

Village of montebello review

Jeff Oppenheim, Mayor, Lance Millman, Deputy Mayor, Melanie Golden, Stacy Caridi, Steven A. Sorrillo, Trustees



Greetings from the Mayor



Montebello is no “Nanny State”, a British term describing an overprotective government. But on May 5th, Montebello briefly might have been called a literal nanny state when a post-partum goat was abandoned on Kevin Drive after being “kidnapped” from Airmont. Although the saga was the inspiration for lots of puns, the melodrama was illustrative of the kindness evident in our community. After issuing a “Billy-Alert” in the newspaper and

on News 12, the goat was returned to her owner and her newborn kids, who were happy to say “thank ewe dairy much”!

The humor of our goat story stands in contrast to so much alarming news in the greater Town. The roar of concern following the arrest of public officials in neighboring villages and a raid of Ramapo Town Hall by the FBI create a sense of distrust of local government. Our elected leaders have a special obligation to provide transparent and honorable leadership. In our Village, these values are on continuous display.

Such leadership includes being recognized by the Rockland County Environmental Management Council. They are honoring Montebello in June with the first annual “Green Champion Award” (please see article inside). The Council was impressed that Montebello has achieved numerous “firsts” in Rockland with regards to sustainability and environmental preservation. These accomplishments include a community garden, solar electric power systems, and tree preservation.

Our “Green” efforts continue. For example, Montebello recently received a grant to build a rain garden at Village Hall (please see Trustee Golden’s article inside). With funding support from the Rockland County Soil and Water Conservation Fund the rain garden will feature native plants and will serve as an educational project to show how to best use runoff from impervious surfaces.

The Arbor Day Foundation has again recognized Montebello as a “Tree City”. This is our 5th year to be so honored as the only Tree City in Rockland County (see arborday.org/TreeCityUsa). We recently celebrated Arbor Day with a tree planting at the Berbit Park (please see article inside). In addition, we are working to enhance the Gorman Ponds Park with benches (also, please see inside) and with a major water works project that will begin this summer.

“Honor” was a topic of importance this spring in Montebello. First, at the Board of Trustees meeting in May we honored the high school seniors in Montebello who are graduating in the top 10% of their class (please see article inside). Each year we find that a high percentage of these top students live in Montebello, and we are delighted to recognize their superb performances.

Another honor was bestowed upon us by the presence of a truly great American at our Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony. Captain Paul Bucha, one fewer than 100 living Congressional Medal of Honor recipients, spoke at our ceremony to a deeply appreciative audience (please see article inside). It was extraordinary to have him as our guest. A video of his speech is available for you to watch on our Facebook page.

Montebello’s dedication to the environment was again on display in

April during clean-up day. In addition to our annual efforts to clean up the streets, we were able to collect more than 2 tons of used electronic equipment for recycling (please see article inside). Our commitment to the environment is one important reason that Montebello is among the cleanest places to live and helps preserve our property values.

Maintaining the appearance of our village is also important to maintain a quality of life for our residents. The Village Board and the Planning Board are working together to re-craft a village sign ordinance that will more clearly delineate acceptable standards for all types of signs. One needn’t look far to see how disregard for signage and greenery can blight a municipal landscape.

While some may have found the goat story hackneyed, I believe it’s refreshing when an affirmative community spirit punctuates the incessant news of crime and corruption. That is why Montebello is a great village; one that we ought not be sheepish to defend!

Please feel free to call me with your ideas, your suggestions, and your complaints. The number for Village Hall is 368-2211.



SAFETY AND COURTESY – IT’S TIME TO REMEMBER!

By Lance N. Millman, Deputy Mayor

With the official day of summer coming any moment, we must remember those basic rules on our roads, around our houses and throughout our Village and County. With Proms, graduation days and schools finishing for the year, we will have plenty of people very excited about their plans and

their future. People will be planning trips whether local or afar; doing home or yard improvements or just finally sitting down to relax.

Well, we will all be in one of these situations and we must always remember the safety of our family, friends and neighbors and be careful when we drive. It’s not only the children but also the adults who must be careful about speeding, texting and talking on their cell phones while they are driving in their cars.

