



# The Borough of Montvale

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A look at the Community, including upcoming events, important notices, meetings, and more.

**HELP YOUR FIRE FIGHTERS**

# KEEP THEM CLEAR

**In an emergency, every second counts.**

- > Remove any snow and ice from the hydrant
- > Clear a wide enough perimeter to walk around it (about 3 feet)
- > Clear a path from the hydrant to the street

3 FEET      3 FEET

Brought to you by the **International Association of Fire Fighters**

The Montvale Volunteer Fire Department reminds residents to clear the snow around fire hydrants near your house this winter. During emergencies, seconds save lives!

## The Mayor's Corner

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I want to wish you a Happy New Year and a Merry Christmas, and Happy Hanukah. In a way I am happy to close out this year and start a new year with hopes and optimism. I also think that this year brought us closer to each other to our families. I saw many good wills and many residents offering to help the community in ways I have never seen before in my last 10 years of public service. I am grateful to all those who stepped up in time of need and offered their time and talent to help others in our community.

There are several projects happening across the border in the Village of Chestnut Ridge on School House Road. We are fully aware of the projects and we are going to have legal and professional engineering and planning representation at their meetings. These projects will impact the local traffic in our town and we will work cooperatively with the Village of Chestnut Ridge to minimize the traffic impact to our town.

The road paving program is completed for this year and we are in the process of compiling the 2021 list. Although we were short on revenue in 2020 because

of COVID expenses and hotel tax revenue shortage, we will attempt to budget to continue with the road paving program so we don't fall behind. PSE&G will be completely repaving all roads they opened, that were paved in the last 5 years. The roads that were paved more than five years ago, they will pave midway to curb.



Mayor Mike Ghassali

Finally, with the vaccination process, we will have guidance shortly on the process and where and how to get vaccinated if you wish to do so. Currently we are seeking nurses and retired nurses to take part in the process and we will have a designated location to administer the vaccine, once we have it and have the green light to proceed.

Please continue to be safe and wear your mask, and as always, let me know if I can be of any assistance.

Mayor Mike Ghassali

## Rabies Clinic

The Montvale Board of Health has decided, with an abundance of caution, to cancel the 2021 Rabies Vaccination Clinic. Past clinics have always been well attended. However, enforcement of CDC guidelines limits capacity of the garage which results in longer wait times and decreased safety for all.

Pet Owners are required by Borough ordinance to license their pet(s) and are encouraged to do so through mail or in person at Borough Hall during normal business hours. Please visit your pet's veterinarian for a rabies vaccination if the vaccination expires prior to November 1, 2021. Animal license applications for a newly adopted pet may be downloaded from the Borough website; [www.montvale.org](http://www.montvale.org). Best wishes for a happy and safe New Year.

# Montvale Police Department

Goodbye 2020! To say that 2020 was a challenging year would be a huge understatement. The Officers of the Montvale Police Department, the staff and I would like to thank our residents for the support they have provided to us during these trying times. We wish you and your families a Happy and Healthy 2021.

On December 8, 2020, the Mayor swore in two new Police Officers. We welcome P.O.'s Nicholas Mazzeo of Emerson, and Krystian Maleszewski of Mahwah to the Montvale Police family. Both Officers will begin their 20 plus weeks of training at the Bergen County Law and Public Safety Institute in Mahwah on January 15.

Chief Joseph Sanfilippo



## Fire Prevention



Now that the winter season is upon us, if you have a fire hydrant in front of your home please keep it clear of snow when shoveling your driveway and sidewalks. Please have all walkways and stairs clear of snow and ice into your home. This will allow easier access for Fire Department personnel to enter your home in case you have an emergency. Discard all dried out Christmas trees to the outside.

Check and maintain ALL SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS for proper operation. If you have an EMERGENCY DIAL 911.

## Montvale Volunteer Fire Department

The Montvale Fire Department is made up of 35 volunteer firefighters that provide fire protection to the Borough of Montvale 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 52 weeks a year. We are starting a membership drive and are looking for new members to join us. No experience is necessary and free training is provided. If you are a resident of Montvale and 16 to 18 years old you can become a Junior firefighter. If you are 18 years old or over, you can become a regular firefighter.

If you would like to help your fellow neighbors, stop down at the fire house on the first, second, or fourth Thursday of the month at 8 PM or call the fire house at (201)391-4240 and leave a message and somebody will get in touch with you.

The Montvale Fire Department has started its annual fund drive. This supports the associations' scholarships, Santa's visit to Montvale, and other community events. If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation, it's not too late.

