

MyMontvale

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE BOROUGH OF MONTVALE

MyMontvale is produced monthly by
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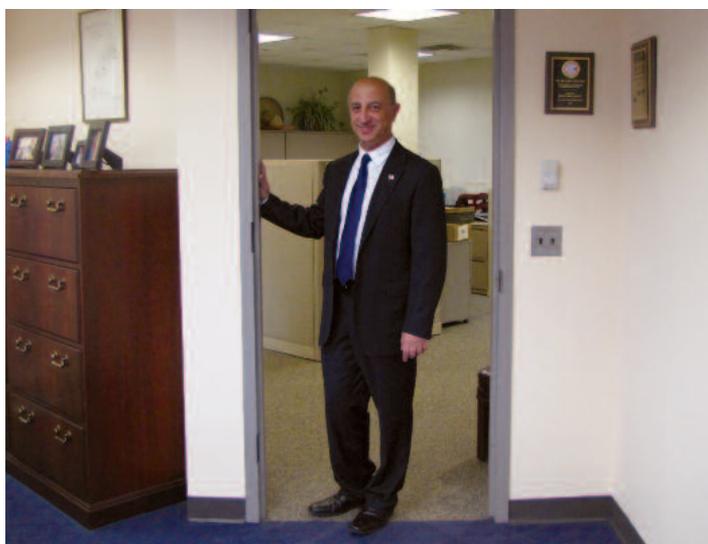
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WINTER ARRIVES IN MONTVALE



PHOTO/THINKSTOCK

Accompanied by some unwanted snow and ice, the winds of change have swept through Montvale in early 2016. Mayor Michael Ghassali will focus attention on centralizing communication and finding new corporate tenants, the Tri-Boro Volunteer Ambulance Corps introduced its new 2016 officers, and both the Montvale Senior Club and Montvale Recreation Department detail special events and activities during the winter and spring seasons.



PHOTO/NORTH JERSEY MEDIA GROUP

OPEN DOOR POLICY

Mayor Mike Ghassali stands in his office doorway, where the door was removed, symbolizing a promise to head up an open and transparent form of government. "The mayor's office represents the town," commented Ghassali shortly before the door was removed. "The removal represents our hospitality and openness to corporate taxpayers and residents."

MAYOR'S MESSAGE FEBRUARY

With the holidays and the New Year's festivities behind us, it's time to get into the year's activities and carry on with our resolutions and goals with command and confidence. We were spoiled with warmer weather than usual in December and January and that helped us with our heating bills and made our roads stay resistant to potholes a little longer, now Mother Nature said enough of that and we happily accept it and deal with it as we always do.

I have begun the conversation on centralizing our communications strategy and to hold us accountable to disseminating relative information timely and accurately. There are two components to this project: one is availability and second is accessibility of the information. By statute all information we have is available to anyone who seeks it but, as good governors, we have to make it easier to access noting our residents want to be informed but don't have the time to search and look for the information. I thank the council members for embracing the idea of centralizing the information and synchronizing all media outlets so everyone gets timely information from one source through any venue they choose, i.e., TVAccess, website, social media, email blasts, town hall meetings, Mayor's office hours and regional project meetings.

The other project I have been busy with is vacant corporate office space. The demand for corporate office space has been challenging the last few years with the occasional companies finding us and moving in all on their own with little proactive intervention from us.



Mike Ghassali
Mayor

The old "build it and they will come" concept doesn't seem to work anymore; we need to market the space and package it with facts and incentives. I have been discussing this with commercial property owners and county and state officials and we get a little closer every day to make this happen in Montvale. This project will allow us to provide better services and lower taxes to you by stabilizing our tax base through ensuring all available office space is occupied and properties assessed accordingly.

I will continue to have the Mayor's office hours every Tuesday from 5 to 7 p.m. and anyone can come in and discuss anything they wish relative to our town. Occasionally we will have a law-required closed executive session on Tuesdays or I may be unavailable in person. However, feel free to contact me directly on my cell phone at 201-927-8000 or email me at mghassali@montvaleboro.org anytime and we can meet during the day at your convenience. I thank all those who have stopped by already or called; I work with and use your feedback. Please remember my job is to govern the entire town so you may not always like the answer you hear, but I promise you I will always explain the reasoning with respect and exhaust all effort to mitigate your situation with mutual benefit to everyone.

Please continue to report roads and potholes issues, keep vigilant of the black ice and the school children, and check on your neighbors, especially the elderly. The spring, the flowers and green trees will be here before we know it so let's press on.

MONTVALE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Hello Montvale:

One of the most common questions and complaints I hear regards driving and the use of a cell phone. New Jersey law, specifically 39:4-97.3, prohibits the use of wireless telephone/electronic communication device in a moving vehicle.

