

The Newton News



VOLUME 29, ISSUE 2

FALL 2016

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DATES OF INTEREST

- Halloween Parade
Oct. 31
- Fall Leaf & Brush Pickup
Nov. 2 thru Dec. 4
- Election Day
Nov. 8
- Veterans' Day
Town Hall Closed
Nov. 11
- NMC Festival of Lights
Nov. 12
- Thanksgiving Holiday
Town Hall Closed
Nov. 24 & 25
- GNCC Holiday Parade
Nov. 26
- Senior Holiday Dinner
Dec. 4
- Operation Santa
Dec. 10
- Municipal Tree Lighting
Dec. 12
- Christmas Holiday
Town Hall Closed
Dec. 23 & 26
- Free Rabies Clinic
Jan. 7

A MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGER

I have recently concluded my eighth year as your Town Manager and I must say I continue to be blessed to lead such a fine community. We have many exciting updates to talk about so let's get down to business.

We have upgraded the entrance to the Municipal Building to be ADA accessible which allows us to now have elections here at Town Hall.

We successfully negotiated a 5-year community service contribution agreement with our friends at Atlantic Health/Newton Medical Center. We are grateful for this financial support and thank them for all they do for our community.

We extended the 5-year tax abatement for properties in the Historic District and encourage owners to speak to the Tax Assessor about this innovative financial incentive program. Our COAH plan was approved, making Newton one of the first in the state to achieve this status.

We had one of the most successful years at the Newton Pool to date, and hope that you will explore joining the pool for next season when even more activities and improvements are planned.

We have hired 2 replacement staff members for the Department of Public Works, finished the lighting upgrade program for the downtown area increasing safety and visibility, and added new enhanced downtown wayfinding signage as well.

We celebrated the commencement of construction for the Newton Town Centre senior housing project/community center/retail building in the heart of downtown Newton and look forward to its successful completion by the end of 2017.

Several new businesses have opened up in Newton, including but not limited to the Amore Bakery & Café, Christian Bookstore, Between the Bread, Black Dog Bookstore. We welcomed Zufall Health Center to the community and look forward to the opening of Krogh's Brewery, AutoZone, and the much-needed renovations to the old Style Shop. The Town also facilitated the transfer of the liquor license from Andre's to The Newton Theatre, which continues to bring world-class entertainment to your backyard.

Please remember to support the Theatre and our local businesses of all sizes – they are the engine which drives the economy. We encourage those with a passion for retail to consider opening up shop in Newton, especially in the downtown. Remember: The key to managing property taxes is the pursuit of quality commercial ratables, and our staff is committed to being business and customer-friendly so individuals and companies are comfortable investing their capital in Newton's many commercial areas.

Our Town Council, staff, professionals and volunteers take great pride in their efforts to make Newton the special place that it is and are to be commended. **Together we will continue to make a difference.** Thank you once again for reading our publication and please accept my best wishes to you and yours for good health and happiness during this beautiful fall season and during the upcoming holidays.

Yours for a Better Newton,

 Thomas S. Russo, Jr.
 Town Manager

STAFF DIRECTORY

The staff of the Town of Newton is here to assist the public whenever possible. Please use the following list of extensions when dialing 973-383-3521 to contact a municipal staff member or department.

224 Manager's Office		OTHER NUMBERS	
225 Tax Assessor	Public Works Garage	973-383-4160	
226 Deputy Town Manager	Recycling Center	973-383-1521	
227 Planning/Zoning	Memory Park Pool	973-383-2810	
228 Comm. Dev./Recreation	Wastewater		
232 Municipal Clerk	Treatment Plant	973-383-2090	
233 Treasurer	Police Department		
236 Deputy Court Administrator	(Non-emergency)	973-383-2525	
239 Tax Collector			
240 Water/Sewer Collector			
241 Finance Officer/CFO			
242 Court Administrator			
243 Fire Prevention Secretary			
254 Human Resources			
256 Code Enforcement			

**THE 2016-2017
NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL**

Sandra Lee Diglio, Mayor
Wayne Levante, Deputy Mayor
E. Kevin Elvidge Councilman
Helen Le Frois, Councilwoman
Daniel Flynn, Councilman

Thomas S. Russo, Jr., Manager
Lorraine A. Read, Clerk

GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 8, 2016

The Presidential General Election is Tuesday, November 8, 2016.

Polls are open 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM

Polling Places in Newton:

- #1 & #2** Newton Fire House
22 Mill St.
- #3 & #5** Newton Municipal Building
39 Trinity St.
- #4** NFAS Building
8 Sussex St.
- #6** First United Methodist Church
111 Ryerson Ave.

