



# Newsletter

September, 2015  
Number 185

## September Calendar

- 7 **Labor Day Holiday**
- 8 & 21 Village Bd. Mtg.
- 8 & 22 Planning Bd. Mtg.
- 9 Zoning Bd. of Appeals
- 2 Cons. Adv. Council
- 3 Bike/Ped Comm.
- 8 Rec. Advisory Comm.
- 16 Visual Env. Board
- 23 Trails Comm.

## Village Manager Janine King

Janine King was officially appointed as the Village's new Village Manager by the Village Board on August 10. Ms. King has been Acting Village Manager since early



April following the resignation of former Manager Abraham Zambrano.

Under Croton's Council/Manager form of government, the Village Manager is responsible for the administration and operations of the Village including all departments and personnel.

The Board of Trustees has the responsibility for hiring the Village Manager to whom she is responsible. An extensive search was conducted by the Board for candidates to fill the

position, with many applications submitted and several interviews conducted. The Board believed that the professionalism and leadership Ms. King has shown during her time in Village government made her uniquely qualified for the position of Village Manager.

Ms. King has been Assistant Village Manager since 2008, having previously served as Assistant to the Village Manager. She joined the Village on a part-time basis in 1997. Prior to joining the Village, she worked in financial management positions in both London and New York for Chase Bank. She is also a long-time Village resident. Ms. King graduated from Barnard College in Manhattan with a BA and received her Masters of Business Administration from the University of Chicago.

Ms. King's contract is for \$160,000 annual salary and extends to August

## Water System Improvements

Over the past two years, the Village has made major water infrastructure improvements. The relining and replacement of over 4 miles of water mains throughout Harmon has been most notable. This work has been very evident to residents with above ground water lines being laid in the work areas and street excavations.

While not as easily visible, equally significant upgrades to the water system have been occurring at the well fields and in the Upper Village.

The Water Dept. is nearing the end of a multi-year project that refurbished wells #1(1967), #3 (1991), and #4 (1995). These wells pump approximately 400 million gallons of water annually to 4 storage tanks in the Village.

Demand for water, especially in the

summer months, has made it difficult for any of these wells to be taken out of service for maintenance and upgrades while maintaining the required amount of water that must be available to users.

In the past year, as reported in the March Newsletter, the Village has inspected, cleaned, replaced and repaired the pumps and motors of the three wells. This work is part of the centralizing of operations including automatic monitoring and automatic chemical treatments as needed, replacing the old manual operation methods.

In July, work on Well #3 was completed with a new pump head



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## Fall Arts Festival

For the second year, the Croton Council on the Arts (CCoA) will hold an outdoor Arts Festival at Senasqua Park.

On September 20 (rain date is Sept. 27), noon to 4 pm, you can browse the arts and crafts of your friends and neighbors while enjoying an afternoon on the Hudson River.



The Arts Festival provides an opportunity for all Westchester artists to display and sell their work locally. The event is free for both exhibitors and browsers.

Many art forms will be on display including paintings, sketches, photographs, sculptures, crafts and mixed media. To reserve an exhibit space to show/sell your art or crafts, go to the Arts Festival website: [www.crotonarts.org/fallarts/signup](http://www.crotonarts.org/fallarts/signup) for details. Artists are responsible for bringing whatever is needed to display and protect their work.

Music will be provided by blues guitarist Joe Adami.

## Gouveia Open House



The third Open House opportunity to view the newly acquired Gouveia Park is scheduled for Saturday, September 19 from 11am to 3pm. Shuttle service on the Village bus will be available from the Municipal Place

parking lot, (former Skatepark) back and forth to the park. This is the only way to access the property.

The first bus will leave the parking lot at 10:45 am and the last bus will leave the park at 3 pm.

Although the house is not open yet, at the park you can roam over the property. Visitors can bring a picnic lunch or



folding chair and relax at the site. Comfortable walking shoes are recommended for roaming around the park. Two earlier Open Houses were held in August.