As a reminder, the law includes the following:

- Drivers must use hands-free devices while talking on cell phones.
- Texting and use of video games prohibited while driving.
- Drivers under 21 with learners' permits or probationary licenses are prohibited from using cell phones, texting devices and other hand held or hands-free wireless electronic devices (including iPods) while driving.
- School bus operators are prohibited from using cell phones while driving.

As used in this law, "hands-free wireless telephone" means a



mobile telephone that has an internal feature or function, or that is equipped with an attachment or addition, whether or not permanently part of such mobile telephone, by which a user engages in a conversation without the use of either hand; provided, however, this definition shall not preclude the use of either hand to activate, deactivate, or initiate a function of the telephone.

I would like to congratulate and welcome our newest Patrol Officer, P.O. Walter Marsico. We had a rigorous two-month application process which included a written test, a physical agility test, a Police Interview Board, a Borough Council Interview Board, a psychological examination and a thorough medical screening. Walter graduated the Police Academy in December and is now on patrol.

Stay safe,
Chief Jeremy Abrams

COMMUNITY DINNER AND RAFFLE

The 2016 Community Dinner and Raffle, hosted by Boy Scout Troop 334, will be held Friday, April 1, at Montvale's Fieldstone Middle School, 47 Spring Valley Road.

Dinner will be served from 6:30 p.m. and raffle will start at 8:00 p.m.

See montvale.org for details.

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. Ani Sarajian will be here between 1 and 3 p.m. in Conference Room 1.

MONTVALE RECREATION DEPARTMENT



ADULT PROGRAMS:

18+ COMPETITIVE BASKETBALL

Residents 18 years of age and older can participate in this competitive style pick-up game format. This program began on Jan. 6 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.



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 began in September and will continue through May. Fee: \$75 for residents; \$95 for non-residents if space permits.

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 meets Monday evenings from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. and began Jan. 4. The second class meets Friday mornings from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. and began Jan. 8. 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 8-week class. Instructor: Debra Broadman.

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.

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 began Jan. 5 and is held on Tuesday evenings through May. Fee: \$50 for residents; \$75 for non-residents.

KID'S CORNER:

WINTER SEW COZY

Sewing is a fun filled and exciting art that helps foster the creativity of young girls while teaching them to follow instructions and concentrate on a task. Sewing reinforces hand-eye coordination and develops fine motor and problem solving skills. Best of all, by designing and sewing their own creations, the girls will increase their confidence and self-esteem. Using the latest computerized sewing machines with three speed controls, to accommodate the age and skill level of your future designers, the girls will discover the fun of sewing. The program culminates with a fashion show, where the girls can model their creations for parents and friends. The program is held on Tuesdays and began Jan. 5. All classes are held at the Recreation Center. Fee for the eight-week class is \$80 for residents, \$100 for non-residents. There will be an additional \$30 for materials (paid separately) to the instructor. The instructor for this class is Mrs. Manrique.

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 is offered two days/week for children in grades K-8. The K-4 grade class is offered Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 7 p.m. Classes began Tuesday, Jan. 5. The 5-8 grade class will be offered Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 to 8 p.m. Classes began Tuesday, Jan. 5. 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.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

The girls volleyball program began Tuesday, Jan. 5. This eight-week program is offered to girls in grades 5-8. The girls will play in the Memorial School Gym from 7 to 8 p.m. Registration will take place the first night of the program. Fee: \$80 for residents; \$100 for non-residents. Instructor: volleyball coach Chris Moran.



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.

LOCAL ASSISTANCE

There is a need for the following items:

- Cereal
- Jelly
- Dishwashing detergent

If anyone would like to donate their time for two hours per month at the Pascack Food Center, please call Kathie at 201-307-0534.

Many thanks for your continued generosity!

Kathie Bowen
Public Assistance Director



PHOTO/BOROUGH OF MONTVALE

TRI-BORO VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE CORPS 2016 OFFICERS:

Swearing in of the Tri-Boro Volunteer Ambulance Corps officers took place during the Annual Installation Dinner held on Jan. 15 at Seasons in Township of Washington. Park Ridge Mayor Terry McGuire conducted the swearing-in ceremony and a blessing was given for all by Pastor Sam Goertz of the Montvale Free Evangelical Church. From left are McGuire, Day Lieutenant Kole Kilmurray, Night Lieutenant Joel Slutsky, President Elaine Vercellone, Corresponding Secretary Susan Kiley, Recording Secretary Michele Golenischew, Treasurer Al Nagy, Captain Steve Bressler and Vice President Mike Riabov.

PRESIDENT
Elaine Vercellone

VICE-PRESIDENT
Michael Riabov

TREASURER
Al Nagy

RECORDING SECRETARY
Michele Golenischew

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY
Susan Kiley

CAPTAIN
Steve Bressler

DAY LIEUTENANT
Kole Kilmurray

NIGHT LIEUTENANT
Joel Slutsky

TRI-BORO VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE CORPS

We thank our new and continuing officers and wish all of our Tri-Boro members a wonderful year ahead.