For more information on **voting**, you may call the Board of Elections @ 973-579-0950



TAX SALE

The Town of Newton's annual tax sale will be held electronically. The sale will be for real estate taxes, water and sewer charges and other municipal charges, against properties existing on December 31, 2015.



Said sale will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of New Jersey State Statute R.S 54:5-19 to 120 and R.S. 40:24A-21 and Chapter 91 Law 1974. The tax sale will close at 8:30 AM on Thursday, November 17, 2016.

For additional information on tax sale, please visit www.newton.newjerseytaxsale.com after October 20, 2016.

For more information please contact Linda Ann Roth, Certified Tax Collector at 973-383-3521 ext. 239 or lroth@newtontownhall.com.

FINANCE NEWS

Year End Penalty for Delinquent Taxes

Pursuant to R.S. 54:4-67 the Town of Newton imposes a 6% year-end penalty on all accounts in which the delinquencies exceed \$10,000. At the end of the year the 6% penalty is added to the total delinquency and carried forward into the next year. Interest is then charged according to State Statute.

Reminders

The 4th quarter property taxes are due November 1, 2016. There is a grace period of ten (10) days all quarters. The 2016 4th quarter payment must be made by Thursday, November 10, 2016 at 4:30 PM. Payments received after this date will be considered delinquent and interest will be charged back to November 1st in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-67.



FALL LEAF & BRUSH PICKUP

The Town of Newton will once again combine a brush pick-up with the annual leaf collection program in November. The Public Works crew will begin the Collection Program on Monday, November 7, 2016 and will continue until Friday, December 2, 2016. The leaf and brush pickup will follow the Recycling Zone schedule for the entire week.

Please put the bags and brush out at the curb line and not in the street. This will avoid interference with traffic and possible breakage of the bags. Tree limbs must be smaller than 4 inches in diameter (no exceptions). The clean-up is intended for residents to clear away naturally occurring fallen brush and light pruning. Property owners are responsible for felled trees.

The leaves and brush will be taken to the Sussex County Municipal Utilities Authority (SCMUA) facility for disposal. SCMUA will only accept leaves in biodegradable bags. The bags can be purchased at local home improvement stores. Residents may take leaves/brush to SCMUA for disposal themselves, but a small fee may be charged by the County facility.



ONLINE PAYMENTS

Residents may pay their tax and utility bills online. Go to www.newtontownhall.com, click the "Online Payments" link on the right side of the homepage and follow the prompts.

A fee of \$2.00 is applied for ACH (e-check) users per transaction and for Credit Card payments a 3% fee does apply.

CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP

The Public Works crew will be picking up Christmas trees beginning December 27, 2016 through January 13, 2017. All trees must be free of bases, lights and ornaments.



FREE RABIES CLINIC

The Town of Newton is once again sponsoring a free rabies clinic on January 7, 2017 at the Newton Public Works Garage, 117 Moran Street from 9:00 AM to Noon.

2017 Dog and Cat license fees are:

Dogs: \$15.00 Spayed/Neutered Cats: \$12.00
\$18.00 Non-Spayed/Non-Neutered

Late fee is \$5.00 each month per dog beginning 2/1/17.

NOTE: The State of New Jersey mandates that the current rabies vaccination cannot expire before November 1st of the current year (2017). Dogs can safely be vaccinated every two years.

License application forms may be downloaded at www.newtontownhall.com/licenses.

WATER & SEWER UTILITY

The Town of Newton's reservoir at Morris Lake, Sparta, New Jersey is currently 45 inches below the top of the spillway. Water restrictions are in effect. Residents, Businesses and Property Owners should take note §228-22. Prohibited water use of the Code of the Town of Newton prohibits the following:

1. Water customers are prohibited from watering their lawns or gardens; and
2. Washing cars, trucks, boats, or any recreational vehicles; and
3. Washing public or private driveways, walkways, or sidewalks; and
4. Filling swimming pools and ornamental reflecting pools or fountains.

These restrictions will remain in place until lifted by a formal resolution of the Town Council.

The construction of the 20" HDPE watermain began on October 10, 2016 by Montana Construction in Fox Hollow Lake, Sparta, NJ. The watermain will be operational by the end of December.

The 4th Quarter water/sewer bills are due December 30, 2016. Payments received after the due date will have a ten percent (10%) penalty added to the balance. For your convenience, there is a lock box located near the front entrance of the Municipal Building where payments can be left after hours and on weekends. Please be advised, payments which are placed in the box after 4:00 PM will be posted to the next business day.



