Village of Croton-on-Hudson New York

Winter 2016/2017

Quarterly Newsletter

Upcoming Events in the Village:

• The **Holiday Tree Lighting** will be taking place on Friday, December 2, 2016 at Vassallo Park. The choir performance is scheduled to start at 5:30pm and the tree lighting will occur at 6pm. Light refreshments will be served. **The Village will also begin lighting a menorah** located at Benedict Blvd. and South Riverside Ave. beginning at sundown on December 24 and continuing for 8 nights.

• The **Croton Community Blood Drive** is scheduled for Sunday, December 4, 2016 from 9am to 3pm at the Croton-Harmon High School gym. Donors must be at least 110 lbs, 16 to 75 years old and healthy. Donors 76 and older must present a doctor's note. Those age 16 need parental permission. A valid photo ID must be presented. To help the committee plan for the event, please make an appointment by calling 271-7645 or emailing communityblood-drive@gmail.com.

• The **Pearl Harbor Day remembrance ceremony** will be held on Wednesday, December 7 at 5pm at the Harmon Fire House in Croton. The event is coordinated by the Cortlandt Hudson Valley Veterans' Committee and is hosted on a rotating basis between the Town of Cortlandt, Village of Buchannan, City of Peekskill and the Village of Croton-on-Hudson.

• **Teatown's Annual Hudson River Eaglefest** is set for Saturday, February 11, 2017 (rain/snow date is Sunday, Feb. 12), from 9 am to 4 pm. Croton Point Park will serve as the Headquarters for the event. In addition, there will be many other viewing locations around the Hudson and Croton Rivers, including at the Echo Canoe Launch where there will be a warming tent, Teatown educators and bird experts from collaborating organizations. General admission tickets provide entry to all the shows except the bus tour (tickets must be purchased separately). Ticket sales and more information are available online at www.teatown.org.

• This year's **Grievance Day** will be held on February 21st. Applications will be reviewed from 4pm to 8pm in the Stanley H. Kellerhouse Municipal Building. Every year on Grievance Day the Board of Trustees meets as the Board of Assessment Review to evaluate property owners' requests for a change in their property assessment. Applications for an assessment adjustment must be completed and filed with the Village Assessor, Joe Sperber, by 4pm on Grievance Day. Additional information is available on the Village website under the Assessor's Department. Residents can also stop by the Engineering Department in the Municipal Building or call 271-4783 for information.

****Please note that Village offices will be closed on the following dates: Friday, December 23 (Christmas Eve), Monday, December 26 (for Christmas Day), Monday, January 2 (for New Years Day), Monday, January 16 (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day) Monday, February 20 (President's Day).****

In This Issue

Tree Disposal	2
Community Safety Initiative	2
Winter Snow Removal and Parking	2
Renew Alarm Permits	3
Hydrilla Treatment	3
Weekend Parking Permits	3
Water Billing	3
Youth Recreation Programs	3
Adult Recreation Programs	4
Senior Recreation Programs	5
Recreation Registration Form	6

2016 Year in Review:

-Budget for Fiscal Year 2016-2017:
The budget for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 was adopted by the Board of Trustees in April of 2016, coming in under the New York State Tax Levy Cap. The budget included appropriations of $18,826,308 with $11,313,859.34 of that total being levied through property taxes. This marked a tax levy increase of .47% over last year's budget, making it tax cap compliant and enabling resident property owners to receive a rebate check from NYS.

-Capital Construction Projects:
In an effort to improve local roadways, a variety of street repaving and sidewalk improvement projects were undertaken throughout the Village over the past year. They included work on Cook Lane, Wolf Lane, Mt. Green Road, Old Post Road South, Morningside Drive, Sunset Drive, Truesdale Drive, Hamilton Avenue and Van Wyck Street. Additional street improvement projects will be conducted in 2017, as the upkeep of our local roadways are one of the Village's greatest priorities.

-The **water and sewer improvement project** on Farrington Road and Hunter Place is underway. The existing water and sewer mains in the area have been in use since the 1920's, leading to a variety of issues with water quality and the need for patchwork repairs to the sewer lines over the past decades. This project, once completed, will improve water quality through the replacement of water mains, update the sanitary sewer system, rehabilitate cracked and aging sidewalks, and conclude with the repaving of the streets.

-The **Sunset Park Playground replacement** was approved and will be completed in 2016. Last updated approximately 20 years ago, the playground equipment had met its suggested lifetime and was in need of replacement. A Working Group consisting of community members and Village staff was created to develop the design of the playground that best fit the character of the park's residential neighborhood and included play equipment that appealed most to the children of the Village.

-In 2016 the Village Board approved **converting the Municipal Building boiler from oil to natural gas**. Utilizing natural gas will save the Village money while reducing its carbon footprint. Furthermore, it will enable the Village to abandon an aging oil tank under the building's parking lot, which has the potential to become a fiscal and environmental liability.

