

Bulletins

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL CLERK:

Fort Lee Municipal Clerk Evelyn Rosario began working for the Borough in September of 2014. Evelyn has been in Municipal Government for twenty years, serving in the City of Passaic, the Borough of Montvale and the Township of Nutley. She was the Borough Clerk for the Township of Nutley for the past ten years. "Fort Lee is truly an exciting place to work. The Municipality is continuously on the move and growing, being surrounded by such amazing projects and people within the Borough is a great experience. I feel very fortunate to have been given this opportunity to serve as the Municipal Clerk in such a vibrant community and I look forward to serving the needs of the people of Fort Lee" said Ms. Rosario. The Office of the Municipal Clerk is located on the first floor of Borough Hall at 309 Main Street and is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4 pm. You can reach the Clerk's Office at (201) 592-3500 x1505 or via email at e-rosario@fortleenj.org.



FORT LEE'S MAGIC GARDEN OPENS

Fort Lee now has its own Community Garden thanks to the leadership of Councilperson Ila Kasofsky and the Fort Lee Environmental & Beautification Committee. The garden, located adjacent to the Fort Lee Recreation Center at the bottom of Stillwell Avenue, was created via a \$10,000 grant from Sustainable New Jersey and built in-house by Fort Lee DPW staff. The garden is open to all residents and application forms are available at www.fortleenj.org or call the Fort Lee DPW at (201) 592-3632.



THE ANNUAL FORT LEE FARMERS MARKET

The Market opens Sunday, June 28th and runs each Sunday through November 22nd from 8 am. to 2 pm. in the plaza area of the Jack Alter Fort Lee Community Center at 1355 Inwood Terrace. Vendors include Sunden's Stone Pointe Farms, Vesco Foods, J&R Cookies, Caribbean Delight, Mortgage Apple Cakes, Cagi Foods, Rick's Roaster Coffee and Johnny Meatballs. For info contact the Fort Lee Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs at (201) 693-2763 or visit www.fortleenj.org.

FROM THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT:

The Fort Lee Recreation Department will once again offer its 5 week summer day camp program for residents ONLY. Camp will be held weekdays from Monday, July 7th through Friday, August 7th, 9 am. to 2 pm. A camper must be entering 1st grade in September or be 6 years of age by October 31st in order to be eligible. Registration for camp will be held weekdays beginning Monday, June 1st and continue until Friday, June 12th from 9 am. to 3:30 pm. at the Fort Lee Recreation Center, located at the bottom of Stillwell Avenue. No registrations will be taken after 3:30 pm. on June 12th. (There will be no registration on Tuesday, June 2nd due to Primary Elections) For further information, call the Recreation Department at (201) 592-3612.

The Fort Lee Recreation Department is pleased to offer a variety of Summer Mini Camps. The camps are held on various weeks throughout the summer for children of different ages. They include Junior Chefs Creative Cooking, Tech Titans Engineering Camp, a variety of art camps hosted by Abrakadoodle, Tennis camps, golf camps, and multi sports camps. Additional information is available at the Recreation Center, 1500 8th Street (at the bottom of Stillwell Avenue) or call (201) 592-3612.

The Fort Lee Recreation Department is pleased to announce that the town's four wading pools will open on Monday, June 29th for the 2015 summer season. The pools will be open from 11 am. through 5 pm., 7 days per week until Friday, August 21st for children 12 years old and younger. Residents may obtain badges at no cost when they register for the pools at the Recreation Center, 1500 8th Street (the bottom of Stillwell Avenue). Proof of residency is necessary. Registration for pools will begin in mid-June. For further information regarding wading pool registration, call the Recreation Department at (201)-592-3612 or visit the Borough website at fortleenj.org and click the Recreation Department link.

PALISADES PARK SWIM CLUB MEMBERSHIP OPEN TO FORT LEE RESIDENTS

Mayor Mark Sokolich and the Borough of Fort Lee Council are pleased to announce that residents can now become members of the Palisades Park Swim Club. Through a collaborative effort with the Mayor of Palisades Park, James Rotundo and the Palisades Park Council we were able to enter into a shared services agreement that will enable Fort Lee residents to join the Swim Club, and pay the resident fee. Applications are available at the Jack Alter Community Center, the Borough Clerk's Office or can be found online at Dept. of Recreation's homepage at www.fortleenj.org. Should you require additional information, feel free to contact the Mayor's office at 201-592-3500 extension 1500.



