



★ ★ ★ THE BOROUGH OF ★ ★ ★

# Allendale

SPRING 2017



With the arrival of spring comes the introduction of the 2017 budget. The Finance Committee has spent the past five months going over each line of the nine versions of the budget we considered. The process of crafting this year's budget was very challenging but we were guided by the principal of providing the best services to our residents while managing increasing costs and declining revenues. The ongoing battle to keep property taxes affordable has been and will continue to be at the forefront of our agenda. My sincere thanks to Finance Committee chair Ari Bernstein and co-chair Councilwoman Amy Wilczynski, as well as our CFO Lissa Mayer. Their commitment to fiscal responsibility in the Borough has allowed us to introduce a budget that comes in under the 2% state mandated cap. The increase in the municipal portion is expected to be 1.92% which will equate to approximately \$65.55 for an average home assessed at \$655,528.

As referenced by the chart below, public safety, debt service, and sewer charges continue to be our top three expenses. This year we saw an increase in debt service of \$65,249 an almost 5% increase over 2016. This increase can be attributed to the Borough's aggressive repayment of its outstanding debt and the amortization of that debt that was scheduled years ago. We also saw an increase in our sewer charges of \$46,184, which represented a 3% increase over 2016. We have spent years working to bring

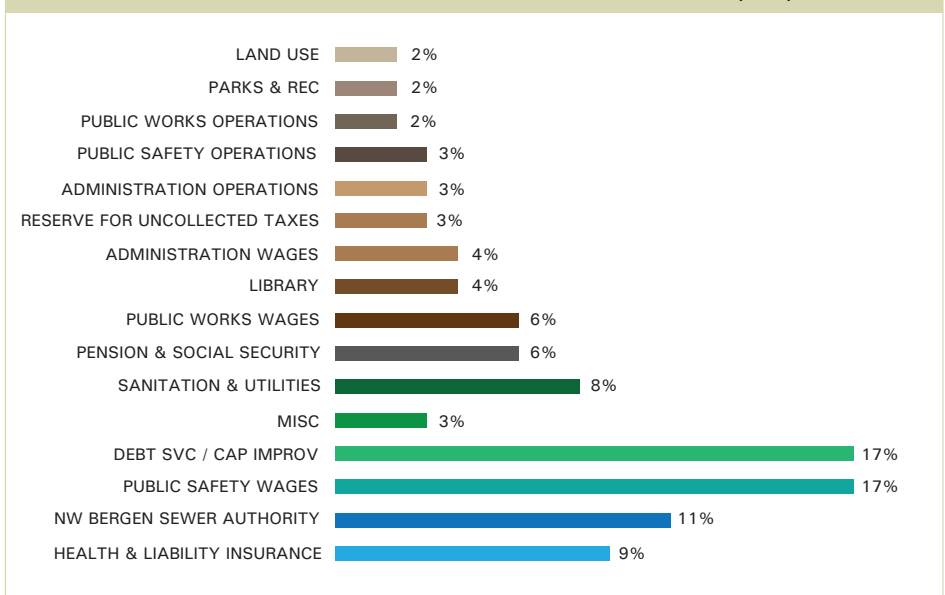
this number down but in 2016 we saw a higher use of water and a greater increase in capital expenditures by the Bergen County Utility Authority. The decrease in our revenue, including surplus generated, was approximately \$538,000. The Finance Committee felt it was important to keep the tax rate increase below 2% and, therefore, has budgeted \$1,000,000 from surplus in this year's budget. We continue to keep our surplus at a stable level to ensure proper long range budget planning. Standard & Poor's also considers a stable surplus a key measure of the financial health for municipalities. In fact, after an in-depth review our fiscal management by Standard and Poor's, we are pleased to report



that they have reaffirmed the Borough's AAA bond rating.