Please mail to the Montvale Fire Dept., 35 W. Grand Ave. Montvale NJ, 07645The Montvale

Chief Geoffrey Gibbons

## Montvale Officials

### Mayor

Mike Ghassali (R)

MGhassali@MontvaleBoro.org

### Council President

Douglas Arendacs (R)

DArendacs@MontvaleBoro.org

### Administrator / Municipal Clerk

Maureen Iarossi-Alwan

Miarossi@MontvaleBoro.org

## Council

Chris Roche (R)

CRoche@MontvaleBoro.org

Rose Curry (R)

RCurry@MontvaleBoro.org

Dieter Koelling (R)

DKoelling@MontvaleBoro.org

Timothy E. Lane (R)

TLane@MontvaleBoro.org

Anmarie Russo-Vogelsang (R)  
ARussovogelsang@MontvaleBoro.org

# Trash & Recycling This Month

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
28	29	30	31	1
East Zone Trash Pickup	Central Zone Trash Pickup	West Zone Trash Pickup	Recycling: Districts 3&4	
4	5	6	7	8
East Zone Trash Pickup	Central Zone Trash Pickup	West Zone Trash Pickup	Recycling: Districts 1&2	
11	12	13	14	15
East Zone Trash Pickup	Central Zone Trash Pickup	West Zone Trash Pickup	Recycling: Districts 3&4	
18	19	20	21	22
East Zone Trash Pickup	Central Zone Trash Pickup	West Zone Trash Pickup	Recycling: Districts 1&2	
25	26	27	28	29
East Zone Trash Pickup	Central Zone Trash Pickup	West Zone Trash Pickup	Recycling: Districts 3&4	
1	2	3	4	5
East Zone Trash Pickup	Central Zone Trash Pickup	West Zone Trash Pickup	Recycling: Districts 1&2	

## Tri-Boro Food Pantry

Tri Boro Food Pantry is extremely grateful for the tremendous generosity from the Montvale community! Best wishes to you and your families for a Healthy, Happy New Year!

## Montvale Senior Club

We welcome our New Year 2021. We look forward to resuming our Senior meetings on the third Thursday of each month. We will notify our members when the Covid restrictions will allow us to operate normally.

Currently the Borough has given us permission to use the Senior Center for Chair Exercises and Bocce. These two programs will continue throughout the year. Contact Marie Dineen at 201-391-1831 or Diane Carfora 201-314-0141 for Chair Exercises. Contact John Rotante 201-391-4194 for Bocce. We will honor all guidelines, wearing masks, 6 feet apart, gloves are optional. For indoor activities, temperatures are taken of every participant in addition to masks.

We will welcome new members when all restrictions are lifted.

During this difficult year, our Senior Club would like to express their sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Montvale Borough for their assistance, their concerns, and their considerations for making our programs successful. It was a comfort to know we had members of the Borough supporting us. Helping one another in these challenging times are commendable by all.

We wish everyone a safe and healthy New Year.

Milli Stellatos, Corresponding Secretary

**Contact:**



201-391-5700



[www.Montvale.org](http://www.Montvale.org)



The Borough of Montvale  
12 Mercedes Drive

# Montvale Public Library

Please check our website and our Facebook page for updates during this time. Links to our Facebook, Good Reads, Instagram, Twitter and Spotify accounts as well as all of our databases such as Hoopla, Kanopy and Ancestry are available on our website: [www.montvalelibrarynj.org](http://www.montvalelibrarynj.org).

## Adult Programs

### BollyFit Class

January 5, 2021 - 7:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Dance in the New Year at the Montvale Library! Come join us for a virtual BollyFit class.

### Sketching with Peri

January 6, 13, 20, 27, 2021 - 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Get in touch with your creative side. Join Artist Peri for a four-week sketching class! Please note that this class is full. Call the library to be put on the waiting list.

### Easy Changes to Make Healthy Eating a Habit

January 12, 2021 - 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Improve your diet in 2021. Learn how to choose nutritious foods to improve your eating habits!

### True Crime Book Group

January 14, 2021 - 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

This month we will be reading *I'll Be Gone in the Dark: One Woman's Obsessive Search for the Golden State Killer*, by Michelle McNamara. We still have openings in this group. Email [george.galuschak@montvale.bccls.org](mailto:george.galuschak@montvale.bccls.org) if you are interested in joining.

### Clear Clutter Be Happy in 2021

January 21, 2021 - 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Don't let clutter keep you stuck! Join author and decluttering humorist Jamie Novak to help you start the new year off on a clutter free note.