Did you know we are **all-volunteer** service? Each and every member volunteers his/her time to become a certified EMT, to be available for the hours they are on duty, to clean and restock the ambulances, as well as take the continuing education necessary to keep his/her skills up to date and re-certify every three years with the state. Our ambulance corps has been providing free service to the towns of Montvale, Park Ridge and Woodcliff Lake as well as neighboring communities when mutual aid is requested, 24/7, 365 days a year since 1938!

Would you like to find out how to become an EMT? Applicants must be at least 16 years of age, be physically fit and able to perform all EMT skills and want to make a difference in their community. My favorite quote is by George Lucas: "If you want to be happy in life, make others happy." When you help others through difficult times, you, in turn, help yourself. The feeling is indescribable.

In order for Tri-Boro Volunteer Ambulance Corps to continue to bring this service to others, we need members. Our members are from all walks of life. We have mechanics, doctors, nurses, secretaries, moms, dads, high school students, accountants, dentists and more. The thread that brings us together to give of our time after the work day is finished? It is caring and a desire to make a difference in the lives of others. If you live within our towns of Montvale, Park Ridge or Woodcliff Lake and want to learn more about us, go to our website, www.triboroambulance.org, and click on "Membership." Print out and complete the member application and give us a call. Our Membership



Committee will get back to you to set up a "meet and greet" to answer any questions and get you started. You can also log onto Facebook and connect with us at Tri-Boro Volunteer Ambulance and e-mail us at office@tbvac.org. To find out more, call President Elaine Vercellone at 201-388-0225.

Come and be part of our EMT Family!

ANOTHER WAY TO HELP

Tear out and fill out the "IN CASE OF EMERGENCY FORM" found on the next page for each member in your household with a medical history. Then place it in your home where everyone knows where it is. Many times it is placed on the refrigerator, memo board or even on a bedroom nightstand. This information provides us with crucial information in an emergency, especially when the person is unresponsive or cannot remember during a difficult moment. It is especially important during a "life or death" situation when paramedics must be called to assist. Knowing what medications have been taken is imperative in order to help us save a life. Filling out this form for you and your family members and having it handy for us is a big help!

An extra special thank you to the wonderful residents of our three towns who continue to send in donations. We can only do what we do to help others because of you! Donations are always appreciated.

Thank you for your continuous support!

Elaine Vercellone

President, Tri-Boro Volunteer Ambulance Corps

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY FORM

*No one knows
when an emergency
will occur.*

Members of the tri-Boro Volunteer Ambulance Corps
respond to over 1,600 calls each year.

We encourage you to take a few minutes to fill out
this form in case of a medical emergency. Keep it in a safe,
convenient place should you ever need our service.

*The best way to
help us to help you
is to be prepared.*



Date _____

Name _____

Address _____ Date of Birth _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Male/Female _____

Phone _____ Blood Type _____

Physician _____ Phone Number _____

Allergies:

Medications:

Medical History/Diagnoses (Past and Present):

Surgeries:

Other:

Emergency Contacts:

Name _____ Phone Number _____ Relationship _____

For more information: www.triboroambulance.org

CO-PRESIDENTS

SCOTT L. FORMAN
NJ Lenders Corp

STEVEN FOX
Morgan Stanley

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

TOM DAVEY
Davey's Locker

VICE PRESIDENT

TOM CHAPMAN
Tom A. Chapman DMD

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DORIS SUTICH
Perfect Limo

SECRETARY

THOMAS HARTEL
John M. Hartel, Co.

COUNSEL

IRA KALTMAN, ESQ.
Beattie Padavano, LLC

Board Members

MICHAEL FORMAN
Harvard Risk Mgmt

LINDA MITCHELL
Massage & Whole Body Health

ANNA BRODLEY
Fish Window Cleaning

R. Lorraine Hutter
Borough of Montvale

Montvale Chamber 2016 Kick-Off Event Wednesday February 24th, 5:30 pm

Invited Keynote Speakers:

New Montvale Mayor Mike Ghassali



Memorial Sloan Kettering



Wegmans Food Market



When: Feb 24th

Where: Courtyard Marriott, Montvale

Cost: \$10 Members

\$20 Non-Members

\$10 Montvale Residents**

Time: 5:30 pm

Bring Plenty of Business Cards!

