



May Calendar

- 12** Village Board Mtg.
- 13 & 27** Planning Bd. Mtg.
- 14** Zoning Board Mtg.
- 6** Bike/Ped Comm.
- 7** Cons. Advisory Comm.
- 14** Rec. Advisory Comm.
- 21** Visual Environ. Board.
- 26** Memorial Day
- 28** Trails Comm.

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The 2014/2015 Budget

At its meeting on April 21, the Village Board adopted the budget for Fiscal Year 2014/2015. Budgets for the General Fund, Water Fund, Sewer fund and the Capital Fund were approved. Property taxes are based on the General Fund budget, while the budgets for the Water and Sewer Funds are paid for through water and sewer billing. Large purchases or projects approved in the Capital budget are generally bonded, the debt service for which will appear in the following year's General Fund budget. Although initially proposed to require a 3.82% increase in the property tax levy, the adopted 2014/2015 budget calls for a 2.00% increase.

Throughout the budget review process, beginning with the tentative budget proposal on March 20, the Board of Trustees and staff from all departments participated in extensive review of each budget account over multiple work sessions and a public hearing.

Total appropriations for the 2014/2015 fiscal year are \$18,214,803 with \$11,065,131 to be raised by taxes. Non-tax revenues for the coming fiscal year are projected to be \$6,644,199. The adopted budget calls for a rate of \$251.474/1000 of assessed valuation or an increase of \$4.933/1000 of assessed valuation over

the prior fiscal year's, (2013/2014) rate. Total assessed valuation decreased \$111,468 due largely to a decline in franchise assessments.

Non-tax revenues account for 36.4% of the total appropriations. The largest portion of the Village's non-tax revenues come from parking lot permits and fees - \$3,085,000. Other large amounts come from the County sales tax (\$1,120,000), Ambulance charges (\$200,000), Parks & Recreation Program fees (\$250,500), Town Fire Protection services (\$273,947), fines and forfeited bail (\$230,000), and mortgage taxes (\$100,000).

The Water Fund has a higher total appropriations in the coming fiscal year due, in large part, to the extensive infrastructure improvements currently underway to refurbish the Village's wells, to comply with Dept. of Health mandates and the relining and replacement of some 28,000 linear feet (approximately 5 1/2 total miles) of water distribution lines in both the Harmon and Wolf Rd./Cook Lane neighborhoods. Water rates are projected to rise \$0.80/100 cubic feet of water consumed for the average customer. Sewer rates, which are correlated to water usage, will rise \$0.07 per 100 cubic feet of water consumption.



Summerfest is Coming!

Croton's annual Summerfest Celebration, sponsored by the Croton chapter of the Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce and the Village of Croton, signals that the summer season has arrived.

On Sunday, June 1, Summerfest will kickoff at 1 pm with a parade from Veterans' Corners to the intersection of Grand St. and Old Post Road South. Led by the Hendrick Hudson High School Marching Band, the parade will include local and area officials, Village staff, Boys and Girls scout troops, and youth sports teams among others. Croton's Lions Club will be the honorary Grand Marshalls. Fire Department vehicles will conclude the parade to the Upper Village.



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Summerfest Cont'd.

Street vendors, delicious food and two bands will highlight the activities until 6 pm. In recognition of the Beatles coming to the United States fifty years ago, the band *British Invasion* will be performing in front of the former Holy Name of Mary School. A local band, *Fall Out*, will be performing in the parking lot by Rivertowns

Realty. Many local volunteer groups will be hosting tables along the street giving everyone an opportunity to learn more about their activities.

Information and applications for vendor sites will be available from a new Summerfest website: www.crotonsummerfest.com.

Mark your calendars and be sure not to miss this opportunity to mingle with your fellow residents to kick-off the summer!



Go Fly A Kite

Fun for the whole family! Enjoy an afternoon at Croton Landing Park showing off your kite-flying skills. Bring your own kite. Refreshments will be served.

The event is free but pre-registration is required. Register by May 23 for the kite-flying day on May 24 from 1 to 3 pm.



For up-to-date information on the Village, "LIKE" us on Facebook at Crotongov.



88th Blood Drive Reminder

The Community Blood Program's 88th Blood Drive is set for Sunday, May 4 from 9 am to 3 pm at Croton-Harmon High School.

For appointments, call 271-7645, 8449 or 3010 or email communityblooddrive@gmail.com.