RECREATION HAPPENINGS

Radio City Music “Christmas Spectacular” Bus Trip: Join us for a day in NYC and leave the driving to us!! Sunday, November 27, 2016. Arrive at the Park and Ride (behind Shoprite) in Newton at 8:45 AM. The chartered bus will leave at 9:00 AM. We will be seeing a 2:00 PM show. This will give you lots of time to shop and have lunch. Bus will depart at 4:00 PM from Radio City Music Hall. Arrive back at Park and Ride at 5:30 PM. Please call 973-383-3521 ext. 228 or recreation@newtontownhall.com to reserve your seats. Tickets are \$95.00/pp. First come, first serve basis.

Senior Exercise Program: Join us for Zumba Gold. Get active with great people at the dance party workout that moves at your pace. Every Tuesday morning from 9:30 AM to 10:15 AM and Friday morning from 10:30 AM to 11:15 AM at Newton Firehouse #1, 22 Mill St. Only \$5 per class. No pre-registration necessary. Call 973-383-3521 x228 with questions.

Senior Dinner: Sunday, December 4th, Noon to 2:00 PM at Newton High School. Join us for a delicious turkey dinner, a short holiday concert by the Newton High School Honor Choir and listen to the sounds of the Long Pond School Handbell Ensemble.

Holiday Tree Lighting: Monday December 12th, 6:00 PM. Join us for a sing-along with the Newton Public Schools children’s choir at Town Hall before Santa arrives at 6:20 PM.

Holiday House Decoration Contest: Houses must be decorated by Friday December 9th, judging will be done by local seniors after the Newton Tree Lighting. Recognition and awards will be presented at a follow-up Town Council meeting.

Prime Time Seniors: a social group for the residents of the Town, ages 50 and up meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. Meetings are held at the Newton #1 Firehouse, 22 Mill Street. Refreshments are served at 12:30 PM, meeting promptly begins at 1:00 PM. For information call Pat Powers at 201-410-8406.

For the latest information on Recreation Happenings, like and follow us on Facebook: NEWTON RECREATION, on Twitter: @NewtonRecNJ, or via the Town website: www.newtontownhall.com.

To reach the Recreation office call 973-383-3521 ext. 228 or email us at recreation@newtontownhall.com.

RECYCLING NEWS

The Town of Newton conducts monthly curbside collection of commingled recycling and newspaper. As a reminder, containers placed curbside can be no larger than 35 gallons and must be at the curb no later than 7:00 AM on your designated pick up day. **Recyclables must be rinsed** before placing at curbside, failure to do so will result in your recyclables not being picked up.

Twice a year, in June and December, the Town sends the “Newton Recycling News” to all its residents outlining recycling guidelines and the curbside collection schedule. This publication is also available on the Town’s website at www.newtontownhall.com.

Co-mingled recyclables include glass jars, bottles, aluminum cans and tin-plated steel cans, plastic clear and green soda bottles, milk, water or cider containers, shampoo and hair conditioner bottles, liquid laundry soap bottles, fabric softener and bleach bottles, and plastics with a recycling symbol on the bottom. Newspapers to be recycled must be dry and tied in bundles. On curbside collection dates when it is wet or rainy, newspapers will not be picked up.

Newspapers, corrugated cardboard, office paper, magazines, aluminum and foil pie plates, as well as co-mingled recyclables defined above, may be brought to the Recycling Center on South Park Drive by Newton residents on Thursdays between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM, or Saturdays from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Any questions can be directed to our office at 973-383-4160. Brush leaves and grass clippings are no longer accepted at the Recycling Center.

Recycling is mandated by New Jersey State Law. However, the law does not require local governments to provide a curbside collection program. The Town of Newton offers the service, at no cost to taxpayers, for the convenience of its citizens, through the efforts of the Public Works Department.



The Newton News

Editors - Terri Oswin & Thomas S. Russo, Jr.

www.newtontownhall.com

ZONING CORNER

ZONING REMINDERS

The Town of Newton Zoning Officer, Katherine Citterbart, would like to remind you:

- ◆ Off-street parking on areas other than driveways is prohibited in the front yard of single-family detached and duplex residential dwellings.
- ◆ No planting (shrubs/hedges/tall flowers), fence, sign, structure or other obstruction to vision higher than three feet shall be erected or maintained within a site triangle at street corners.
- ◆ A zoning permit is required before using or allowing the use of any structure, building, or land and before changing the use of any building property or allowing a change of use of any building or property, or part thereof.
- ◆ When renovating or rehabilitation calls for a dumpster or temporary storage container / P.O.D. a zoning permit is required.