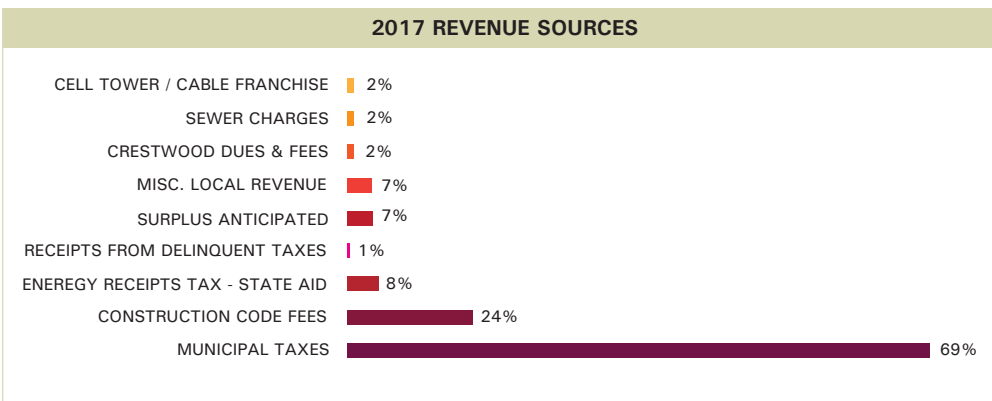
The 2017 Capital Spending Plan shows the commitment to our infrastructure. Our annual street paving program will again include paving of 10 streets, bringing the total of 100 streets paved over the past 10 years. We have also included a three-year plan to upgrade the communications equipment as well as upgrades to IT infrastructure at our Police Department, and new equipment for our Department of Public Works and Fire Department. We have applied for and received grants which will include much needed upgrades to the bathrooms at the Van Houten Pavilion, also known as the Red Barn, and the refurbishing of the tennis courts at Crestwood Park. These upgrades should

## HOW YOUR 2017 MUNICIPAL TAX DOLLAR IS SPENT - \$13,712,100



be completed by Memorial Day. We have also received \$155,500 from the NJDOT for the paving of Donnybrook Drive. Our water infrastructure is also being addressed. We have completed the refurbishment of the elevated water storage tank, the installation of a variable high speed pump at the Fairhaven water storage tank, and renovations of the equipment at the New Street water treatment plant.

The issue of affordable housing has been widely reported recently in the press. For years, Allendale has been at the forefront of addressing our affordable housing needs and, as I have mentioned many times before, we will continue to responsibly address these needs. While we have been granted temporary immunity from exclusionary zoning lawsuits by the court because of our stellar history of building affordable housing, we are still involved in litigation with the Fair Share Housing Center, as are most of the other municipalities in the state. In December of 2016, we entered into an agreement to purchase the property known as Black Millwork at



220 and 230 West Crescent Avenue. The acquisition of the property will provide the Borough with options to address additional affordable housing as well as to provide for municipal improvements. Because we negotiated this purchase rather than acquiring the property via eminent domain, our options on this site will provide for a continuation of our long-standing commitment to proactively developing affordable housing in a manner beneficial to all our residents while attempting to preserve the beauty and charm of Allendale for generations to come. We are planning to responsibly finance this acquisition. The Finance Com-

mittee had extended discussions with our CFO, Bond Counsel, Auditor, Municipal Planner, Tax Attorney, and Tax Assessor regarding the financial implications of moving forward with this project. It was the position of our experts that Allendale has the financial ability to fund and move forward with the acquisition of these properties. Our existing debt will be paid off in 2022 when we plan to permanently finance this property. In the meantime, we have negotiated an agreement with Anderson Windows to extend their lease at the 230 West Crescent site through March of 2019, which will bring in approximately \$1,000,000 of rental and tax income which will help offset the interest payments on the debt for this site.

I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank and congratulate the outstanding team I work with. They are a committed and tireless group of professionals who give a tremendous amount of time to keep Allendale a great place to live. The coming months will be busy and filled with great summer days ahead. Crestwood Lake will once again be the jewel of Allendale and we have many great events planned for residents. I invite you to reach out to me with any questions or concerns you may have and I look forward to seeing you at the Lake this summer.

Liz White

**REMINDER: PERMANENT PHASE I WATER RESTRICTIONS ARE IN EFFECT**

Lawn and Garden Watering with both Automatic and Hose Sprinklers is limited to:

**ODD HOUSE NUMBERS:**

Wednesday, Friday, Sunday

**EVEN HOUSE NUMBERS:**

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday

Monday is a system recharge day. No Watering Permitted

Hand-held hose and watering can sprinkling is permitted at all times.

Please see the Borough website for additional information.

**PRESERVE THIS PRECIOUS RESOURCE!!**

**THINKING OF SELLING?**

Please remember that all water bills must be paid and sump pump inspection certifications must be in place before you sell your property.