-Funding to provide enhancements at Gouveia Park were approved in 2016. The work will focus on improving the park's entrance, widening the driveway and adding a gravel parking lot in order to open its use to the public.

-This winter the Village will be installing a new corrosion control system at the well field for the purpose of reducing copper levels in our delivered water supply that have exceeded standards in the past. The system, which consists of adding a small amount of an orthophosphate to the supply at the well field, will also reduce lead levels and complaints of rusty water. This system does not utilize zinc in the process. Similar systems are used by many water systems in Westchester County as well as New York City to reduce corrosion in their water supply. The corrosion control additive has been approved by the Westchester County Health Department for use in our water supply and, in conjunction with our recent cement lining

and water main replacement program, will improve water quality throughout the Village.

-Streamlining Processes/Efficiency

This year the Village joined the Empire State Purchasing Group in an effort to more competitively and efficiently bid the Village's capital projects. This system allows the Village to utilize one central online system to store and market public bids. The Village can now automatically notify vendors when bids are made public and match them with potential contractors containing certain skillsets. Ultimately, this process enables the Village's bids to reach a greater number of vendors, both increasing competition and resulting in lower prices for Village capital projects.

-Comprehensive Plan Update

Work on the Village's Comprehensive Master Plan has made progress over the past year. Last updated in 2003, the updated Comprehensive Master Plan will outline long term goals and objectives for all aspects of the Croton community.

Tree Disposal:

The Village DPW will be picking up discarded Christmas trees during the first two weeks of January. Decorations must be removed and trees should not be in bags.

Community Safety Initiative:

This year the Croton-Harmon School District and Village of Croton-on-Hudson are partnered on an initiative to increase community safety for drivers, pedestrians and bicyclists. The Village developed a campaign entitled "Slow Down Croton," while the School District supported the initiative through "Safe Routes to School." This two-pronged approach has brought awareness to the community for the need to enhance safety measures through public outreach, grassroots marketing and public presentation. The initiative is ongoing and residents are urged to pick up a free yard sign or bumper sticker at Village Hall.

Winter Snow Removal & Parking:

On-street parking is permitted during the winter, however residents must remove vehicles from streets if two or more inches of snow has accumulated to allow the DPW to clear the streets. Plowing will continue until the snow has stopped and streets have been cleared. Residents must move vehicles in anticipation of snow.

Residents without feasible on-site parking may apply for a Seasonal Overnight Parking permit at the Village Office. The permit fee ranges from $25-$100 based on the number of permits needed. Residents with these permits must still remove their vehicles from the streets no later than twelve hours after the snow has stopped falling. This policy also applies to all vehicles in Village-controlled lots, which includes the Asbury Methodist Church, behind the Holy Name of Mary Church, the west end of Benedict Blvd., and the Municipal Building parking lots.

Even with a seasonal overnight parking permit, there is no parking during snow events on:

- the north side of Grand St. between Old Post Rd. North and Riverside Ave.
- both sides of Benedict Blvd. and Maple St and Croton Point Ave.
- east side of Riverside Ave. between Brook St. and High St.
- east side of Old Post Rd. South (High School side) between Maple St. and Cleveland Dr.

Residents are obligated to clear their own sidewalks, and commercial establishments are required to keep their adjacent sidewalks clear between 9am and 5pm. Please keep in mind that it is a violation of Village Code and a safety hazard to shovel or blow snow into plowed streets.

Renew Alarm Permits Now:

Annual alarm system permits expire on December 31st. Residents with private alarm systems are required to have alarm permits, which can be obtained in the Village Office for an initial fee of $150. The annual $50 renewal invoice will be mailed to permit-holders in January.

Hydrilla Treatment in the Croton River:

Over the past year the Village and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) have been developing a plan to treat and control Hydrilla Verticillata (Hydrilla) in the Croton River. This past summer the DEC proposed funding a treatment program that would mitigate the growth of Hydrilla in the Croton River. Unfortunately, due to high water flow rates in the Croton River the treatment had to be delayed; however, the Village and the DEC continue to coordinate a treatment plan for 2017. A public meeting has been scheduled with the DEC for December 7th at 6:45pm in the Municipal Building's Meeting Room. More information will be provided as it becomes available. Please feel free to call the Village Manager's office at 271-4848 with any questions.

Weekend Parking Permits Expire:

Village residents with Weekend Parking Permits for the train station parking lot should be aware that they expire on December 31, 2016. New permits may be obtained at the Village office starting on December 1, 2016. A current car registration with a valid Village address is required. The new permits will be good for 2 years, through December 31, 2018.