On any given day, someone is driving and talking on their cell phones or texting. One day while waiting for the light on Airmont Road, I counted 10 out of 12 drivers doing one of these things. In addition, we all continue to push the limit of driving faster than the posted speed limits. We can’t blame our young drivers when we ourselves don’t follow the speed limits and rules.

These dangers affect not just the drivers but all of us who are driving, bicycling, running or even walking our streets.

We must make an effort to drive responsibly and don’t endanger our children, families, friends and residents.

We must also realize that there are a tremendous amount of newborn animals that are running around our yards and on to our streets. We have all seen the baby deer that run around, the new turkeys, rabbits, chipmunks and even the turtles that come out of our wetlands and streams to enter our yards to lay their eggs. We must be careful and

aware of the nature around us. Road kill is not the answer.

In addition, we must make an effort to be courteous to other drivers, our neighbors and residents. Tell your contractors that working Saturday or Sunday morning at 8 am or 8:30am which can wake up your neighbors is too early and see if they can wait until at least 9 am. Try to mow your lawns not during lunch or dinner time – these are the times most families like to enjoy their backyards or have their barbecues. A little common sense and courtesy goes a very long way.

This is our time to enjoy our lives and if we all tried to follow these simple concepts of safety and courtesy, then our lives may be a little more peaceful, enjoyable and safe to live in!

Thank you and enjoy your family, yards and the summer!



ANNOUNCING MONTEBELLO'S DEMONSTRATION RAIN GARDEN...

By Melanie Golden, Trustee

Next time you visit Montebello Village Hall, we hope that Montebello's newest "green" initiative will be complete—a Demonstration Rain Garden that was made possible through funding by the Rockland County Soil & Water Conservation District and the generous donation of labor by Belleville Landscaping.

This project, which will help to reduce stormwater runoff at Village Hall and serve as a model for Village residents, further demonstrates the Village's commitment to conservation and sustainability. The rain garden was designed at no additional cost to the Village by our Village engineers, Spence Engineering, and for that we are grateful. We also thank our other community partners including Girl Scout Cadette Troop 40720 (which agreed to help plant the garden), the Montebello Civic Association (which will provide resident Master Gardeners at no charge to facilitate educational sessions with local schools, residents, businesses, scout troops and community groups), and Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) (which will also provide rain garden educational materials and sessions to the Village and its residents at no additional charge). First up...the following introduction to rain gardens prepared by CCE for this newsletter.

Rain Gardens are Sprouting up in Montebello

Amy Albam, Senior Horticulture Consultant, Cornell University Cooperative Extension of Rockland County

A rain garden is an attractive way to manage storm water runoff troubles. Rain gardens look like regular ornamental perennial borders, but contain a shallow depression that is designed to collect and filter the water that runs off nearby hard surfaces. A properly constructed rain garden will hold and filter approximately 30 percent more rainfall than the same area covered by a lawn. This helps to remove pollutants that are picked up by the water as it runs over hard surfaces such as driveways or walkways, and helps to prevent those pollutants from entering our waterways. The ornamental plants in the rain garden also slow the rate of flow of storm water runoff and help to reduce flooding and erosion.

Many people place rain gardens in close view of their homes where they serve double duty as beautiful, restful landscape features, and a place to channel water that runs off the roof. Ideally, the site should be in full sun with soil that drains readily – rain gardens are only expected to hold water for just a day or so. (If you have standing water or a very high water table, the site is a candidate for a wetland garden instead of a rain garden.) The water leaving the garden may enter a storm drain system, or seep into the ground, where it can help to renew our groundwater – especially important in a county where we depend primarily on wells for our water.

As long as size of the area that serves as the source of runoff from a given site is taken into account, the size and depth of a rain garden

are flexible, but a typical rain garden covers 100 to 300 square feet. A shallow garden will need to be wider than a deeper, narrower site to trap the same amount of water. If your yard will not accommodate a large garden, consider using two or more small sites, or simply the largest area that is reasonable. You can use a gentle slope to your advantage to catch water, but a steep slope may require special engineering; the greater the slope, the deeper the garden must be.