The official newsletter published by the Borough of Fort Lee

Fort Lee Borough Hall
309 Main Street
Fort Lee, NJ. 07024
www.fortleenj.org

MAYOR Mark Sokolich
COUNCIL PRESIDENT Harvey Sohmer
COUNCILMAN Joseph Cervieri
COUNCILWOMAN Ila Kasofsky
COUNCILMAN Armand Pohan
COUNCILMAN Michael Sargenti
COUNCILMAN Peter Suh

POSTAL PATRON
Fort Lee, NJ 07024

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FORT LEE THEN AND NOW



Celebrate Fort Lee's History

On April 24th the Fort Lee Historic Preservation Commission presented Main Violin and Robert Ames Viols and Fine Bows the 2015 Fort Lee Historic Preservation Sylvia Abbott Award for their work in preserving the Ford / Walsh Mansion at 523 Summit Avenue. This is the oldest structure in Fort Lee and it dates to 1850. The Fort Lee Historic Preservation Commission and the Environmental and Beautification Committee presented the owners with the 2015 Fort Lee Arbor Day Award for the preservation of old growth trees on the property. Pictured in the photo left to right are Maureen Ford, one of the former owners of the house, Main Violin Liaison Jane Cho, Main Violin owners



Photo provided by John Ford



Photo by Donna Brennan



Michael Cho and Sean Bae, Robert Ames of Robert Ames Fine Viols and Bows, Fort Lee Environmental & Beautification Committee Liaison Councilwoman Ila Kasofsky, Mayor Mark Sokolich, Historic Preservation Commission Liaison Councilman Harvey Sohmer and Councilman Joseph Cervieri.



FORT LEE TODAY

A Publication of
The Borough of Fort Lee

Keeping Our Residents Informed

Spring/Summer 2015

Your Borough At Work

The work of your Council has brought about a 0% municipal tax increase; the quality services of our borough remain in place and will not be reduced or negatively impacted in any way. The services provided by our borough remain a commitment to excellence and a point of pride for this Mayor and Council.



Chief Keith Bendul and Captain Tim Ford along with the kids of the Fort Lee Police Academy.



The Fort Lee DPW repairing potholes around town.



Fort Lee General Services repairing the wiring for a pump at the Westview Park wading pool.



Fort Lee Fire Department #4 answering a call.



Fort Lee Police Chief For a Day ceremony.



Members of the Environmental and Beautification Committee work with the Fort Lee DPW in the Community Garden.



Staff at the Richard Nest Adult Activity Center prepare lunch for 100 seniors every day.



Fort Lee General Services crew refurbishing original Palisades Amusement Park Cyclone roller coaster car donated by the family of Mickey Hughes for display in the borough.



RN Lisa Lupetti on left taking blood pressure of a Fort Lee resident at the Fort Lee Board of Health.



Jillian Raimondo, Director of Human Services, reviewing the training module presentation of the hoarding task force.



From the Mayor's Desk by Mark Sokolich

For the first time in 27 years, tax stabilization in Fort Lee is a reality! The 2015 Municipal Budget does not reflect any municipal tax increase whatsoever; to the contrary, it incorporates a reduction in taxes. There were a host of reasons why Fort Lee achieved this milestone; however, the most important component of the budgetary process was the time and effort devoted by the Governing Body and, in particular our Financial Committee members, Administrators and Department Heads. The one paramount challenge was to find ways to reduce spending while improving, or at the very least, not diminishing the quality of our lives here in Fort Lee and especially in no way impacting the indispensable services we expect and receive from our emergency response agencies.

