

OCTOBER 2021



# Fire Prevention Week: October 3-9, 2021

#### **HOME FIRE SAFETY TIPS:**

- Respond immediately to smoke or carbon monoxide (CO) alarm sound by exiting the home
- If your alarm begins to chirp, it may mean the batteries need to be replaced or the alarm is at the end of its useful life
- Test all smoke and CO alarms on a monthly basis
- Install a bed shaker and strobe light alarms if someone in your household is deaf or hard or hearing

 Know the difference between the sound of a smoke alarm and a carbon monoxide alarm — three beeps for smoke, four beeps for CO



Visit us at mlfd.org for more information and to learn about your fire department.



# **What Township Council Is Up To**

**Deputy Mayor Kareem Pritchett** holds a background in law enforcement and a long career as a correctional police officer, focusing on creating stronger ties between law enforcement and the communities they serve.

Community policing has and will continue to improve communication between law enforcement and diverse communities. This past July, Pritchett and officers from the Mount Laurel Police Department visited community leaders from diverse Mount Laurel neighborhoods and spoke about policing guidelines in transparent detail. Through a continuing series of discussions, Pritchett, community leaders, and law enforcement outlined details of what steps are taken when an issue arises in the community. Facilitating positive community policing not only strengthens law enforcement knowledge of a community's need, it creates transparency and trust.

Pritchett, community leaders, and the Mount Laurel Police Department will continue discussions to create positive policing efforts throughout the Mount Laurel community. **Councilman Nikitas Moustakas** works closely with Mount Laurel small business owners to help locate and utilize resources the Township provides to get businesses back up and running. He regularly attends new business and restaurant openings in Mount Laurel, along with Rancocoas Woods Business Association Events. The Rancocoas Woods Business Association hosts multiple events throughout the year, including the Craft and Antique Shows and Kids Craft Market.

In addition to connecting with business owners, Moustakas founded South Jersey Cares, a nonprofit that coordinates food drives for those struggling in the wake of the pandemic and collects clothing supplies for children. The nonprofit is currently working on collecting winter clothing items, including coats, gloves, and scarves for the upcoming season.

# Recovery Chair 5k Walk with the Larchmont Jogger

Join the Larchmont Jogger and Mount Laurel Township as we walk to raise awareness for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Rob Austin, Mount Laurel's Larchmont Jogger, is known for his creative costumes. We invite you and family members to dress in your best costume with a splash of pink and join our walk to raise funds for the Recovery Chair non-profit group.

Started in 2018, the Recovery Chair non-profit in Mount Laurel provides powered reclining lift chairs to breast cancer patients as they recover from surgery. Through donations they have been able to help support and comfort over 150 local women.

Monetary donations for the Recovery Chair group will go towards the purchase of new reclining chairs, and the storage and cleaning of chairs when not in use.

For more information on the Recovery Chair Campaign please visit therecoverychair.org

The walk will take place on Saturday October 23rd with a rain date the following day. The event will be held at Laurel Acres Park at 1045 S Church Street.

# **The Laurel House**

The former monastery building located at 562 Walton Avenue serves as a local community center. Last March, students from Mount Laurel's Hartford School were tasked in creating a new name for the building. The building offers a unique look into Mount Laurel's past.

Cistercian monks from Italy were sent on a mission to open a monastery in the United States in the late 1950s. Provided with a few acres of land in Mount Laurel, the monks were able to serve mass and minister to the sick in addition to growing vegetables and making wine.

With the building of St. John Neumann Church that stood adjacent to the monastery, the monks were able to build a rosary garden. The rosary garden was built from the donation of 100 acres from the diocese and featured marble statues of religious figures.

Today the building serves as a community center hosting various activities and events, as well as meeting spaces for community groups. The second floor of the building is occupied by the Mount Laurel Police Department for various training exercises. Currently there are renovations to the second floor that will allow for extra meeting space availability for residents.

Paul Devery, a teacher at Mount Laurel Hartford School for 25 years, also serves as the advisor for student council. Devery stresses the importance that students should have firsthand access in making important decisions and learn the inner workings of how government is run at a local level. "I want to show students what democracy and government looks like when you get involved".

Students submitted names for the former Monk building, including Hand in Hand Community Center, Mt. Laurel Community Gathering, Mt. Laurel Family Center, and Community Association Township Center (CAT). Once put to vote, the winning title was "The Laurel House", a representation of Mount Laurel and the family feel of the town.

# **Leaf Collection**

With the change of seasons brings new reminders for residents. Our Public Works team would like to provide a few reminders:

- Scheduled Loose and Bagged Leaf collection in Mount Laurel Township typically begins the third week of October each year.
- For a list of sections and associated dates please visit www.mountlaurel.com and click on the Leaf Collection page. If you have any questions, please call the Public Works office at (856) 234-0001 ext 1241 or email us at info@mountlaurel.com
- Signs will be posted in each section advising the beginning date for that section. All areas will have at least one-week advance notice.
- Leaves should be raked to street along the curb in loose piles during the scheduled loose leaf pick up. Please do not mix brush/logs in leaf piles, as they should remain separate to help the efficiency of the leaf collection process.
- Brush/logs will be collected separately from leaves
- Please separate bagged leaves from trash during the scheduled bagged leaf collection.
- In addition, please keep cars off the street during dates posted for your section.

