



**October
Calendar**

- 3 & 17 Village Board Mtg.
- 4 & 25 Planning Bd. Mtg.
- 5 Cons. Advisory Council
- 10 Columbus Day
- 11 Zoning Board
- 19 Water Control Comm.
- 19 Visual Environ. Bd.

No Filtration System Needed Study of Additional Water Issues Undertaken

Following a recent hydrogeologic assessment of the Village's well fields that found no surface water influence on the Village's water supply, the Westchester Dept. of Health has determined that there is no need for Croton to build a filtration system. The cost of such a system would have been in the millions if required.

The study, undertaken by Chazen Environmental Services, was required by the County for all municipalities whose water supplies come from wells.

Chazen has now been engaged by the Village to make a further evaluation of occurrences of discolored water periodically observed by residents within select areas of the Village's distribution system, and other water quality issues

including increased dissolved metal concentrations. The study will include an evaluation of the four above-ground water tanks for potential stratification and stagnation. It will also include an evaluation of the need for a corrosion control system by considering the source and levels of potential contaminants and the corrosive potential of the water within the system. If the results show that a corrosion control system would provide a substantial benefit, a conceptual corrosion control system layout will be provided. As with the previous study just concluded on the influence of surface water on the wells, Chazen will be working closely with Water Foreman Tom Brann and the Village's Water Dept. employees. The total estimated cost for this evaluation by Chazen is \$8,750.

Sewer Rent Law Under Consideration

The establishment of a separate sanitary sewer rent fund and the imposition of sanitary sewer rents in the Village is currently under consideration by the Village Board. The purpose of this effort is to ensure a proportional distribution of operation and maintenance costs, and to use the sewer rents as the principal source of revenue for the operation and maintenance of the sanitary sewer system.

Sewer costs are currently paid for from an account in the General Fund which is funded through the Village's property tax. Passage of this law would result in the removal of this fund from the General Fund and the creation of a new Sewer Rent Fund. Sanitary sewer rent bills will cover the same billing period as covered by the Village water bill.

The proposed sewer rent would also provide for a contingency account to fund future sewer projects.

As proposed, the sewer rent would apply to all aspects of Croton's sewer system that connect to or are within the Ossining Sanitary Sewer District. The calculation of the rents will be established by the Board of Trustees after a public hearing. Applicable fees would be determined in two ways.

- For all premises that use Village water and are connected or served by the Sanitary Sewer System, the fee will be a certain percentage of the Village water bill for those premises, and
- For those premises that do not use

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Sewer Rent Law Cont'd.

Village water but are connected to or served by the Sanitary Sewer System, the fee would be a flat fee based upon the volume of water measured by meter at comparable premises or, if none exist, by such means as the Village may determine or require.

A public hearing on this law is scheduled for the Board of Trustees meeting of October 17th. If adopted, the law would be in effect as of December 1, 2005.

Millennium Pipeline Update

Special Counsel for Croton's Millennium Pipeline litigation, Neil Levy of the Washington-based firm of Kirkland & Ellis LLP, provided the Board of Trustees with an update on the status of the fight to keep the pipeline from passing through the Village, its well field protection area and the Arboretum.



There are currently two challenges in progress or under consideration. After an adverse decision for the pipeline by the US Secretary of Commerce, Millennium filed an

Appeal with the DC District Court which is now being adjudicated. Croton and Briarcliff, under Levy's direction, filed briefs with the DC court on August 8 as did the Town of Cortlandt separately. Croton's brief was supported by the US Justice Dept. and the NYC DEP as well as others. Millennium's response was filed on September 19. The Village's closing brief will be provided by November 16th following which oral arguments will be scheduled - probably in January 2006. Following the District Court's decision, both sides can appeal the decision to the US Court of Appeals.

Separately, Millennium applied to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to amend their original certificate to begin construction of "Phase 1" of the pipeline. This section of pipeline would end on the west side of the Hudson River. Since a "Phase 1" implies a "Phase 2" about which Millennium has provided no details, Mr. Levy feels that this application should be considered a new application requiring a new Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to cover its new route and the changes since the original application in 1997. The Board is considering filing a protest with FERC on this issue once the Millennium application has been officially 'noticed' by FERC.

Busy Month for Croton Seniors



A great month of special activities are lined up for Croton Seniors beginning with the annual Oktoberfest lunch on Oct. 7th at the Municipal Building. Delicious German fare will be served. Members need to register at 271-5804 and pay a small fee for this fun event.

A Halloween Harvest Party will be held at the Colonial Inn in Norwood, NJ on the 26th. Transportation by bus, lunch and dancing are included for a \$24/29 resident/non-resident fee. Bring a costume if you choose and join the fun. Register and pay by Oct. 7 at the Recreation Office or at a regular meeting. On October 28th, the Seniors regular meeting in the Community Room at the Municipal Building will be a Halloween Party with big prizes awarded for the best costumes.

Also, "To Kill a Mockingbird" will be shown in the Community Room on Oct. 21 at 1:45. It is free and popcorn and soda are included.

Hazard Mitigation Plan

The Village Board recently adopted Croton's own Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan, developed by a committee of Village employees, focuses on methods of mitigating hazards identified by New York State to reduce exposure and vulnerability. The Village's plan was prepared in response to the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 which requires that local governments have an approved Hazard Mitigation Plan to be eligible to participate in the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). The purpose of the Act is to improve the planning process and set standards for mitigation throughout the nation. Public input was sought last year through this newsletter. Croton is one of only a few area communities to develop such a plan to date.

The plan addresses responses to incidents involving hazardous materials; flooding from Nor'easters, hurricanes and severe storms; fires, explosions, earthquakes, tornadoes, structural collapses, dam failure, extreme temperatures, landslides, terrorism, and water-supply failure.