Without exception, that challenge was met by all and I am proud to report that absolutely no programs, activities, functions or any other quality of life" initiatives here in Fort Lee were reduced or eliminated. In fact, those programs have grown and increased. Over the course of the past few years the current administration in Trenton has imposed additional costs and expenses on every municipality, reduced our financial aid and has placed caps on increases on municipal spending. Based on our 2015 Municipal Budget, government in Fort Lee could have expended an additional 3.8 million dollars and remained within the confines of these excessive and unreasonable laws; our budget was so strong we were millions of dollars below the difficult standards placed upon us! We have asked our residents to put up with quite a bit over the past couple of years. The construction sites, traffic, parking demands, and other

unavoidable growing pains. It is with this in mind that the stabilization of our taxes and the reduction that is reflected in our 2015 Municipal Budget is the least government can do in recognition of the patience and co-operation that we have requested and which has been so graciously provided by our residents and business owners. Our residents and taxpayers may now boast that we have achieved tax stabilization at the same time that our community is in the midst of an incredible renaissance, while many other communities are battling out of control taxes and stagnation. Your support and patience are the most important ingredients for our success and government is forever grateful. Thanks to you, Fort Lee is on the move! Please have an enjoyable and safe Summer and never hesitate to contact me at (201) 592-3500 X1003.

Long Serving Cliffside Park Mayor Gerry Calabrese Dies at age 90

On April 13, 2015, the Mayor of Cliffside Park, Gerald A. Calabrese, passed away after serving his community for over 50 years. Mayor Calabrese was an inspiring individual who taught us that "words alone" are meaningless, rather it is your "actions" that matter. In recognition of his passing, all official flags within the Borough of Fort Lee were placed at half-mast.



Mayor Mark Sokolich with Mayor Gerry Calabrese

Call for Volunteers

The Fort Lee Volunteer Fire Department seeks volunteers. For information, contact the office of the Fire Dept. Chief at (201) 592-3500 ext 1013 or visit www.fortleefire.org.

Meet Councilman Peter Suh



Peter Suh was appointed as a Fort Lee Council Person in 2014 with the departure of sitting Council Person Jan Goldberg. Peter was elected to that seat in November of 2014 and he is the first Korean American Council Person in the history of Fort Lee. Peter's family moved to Fort Lee in 1980. He attended Public School No. 4, the Lewis F. Cole Middle School and graduated from Fort Lee High School in 1991. Peter is a supporter of the arts and sports

programs in the school system having played football and with his participation in the marching band, chorus and theater. Peter graduated from NYU and has a Masters Degree in accounting. He has actively participated in the community since his college graduation. Peter served on the Fort Lee Board of Education prior to his service on the Fort Lee Council. Peter continues to serve as a Little League coach in our community. Peter has clearly followed in the footsteps of his father who has served on the Fort Lee Planning Board for over ten years. He is married with two children and his children inspire him to serve the community.



Councilman Suh with girls of the Softball League

The Spring / Summer Schedule of Outdoor Events

THE FORT LEE ARTS & MUSIC FESTIVAL 2015

SUNDAY JUNE 7TH 11AM - 6 PM

LEAGINE AVE. (between main street & Bruce Reynolds Blvd.) FORT LEE, NJ

artists • live music • food vendors • farmer's market

bergen county harley-davidson motorcycle show

art show

FOR FURTHER INFO: CHECK THE WEB SITE WWW.FORTLEENJ.ORG OR CALL (201) 693-2763

The Fort Lee Office Of Cultural & Heritage Affairs presents:

Shakespeare in the Park

A Series of Shakespearean performances by the Hudson Shakespeare Company

2015 Season At Monument Park

Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. throughout the Summer

PERFORMANCES

Tuesday, June 16th, 23rd **LOVE'S LABOURS LOST**

Tuesday, August 11th, 18th **HAMLET**

Tuesday, July 14th, 21st **THE MURDER OF THOMAS ARDEN OF FAVERSHAM**

Call (201) 592-3663 For Info or visit www.fortleenj.org

Wednesday Night Summer Concert Series

at the Jack Alter Fort Lee Community Center. All Events are Free to the Public. Please bring a chair or blanket.

JULY 8th: Music: THE BRONX WANDERERS

JULY 22: Music: THE DUPREES

JULY 18: Music: Beachboys Tribute, GOOD VIBRATIONS

AUGUST 15: Music: THE FABULOUS GREASEBAND

The Wednesday Evening Concerts will begin at 7:30 pm., with rain dates scheduled in case of inclement weather. For further info contact the Community Center at (201) 592-4699 or visit www.fortleenj.org



The Fort Lee Film Commission presents: Fort Lee Movies & Music Under the Stars A FOX STUDIO Centennial Tribute

From July 4th through September 5th at the outdoor stage of the Jack Alter Fort Lee Community Center (on 2nd floor of Community Center in case of rain). Live music runs from 7 - 8:30 pm. followed by a film at sunset. All events are FREE to the public but please bring a blanket or lawn chair. For further info visit www.fortleefilm.org or call (201) 693-2763.

