



## June Calendar

- 7 & 21** Village Board Mtg.
- 8 & 22** Planning Bd. Mtg.
- 2** Cons. Advisory Council
- 8** Rec. Advisory Comm.
- 9** Zoning Bd. of Appeals
- 16** Visual Environ. Bd.
- 30** Trails Committee

- Summerfest 2
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## Summer Projects

For residents and the Village, summer is the time when many projects get underway. This summer, as you travel around the Village, watch for some of the Village projects described here that are scheduled for the coming months.



The Sidewalk program begun many years ago to replace damaged or to install new sidewalks continues this summer. Homeowners who applied during the enrollment period pay 50% to 60% of the total cost. In some cases curbing is replaced at the same time. Piney Point, Truesdale, Lexington, the south end of Cleveland, Park Ave. and Observatory are planned for this summer. Joe Sperber, Ass't. Building Inspector, who manages this program estimates there are several more years left to complete this sidewalk replacement program.

The High St. project to replace water and sewer lines, sidewalk and curbing is already underway. The new water main and about 2/3 of the sewer main are installed. The patched street is shown in the picture below. This summer the



sewer line will be completed and connected to the larger system. Once testing is done and Board of Health approval is obtained, the tie-ins to the individual homes will be done by installing laterals to the property lines. Before the new water service can be turned on, it must be pressure tested and also obtain Board of Health approval.

A smaller project is the repair of the Senasqua Boat Basin boat ramp. Due to a

difference in elevation between sections of the ramp, it is difficult to launch boats in its current condition. A



temporary repair is being designed with the assistance of the CHA firm.

At the end of the summer, August 29, the Village will once again attempt to repair the dam at Silver Lake. This project was planned for late last summer but not undertaken due to the high flows in the



Croton River. Typically the flow in the Croton River is lower in late summer and early Fall when this is scheduled with last season being very rainy and creating an exception. The dam is in need of repair and it is hoped that conditions will permit it to occur this year.

Planning for the renovation of the Municipal Building to meet the space requirements of the Police Dept. will also start this summer. The firm of Peter Gisolfi Associates will begin Phase I



of the project. This study will include the analysis of the current utilization of space, intensity of use, the building condition and that of its utilities and infrastructure. Based on this analysis, a plan for meeting the space requirements will be proposed. Two or more design alternatives will be provided to the Board and staff.

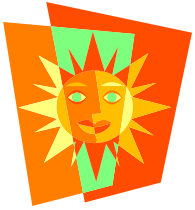
## **2010/2011 Budget Approved**

The Village's 2010/2011 fiscal year operating budget has been approved. It calls for a tax decrease (-0.08%) from last year's taxes; the second year of Village tax decreases.

The total appropriation of \$16,437,364.75 is funded by \$6,430,455.61 of non-tax revenues. The largest single non-tax revenue portion comes from the Village-owned parking lot at the railroad station - a total of \$2,625,000. The remaining \$10,006,909.14 of appropriations is raised by taxes. This year's resulting tax rate per 1000 of assessed valuation is \$227.811.

Property tax bills will be mailed out by June 1 and are payable by June 30. By NYS Law, late payments are assessed a non-waivable, late fee. For residents' convenience, the Village Office will be open every Sat. in June from 9 - 12 noon for tax payments to be made in person. If mailed, payments must have an official postmark showing June 30 or earlier. Dates stamped by postage meters or foreign post marks are not acceptable as proof of timeliness. If a payment is received after June 30 without an acceptable postmark, the payment will be deemed late.

## **Summerfest 2010!**



For the 23rd year, the Village is beginning the summer months with the Summerfest celebration on Sunday, June 6. Since its inception, Summerfest has become much larger and features attractions like live bands and children's amusements have been added. The usual attractions will all be there again this year - the parade, good food, vendors, community organizations, and live entertainment.