# **Laurel Acres Playground Expansion**

The Township has been actively working to improve public recreation within Mount Laurel. Laurel Acres Park has seen an increase in foot traffic over the last year of families looking for outdoor activities. The Township is pleased to be able to provide additional equipment for families.

Laurel Acres Park, located at 1045 S Church Street, provides families with a dog run, picnic tables, pavilions, and existing play areas for 2-5 year olds and 5-12 year olds. The new playground will be additional area for 5-12-year-old children to enjoy. The project includes site preparation and installation of a play structure with rubberized safety

surfacing, multiple slides, a rock climbing wall, a sky run zip track, and shade canopies. A new accessible feature includes a RoxAll See Saw that can seat up to five children. With high backs and side rails, each of the four seats on the see saw are designed for children to enjoy with friends. The center saucer is designed for users with mobility issues to easily transfer from a mobility device to enjoy. The playground will match the existing color theme.

The project is estimated to be completed late fall/early winter 2021.



# **New Businesses in Mount Laurel**

#### **TACO BELL**

The highly anticipated Taco Bell on Route 38 opened its doors on September 1, 2021. The new restaurant features glass exteriors, a bright open floor plan, and outdoor dining area.

Open daily, Taco Bell customers can enjoy tacos, Crunchwraps, burritos, and Cinnabon bites for dessert.

Taco Bell is located at 3220 Route 38. Open Sunday-Thursday from 8:00am-1:00am and Friday-Saturday 8:00am-2:00am.







# C.C.O. Application Common Questions and Answers

#### **HOW DO I SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT?**

After submitting your C.C.O. application a Township employee will follow up with you within 48 hours

#### **HOW DO I SUBMIT AN APPLICATION?**

Please be sure your application and payment are together. Applications can be dropped off at the Township Municipal Building drop off window Monday- Friday from 8:00am-4:00pm.

Residents can also mail their application to the Township. Please address the application to:

Samantha Higareda 100 Mount Laurel Road Mount Laurel NJ 08054

Do not email your application. Applications that are sent via email will not be accepted.

#### HOW DO I FIND THE APPLICATION ON THE WEBSITE?

At the top of our homepage click on Department



On the drop down menu, you will see the first tab as "Community Development/Construction". Click on this link.

The link brings you to a new page. On the left hand side, you will see a side bar with multiple tabs. Click on the C.C.O. application tab to bring you directly to the application



# **New Township Website**



Mount Laurel Township has launched our newly designed, user friendly website. Residents will find useful information about services and event updates right on the home page.

Quick links are provided to easily find meetings, online forms, alerts, and how to sign up for our e-notify system. Our "News and Updates section" will provide the latest updates on Township events and press releases.

Residents will find the agenda and packet information for upcoming council, planning, and zoning board meetings right on the homepage.

For any questions, suggestions, feedback or comments, please e-mail agrisetti@mountlaurel.com

### **Tax Collector Updates**

#### 4TH QUARTER PROPERTY TAXES DUE

Please note that all 4th quarter property tax payments are due **November 1, 2021.** The extended grace period is Wednesday, November 10, 2021. All payments received after Wednesday, November 10, 2021 will accrue interest back to November 1, 2021.

#### SENIOR FREEZE BLUE BOOKLETS-PTR FORMS

If you are currently enrolled in the New Jersey Senior Freeze (Property Tax Reimbursement) program the last day to file your application is November 1, 2021. We will be completing the booklets in the Mount Laurel Community Center on **Wednesday**, **October 20th from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM**. For more information or to see if you qualify please call the State of New Jersey directly at 1 (800) 882-6597.

# Mount Laurel Library Updates

# THE FRIENDS OF THE MOUNT LAUREL LIBRARY BOOK SALE

The October book sale begins with a preview night for Friends members only on Wednesday October 20th and ends on Saturday, October 23rd. There will be a large variety of cookbooks, children's books, hardbacks, paperbacks and more available for purchase! By purchasing these books, you are helping to raise money for the Friends of the Mount Laurel Library, a group that provides resources for additional programming, equipment, museum passes and more for our library!

The \$5 Bag Sale takes place on Saturday, October 23rd. Fill up a bag full of books for only \$5! We encourage you to BYOB (bring your own bag) max size 16"h x 13"w x 9"d.

Book Sale Hours are as follows:

Wednesday Oct. 20th 6pm to 8:30pm. This is the Preview night for Friends of the Library only. New memberships accepted that night.

Thursday, Oct. 21st- 12pm to 8:30pm

Friday, Oct. 22nd- 12pm to 4:00pm

Saturday, Oct. 23rd-10am to 4:30pm

# Chick Fil A Trick or Trunk Event

Celebrate Halloween with Chick Fil A in Centerton Square for a night of treats and trunks! Local businesses in the area will open their "trunks" filled with goodies to take home. Stay for fun themed games, a costume contest, and more.