The committee was comprised of Village Manager Herbek, Engineer Dan O'Connor, Water Foreman Tom Brann, DPW Superintendent Ken Kraft, Village Manager's Assistant Janine King, Michael Nolte (Police Dept.) and Tex Dinkler (Fire Dept.)

Reminder!

The Village Offices will be closed on Monday, October 10th for Columbus Day!

Spotlight on Douglas Oles

After 19 years in Croton's Police Dept., Sergeant Douglas Oles finds that his job is interesting and challenging every day. As a Patrol Sergeant, Doug is in charge of a squad of officers. This means assigning responses to incoming calls, approving the call reports and all other actions taken during their shifts of duty.

Beyond his squad duties, Doug has many instructional responsibilities. He is the department's instructor of defensive tactics, as well as baton and rifle use. As Terminal Agency Coordinator, he is in charge of Croton's interface with NYSPIN (NYS Police Information Network), the National Crime Information Center and Dept. of Crim-

inal Justice Services. It is through these agencies that Croton police are able to check car registrations and driver's licenses as well as outstanding warrants from other jurisdictions.

Doug is also the department's Medical Coordinator in charge of maintaining the medical equipment including the defibrillators. Additionally, Doug maintains the department's training records.

A life-long resident of Croton, Doug grew up in the Village, attended Croton schools and graduated from Croton-Harmon High School in 1982. He worked in security at Phelps Hospital briefly before joining the Croton Police Dept.

Doug continues to reside in the Village with his wife,

Kristie, and their three children—Lanie, age 10, Vinny, age 8, and Danny, age 6.

With three small children, there is not a lot of free time, but Doug enjoys playing sports with his kids.

All three participate on various Little League teams. Doug is a Little League Coach as well.

While in school, Doug participated in lacrosse, football, and wrestling. When there is time, he enjoys watching all kinds of sports on television to relax. He and his family particularly enjoy going to the beach on the Jersey shore where they vacation every year.



"It's been great over the years, working for the Village. There is something about it everyday. Croton is a great place."

Douglas Oles

Metro Enviro Update

In his decision filed in late August, Judge Francis Nicolai of the NYS Supreme Court ruled against Metro Enviro and for Greentree LLC in their two-pronged suit against the Village. The Village moved immediately to shut down the Metro Enviro operation on Sept. 1. The decision allows Greentree LLC, the underlying property owner, to operate the site with a different operator until such time as their contention that the use is a 'grandfathered' use is litigated.

In the meantime, Northeast Interchange Railway LLC (NIR), as a lessee of the site, has applied to the federal Surface Transportation Board (STB) to be certified as a 'railroad' or common carrier. If granted by the STB, NIR would potentially be able to operate a waste transfer station at the site without local, county or state oversight. NIR's parent company currently handles NYC municipal waste as well as other types of waste.

The Village Board has engaged special counsel Michael Gerrard to fight the granting of the exemption by the STB. Several briefs have been filed. It is unknown when the STB will act. The Board has also been attempting to engage County, State and Federal officials in opposing NIR's application.

Halloween Fun



Croton's annual Halloween Painting Contest will be held on Sat. Oct. 22 (rain date Oct. 23) at storefronts all over the village. Participants must register by picking up a form at participating stores which have a flyer in their window. Pick one up, fill it out, and return it to the Recreation Dept. in the Municipal Building. The event is sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and the Recreation Dept. Forms are available ONLY at participating stores. Space is limited!

Don't be too scared but watch for the Goblin Walk on Saturday, Oct. 29 at 2 pm. All goblins, creatures and spirits will meet at the Municipal Building and march to Vassallo Park. Young and old are invited. Some tricks and treats will be waiting for everyone at the park. This event is co-sponsored by the Croton Lions Club.



We're on the Web. Visit us at: <http://www.crotononhudsonny.gov>



October, 2005

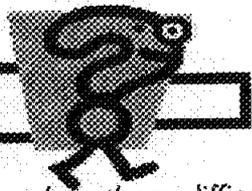
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Croton-on-Hudson**

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Leo A. W. Wiegman, Trustee

Richard F. Herbek, Village Manager
Stanley H. Kellerhouse Municipal Building
One Van Wyck Street
(914) 271-4781-2

Got a Question?



I am planning to hold a garage sale soon and made many flyers in preparation. My neighbor told me that I cannot put these on telephone poles as it is against the law. Is this true? It seems to me that it is a common practice.

Your neighbor is correct. Under Section 197-8 of our Village Code, the posting of signs or flyers on poles, walls, fences or buildings along public streets is prohibited. However, you are correct also. It does seem to be a common practice for people who want to advertise a garage sale, lost animal, or an event, to post flyers on utility poles throughout the village. This practice has resulted in unsightliness in many of the busier areas of the village as well as in our neighborhoods. Often these flyers are not removed and become tattered and ripped over a period of time. In the worst cases, some have been placed on the poles



with an adherent that makes them difficult to remove.

The Village office has received complaints about these signs, especially when the signs remain for a long time after the event. Given the need to prudently allocate the Village's enforcement resources, the removal of these signs and enforcement of the regulations are sometime a low priority except in the most egregious cases. As a result, it is important that residents be cognizant that by placing these signs on poles they are detracting from others enjoyment of the streets and neighborhoods.

Temporary signs are allowed on private property for advertising of garage sales for a period of up to 7 days according to Section 230-44.K of the Village Code pertaining to permitted signage. Perhaps, you could put a sign on your property and get some of your friends to help you advertise your event by putting a temporary sign for it on their property as well.