- JULY 4:** Music: USO TROUPE and UNCLE FLOYD
Movie: PINUP GIRL (1944)
- JULY 11:** Music: THE NERDS
Movie: THE LITTLE COLONEL (1935)
- JULY 18:** Music: SLAMBOVIAN CIRCUS OF DREAMS
Movie: YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN (1974)
- JULY 25:** Music: Fleetwood Mac Tribute, TUSK
Movie: GRAPES OF WRATH (1940)
- AUGUST 1:** Music: BROTHER JOSEPHUS & The Love
Movie: FRENCH CONNECTION (1971)
- AUGUST 8:** Music: SOUTHSIDE JOHNNY & The Poor Fools
Movie: GENTLEMEN PREFER BLONDES (1953)
- AUGUST 15:** Music: THE AMISH OUTLAWS
Movie: POSEIDON ADVENTURE (1972)
- AUGUST 22:** Music: Sammy Gnasso's DOUBLE TAP
Movie: FANTASTIC VOYAGE (1966)
- AUGUST 29:** Music: Motown Group Tribute to the SUPREMES
Movie: HOME ALONE (1990)
- SEPTEMBER 5:** Music: SWINGADELIC
Movie: SOUND OF MUSIC 50th Anniversary screening



The Police Chief's Corner

to have their house checked by officers while they are on vacation for up to 14 days. Residents are encouraged to call us if they receive an unsolicited phone call, email, or letter, requesting money or personal information as it may be a scam. The Fort Lee Police Department is continuing our Pedestrian Safety Campaign. We are participating in "Cops in the Crosswalk" decoy program as well as the May "Click-it or Ticket" initiative. Both drivers and pedestrians are asked to reduce distractions and remain focused on driving or walking. Pedestrians should wear bright clothing. Pedestrian Safety lights are available for residents at HQ. Together we can continue to make Fort Lee even safer. Reminder: If You See Something, Say Something. Have a safe Spring.

Please visit www.fortleepolice.org and sign up for our new "Nixle 360" update system, follow us on Facebook: Fort Lee Police Department, and Twitter: @FortLeePoliceNJ.

Keith Bendul, Chief of Police

Spring in Fort Lee: Let's Play Ball!



Councilmen Cervieri & Sohmer greet the kids

Fort Lee American and National Little Leagues and Fort Lee Youth Girls Softball League had their opening days in April. The Fort Lee American Little League opened up at their field in Whitey Lang Park. On hand were Mayor Sokolich, Councilmen Harvey Sohmer and Peter Suh and Fort Lee Police Chief Keith Bendul. Fort Lee American Little League President Rich Radoian has served 25 years as League President. The Fort Lee National League opened their season at their field on 10th Street under sunny skies. In attendance



Mayor Sokolich presides over the Opening Ceremony



Chief Bendul with Little League coaches and players

Historic Jitney Tour

There will be a historic jitney tour of Fort Lee out of the Farmers Market at the Community Center Plaza on Sunday, June 28th. Sign up time is from 9 am. to 11 am. at the Film Commission table and are free but on a first come first serve. The bus will run on the hour from 11 am. through 3 pm. This tour will include locations associated with the founding of Fox Studio in Fort Lee by William Fox in 1915. For further information call the Fort Lee Film Commission at (201) 693-2763, or visit www.fortleefilm.org or www.thefortleehistoricalsociety.org.



FOX 5 Good Day NY

FOX 5 Good Day New York anchor team Gregg Kelly and Rosanna Scotto on set with Mayor Mark Sokolich and Fort Lee DPW Director Mike Maresca to discuss pothole repairs in Fort Lee. Gregg and Rosanna assisted in pothole repair in Fort Lee as part of this story.



General Van Fleet Park in the Coytesville section of Fort Lee. Mayor Sokolich, Councilmen Suh and Sohmer attended the festivities.



Mayor Sokolich, Rich Radoian, Councilman Sohmer