Contact the Zoning Officer at 973-383-3521 ext. 227 or email kcitterbart@newtontownhall.com with any questions or concerns.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

As we enter the fall and winter months, please remember the following:

- ◆ Please make sure all trash and rubbish is stored in leak-proof containers with secured lids. At no time should trash be spilling out of or stored outside of the trash container.
- ◆ Please remember to clear snow from your sidewalks within 12 hours of daylight after the same shall fall or be formed. If you plan to be away, please make certain arrangements are in place for snow removal to avoid a violation.

If you have any questions, please contact the Code Enforcement Director, Debra Doudoukjian at 973-383-3521 x 256.

SNOW SHOVELING

A reminder to Seniors Citizens who are partaking in the snow shoveling program. This is a service which is provided to the Town by the Sheriff's Department for those Seniors Citizens who are 62 years of age or older, have a diagnosed handicap or possess a handicap placard with no member of the household physically able to do shoveling, and all member(s) of the household must be on a fixed income. There is a limit on the numbers of seniors who can be placed on the list. For more information you can contact the Community Development Department at (973) 383-3521, ext. 228.



RECENT ORDINANCES

The Newton Town Council recently adopted several ordinances of interest:

Ordinance 2015-24 establishes an additional standard to require fences to be constructed one (1) foot off of the property line to limit conflicts between property owners.

Ordinance 2015-32 eliminates the right turn on red prohibition from Madison Street on to Spring Street.

Ordinance 2015-33 designates 3 Dunn Place as a local historical landmark.

Ordinance 2016-3 prohibits parking in certain spots on Spring Street except for municipal and emergency vehicles.

Ordinance 2016-10 will provide a tax exemption for certain improvements or construction of certain residential dwelling, commercial/industrial structures within the downtown Historic District.

Ordinance 2016-13 amends parking rates to provide 2-hour free parking in Lot 1 Adams Street and Lot 3 Central Plaza when purchase one half hour for 25 cents.

To review Town ordinances that have recently been adopted visit our website at www.newtontownhall.com/ordinances.

FROM THE POLICE DESK...

Community Policing is a public safety philosophy based on partnership and cooperation between law enforcement and the communities that they are sworn to protect and serve. It's for this reason that members of the Newton Police Department are committed to engaging those we serve and sharing information about our activity. This knowledge and information is empowering. It is a force multiplier that increases our public safety effectiveness and continually builds public trust.

The Police Department shares information through our website [www.NewtonPolice.org] and mobile apps. Called CityConnect, the app allows users to see local crime data, police activity and registered sex offenders who are on the NJ State Internet Registry. The app also facilitates sharing information back to the department with the ability to send anonymous tips.



NEWTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
39 Trinity Street Newton, NJ 07860 (973) 383-2525
www.NewtonPolice.org

TEXT-A-TIP

*See Something?
Do Something.*

TEXT **274637** KEYWORD **NEWTON**




CrimeReports™

FREE INFORMATION

Find Out What's Happening In Your Neighborhood

PROTECT—PREVENT

*Newton Police Activity Published to Crime Map and
Updated Daily—Sign up for Free Alerts*

Visit: www.NewtonPolice.org

Another new initiative that the Newton Police Department is leading the way with is the **C.L.E.A.R.** program, **Community Law Enforcement Addiction Recovery** program. Learn more about the C.L.E.A.R. program by visiting the website at [www.CLEARprogram.org]. This new program aims to form a collaborative network of professionals in our community who will facilitate medical intervention, improved access to treatment and recovery support for those struggling with drug addiction who seek assistance, without fear of arrest or prosecution, in order to make a positive difference in the quality of life for individuals, families and our entire community.

"The problems posed by drug addiction are an urgent public health and safety crisis. The C.L.E.A.R. program is poised to help locally turn the tide on this epidemic, improve the quality of people's lives and the quality of life here in Sussex County."

-Chief Mike Richards



COMMUNITY LAW ENFORCEMENT ADDICTION RECOVERY

Progressive and professional, Officers enjoy the ability to conduct community oriented policing in a Town whose residents and business owners provide them with such tremendous support. Please visit our website to learn about all the work that members of the Police Department perform and look for our next "Coffee With a Cop" event too; they're a great opportunity to meet with your hometown Officers in a relaxed, informal setting to talk about community issues.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

A Guide to Healthy Habits for Cleaner Water

Pollution on streets, parking lots and lawns is washed by rain into storm drains, then directly to our drinking water supplies and the ocean and lakes our children play in. Fertilizer, oil, pesticides, detergents, pet waste, grass clippings: you name it and it ends up in our water.