The plants in a rain garden must be able to withstand periods of wet and dry soil, as well as occasional flooding. Many of our attractive native plants will handle these conditions. While a rain garden is not completely maintenance-free, natives often require less attention than exotic ornamentals. These tough plants generally do not require fertilizer or pesticide applications; some are deer resistant, too.

A mixture of species with varying forms, heights and bloom times add diversity and interest to the garden. Bee Balm (*Monarda*), Blue Star (*Amsonia*), Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia*), Evening Primrose (*Oenothera*), Joe Pye Weed (*Eupatorium*), and New York and New England Asters (*Aster*) are but a few of the showy native flowers that would be at home in a rain garden. Beauty Bush (*Callicarpa*), Summersweet (*Clethra*) and Winterberry (*Ilex*) are examples of attractive native shrubs that could provide structure and seasonal interest to the garden. Sedges and ferns may be used to fill in shady spots. As in a traditional perennial garden, repeating blocks or drifts of plants (mostly in odd-number groupings) have a pleasing effect.

If you would like to add a beautiful rain garden to your yard, detailed information on installing a rain garden is available from Cornell University Cooperative Extension of Rockland County. Visit our website at www.rocklandcce.org or call 845-429-7085, option 3.

You may also pick up CCE rain garden informational materials at Montebello Village Hall during normal business hours.

SUMMER MONTHS

By Steven A. Sorillo, Trustee



Summer is just about here and maybe it will finally stop raining. Summer brings the joy of warm weather and outdoor activities. There are several unique circumstances we should all be cognizant of. These include children, driving conditions and outdoor activities.

First and most important are our children.

Soon schools will let out for the summer months and the children will be out of classrooms and into parks, streets and recreational areas. They will be out playing, running and engaging in the usual activities associated with this time of year. We must take every precaution to keep them safe and free from harm. Primarily what comes to mind is the traffic that flows in around our community. Several of our streets are heavily trafficked such as Spook Rock Road, Route 202 and Viola Road. These streets act as a pass through for many cars and people tend to speed on them. Like most of our streets there are no shoulders on Spook Rock or Viola and Route 202 has a 45 mile per hour speed limit. These can be dangerous areas for anyone not paying attention. This is especially true of joggers with ear phones, bike riders and certainly young ones who may not be attentive to dangerous situations. In conversations with the Ramapo Police Chief, Chief Brower he has indicated that the largest group of speeders in Montebello are the residents of Montebello themselves. They are also the first to complain about speeders on their local street. Of course they may not be the same individuals but we all must coexist together in an environment we can feel safe in. I urge you all to be even more vigilant during this time of year. Additionally, if you feel your street is becoming unsafe due to speeding and any other infraction of the law please contact the Ramapo Police Department. In the past when this has been done more attention was paid to our streets through a higher degree of a police presence.

At this time of year there are a greater number of young drivers on the road. Unfortunately over the past few years our community which

includes Suffern High School has seen its share of traffic accidents involving young drivers and we have even experienced the tragedy of losing some of our children to traffic accidents. Many young drivers are not cognizant to the dangers they face on the road today. They are inexperienced and may not be able to handle driving situations that an experienced driver takes for granted. It is our duty as parents and our responsibility as experienced drivers to remind them of these dangers, to ensure that the automobiles they drive are in good working order and that they must always obey the regulations governing their use of an automobile. Bad things happen even to the best drivers and every precaution possible must be taken to reduce the risk of bad things happening to them.

In the summer months many of us want to update the look of our property. Please keep in mind that there are regulations regarding the cutting down of trees. These regulations were enacted because the community wanted them. We want to keep the look and feel of a rural area where we can come home to and feel we have left the urban jungle behind. If you feel the need to remove trees from your property please first contact Village Hall to obtain the proper instructions.

Thank you all and have a safe and enjoyable summer.

PARKS COMMISSION UPDATE

By Tony Piazza, Chairman

At long last we have finalized the contract with AKRF Engineering and additional work will begin on Kathryn Gorman Ponds Park. Chemicals will be added to all ponds, dredging will commence in two of the ponds and a water shelf will be constructed all in an effort to eliminate the algae problem we have been experiencing.