## Black Rock Park

Black Rock Park on the Croton River underwent a landscaping update this summer. The park now has clearly defined parking and driving areas. New plantings and boulder placements enhance the peacefulness of this park.



The Park is also the location of the Village's Dog Park. Village residents with permits can let their dogs off-leash within the fenced in area.

The Black Rock Park entrance is on Quaker Bridge Road. The passive park is located on a lake-like area of the Croton River and was acquired many years ago in an exchange of land with Westchester County. Many years ago, it was owned privately and was the location of a swimming club. Now it is a perfect spot to stroll and picnic. It is also popular for fishing.

## BCC 9/11 Memorial Ceremony

A Memorial ceremony will be held on Friday, September 11 at 4 pm at Croton Landing sponsored by the Town of Cortlandt, and Villages of Buchanan and Croton-on-Hudson.

Work on the Memorial - *Reaching Through The Shadow*



– was begun in 2009 and finished last year by an all-volunteer Task Force. The Memorial consists of a functioning sun dial with nine markers depicting the

events of that day. A bronze statue of a woman was installed under the steel beam, symbolizing hope and strength.

To attend the ceremony, please gather at the Croton Landing parking area at the north end of Elliott Way at 3:30 pm for the ceremony at 4 pm. Led by a color guard from the community, participants will walk in procession along the quarter mile pathway north to the site on the Hudson River. A van from the Village of Croton will be in the parking area to transport those who need assistance.



**Reminder!**

**Offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 7 for Labor Day!**



## **8th Annual Toughman Returns**

The weekend of Sept. 12 and 13 will see the return of the Toughman events centered at Croton Point Park.



This is the eighth occurrence of the competition centered in

Croton Point Park.

The adult event which includes a 1.2 mile swim, 56-mile bike ride and 13.1 mile run will be on Sunday, Sept. 13.

All the events begin and end at Croton Point Park. The adult bike ride and running events take participants out of the park and into areas of the Village and neighboring communities.

Every effort is being made to minimize impacts to residents and others traveling through the area. The State and County-sanctioned event is being coordinated with the County Police, Croton Police, NYS Police and those of Briarcliff, Ossining and Peekskill.

There will be **traffic impacts** during the Sunday event. Residents should be aware that the NYSDOT has granted permission to the event to close the southbound lanes on Route 9 to all vehicular traffic from 5:30 am to 1 pm. The closure extends from Annsville Circle in Peekskill to North State Road in Briarcliff Manor. All southbound entrances to Route 9 will be closed along this route. All Ossining-bound traffic, or other points south of the village, coming into Croton on 9A from the north, will encounter a "hard detour" onto Furnace Dock Road leading them east to the Taconic. Those wishing to continue into the Village can make a right turn from Furnace Dock Rd. to Scenic Drive to reconnect to Albany Post Road into the Village. Normal traffic patterns on Route 9 will resume at 1 pm.

The running event occurs mainly in the Village along Croton Point Ave., through Van Cortlandt Manor, along streets bordering the Croton River and on Route 129 to the Croton Dam and returning on the same road. Route 129 will be reduced to one lane from 9 am through mid-day to allow residents of that section of the road to reach their homes. Other traffic will be diverted over Batten Rd.

On Saturday, September 12, Croton Point Park will be the location for the Tough Kids event (ages 6 to 14). As well, participants in the Sunday event will be registering. At the park, there will be vendors and food and merchandise available focused on health. Residents are encouraged to come to the park to see the events and visit with the vendors.

Free buses will run back and forth from the train station parking lot to the event in Croton Point Park.

## **Water Improvements cont'd.**

and motor (see picture) and new electrical service in place. During testing, its pumping capacity has increased to 1000 gpm. Its previous pumping capacity was in the range of 600 gpm.

Additional work in the well fields includes installing a new generator with automatic transfer switching in the event of power loss. The installation of a new concrete pad for the 2 new 1000-gallon propane tanks to power the generator is also near completion.

