#### A look back on the month and some insight into the future



# The Borough of **Montvale**

# The Official Newsletter of The Borough of Montvale

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Phone: 201-391-5700 Web: Montvale.org Fax: 201-391-9317

12 Mercedes Drive

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More Ground Breaking Photos on Page 3 or at www.Montvale.org

# Recreation Notes

The Memorial School Field Complex as well as Huff Park will be closed from 9:00am to 1:00pm, weekdays, from June 24 - July 22

Check out page 3 for photos from our recent Montvale Day In The Park.



# Who is the Montvale Environmental Commission?

The Montvale Environmental Commission is a team of volunteers appointed by the Mayor and Council to focus on environmental issues around town. They meet monthly to review landscaping plans for new Borough developments and make recommendations back to the planning board. As well they discuss and study environmental related issues and concerns and make recommendations accordingly.

The Commission normally meets every third Monday at 7:45 pm. Meetings are held in the Council Chambers in the Municipal Complex. Meeting times and agendas are posted on the borough website. All are welcome to attend. See more about the Environmental Commission on the Borough Website at:

**July 2016** 

www.Montvale.org/Boards/ Environmental





### Montvale Historic Preservation Commission

Those of you who are new to the Borough of Montvale and are curious about the Borough's history, as well as long-time residents who might want to relive the past, should go on the Borough's website, www.montvale.org, and then click on Boards & Commissions/ Historic Preservation, where you will find on the bottom of the page the Borough's Centennial Journal.

Included therein is a record of the Centennial's celebratory events, a history of the Borough from 1894 to 1994 and individual histories of all of its departments, boards and commissions. The Journal is also loaded with historical pictures. All in all, it's a great read. Check it out.



# **Montvale Public Library**

Now is the time to clean out those bookshelves and empty those A-V cabinets. Donate any "gently used" but no-longer-wanted books, CDs, DVDs, LPs, and books-on-CD to the Friends of the Montvale Library. Sorry, but the Friends cannot accept the following: books-on-tape, encyclopedias, items previously owned and circulated by a public or academic library, magazines, OLD cookbooks, Reader's Digest condensed books, and VHS tapes. Please make sure that all items are in good condition.

Beginning Friday, July 1, bring donations to the Circulation Desk during regular Library hours which are Monday through Thursday 10am to 9pm, Friday and Saturday 10am to 5pm, and Sunday 1pm to 4pm. There are no Sunday hours during August. The last day to drop off donations will be Saturday, August 20.

The Friends will host the eighth annual Book Sale on Saturday, September 17 and Sunday, September 18. The sale will be held at the Montvale Library, located on Mercedes Drive.

For additional information about this or other Montvale Library programs and services, please telephone the Library at 201-391-5090 or visit the Library's web site at montvale.bccls.org.



# **Tri-Boro Food Pantry**

The Pascack Food Center is now called: THE TRI-BORO FOOD PANTRY. For the month of July, we are looking for donations of:

- Paper towels
- Laundry detergent
- Cleaning supplies
- Peanut butter and jelly
- Macaroni and cheese
- Windex



# **Montvale Day In The Park**



# **Firehouse Ground Breaking Ceremony**



View more photos at www.Montvale.org





#### **Contact Information**

The Borough of Montvale 12 Mercedes Drive Phone 201-391-5700 Fax 201-391-9317

#### **Montvale Officials**

#### Administration

Maureen larossi-Alwan Miarossi@MontvaleBoro.org Administrator / Municipal Clerk

#### **Mayor & Council**

**Mayor** Mike Ghassali (I) MGhassali@MontvaleBoro.org

**Council President** Timothy E. Lane (R) TLane@MontvaleBoro.org **Council** Rose Curry (R) RCurry@MontvaleBoro.org

Dieter Koeling (R) DKoeling@MontvaleBoro.org

Leah J. LaMonica (R) LLamonica@MontvaleBoro.org

Salvatore J. Talarico (R) STalarico@MontvaleBoro.org

Michael Weaver (I) MWeaver@MontvaleBoro.org

# **July Meetings**

**Mayor & Council Meetings** July 12th 7:30pm July 26th 7:30pm

**Environmental Commission Meeting** July 18th 7:30pm

**Planning Board Meeting** July 5th 7:30pm July 19th 7:30pm

Library Board Meeting July 28th 7:30pm

#### Reminders

- Property Taxes are Due August 1st

- There will not be trash or recycling collection on July 4th

#### **Town Hall Meeting**

July 11th 7:00pm - Council Chambers

The Borough of Montvale will hold a Meeting to discuss any item, issue, recommendation or comments from the general public. Visit Montvale.org for info

www.Montvale.org

# **Police Department**

There are a number of tips to help keep your home safe while you are on vacation.