**\*\*It is important for all residents to note that unpaid water balances may cause your water to be shut off or become a lien on the property.**

In addition, improperly connected sump pumps, those that drain into residential sewer lines, increase your taxes. The sewer lines are metered and we are charged by the volume running through the system.

Please call Borough Hall for additional information or guidance.

# BOROUGH NEWS

## Message from the Fire Chief

As you've turned your clocks ahead, don't forget to change the batteries in your Smoke and Carbon Monoxide detectors to keep your family safe! Here are some tips to consider:

- Dust or vacuum your smoke/CO detectors when changing the batteries.
- Test alarms once a month using the test button.
- Replace the alarm if it's more than 7 years old, or doesn't work properly when tested.
- Install smoke and CO alarms on every level of your home, including the basement, kitchen area, and outside of bedrooms.
- Make sure everyone in your home understands what the warning sounds of the alarms are.
- Develop an escape plan that includes where everyone will meet outside and what to bring in case of an emergency.
- If an alarm sounds, dial 911 immediately.
- If you smell or see smoke, exit your home and dial 911 immediately.

I would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation. With these simple and easy tips, the Borough of Allendale will remain a safe place to live.

The Allendale Fire Department is 100% volunteer, and we are always looking for new members. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly at [firechief@allendalenj.gov](mailto:firechief@allendalenj.gov)

Thank you, and stay safe!

Ryan Shute, Chief of the Allendale Fire Department



## Pedestrian Safety is in the Crosswalks



### You Control Where You Walk

The Allendale Police Department would like to give you a few tips on safely crossing the street.

1. **Walk ONLY in the crosswalks when crossing the street.** It is the vehicles responsibility to yield to the pedestrian, which based on our observations, they will.
2. **Stay alert!** This means, put your phones down and keep your eyes on the oncoming traffic.
3. **Pay attention to your surroundings, which includes hearing what is around you.** If you are "plugged in" to loud music you won't be able to hear a car honking to get your attention.
4. **Lead by example.** Children will follow the lead of their parents and adults. Show them how important it is to be mindful when crossing any road.

## 2017 ELECTION INFORMATION

**The Primary Election:** Tuesday, June 6, 2017

**Poll hours:** 6:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

The last day for party declaration is Wednesday, April 12

**General Election:** Tuesday, November 7, 2017

**Poll hours:** 6:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

**Polling Locations:** District 1 Fire House and District 3 Borough Hall Council Chambers. Please note that Guardian Angel is no longer available as a polling place. We are working with the Board of Elections to relocate Districts 2 and 4. Voters in these districts will be notified of their new polling place as soon as this information is available. Voter Registration forms and Mail-In Ballot applications are available in the Borough Clerk's Office, Bergen County Superintendent of Elections' Office, or can be downloaded from the NJ Division of Elections' website. These forms can also be found by visiting the Borough Website and clicking on the Quick Links/Election Information page. The deadline to file your voter registration form is the 21st day before the election. This form is required to be completed if you will be 18 years of age for the next election, have changed your name, or have changed your address.

**Late Night Voter Registration:** Tuesday, May 16th for the Primary Election and Tuesday, October 17th for the General Election in the Borough Clerk's office. The office will be open until 9 p.m.

The Mail-In Ballot application must be received by the County Clerk no later than seven days prior to the election if it is mailed or by 3 p.m. on the day prior to the election if the voter appears in person at the County Clerk's Office.



## Allendale Volunteer Ambulance Corps

**Celebrating 80 years of service to the community**

During 2017, the Allendale Volunteer Ambulance Corps (AVAC) will have many opportunities to have you support our year-long 80th birthday celebration. Our big event will be a November 18th beefsteak dinner at the Guardian Angel auditorium, featuring three local bands, lots of good food and a tricky tray! On May 20, we will have a Public Safety Day at the ambulance building on Arcadia Road and Franklin Turnpike – learn Family and Friends CPR, meet members of Allendale's CERT team and Fire Department, bring expired prescription medication to the Police Department, get your blood pressure checked, or just have a tour. On June 3rd, we invite 7th and 8th graders to come to a 4-hour EMS Academy. We will also sponsor a movie night at Crestwood this summer and a pancake breakfast at Applebee's in the fall. Several local businesses will join in our celebration, giving discounts to the community, sponsoring raffles, and donating a portion of proceeds to AVAC. Keep an eye out for a postcard outlining a schedule of events. Follow us on Facebook for event updates and live feeds. Happy birthday to us!!