Summerfest hours are from 12 noon to 6 pm in the Upper Village with the community parade starting at 1 pm from Veterans Corners. Marching along with the Board of Trustees and staff, will be other area representatives, community organizations such as the scouts, and the always popular Croton Fire Dept. with their apparatus. Leading the parade will be the Hendrick Hudson High School Marching Band.

This year's Grand Marshall is Charlie O'Connor. Mr. O'Connor, a long-time member of the Fire Dept. and Ambulance Corps (now the Croton EMS), serves the community as both an ambulance driver and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). Six days a week, Charlie responds to Croton ambulance calls - sometimes as many as 3 or 4 a day, or more than 350 a year. At its Installation ceremony this year, the Croton EMS established an annual recognition Award named after Mr. O'Connor as its first recipient.

## **Collection System to be Studied**

The Village has engaged the firm of Malcolm Pirnie, Inc. to conduct a study to evaluate the Village's refuse collection routes and operations.



The study will determine whether the Village's current system can be optimized and made more efficient.

The study will include an evaluation of the current routes for both residential and commercial refuse pickup. Equipment and other changes to the method of collection will be looked at to increase efficiency and reduce labor costs. Staffing needs for any changes in equipment or routes will be examined. The study will also establish performance data of the current collection operations to establish a benchmark against which to measure future collection performance.

DPW Superintendent Marco Gennarelli will be the Village's coordinator for the study. The proposal cost is \$43,000.

## **And the Winner Is - Symphony Knoll!**



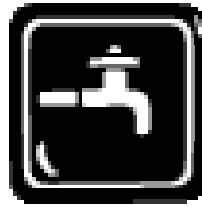
The Symphony Knoll Senior Affordable Housing Development on Mt. Airy Road has been awarded a Planning Achievement Award by the Westchester Municipal Planning Federation (WMPF). The Village and the Croton Housing Network (CHN) jointly submitted the development for award consideration. Designed by architect Stuart Markowitz, Symphony Knoll was the result of collaboration between the Village, CHN, Westchester County and numerous other entities. The award application highlighted the inclusion of a new Trail segment through the property. The segment joins other trail segments through the Upper Village and the River Landing subdivision adding to neighborhood connectivity throughout the Village. The building has 11 apartments which were first occupied at the beginning of 2010.

WMPF annually recognizes significant planning achievements in Westchester County. The award will be officially presented at their 37th Annual Awards dinner on June 10 at X2O in Yonkers.



## **Water Rate Changes**

On June 15 the semi-annual water bills will be sent to residents on the Village's water system. In the past, a three-tier system of water rates applied to water usage in the Village. In April, the Board of Trustees authorized a change to a six-tier water rate system. Each tier is based on the number of cubic feet of water that are used with the lowest rates for those who use the least and the highest for the biggest users. The six-tier system is billed as follows:



- Tier 1- Basic Service (up to 900 cubic feet (CF)) = \$38.76/year
- Tier 2 - 901 CF/year up to 100,000 CF/year = \$4.50/100CF
- Tier 3 - 100,001 CF/year up to 500,000 CF/year = \$4.95/100CF
- Tier 4 - 501,000 CF/year up to 1,000,000 CF/year = \$5.04/100CF
- Tier 5 - 1,000,001 CF/year up to 1,500,000 CF/year = \$5.18/100CF
- Tier 6 - over 1,500,000 CF/year = \$5.43/100

Most Village-water users are in Tier 1 and Tier 2. Under the old three-tier system where all usage above 100,000 CF/year was charged at the same rate, there was little incentive for large users to conserve water to reduce their water rates. Although most of the larger users cannot minimize their usage enough to be in Tier 2, having more tiers can provide an incentive to reduce



## **Farmer's Market**

For its second year, the Farmer's Market run by Community Markets, will be opening on Wednesday, June 2 at the former Skatepark location at the corner of Municipal Place and N. Riverside Ave. The market will be open from 1:30—6:30 pm.