Stop routine deliveries to your house. The mail, paper, water, and similar home deliveries piling up outside your door is a sure giveaway that no one is home.

Keep a light on inside the house in the evening. But put it on a timer. The same light on all night will look curious to thieves.

Do not broadcast on social media that you are away. Your posts on Facebook, Twitter LinkedIn, Snapchat, Instagram and other accounts where personal details are routinely shared and often can be accessed by thieves combing the internet for potential targets.

The spare key you keep in the fake rock fools no one. Thieves will check for the hidden spare key under your doormat, under the potted plant or in one of the other common hiding places people use. Remove the spare if you are away. Leave it with a neighbor or relative.

Let the police know that you will be away. We have a registry where the patrol division will be notified that a residence is supposed to be unoccupied. This also provides us with the ability to contact you or a person you designate in the event of an emergency.

Have a trusted neighbor, friend or family member keep an eye on your house while you are away.

A reminder about leaving children or pets in a vehicle during the hot summer months: On a sunny day when the temperature is 70 degrees the interior temperature of a vehicle can reach 115 degrees. If the external temperature is in the mid 90's, your car can reach as high as 135 degrees. Your children and pets are at severe risk in that hot environment for heat cramps, heat exhaustion, dehydration and heat stroke which can lead to seizures, coma and death. Keeping a window cracked does little to reduce the vehicle temperature. Leaving the car running without a driver and with children inside presents another set of dangerous problems like potential carbon monoxide poisoning, the car being stolen with the child inside, the child "playing" with the vehicle controls and putting the car in gear and choking or squeezing injuries from the child "playing" with the power windows. Take the kids and pets out of the vehicle when no driver is present.

Stay safe,

Chief Jeremy Abrams

# Mayor's Message



Summer is time for fun, family barbecues, vacations and getting ready to get back to school. This also means that children are out playing in the streets and at our fields. Please stay vigilant and slow down the speed to keep them safe. Wishing everyone a safe, healthy summer happily accompanied by all your family and friends. Have fun!

We had a rainout for the Memorial Day Parade but were able to conduct our Memorial Ceremony honoring our fallen veterans which was well attended. Many thanks to Jim Freeman, Recreation Director, and all the members of our Recreational Committee for a very successful Day in the Park.

During the past several months, the Council and I have been heavily involved in discussions on how to meet the Boroughs obligation for affordable housing which is state mandated.

One of the most difficult and very responsible decisions the Council took was to stop funding the Montvale Swim Club because of new structural and mechanical problems that surfaced as the power was turned on. Fortunately, our Park Ridge neighbors opened their door to the Montvale Swim Club registered pool residents and helped the committee with the logistics involved. This now leaves us with a decision to make in regard to the pool which is privately owned by its members and built upon Borough property. The choice is to take over the privately owned swim club and make it available to all borough residents as a town pool and make it part of our recreation program with fees or fill it in and restore the property back to its original condition as a field.

The vacant office space continues to be challenging. We can't seem to find large office tenants who are willing to take up an entire building. Smaller tenants are always welcomed but we need many smaller corporate tenants to fill the space we have available. The office parks over the years have provided the Borough with excellent ratables to keep our residential taxes as low as possible. However, because of the change in the commercial office market, the demand for space is not as needed. These vacancies are causing the Borough to lose revenues from tax appeals and further adding to our affordable housing requirements.

The Mercedes plan presented to the public by Hekemian received less than favorable feedback with 300 residential rental units, retail and office space from the public who were present at that meeting. The alternative may be less attractive. At some point we will have to make a decision.

I urge you to participate in the discussion and to attend the council meetings. Be part of the process.

Mayor Mike Ghassali