Donors must be over 16 and under 76, at least 110 pounds and healthy. Written parent's permission is required for 16 year olds and a doctor's permission for those 76 and older. All must provide an official form of identification.



Moody's Rating for Croton

Moody's most recent bond rating for Village debt, as of March 2014, reaffirmed its Aa2 rating. This rating is the highest achievable for a municipality of Croton's size.

In their Summary Ratings Rationale, Moody's said their rating "reflects the Village's well-managed financial operations with ample reserve levels. It also incorporates the Village's wealthy, moderately-sized economic base, stable taxable values and higher than average but manageable debt position."

Among the Village's strengths were a "demonstrated history of sound financial operations resulting in solid reserve levels and moderately-sized tax base characterized by strong social-economic factors."

Moody's expects that growth in the Village's moderately-sized \$1.2 billion tax base will slow in the near term reflecting the regional housing trend and the sluggish economic outlook. Long-run, the Village will continue to benefit from a large commuter presence and close proximity to employment opportunities in Westchester County (Aa1/stable outlook) and New York City (Aa2/stable outlook). The Village's average annual full valuation growth of 1.8% over the last 5 years reflects a limited number of lots available for development and sluggish market value trends. Economic indicators remain strong with median family income at 177% and 165% of state and national values respectively.

Memorial Day Observance

Croton's Veterans Committee will conduct its annual Memorial Day ceremony on Monday, May 26, at the Veterans Memorial at Five Corners at 11 am. In case of rain, the event will be held in the Community Room of the Municipal Building.



Farmers' Market Opens!

Sunday, May 11 will see the season's re-opening of the Farmers' Market in Croton. Vendors will be set up at the Village-owned lot at Municipal Place and South Riverside Ave. from 9 am to 2 pm.



The market will continue on Sundays through November 24.

Reminder!

**Village Offices will be closed Monday, May 26
for Memorial Day!**



Senasqua Park Permits

Are you looking for a place to hold an event? Senasqua Park on the Hudson River might be the place. Permits



for events of 25 people or less can be reserved for \$40res/\$55schl.dist. from the Recreation Office. This does not include use of the pavilion.

Reservations for the pavilion for groups from 8 to 100 are also available. These permits can be made for a full day - 9 am to 10 pm or for partial days - 9 am to 2 pm or 3 pm to 10 pm. Fees for full day use are \$425res/\$525nonres. Partial day permits, either for 9 am to 2 pm or 3 pm to 10 pm, are less. A valid Village Recreation ID is required for the person making the reservation. The demand for the pavilion is typically high, so make your plans and apply for your permit as soon as possible.

Water Infrastructure Update

The steps leading to the beginning of the relining and replacement of water lines through a large area of Harmon and the Wolf Road/Cook Lane neighborhood are moving forward.



Bid documents were picked up by 20 construction companies. Two were returned by the deadline and opened on April 14. The proposals are now being reviewed by the Village and its consultant WSP Sells to confirm that they meet the requirements specified in the bid documents - a

process that will likely conclude in May with a recommendation to the Village Board.

Once a contractor is approved, the Village will work out a detailed work schedule with the contractor. Meetings will be scheduled with residents, in the neighborhoods affected, prior to the start of work to present the schedule in detail and include information about the installation of the temporary water mains and services during the relining.

Work on the project should begin in early summer and will occur over two construction seasons.

In addition to the cement lining of existing water lines and the installation of new lines in some areas, the project will replace or install 45 fire hydrants and 133 new or replacement valves throughout the affected areas.

Dog Walking

Dogs are not allowed to roam off-leash anywhere in the Village except at the Dog Park at Black Rock Park, by permit only. In Village parks, leashed dogs are permitted only on the paved Riverwalk Trail in Croton Landing Park during its open hours and only on a maximum 6-foot leash. Elsewhere in the Village, leashed dogs may be curbed in the part of the street lying between the two curb lines. All feces must be removed by the walker and placed in an airtight container or bag but never placed in storm drains or sewers.

All dogs must be licensed in NYS. Licenses are issued in the Village Office and require a current rabies certificate.

Seniors Club Officers Installation

Newly elected officers of the Croton Seniors Club will be installed at their annual Installation Luncheon on Friday, May 2 at Cortlandt Colonial Restaurant.

Officers for the coming year are Elizabeth Faranda, President; Pat Mackin, Vice Pres., John Giglio, Treasurer; Don Divney, Ass't. Treasurer; and Bonnie Dietz, Secretary.