Register:

www.MontvaleChamber.com

or call Connie: 201.505.8294

This Event is Open to All Members and Non-Members (Montvale Residents pay member price for this event)

Montvale Chamber Street Fair

Sunday June 5th

Sponsorships Available on First Come - First Served Basis



MONTVALE IN MARCH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
🏠 Local Mtg. 🗑️ Household Trash ♻️ Recyclable PickUp		1 🗑️ Central 🏛️ Planning Board Mtg. 7:30 p.m.	2 🗑️ West	3 ♻️ Districts 3, 4	4	5
6	7 🗑️ East 🏛️ Board of Health Mtg. 7:45 p.m.	8 🗑️ Central 🏛️ Mayor & Council Mtg. 7:30 p.m.	9 🗑️ West	10 ♻️ Districts 1, 2	11	12
13	14 🗑️ East	15 🗑️ Central 🏛️ Planning Board Mtg. 7:30 p.m.	16 🗑️ West	17 ♻️ Districts 3, 4	18	19
20	21 🗑️ East 🏛️ Environ. Committee Mtg. 7:45 p.m.	22 🗑️ Central	23 🗑️ West	24 ♻️ Districts 1, 2	25	26
27	28 🗑️ East	29 🗑️ Central 🏛️ Mayor & Council Mtg. 7:30 p.m.	30 🗑️ West	31 ♻️ Districts 3, 4		

MONTVALE OFFICIALS

ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATOR/MUNICIPAL CLERK

Maureen Iarossi-Alwan - miarossi@montvaleboro.org

MAYOR AND 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 Koelling (R) - dkoelling@montvaleboro.org

Leah J. LaMonica (R) - llamonica@montvaleboro.org

Salvatore J. Talarico (R) - stalarico@montvaleboro.org

Michael Weaver (I) - mweaver@montvaleboro.org

CONTACT INFORMATION

MONTVALE BOROUGH HALL

12 Mercedes Drive, Montvale, NJ 07645

Phone: 201-391-5700

Visit www.montvale.org

EXCITING NEWS FROM THE TAX DEPARTMENT

All residents will be able to take advantage of a new drop box that is located outside of the main entrance of the library at 12 Mercedes Drive.

This drop box is to be used for tax payments only. Checks only. **NO CASH.**

Any payments placed in the drop box will not be processed until the next business day.



MONTVALE SENIOR CLUB

The induction of officers for the 2016 Montvale Senior Club took place in January. Our president, Steve Ohayon, and executive officers welcomed Montvale seniors. The beginning of a new year is a great time to join a new group. The Montvale Senior Group welcomes residents and previous residents of Montvale who have reached age 55 to join our club. Our annual dues are only \$10. We meet at noon on the first and third Thursdays for our Business and Social meetings. In addition, we have three elegant dinners during the year as well as Mother's Day and Valentine's Day lunches that we all enjoy. The police department honors us with a Harvest Lunch in November, where they cook, serve and interact with our members.

We recently hosted an activity fair where our specific teachers or leaders explained and demonstrated their activity. All residents or previous residents of Montvale were invited to our beautiful facility located at One Memorial Drive in Montvale. Our six day tour of Savannah, Ga., will take place from April 10-15 and will be led by Rosemarie Kelly. Rosemarie is an experienced trip leader whose trips everyone enjoys. If you are interested in this exciting trip, call Rosemarie at 201-391-8718. We have numerous day trips during the year and several are in the works. Our day trips for 2016 include the New York Botanical Gardens, the Culinary Institute in Hyde Park, N.Y., and Woodloch Pines in Pennsylvania. Detailed calendars are prepared monthly by our long time member Betty Rutishauser and can be picked up at the center.

Our popular Pizza and Bingo evenings are held once a month on Friday and led by Durelle Voorhees and her committee. Two slices of pizza, soda, coffee and cake are offered and tickets are only \$7 and include several games of bingo with nominal prizes. These evenings are very popular and inexpensive. We have a board member who



PHOTO/THINKSTOCK

attends meetings at the Bergen County Senior Citizens Coordinating Council, Inc. and informs us of any relevant information relating to senior citizens. Canasta and Mahjong classes are available with Fran Ohayon and Kitty Stern leading. Chair exercises are held several days a week and we also offer a gym with assorted equipment. Come down and experience all we have to offer.

MONTVALE PUBLIC LIBRARY



FEBRUARY SPOTLIGHT CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

WHAT: Introducing our new Makerspace workshops! Each week on Makerspace Mondays we will have a new project available for children to work on at the Library or to take home. Each project will be STEAM-related (science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics). Some of our upcoming projects include origami penguins, pinwheels, glow stick lightsabers, Lego math, beading and zentangle art.

INFO: Some projects may require parental guidance. Most projects appropriate for students in kindergarten and older. For additional information, contact the Children's Room.

LOOKING AHEAD TO MARCH

ADULT DEPARTMENT

"Pysanky Egg-Decorating Workshop"
- March 12 at 12:30 p.m.

For information on Library services and programs

Visit the Montvale Library's website at montvale.bccls.org, email the Library at movlcirc@bccls.org, or call the Library at 201-391-5090. Stop by and visit us, too!