In compliance with the County Board of Health requirements, the Village is also installing equipment to provide increased chlorine contact time for water leaving the wells. Additionally, the designs for installing a corrosion inhibitor program, approved in November 2014, are also being finalized for approval by NYS. When installed it will add an orthophosphate/polyphosphate mix to inhibit lead and copper exceedances in the water.

Replacement of old water valves in areas of the Village not included in the water main replacement project has also been occurring

over the summer. During the first week of August 6 valves of 1910 and 1930's vintage were replaced in the Upper Village area. This work was mainly done at night to reduce problems for residents and businesses as the water system in this area was turned off during the



**Nighttime valve replacement at dummy light on Grand and OPRS**

work. Heitkamp Inc., which performed the work on the water main replacements and new valves in the Harmon area, also performed this work.

## **River Day at the Yacht Club**

Everyone is invited to the fifth annual River Day event on Sept. 12 sponsored by the Croton Yacht Club. The event is from 11 am to 4 pm and is free to all. River Day promotes interest in the history and ecology of the river. Children and adults will be delighted by the interesting and informative presentations, hands-on activities, viewing tanks, fossil making, fish printing and more.

The Yacht Club coordinates this annual event to give its members and local exhibitors the opportunity to share their river-related knowledge with the community, thus passing on the knowledge that can safeguard the river in the future.

Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

## **Farmers' Market Bag Reuse Program**

Croton's Down to Earth Farmers' Market is supporting the reduction of plastic bag use by supporting the BYOBag program. There will be a raffle on Sept. 27 at the market for a chance to win a market gift certificate.

To enter, bring your extra, clean and reusable bags to the market manager's tent on that day and receive an entry for each bag. Market vendors will not be offering handled shopping bags. If requested, they will charge 0.25 for such a bag.

The BYOBag program addresses environmental is-



sues regarding plastic bags including that a bag can take up to 1000 years to degrade, more than a trillion are used annually worldwide, and over 100 million in US annually. Plastic bags are a by-product of petroleum and natural gas and cost US retailers about \$4 billion/year. The Farmers' Market also maintains a 24/7 composter at its site at Municipal Place for people to deposit their composting materials.

## **September Primary Polls**

The primary elections will be held on Thursday, September 10. Polling places in the Village for this primary will be the same as the polling places for the November general election. Polls are open from 6 am to 9 pm.



September, 2015

**Published for the Residents of the  
Village of Croton-on-Hudson**

Leo A. W. Wiegman, Mayor

Ann Gallelli, Trustee

Andrew Levitt, Trustee

Brian Pugh, Trustee

Maria Slippen, Trustee

Janine King, Village Manager

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## **Family Movie Night**

The Village Recreation Dept is holding a family movie night in Vassallo Park on Friday, September 25 (rain date is Sept. 26). Movie-goers are encouraged to bring a picnic and arrive early for the movie.

The movie, **The LEGO MOVIE**, will begin at dusk. In the movie, Emmet is an ordinary, rule-following, perfectly average LEGO minifigure who is mistakenly identified as the most extraordinary person and the key to saving the world.

## **Croton Seniors Club**

Croton Seniors will move their regular Friday meetings from Senasqua Park to the Harmon Firehouse on Sept. 18 while the roof/masonry repairs are ongoing at the Municipal Building and parking is limited.

## **Fall Recreation Programs**

The Fall Recreation Program brochure listing programs and activities through mid-December will be available online the first week of September. Please check for it on the Village website. As always there is a full selection of programs for youth, adults and Seniors.

**Flag Football** is a very popular program for youth in grades 3 to 6. The program begins on Sept. 19 and will continue for 6 sessions. This limited contact sport requires that participants wear a mouthpiece. The program will include basic instruction as well as organized games. The registration deadline is September 10. The fee is \$60 res./\$75 school district res.