# Crestwood Lake

SUMMER 2017

## ★ Registration Opens ★

Please go to the Borough website at [www.allendalenj.gov](http://www.allendalenj.gov). Go to the Crestwood Lake and Park Tab. Then click on Crestwood Lake→registration. If you do not have a computer or are having difficulties, please go to Borough Hall between 10am and 4pm. **If you forgot your password from last year**, do not create a new account. Please email [michelleryan@allendalenj.gov](mailto:michelleryan@allendalenj.gov) for a new password.

2017 Rates	RESIDENT RATE BEFORE MAY 22	RESIDENT RATE AFTER MAY 22	NON-RESIDENT RATE
1st Family Member	\$200	\$215	\$300
2nd Family Member	\$130	\$145	\$195
*Additional Family Members	\$60	\$65	\$100
Extra Adult	\$175	\$175	\$210
Senior Rate	\$65	\$70	\$85

\* A family member is considered to be a parent, domestic partner and/or child or children under the age of 26. Proof of residency may be required. Accounts will be audited, any improper registrations may result in membership cancellation.

## Crestwood Lake Hours

### EARLY SEASON

May 27 – June 18

Monday – Friday, 1:00pm - 5:00pm

Weekends/Holidays, 10:00am - 7:00pm

### REGULAR SEASON

June 19 – August 13

Monday – Friday, 11:00am - 8:00pm

Weekends/Holidays, 10:00am - 8:00pm

### LATE SEASON\*

August 14 – Sept. 4

Monday – Friday, 11:00am - 7:00pm

Weekends/Holidays, 10:00am - 7:00pm

\*modified hours last week of season

## Photo Dates for Membership Cards

(All new members must have photos taken for new membership cards)

Monday - Friday, 10am - 4pm all season at Borough Hall  
Crestwood Lake during normal lake hours

### Late night at Borough Hall

5/16 - 4:30pm to 8pm & 6/1 - 4:30pm to 8pm

## CRESTWOOD CRUISERS

### Come join Crestwood Cruisers Swim & Dive Team...

Come join Crestwood Swim and Dive Team with returning head coach Maggie Mulder. Registration opens May 1st and can be purchased at the same time as your Crestwood membership. Season runs June 5th through the end of July

5 and 6 year olds: \$70  
7 and older: \$100

[www.crestwoodcruisers.com](http://www.crestwoodcruisers.com)

## GUEST BOOKS

Guest books to be purchased at \$90 for a book of ten

- Guest Books can be purchased online or at the lake and can be picked up at Borough Hall or the lake
- Guest books purchased in 2017 and on, will expire at the end of the season
- Guests must accompany members
- Guest books are not to be used as membership
- Limit of (2) guest books per family per season



# EVENTS AT THE LAKE

ALL EVENTS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

<b>Opening Day</b> 5/27 : 1-5pm Pictures for Badges & Guest Books sales 5/28 1-5pm • MAY •	<b>Family Night</b> 6/10 : 7-10pm Bounce House, music and games	<b>Movie Night</b> 6/17 Moana	<b>4 Brothers Band</b> 6/30 : 8pm	<b>Tim Gysin</b> 7/6 : 7pm Elton John and Billy Joel cover songs
• JUNE •				
<b>Exsoullence Band</b> 7/8 : 8pm Plays for all styles and generations	<b>Romeo &amp; Juliet</b> Wed. 7/12 : 7pm Performed by The Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival	<b>Midlife Crisis Band</b> 7/15 : 8pm	<b>The NERDS</b> 7/18 : 8pm	<b>One Fine Tapestry</b> 8/5 : 8pm A Carol King Tribute
• JULY •				
<b>Mike Sinatra</b> 8/13 : 7pm James Dean and Frank Sinatra covers	<b>Movie Night</b> 8/19 TBD	<b>The Brian Princing Quartet</b> 8/26 : 7pm	*Snack stand open at all events for snacks and drinks *Twitter @Crestwood_Event! *Instagram @Crestwood_Event! ** Movies start at dusk or around 8:30pm**	
• AUGUST •				