Event takes place on Friday October 29th from 5:00pm-8:00pm at 58 Centerton Rd, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054



# Please see our list of reminders for proper item disposal

#### **HAZARDOUS WASTE**

Collection is done on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month between 8-12PM at the recycling center on Midlantic. Holidays may affect these dates.

#### **TIRE DISPOSAL**

Schedule a tire pick-up for the 3rd Friday of the month by calling 856-234-0001 ext 1241 or by emailing info@ mountlaurel.com. 10 tires max per household a year.

# WHITE GOODS/TVS (WASHER, DRYER, REFRIGERATOR, ETC.)

Schedule a pick-up for every Wednesday by calling 856-234-0001 ext 1241 or by emailing info@mountlaurel.com

#### **BAGGED/LOOSE LEAVES**

Scheduled pick up is between Oct-Dec. All other times leaves can be left at the curb. Clear biodegradable bags can be picked up at the Municipal Building at no charge (1st ten are free)

#### **BRANCHES AND LIMBS**

Place by the curb for pick-up. There is no scheduled pick-up dates.

#### FURNITURE (MATTRESSES, SOFAS, CHAIRS)

Place with regular trash. Mattresses must be wrapped in plastic. 2 items per household

# YARD DEBRIS (WEEDS, DEAD PLANTS, TREE TRIMMINGS)

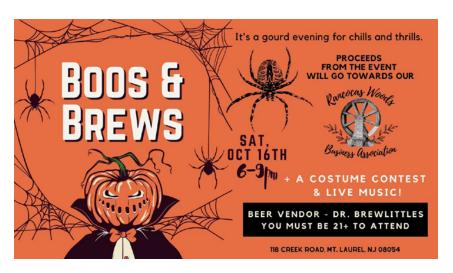
Place with regular trash

#### **NEW/REPLACEMENT RECYCLE CAN**

Email info@mountlaurel.com or Call 856-234-0001 ext 1241

#### PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Lobby of Mount Laurel Police Department 100 Mount Laurel Rd, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054





# Walk to Fight Suicide

### Burlington County Out of the Darkness Community Walk

#### Saturday, October 16, 2021

Laurel Acres Park - Mount Laurel, NJ Day-of Registration begins at 9AM | Walk Ceremony begins at 10AM

Register at afsp.org/burlingtonco







#### **Mount Laurel Police Department's Upcoming Events**



#### **Coffee With a Cop**

Wednesday, November 17, 2021 5:00 PM Until 7:00 PM Mount Laurel Police Headquaters



#### **Holiday Cookie Decorating With The Police**

**Pumpkin Painting With The Police** 

Thursday, October 21, 2021

5:00 PM Until 7:00 PM Check Social Media For Sign-up Information

Thursday, December 9, 2021
5:00 PM Until 7:00 PM
Check Social Media For Sign-up Information



#### Citizen Police Academy Coming Winter 2022

**Check Social Media For Sign-up Information** 







@mountlaurelpd

Please Email Communityrelations@mountlaurelpd.org with any questions



PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Cinnaminson Twp, NJ
Permit No. 143

#### ECR WSS Residential Customer Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

### **NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION INFORMATION**

Early, in-person voting is coming to New Jersey for the November 2nd General Election. In-person, early voting will begin Saturday, October 23rd, and continue through Sunday, October 31st. Early voting polls will be open from 10AM – 8PM on weekdays and Saturdays and from 10AM – 6PM on Sundays.

Burlington County Voters will be able to cast their ballot in person on a voting machine at any of the following locations:

- Chesterfield at the Chesterfield Township Municipal Building, 295 Bordentown-Chesterfield Road;
- Evesham at the Gibson House Community Center, 535 East Main Street;
- Medford at the Medford Town Hall. 49 Union Street:
- Mount Laurel at Rowan College at Burlington County Student Success Center, 1500 College Circle;
- Pemberton Township at the Pemberton Community Library, 16 Broadway;
- Tabernacle at the EMS Building, 81 Hawkin Road;
- Willingboro at the Willingboro Public Library, 220 Campbell Drive

### **Municipal Contacts**

<b>Mount Laurel Police Department</b>		Mount Laurel Post Office	
100 Mount Laurel Road	856-234-8300	200 Walt Whitman Avenue	800-275-8777
	Non-Emergency	Municipal Utilities Authority	
Mount Laurel Fire Department		1201 South Church Street	856-234-0062
69 Elbo Lane	856-234-6053	Housing - Rentals	
	(Headquarters)	100 Mount Laurel Road	856-234-0001 Ext 1224
Mount Laurel EMS		Tax Collector's Office	
201 Masonville Road	856-778-1274	100 Mount Laurel Road	856-234-0001 Ext 1283
Mount Laurel Library		Community Development/Const	ruction
100 Walt Whitman Avenue	856-234-7319	100 Mount Laurel Road	
Tax Assessor's Office		Clerks Office	
100 Mount Laurel Road	856-234-0001 Ext 1256	100 Mount Laurel Road	856-234-0001
Municipal Court Office		Marriage Application Appointment	
100 Mount Laurel Road	856-234-2003	Dog/Cat licensing	
Public Works			
100 Mount Laurel Road	856-234-0001 Ext 1241		