If you have had a chance to walk through the park recently, you would have noticed that several benches have been installed in select areas. We would like to thank all of the patrons that have donated those benches for the enjoyment of our residents. Additionally, the Eagle Scouts have constructed a bench around one of the trees and are beginning work to restore the stone benches. Later this summer, the Scouts will also be placing signs within the park identifying key botanical species and wildlife.

We are very pleased to see more and more people using the park for their enjoyment and hope even more village residents find the time to utilize this wonderful resource.

We will again be holding our summer concert this year on Wednesday, July 3rd. The band Dead on the Tracks will be performing on the Village Hall grounds starting at 6:30pm. Please come and join us for a fun evening.

Lastly, some time in October we will be conducting a ceremony in Ponds Park to thank the scouts for the three projects they have done. Keep an eye in the upcoming newsletters for more information.



MULCH FIRES & CIGARETTE DISPOSAL

By Chris Kear, Fire Inspector

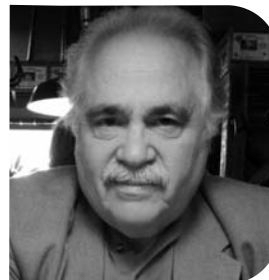
With summer just about upon us, I'm sure that many are well past their spring clean-ups and deep into sprucing up your yards with projects such as planting a garden, installing new plants and shrubs and decorate stone/rocks. Many of us, like myself, annually put down a nice fresh layer of mulch which gives our yards that final nice clean look. But did you know that mulch is very combustible, especially in dry conditions?

During the past two monthly meetings of the Rockland County Fire Chiefs Association, there has been much discussion regarding mulch fires. The concern revolves around the amount of serious and almost serious house fires that involved mulch. Over the last two years, there

has been five serious fires and numerous 'smaller ones' involving residential homes. The latest in Central Nyack (minor damage) and the most serious of late in West Haverstraw. These house fire are in addition to the numerous fires involving mulch located in shopping center islands and roadway medians. Although everyone should be informed, please don't be alarmed and go out and remove all your mulch from your yard.

There is a common factor involving these mulch fires. Smoking and the disposing of the butt! Every serious fire involving mulch (and the minor ones too) involved an individual smoking outside and disposing the cigarette butt into the landscape mulch. These disposed butts were not completely out. They smoldered and eventually ignited the mulch which then ignited bushes/plants and then the home. Most homes have combustible exterior finishes such as vinyl siding, wood shakes, wood porches/decks and wood or plastic lattice. These exterior finishes are easily ignitable and burn rapidly once they get going. Many who smoke will do so outside on a porch or deck. Once done, they might snuff it out on a railing thinking it is out when it really is not. They will then flick it off and it lands in a landscape area, smoldering, just waiting for the perfect time to ignite. The disposal of the butt is crucial! Having a small metal can or container with water in it is the safest way to dispose of it. I look back at all the past fires and think of all the families that lost their home and possessions. For what? Improper disposal of their cigarette butt?

It's hard to believe that in 2013 we still need to educate everyone about the dangers of cigarettes and the fires they can cause. If you smoke, or have family or friends over that do, please be safe with the disposal. There have been too many fires of late that involved mulch and cigarette butts! And if you are wondering about Montebello? Yes, there have been two small fires involving the improper disposal of cigarette butts in mulch alongside a home in the last 11 months. (two in commercial parking areas also) Both did minor damage to each home. Both had the potential for much worse! Please be safe and feel free to contact me at the village if you have any fire or safety concerns. Enjoy your summer!



FROM THE DESK OF THE VILLAGE ATTORNEY *By Warren E. Berbit*

We just returned from a wedding in National Harbor, Md., located on the shores of the Potomac, east of Alexandria, Va. and south of Washington, D.C. I was astounded to learn that this entire rather heavily developed resort town of hotels, shopping, and leaseable condominiums, evolved over a period of about 7 years.

That before that there was nothing more than a burned out old plantation (circa 1837). It made me think of the parallels to what we have accomplished as a "new" village (and I still think of Montebello as that). In turn, this forced me to confront the fact that as of May 7th our Village was 27 years old – a young adolescent by municipal standards, and perhaps even human standards. But, a big incremental change in the lifetimes of those of us involved from the beginning!