The Croton Seniors Club meets on Fridays in the Community Room at the Municipal Building. Starting June 6 and running through August 29 meetings take place at the Senasqua Park pavilion, weather permitting.

All residents of the Village and school district, 60 years or older, are welcome.

Metro North Wants To Hear from You

Metro North is holding a series of informal Customer Forums at various locations on their three lines.



On May 6 Metro North's Senior Staff, including President Joe Giuletta, will be at the Croton-Harmon Station from 5 pm to 7 pm. They will be across from the ticket office.

These sessions are one of Metro North's 100-Day Action Plan Communication Initiatives to create additional opportunities for two-way dialogue between Metro North and its customers. The meetings are being held to gather input, hear comments and suggestions about Metro North's service from its customers.

The information exchange sessions will also include more about their 100-Day Action Plan and their latest improvement projects. More information is available at www.mta.info/mnr.

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

Leo A. W. Wiegman, Mayor; Kevin Davis, Trustee; Ann H. Gallelli, Trustee; Andrew Levitt, Trustee; Maria Slippen, Trustee

Abraham J. Zambrano, Village Manager

Stanley H. Kellerhouse Municipal Building, One Van Wyck Street

(914) 271-4781-2, www.crotononhudson-ny.gov

Got a Question?



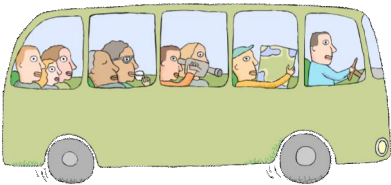
Recently I have noticed an increasing number of people parking their cars on the curbs and sidewalks. Is this permitted?

Parking on sidewalks and curbs is NOT permitted. According to Section 197-I B of the Village Code - Streets and Sidewalks, no parking of any part of any vehicle on any sidewalk or curb in the Village is permitted.

Each year, the Village commits \$100,000 in its Capital projects to maintaining and installing sidewalks and curbs where needed. Parking of vehicles on sidewalks and curbs shortens their life span as they are not built to support vehicles.

Senior Trips

Senior Director, Valerie Nolan, has arranged several trips both by chartered bus and on the Village-owned senior bus over the next few months. These trips are open to ALL residents and school district residents aged 60 or over. For more information and to sign up for any of the following excursions, please contact Ms. Nolan at 271-5804.



A program called Local Explorers, usually short-distant trips departing from the Municipal Building on the Senior bus, will be going to

Caramoor for a Concert & House Tour on May 14, Muscoot Farm and Tavern for lunch on June 5, the Hudson River Rose Cruise on July 17 and Ridge Hill Shopping Center in Yonkers on August 6.

Charter bus trips depart from Shop-Rite. Trips are planned for The Cloisters (lunch at the New Leaf Café) on May 29, A "Gold Coast Tour of Long Island Mansions, Gardens" & lunch on June 11, and Atlantic City Casinos and Boardwalk trip on July 9.

These trips are limited by the capacity of the bus and they sell out quickly.

Art Neff Retires

Long-time Village employee and Parks Foreman Art Neff retired in March. Art had worked for the Village for 37 years beginning in 1977. For many years, Artie worked in the Water Dept. In 1995 he became Parks Foreman where he assumed responsibility for maintenance and improvements at the Village's many parks and fields.

Art, being an athlete himself, also worked on weekends at flag football and basketball. His barbeque skills were much appreciated by many groups including the summer camp staff, Seniors Club and at Village-staff picnics.



Golf at Hudson National Golf Club

Village and school district residents can register to play golf at Hudson National Golf Club. Hudson National is ranked in the top 100 of the country by Golf Digest. It opened for play in 1996 and, as part of its approval from the Village, offers golf tee times on a scheduled basis.

Residents can play on a once-monthly basis at the course. A yearly \$10 registration fee must be paid to the Recreation Dept. Each person must also have a valid Village Recreation & Parks Photo ID. Registration puts you on the eligible golfer list. Once tee times are distributed to the Recreation Dept., each registrant can arrange their own twosome or foursome from other players on the list. Greens fees are \$40/res and \$50/sch.dist. There are no rain dates unless the course is closed due to inclement weather.



Summer Camp Openings Available

There are still some openings remaining for spaces in the Recreation Dept.'s Day Camp and Tiny Tots Camp. The full season is from July 1 to August 8 but the season is broken into 3 sessions for which youths can be individually registered. For more info, call 271-3006.