Fruits, vegetables, organic produce, pasture-raised beef, baked goods, soups and quiches, barrel pickles, dairy products, homemade jellies and locally made wines will be featured throughout the season. The market will be open every Wednesday afternoon extending into late Oct.

Parking will be available on-site and along N. Riverside Avenue. While the market is open, please note that no left turns into or out of the site will be permitted.

## **Time to Renew Annual Parking Permits**

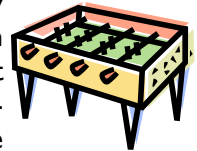
Annual parking permits for those who park long-term in Village-owned parking lots expire May 31 and must be renewed. The fee is \$25. Free parking permits for business owners and employees to park along South Riverside must also be renewed.

their usage enough to fall into the next lower tier and thus reduce their overall water bills as well as conserve water.

The Water bills, sent out on June 15, are payable by July 15. Penalties accrue with late payments at 5% for the first month and 1% more for each additional month. The water bill also includes an amount due for the Sewer Fund. The Sewer rate of \$0.4139 is calculated on every 100CF of water consumption.

## **Summer Youth/Teen Program**

The Croton Youth Program, directed by Doreen Pettit, has an active program planned for the summer. Thursday night drop-ins at the Municipal Building Community Room and Game Room feature pool, foosball, Xbox 360's, Wii, guitar hero and more. A great way to hang out with friends!



Tuesday trips and special events are also being planned. These will include trips to Lake Compounce and Playland. Additional trips will be announced in the middle school and on the Village website. If you would like to receive an email announcement of these upcoming Youth/Teen events please register from the Village's Home Page. Click on Subscribe to News on the upper right side of the Homepage and then select "Middle School Recreation Events". Provide your email address as directed.



## **June Concert**

The Recreation Dept. has scheduled seven Friday evening concerts at Senasqua Park this summer. The first concert in the series will be in June. Information on the additional concerts and other entertainment planned for the summer months at the park, including the Summer Movies and the Family Entertainment Series, will be reported in the July/August Newsletter.



On June 25, student bands from Croton-Harmon High School will display their talents to begin the evening. The Mike Risko Band will wrap up the evening with their eclectic blend of rock and popular hits. The rain date is Saturday night.

Senasqua Park Summer Hours. During the summer, from Memorial Day to Labor Day, Senasqua Park will be open from dawn to 11 pm. Other Village Parks are open from 8 am to 10 pm.

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

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## Got a Question?



**I have heard about a Community Coalition that has been formed to address alcohol and drug abuse in the Village. Who makes up this coalition and what do they do?**

The Village and School District have taken the initiative to address substance abuse by forming the Croton Community Coalition. The Village, applying on behalf of the coalition, received a \$125,000 federal grant in Sept. 2009 to carry out programs and strategies to address substance abuse. Because substance abuse is viewed as a community-wide problem, the grant from the Drug Free Communities Support Program required that representatives from at least 12 sectors of the community participate on its steering committee. These include representatives from government, schools, businesses, medical profession, religious institutions, service organizations, sports groups, press, etc. The grant is renewable for 5 years.

The Coalition has been assisted in its activities by the non-profit Student Assistance Services organization and has hired part-time Coalition Director Ginny

Loughlin to administer its activities which are funded by the grant.

The Coalitions activities cover a wide spectrum - including parent and student surveys, police assessment, training, media and education initiatives and community outreach.

Several outreach programs have occurred this year already. A major outreach activity was planned for the community on Friday, May 21st at Vassallo Park. Called Vassallo Fest, the Coalition offered attractions and games as well as prevention-related activities and information. It was free and open to the entire community with most activities targeted to 10 to 18 year olds.

In April, the Coalition sponsored presentations by Dr. Peter DeBenedittis on media influences on youth and how to protect against them. He spoke to high school and middle school students in the day. An evening session for adults was also held at the Library.

In March, a hugely successful Game Night was held at the high school with over 135 students attending and enjoying a night of great activities.