Those 27 years have witnessed economic and climatic cycles, amongst others. I have reported before about the economic toll on our village, even though we have fared far better than most municipalities. I refer sadly, of course, to abandoned homes allowed to deteriorate, and our ever vigilant effort to stem the tide to avoid blight and potentially unsafe conditions. (e.g., recent article in Journal News about abandoned properties in Clarkstown). The Village is presently maintaining 5 properties: One Cobblestone Farm Court; 8 Bruce Court; 5 Par Road; 196 Spook Rock Road; and 2 Tanchak Court. However, it would not be prudent to use municipal funds to maintain properties to a standard akin to that we would likely choose for our own properties, even though the Village plans to recoup the costs by levying as part



ARBOR DAY TREE PLANTING

In observation of Arbor Day, a shade tree was planted at Warren Berbit Park. Mr. Berbit led the occasion with the shovel. Montebello has been a Tree City for 5 years. We are the only Tree City in all of Rockland County.



MONTEBELLO ROAD BRIDGE

On June 18th the Rockland County legislature was scheduled to approve plans to authorize the bidding process for replacement of the Montebello Road bridge over the Mahwah river. Part of the plan calls for the purchase of some adjacent land by eminent domain. An informational workshop was held in February at the Montebello Community Center about plans to replace the closed bridge. As the plans proceed the Village will provide additional information from the County Highway Department. The project is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2014. The cost is estimated to be 2.75-3 million dollars.



NEW BENCHES IN GORMAN PONDS PARK

Private donors have enabled the village to purchase a number of benches for the Gorman Ponds Park. The benches are situated to enhance the experience of the park. Recently, a walking trail was also added to the park. The park features numerous ponds and a handicapped accessible trail.



MONTEBELLO CLEAN-UP DAY

Dozens of residents turned out for clean-up day on April 13. For the first time the Village also held an electronic waste disposal opportunity. Residents brought 2.3 tons of electronic equipment for recycling. Thanks to the Parks Commission and Keep Rockland Beautiful, the village has been able to host this annual event, helping to keep our neighborhood streets clean.



NEW POLLING SITE

The Montebello Community Center, 350 Haverstraw Road, will be a new polling station for many residents of Montebello. The Board of Elections should notify you if your polling site has changed. If you have questions regarding the location for upcoming elections, please call the Rockland County Board of Elections at 845-638-5172



HISTORIC MONTEBELLO

The property at 62 Montebello Road had greenhouses run by D. Groesbeck in 1876 prior to it being purchased and redeveloped by Thomas F. Ryan in 1898 as his "winter home." Although the property was being transformed into a country retreat, its name, "Fieldstone Farm," retained a sense of its rural past and was a description of the material used in its construction. Classical details like the Doric columns, pedimented dormers were melded with a simple gambrel roof form that, together with a porte-cochere, reflect the eclectic architectural tastes of the time.



MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

The Village was honored to be joined by Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, Capt Paul Bucha, at our Memorial Day event. Captain Bucha, a West Point graduate and former advisor to the President, spoke of our responsibility to those who serve our country's military. A veteran of the Vietnam War, Mr. Bucha was recognized for extraordinary heroism by the U.S. Congress. 5th grader Katie Riley read the Gettysburg Address and 5th grader Lucas Kolka led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Bucha's speech is available to view on our Facebook page.



MONTEBELLO HONORS TOP SENIORS

The Village Board honored the Montebello Seniors who graduated in the top 10% of their class at Suffern High School. The seniors are Kelsey Austin, McKenzie Banahan, Jeremy Brown, Alexander Fernandez, Jordyn Fleisher, Haley Gershon, Zachary Gobetz, Jack Goodman, Steven Greco, Jessica Hotaling, Hannah Lipstein, Rebecca Lipstein, Adam Plumer, Jenna Pradhuman, and Jason Weinberg. Photos from the event are posted on our Facebook page. Congratulations to the students and their families.



MONTEBELLO AWARDED THE COUNTY'S FIRST EVER "GREEN CHAMPION AWARD"

The Rockland Environmental Management Council has established a "Green Champion Award" to honor those committed to the environment. Montebello has been chosen to be the first recipient of this new annual award. The EMC wants to highlight and promote sustainable practices in the county and notes that Montebello is the first and only municipality in Rockland County to have an electric vehicle charging station; to use solar panels for all municipal buildings; to become a "climate smart community"; and to be a Tree City.

of taxes due on the subject properties. We have had some success getting the banks to affirmatively tend to properties in foreclosure. Hopefully, the rebounding real estate market will make walking away from one's home a less desirable alternative, and will also encourage the restoration of deteriorated properties by new owners.