## Upcoming Virtual Book Groups

All are welcome to join our virtual book groups via Zoom. Please contact Lorissa Lightman at [Lorissa.lightman@montvale.bccls.org](mailto:Lorissa.lightman@montvale.bccls.org) or 201-391-5090 for additional information. Visit our website at <https://www.montvalelibrarynj.org/adultbooksclubs> and our social media outlets for the latest news on our book groups.

January 4, 2021 - 10:30 a.m.

Monday Morning Virtual Book Group: *AMERICAN DIRT* by Jeanine Cummins

January 11, 2021 - 12:00 p.m.

Monday Afternoon Virtual Book Group: *THREE WEEKS WITH MY BROTHER* by Nicholas Sparks

January 20, 2021 - 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday Afternoon Classics Virtual Book Group: *CANDIDE* by Voltaire

### What's Cooking with Therese?

The Montvale Cookbook Supper Club will be reading "Salt, Fat, Acid, Heat" by Samin Nosrat which promotes the understanding of basic food elements as the key to mastering any type of cooking. No recipes are needed once you master these principles. There was also a 2018 Netflix series based on the book. The book group will meet on Monday, January 25 at 6:30pm for a lively discussion and review.

A New Year, New Programs from Montvale Library Children's Room!

### Steam to Go: Chemistry

STEAM-to-Go is back and we will be "mixing it up" with Chemistry experiments! On Tuesday January 12th at 3:45 we will be hosting a virtual STEAM-to-Go program via Zoom. Participants will engage in science-based experiments and activities with guidance from a live trained instructor. Where some materials may be needed from home, the Montvale Library will provide individually prepared and packaged materials necessary to complete a STEM activity and have them ready for pick up prior to the session. Registration is required and is best suited for grades 3-5.

### Write on! Ms. Mary's Writing Club

Calling all budding writers! Ms. Mary is hosting a live virtual writer's club. We will guide young writers in their personal writing, provide feedback and teach techniques of many popular authors. This is a virtual club that meets monthly at 3:45 pm and is for Middle School Students. The next meeting will be on January 14th.

# Montvale Public Library - Continued

## **Tween Lit Book Club with Ms. Mary**

What better time to cozy up with a good book than January! Join Ms. Mary and get the buzz on new books, discover and read new authors and share your favorite titles with friends (virtually of course). This group will meet monthly on Wednesdays via Zoom with the first meeting on January 20 at 3:45. Registration is required and best for grades 4-8.

## **Funday Friday**

Join us on the last Friday of each month for a virtual game day such as Bingo, Pictionary, or Who Am I? to have some fun, blow off some steam and celebrate weeks of hard work! A few days before game time, we send a link and any directions needed to participate. Registration is required and best suited for 2-4 graders. See you on Game Day!

## **Baby Boosters**

January 7th at 10:30 a.m., we will launch our 4-week Baby Boosters class! Join us for this virtual lap sit program geared to our youngest patrons and their grownups. This is a fun, interactive session that will explore activities that enhance early literacy skills- precursors to reading. Together we will sing songs, learn finger plays, and read books and more. This class is best suited for children 0-2 years old. Registration is required.

## **Ms. Daniela's Little Learners**

Are you looking for a fun, virtual activity for your early learner? On Jan 7th we are beginning a 4-week virtual experience for our Little Learners. This will be a virtual session of sharing, exploring, and discovering through books, activities, singing songs and having fun! Little Learners will take place on Thursday afternoons at 1:30 via Zoom. Registration is required and best suited for ages 2-5.

## **Magical Melodies**

Mr. Chris will be performing a live, virtual performance for us on January 26th 3:45. This is a great program to end a hard day of schoolwork and experience some high-energy, zany and enthusiastic entertainment with Mr. Chris. Come join us! Registration is required and best suited for children 8 years and younger.

## **Book Bundles**

As always, the Children's Room staff are ready to hand select books according to your child's age and reading preferences. We will also help pick at any book titles or series you already have in mind. Just send us a quick email to [childrensdepartment@montvale.bccls.org](mailto:childrensdepartment@montvale.bccls.org) with your library card number, child's name and book favorites and we will prepare a bag of personalized reads ready to go that same day. Don't hesitate, your child may just find their next favorite read!

## **Grab and Go**

The Children's Department continues to develop great craft projects! We are busy planning and creating wonderful Grab and Go crafts for you to pick up and assemble at home. Please continue to look for our weekly make and take crafts and activities on our website at <https://www.montvalelibrarynj.org/>, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter sites.

