)

### CONTACT INFORMATION

#### MONTVALE BOROUGH HALL

12 Mercedes Drive, Montvale, NJ 07645

Phone: 201-391-5700 Visit [www.montvale.org](http://www.montvale.org)

TV: Cablevision-CH 77 Verizon FIOS-CH 35

## MONTVALE SENIOR CLUB

The members of the Montvale Senior Club looked forward to this month of September after a beautiful summer here in Bergen County. We enjoyed several trips recently and are now looking forward to fall. In fact, this month we had our much anticipated trip to a Hawaiian Luau at Mt. Haven, PA on Tuesday, Sept. 9.

We are working on a Christmas/Hanukah trip for November to the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse; details will be available shortly. During the year we also enjoy three delicious dinners with live entertainment at The Estate at Florentine Gardens in River Vale. This is another highly anticipated event.

As you know, we have a beautiful facility located at 1 Memorial Drive in Montvale. The facility has become very popular and offers a wide variety of activities to please all. In November each year, the members of our Police Department entertain Montvale seniors with a wonderful Harvest Dinner they prepare and serve. All our members look forward to this welcomed event.

We are proud to offer a wide range of activities including card groups,



trips, chair exercises, line dancing, pizza and bingo nights, movies and popcorn activities, canasta classes, mahjong and companionship. We welcome your suggestions for future programs, speakers and classes. We are all aware that socializing is very important to our older population and our club provides companionship and friendship.

Join us at our business meeting on the First Thursday of each month at the Senior Center at noon. Our annual dues are only \$8. We hope to see you soon!

# MONTVALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The school year is off to an excellent start! At Fieldstone Middle School, all students and staff in Grades 7-8 are using chromebooks and Google Applications for Education (GAPE) to communicate and to collaborate on documents, presentations, spreadsheets, and more.

At Memorial Elementary School, grade level teachers in Grades K-4 have been working closely with consultants on implementing the Readers Workshop Model in the classroom. The Readers Workshop Model is a rigorous and responsive way to increase student engagement and sophistication when it comes to learning to read and reading to learn. In addition, the administration, consultants and teachers have been collaborating with the district's new part-time literacy coach, Dr. Julie Walsh to provide additional support in language arts.

Research supports that reading aloud is one of the most important activity leading to literacy acquisition. According to Reach Out & Read, "The nurturing and one-on-one attention from parents during reading aloud encourages children to form a positive association with books and reading later in life. It has been proven that reading aloud is a proven technique to help children cope during times of stress or tragedy." Please take some time during this school year to read to your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, etc. It will be very rewarding for you and for the child!

For more information about the Montvale Public Schools, please check our website at [montvalek8.org](http://montvalek8.org). You can also receive school updates via Twitter from Memorial Elementary School and Fieldstone Middle School.

Darren A. Petersen  
Superintendent of Schools



## PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

The Borough of Montvale has a collection container located in Borough Hall, first floor, near the Library door to collect items for those in need.

The Pascack Food Center, located at 65 Pascack Road (behind the Pascack Reformed Church) in Park Ridge is open to all people. The center can offer food and some household staples to anyone or any family needing a little assistance. All names are kept confidential. Hours of operation are Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

In case of an emergency, call Kathie Bowen at 201-307-0534.

Kathie Bowen  
Public Assistance Director



## CONGRESSMAN GARRETT'S OFFICE

Every second Thursday of the month, there will be a representative from the Hon. Scott Garrett's office at Borough Hall to address any concerns or questions you may have.

Andrew Whitehouse will be here between 1 and 3 p.m. in Conference Room 1.