While on the subject of real estate and the passage of time, the 93 town houses in Indian Rock on Hemion Road will, one-by-one, soon achieve release from the affordability controls and covenants. This occurs 20 years from the first acquisition of each home. Circumstantially, that occurred mostly in late 1993 through 1994, so the releases will occur in 2013 through 2014. I wish the present owners the best in making the transition. These homes are then saleable on the open market without affordability constraints (but remain subject to the Rules and Regulations of the Homeowners Association, and the Zoning and Building Codes of the Village).

I had an interesting conversation this morning with my landscaper and his excavation contractor, both of whom do a good deal of work within our village. Given our relatively low population density, reverence for trees, proximity to the Ramapo Mountains and many water courses, the Village is home to an abundance of wild life. Most species should be admired from afar. Both gentlemen frequently encounter coyotes, red fox, and even wolves (they insist they have seen them running across the ridge lines – about “golden lab sized”). I have seen the former, but never the latter (perhaps because my 200 lb+ Irish Wolf Hound keeps them at “bay” – pun intended). They also reported encounters with many varieties of snakes. This include frequent encounters with “6 to 9 foot black snakes” (thankfully, those are not poisonous), to even an occasional timber rattler. I have seen one black snake just outside the Village, garter snakes on my own property every now and then, but never a rattler (or copperhead or water moccasin, also said to be around). A Montebello resident had a serious encounter with a rattler a year or so ago, so, like I said, please view from afar, and be careful.

Bears have been sighted, too, (ask the Mayor!), but they always seem to be on a mission, heading resolutely from one point to another, paying little mind to humans along the way. Occasionally, we learn of one attracted to a bird feeder or garbage, so keep your garbage cans secure, especially if you reside near wooded or mountain areas. (Making a long story short, a niece of mine's emigration to Alaska lasted 12 hours – she settled into a home she was “babysitting” for the absent owner in Palmer, Alaska. The next morning she was awakened by a ruckus on her front porch. She opened a door and found herself face-to-face with a standing bear, making that crinkle-nosed warning sound they make. She hastily packed her things and called a car service!!).

Enjoy the natural beauty of our area – the flora and fauna. Be safe. Be a little cautious. And have a great summer.



FROM THE DESK OF THE BUILDING INSPECTOR

By *Lawrence Picarello*

As pools are being opened up and family activities turn to the outdoors, please take some time to look around and check things that your landscaper and/or pool maintenance company are not responsible for, or may have overlooked. Annual home pool drowning statistics are staggering,

with most victims being young children. One source states that a child is 14 times more likely to die in a pool than in a car accident.

Take a walk around the pool perimeter fencing to check for any loose sections, remove any built up brush or leaves on the outside of the fence (reducing the effective fence height), check and adjust the self-closing gates and hardware so the gates close and latch securely. Check any alarmed house doors which lead to the pool area for proper alarm operation. Lastly, replace the battery of your pool surface

alarm system and test for its proper function.

Hot tub and spas have separate requirements, and may use an approved cover in place of a surface alarm.

Above-ground pools are also subject to barrier requirements, and typically use either a removable ladder or other protected entry.

Pool barrier requirements have changed greatly over the years, if you would like a copy of the current standard, our office can provide this information to you.

Have a safe summer!



SECURITY ISSUES IN MONTEBELLO

By *Stacy Caridi, Trustee*

We live in a tranquil community. Crime rates are very low. A missing goat makes headlines. Yet, we still need to exercise vigilance in addressing and preventing criminal activities. In the last few months, several issues have arisen which require our attention.

First, the Village remains concerned about the potential risks of burglaries. As you may recall, there were several burglaries in January and the village held an informational session to address residents' concerns. The Ramapo Police have offered their assistance in providing recommendations to protect your home. For example, the use of properly placed burglar alarms, the use of home lighting and the use of effective locks on windows and doors have been shown to be effective. Arrests were made of individuals suspected of being involved in the Montebello burglaries and we are happy to report that there have not been any recent cases in our area. Nevertheless, complacency would be a mistake.