Stormwater pollution is one of New Jersey's greatest threats to clean and plentiful water, and that's why we're all doing something about it.

By sharing the responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can keep common pollutants out of stormwater. It all adds up to cleaner water, and it saves the high cleanup costs.

As part of New Jersey's initiative to keep our water clean and plentiful and to meet federal requirements, many municipalities and other public agencies must adopt ordinances or other rules prohibiting various activities that contribute to stormwater pollution. Breaking these rules can result in fines or other penalties.

As a resident, business, or other member of the Newton community, it is important to know these easy things you can do every day to protect our water:

Limit your use of fertilizers and pesticides

- ◆ Do a soil test to see if you need a fertilizer.
- ◆ Do not apply fertilizers if heavy rain is predicted.
- ◆ Look into alternatives for pesticides.
- ◆ Maintain a small lawn and keep the rest of your property or yard in a natural state with trees and other native vegetation that requires little or no fertilizer.
- ◆ If you use fertilizers and pesticides, follow the instructions on the label on how to correctly apply it.

Properly use and dispose of hazardous products

Hazardous products include some household or commercial cleaning products, lawn and garden care products, motor oil, antifreeze, and paints.

- ◆ Do not pour any hazardous products down a storm drain because storm drains are usually connected to local bodies of water and the water is not treated.
- ◆ If you have hazardous products in your home or workplace, make sure you store or dispose of them properly. Read the label for guidance.
- ◆ Use natural or less toxic alternatives when possible.

Keep pollution out of storm drains

- ◆ Recycle used motor oil.
- ◆ Municipalities and many other public agencies are required to mark certain storm drain inlets with messages reminding people that storm drains are connected to local bodies of water.
- ◆ Do not let sewage or other wastes flow into a stormwater system.
- ◆ Clean and plentiful water is important to our families, our environment, our economy and our quality of life. Did you know that animal waste from pets can pollute our waters? When left on the ground, pet waste is washed by rain and melting snow and ice into storm drains that carry it to our rivers, lakes, bays, the ocean and drinking water. Animal waste contains a high concentration of nutrients as well as bacteria and disease-causing microorganisms that can cause problems.

Clean up after your pet

- ◆ Follow the Town of Newton pet-waste rules.
- ◆ Pick up and properly dispose of pet waste dropped on public or people's property.
- ◆ Use newspaper, bags or pooper-scoopers to pick up wastes.
- ◆ Dispose of the unwrapped pet waste in a toilet.
- ◆ Never discard pet waste in a storm drain.

Don't litter

- ◆ Place litter in trash receptacles.
- ◆ Recycle. Recycle. Recycle.
- ◆ Participate in community cleanups.

Dispose of yard waste properly

- ◆ Keep leaves and grass out of storm drains.
- ◆ Use leaves and grass clippings as a resource for compost.
- ◆ Use a mulching mower that recycles grass clippings into the lawn.



Town of Newton
39 Trinity Street
Newton, NJ 07860

PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID

PERMIT NO. 194
SPARTA, NJ 07871

FIRE CHIEF'S MESSAGE

The Newton Fire Department will be hosting the 11th Annual "Operation Santa" on Saturday, December 10th. With the help of the Newton Fire Department, Santa will visit residents of **NEWTON** on a Fire Truck beginning at 2:00 PM. Look for more information soon on the Newton Fire Department's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/NewtonFD/.

The Fire Chief, Jason Miller, would like to remind everyone to change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and to make sure your chimney's are cleaned before the cold weather comes.

Looking for a way to give back to your community? Becoming a member of the Newton Fire Department is a great way to help your community and meet new people. If interested, call 973-383-4746.

PARKING REGULATIONS

When snow accumulates and covers any public street, road, or parking lot, vehicles are not allowed to be parked on those streets or in those parking lots until the Public Works Department has had sufficient time to plow the snow. Vehicles parked illegally on snow-covered streets or in parking lots will be **ticketed and/or towed**.

In the interest of public safety, Newton residents are asked to abide by the above regulations following snowstorms.



THE TOWN OF NEWTON: CITY STYLE. COUNTRY COOL.

The Newton News is printed and distributed twice a year to keep all residents informed of the many programs and services offered by the Town. Please take a few moments to update your calendars on upcoming events and keep this edition of our newsletter handy for convenient reference in the future. For more timely updates, visit our Town website at www.newtontownhall.com and check out the *Manager's Blog* section.

#newtonnj