Many thanks to AR James Media for donating the billboard on the concession stand that lists our events! [www.arjamesmedia.com](http://www.arjamesmedia.com)

## BEACH PARTY RENTAL

### West Beach

Saturday 12 - 3 or 4 - 7 \$500  
 Sunday 2 - 5 \$500

### Playground Beach

1 - 20 people \$150  
 21 - 40 people \$200  
 41+ people \$250

## SWIM LESSONS

Session I: July 3 - 14 Mon-Fri  
 Session II: July 17 - July 28 Mon-Fri  
 Sign up in person ONLY \$60  
 Sign up dates: Sat. June 10 & Sun. June 11  
 Residents: Saturday June 10th starting at 10am then ongoing.  
 Non Residents: Sunday, June 11th starting at 10am then ongoing.

## KAYAK RENTAL

\$5 per half hour – Weekdays 3 - 7pm,  
 Weekends 12 - 5pm  
 Age Restrictions:  
 11 and over without adult.  
 10 and under with adult only on 2 man kayak.



ALEOOOP offers after school classes and a summer program for any child eligible for enrollment in the Allendale School District in grades Kindergarten through 8th grade.

### 2017 ALEOOOP Summer sessions:

8:45am - 2:00pm  
 Session 1: June 26th – July 15th  
 Session 2: July 17th – August 4th  
 (No camp Tuesday, July 4th)

### GRADES K-3 - LOWER CAMP

\$400 Session 1 or Session 2 (3 weeks)  
 \$575 Both Sessions (6 weeks)

### GRADES 4-8 - UPPER CAMP

\$450 Session 1 or Session 2 (3 weeks)  
 \$675 Both Sessions (6 weeks)

Late fee of \$100 for every registration after May 19th.

Registration closes June 9th. Register early - high enrollment!



New this year, tennis courts and bathrooms at the Van Houton Pavillion are being updated, from Bergen county grants received.

# CERT NEWS

## Do you want to learn some valuable skills to help yourself, family, friends, and neighbors prepare for emergencies?

Consider joining Allendale's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). Following the events of September 11, 2001, Citizen Corps was launched as a grass-roots strategy to strengthen community safety and preparedness through increased civic education, training, and involvement of the community. Citizen Corps is administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), within the Department of Homeland Security and is implemented locally through programs such as the Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT).

CERT "Basic" training is typically given in the spring and again in the fall and is completely free of charge. The course runs approximately 20 hours, each class about 2-3 hours once a week, covering topics such as Disaster Preparedness, Terrorism Awareness, the Incident Command System, Disaster Psychology, Fire Prevention, Search and Rescue, Basic First Aid and more. Please email for course details. Further training beyond the initial course is optional and has been on skills such as Shelter Fundamentals & Management, Bleeding Control, CPR, Electrical Safety, Mental Health First Aid, Amateur Radio and more. Some members who entered service in Public Safety through CERT, have gone on to train and serve on Allendale's Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

We're always looking for new members and are available to answer any questions. With an introduction into a range of preparedness skills and a time commitment set by you, the CERT concept allows average citizens an opportunity to contribute in their community's public safety in a way that wouldn't otherwise be possible.

Want to learn more? Contact [allendalecertcoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:allendalecertcoordinator@gmail.com)

Allendale Borough Hall  
500 West Crescent Avenue  
Allendale, NJ 07401

### MAYOR

LIZ WHITE

### BOROUGH COUNCIL

Ari Bernstein

Liz Homan

Jackie McSwiggan

Steve Sasso

Jim Strauch

Amy Wilczynski

### NEWSLETTER DESIGN

Heidi Gross



## UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE HISTORIC JOHN FELL HOUSE

**APRIL 23:** Arrest of John Fell re-enactment  
12:30 & 2:30 / Earth Day Events

**MAY 6:** Fabulous Spring Boutique

**JUNE 8:** Summer Garden Tea

## Autumn Years living

AN EXPO OF SERVICES AND  
OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE 60+

**Guardian Angel Church Auditorium  
320 Franklin Tpke., Allendale  
Thursday, April 27, 9:30am - 2pm**

**NO ENTRY FEE!**

**\*\*Includes complimentary breakfast and lunch\*\***

**Call (201) 747-2874 to register in advance**

**Borough Resident  
Allendale, NJ 07401**