## **eBooks and Other Online Materials**

The Montvale Library now subscribes to Kanopy, a movie streaming service with over 30,000 documentaries, classic and indie films. Patrons with a valid Montvale Library card can stream up to ten titles per month for a 72-hour checkout period.

Hoopla: We may be closed, but you can still take out items! Hoopla offers eBooks, movies, audiobooks, TV shows, music, and comics to Montvale residents. To sign up, go to <https://www.hoopladigital.com/> or download the free Hoopla app and log in with your library card number (the 14-digit number above the barcode)! Have you read, watched, or listened to anything you loved on Hoopla? Email [lorissa.lightman@montvale.bccls.org](mailto:lorissa.lightman@montvale.bccls.org) with your picks which will be shared in the next newsletter!

Libby: Borrow eBooks and audiobooks! Download the free app from your device's App store and register with your Montvale Library card to enjoy free content. For anyone who needs step-by-step help getting their device set up, please email [movlcirc@bccls.org](mailto:movlcirc@bccls.org).

Please check our website and social media pages for updates as we are constantly providing new virtual services.

# Montvale Recreation Special Events Committee

Looking to give back to your town in a way that benefits residents of all ages through fun family-oriented events? Recreation is currently seeking adult or high school volunteers to assist in the planning and coordinating of Montvale's annual events such as Day In The Park, the Halloween Carnival, the Christmas Tree Lighting, the Spring Fling and more! Join the Special Events Committee today to be a part of keeping these events successful, memorable and a tradition for Montvale. Please call 201-391-5700 ext. 251 or email [MontvaleRecreation@montvaleboro.org](mailto:MontvaleRecreation@montvaleboro.org) for more information.

## Field Use

Applications and Hold Harmless forms must be completed and returned to the Recreation Department, Attn: Lisa Dent, with Liability Insurance and payment. Forms are available online (field use policies, permit fees and field applications may be updated for 2021) and at the Borough Hall front counter. Permits will not be issued if the application is incomplete. All organizations must receive an approved permit from Lisa Dent prior to any field use. DEADLINE FOR SPRING FIELD USE APPLICATIONS IS FEBRUARY 1ST

[MontvaleRecreation@montvaleboro.org](mailto:MontvaleRecreation@montvaleboro.org)

## DOES YOUR HOME NEED REPAIRS?

The Borough invites you to apply to the **NEW** Montvale **HOME IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

If you live in Montvale, own your home, and your total gross annual household income falls below the income limit for your household size, you may qualify to participate in the program.

You can receive up to **\$20,000** in repairs!

- There is **no cost to apply** and it does not affect your credit score.
- Funds are provided as a **no interest** (0%) ten-year forgivable loan.
- A **professional inspector** oversees the process.
- There is **no monthly payment**.



(income limits updated annually)

### ELIGIBLE USES OF FUNDS INCLUDE

- Roofs
- Foundations
- Heating
- Electrical
- Windows
- Insulation
- Plumbing
- and more!

Household size	1	2	3	4
Maximum Income	\$53,733	\$61,409	\$69,085	\$76,761
Household size	5	6	7	8
Maximum Income	\$82,902	\$89,043	\$95,184	\$101,325

This program is sponsored by  
the Borough of Montvale  
and funded by Developer Fees



**FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED  
TAKE THE FIRST STEP!**

[www.hip.cgph.net](http://www.hip.cgph.net)

Easily submit your preliminary application online!

If you have additional questions, or if you do not have internet access,  
Call the Program Representative, Brittany Sanchez, at (609) 642-4992

WWW.

# MONTVALE CHAMBER

.com

### CO-PRESIDENTS

**SCOTT L. FORMAN**  
CrossCountry Mortgage

**STEVEN FOX**  
Morgan Stanley

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

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Davey's Locker

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### AMY DEBELLIS

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### TONI-ANN MARABELLO

Meyerson, Fox Mancinelli & Conte

## Chamber of Commerce Board Meetings:

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the Month located at Montvale Borough Hall 4:00 pm**

## Montvale Chamber's Regional Kick-Off



*Virtual*

**Tuesday January 26, 2021**

**Register:**

**[www.MontvaleChamber.com](http://www.MontvaleChamber.com)**

## WHY JOIN THE CHAMBER?

Let us help your business!



**Join the Chamber: [MontvaleChamber.com/join](http://MontvaleChamber.com/join)  
[www.facebook.com/Montvale-Chamber-of-Commerce](http://www.facebook.com/Montvale-Chamber-of-Commerce)**

**Stay on top of chamber news and events: [facebook.com/Montvale-Chamber-of-Commerce](http://facebook.com/Montvale-Chamber-of-Commerce)**

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