Second, vandalism of public property is an ongoing challenge. The gate at the end of Canterbury Lane was vandalized and stolen recently. The police are still searching for the perpetrator of this crime. The village had to spend more than one thousand dollars of your money to replace this gate. We sent a letter to all the homeowners living on Canterbury asking for their assistance in solving this crime. Such vandalism is problematic and could even result in personal injury. If you witness any such activity, please call the police immediately.

Third, the village is concerned with the illegal use of ATVs in our parks. Some people have used ATVs in the past in the Gorman Ponds Park. This resulted in damage to the parking lot and the trails. It costs us money each time we have to make repairs. ATVs have also been seen illegally entering onto the Algonquin Gas Pipeline located on the western side of the village. We held a meeting with officials from the NYS Park Service and the Spectra Energy Company to improve the security of the easement access to this pipeline. Trespassers recently started a brushfire that required an extensive emergency response to extinguish.

Fourth, we need to use common sense. The recent arrest of a resident who discharged a firearm in the village is a blatant demonstration of this need. Other residents have been cited in recent years for similar stupidity. A discharged weapon is a disaster waiting to happen. It is illegal to hunt or perform target practice in Montebello with a gun or rifle. The potential for injury or loss of life should be obvious to everyone. The authorities will prosecute violations of this law.

One of the benefits of living in Montebello is safety. This is why we feel comfortable raising our children here. But feeling safe should not lull us into a sense of complacency, either in our homes or in our public spaces. We need to minimize the risks of criminal activity and keep an eye on anything that might appear suspicious. Given the low incidence of crime, being alert is simultaneously more difficult and yet more important.

JULY 2013	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 <i>Planning Board Workshop 7:00 P.M.</i>	3 <i>Summer Concert 6:30 P.M. Village Hall</i>	4 <i>Independence Day Village Hall Closed</i>	5	6
	7	8	9 <i>Planning Board 7:15 P.M.</i>	10	11 <i>Parks Commission 7:30 P.M.</i>	12	13
	14	15	16	17 <i>Board of Trustees 8:00 P.M.</i>	18 <i>Zoning Board of Appeals 7:45 P.M.</i>	19	20
	21	22	23	24 <i>Historic Preservation Commission 7:30 P.M.</i>	25	26	27
	28	29	30 <i>CDRC 9:30 A.M.</i>	31			

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	AUGUST 2013
				1 <i>Parks Commission 7:30 P.M.</i>	2	3	
4	5	6 <i>Planning Board Workshop 7:00 P.M.</i>	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13 <i>Planning Board 7:15 P.M.</i>	14	15 <i>Zoning Board of Appeals 7:45 P.M.</i>	16	17	
18	19	20	21 <i>Board of Trustees 8:00 P.M.</i>	22	23	24	
25	26	27 <i>CDRC 9:30 A.M.</i>	28 <i>Historic Preservation Comm. 7:30 P.M.</i>	29	30	31	

SEPTEMBER 2013	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 <i>Labor Day Village Hall Closed</i>	3	4	5 <i>Parks Commission 7:30 P.M.</i>	6	7
	8	9	10 <i>Planning Board 7:15 P.M.</i>	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18 <i>Board of Trustees 8:00 P.M.</i>	19 <i>Zoning Board of Appeals 7:45 P.M.</i>	20	21
	22 <i>Montebello Day Noon - 4:00 P.M.</i>	23	24 <i>CDRC 9:30 A.M.</i>	25 <i>Historic Preservation Comm. 7:30 P.M.</i>	26	27	28
29	30						

JULY 3rd CONCERT

FREE OUTDOOR SHOW

BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS
AND BLANKETS!



Wed, July 3rd

6:30 - 9pm

Montebello Village Hall

Live Grateful Dead Music on the Green

Bring your own refreshment

SAVE THE DATE
Summer Concert
July 3, 2013

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage PAID
Monsey, NY 10952
Permit No. 1371

Village of Montebello
One Montebello Road
Montebello, NY 10901