Water Billing:

Most Village of Croton-on-Hudson homes are serviced with municipal potable water. A small number of homes in the village have private wells. Homes that have water service are billed twice a year for water consumption. On **December 15th**, semi-annual water bills will be sent out which are payable by Jan. 15th without penalty. Checks should be made payable to the **Village of Croton-on-Hudson** and can be mailed to the address on the front of the bill or paid in person at the Municipal Building. In addition, payments can be made online with a credit card or ACH. Past due accounts are assessed a 5% penalty for the first month of delinquency after the due date, and an additional 1% per month for each month thereafter. Accounts with a minimum past due amount of $25 on September 16th and March 16th will be assessed an additional **$100 delinquent charge.**

Online Registration and Payment Option for Winter 2017 Recreation Programs:

You can now register and pay for winter 2017 recreation programs online by visiting https://croton.seamlessdocs.com/f/registration via your computer or cell phone. Please note that there is a nominal processing fee when paying online.

Full Winter Brochure Can Be Found Online * You can also call the Recreation Department at: 271-3006 for more information.

Youth Activities

MAKE YOUR OWN GINGERBREAD HOUSE Act.# 1061 Sec. 1

Date: Thursday, December 15

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Location: Municipal Building Community Room

Fee:$20.00 Village residents

$25.00 School dist/non-residents

Grades: 4 – 6

Registration Deadline: December 8

All supplies will be included.

YOUNG REMBRANDTS
Act.# 1306 Sec. 1
Dates: Thursdays, beginning January 12
No class February 23
Time: 10:00 - 10:45 AM
Location: Municipal Building Community Room
Fee: $95.00 Village residents for 8 sessions
$115.00 School dist/non-residents
Ages: 3 1/2 – 5
Registration Deadline: January 5
Instructor: Young Rembrandts
Drawing classes for kids in Croton!

YOUTH BASKETBALL
Act.# 1400 Sec. 1
Dates: Saturdays, beginning January 7
Times: Grade 1 9:00 - 10:00 AM
Grade 2 10:00 - 11:00 AM
Grade 3 - 5 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Location: PVC New Gymnasium
Fee: $50.00 Village residents for 6 sessions
$60.00 School dist/non-residents
Registration Deadline: December 30
This is an instructional program.

KIDS WRESTLING Act.# 1065 Sec. 1
Dates/Time: Thursdays, begins January 19
7:00-8:00PM No class February 23
Location: PVC Old Gymnasium
Fee: $50.00 Village residents for 6 sessions
$60.00 School dist/non-residents
Grades: 3 - 8
Registration Deadline: January 12
This program will introduce basic techniques utilized in scholastic wrestling.

YOUTH LACROSSE Act.# 1075 Sec. 1
Dates: Saturdays, beginning March 4
Times: Grades 1 -2 9:00 - 10:00 AM
Grades 3 - 4 10:00 - 11:00 AM
Location: PVC New Gymnasium
Fee: $50.00 Village residents for 6 sessions
$60.00 School dist/non-residents
Registration Deadline: February 24
This non-competitive program provides an introduction to fundamental skills. Helmets are suggested; children must wear sneakers. Junior sticks and balls will be provided.

INVENTIONS WITH LITTLEBITS
Act.# 3076 Sec. 1
Date/Time: Wednesday, Febuary 22
9:00 AM - 2:30 PM
Location: Municipal Building Community Room
Fee: $85.00 Village residents
$105.00 School dist/non-residents
Grades: 2 - 5
Registration Deadline: Febuary 15
LittleBits is a platform of easy-to-use electronic building blocks that empower you to invent anything like your own remote controlled car to a smart home device!

BUGS, BIRDS, BEASTS & BEYOND
Act.# 3077 Sec. 1
Date/Time: Thursday, February 23
9:00 AM - 2:30 PM
Location: Municipal Building Community Room
Fee: $95.00 Village residents
$110.00 School dist/non-residents
Grades: K - 4
Registration Deadline: February 16
Come explore the natural world and its adaptations.

Ski Discount Ticket Program
Bromley (Manchester Center, VT)
regular midweek: $74 rec midweek: $46
regular weekend: $79 rec weekend: $63
Hunter Mountain (Hunter, NY)
regular midweek: $70 rec midweek: $51
regular weekend: $80 rec weekend: $62
Windham (Windham, NY)
regular midweek: $75 rec midweek: $59
regular weekend: $87 rec weekend: $67
Mtn. Creek (Vernon, NJ)
regular adult (19+): $75 rec adult: $58
regular youth (7-18): $60 rec youth: $44
regular triple play: $150 rec triple play: $96

Adult Activities

TAI CHI Act.# 2032 Sec. 2
Dates: Thursdays, beginning January 19
Time: 7:30 - 8:30 PM
Location: Municipal Building Community Room
Fee: $80.00 Village residents for 8 sessions
$95.00 School dist/non-residents
Registration Deadline: January 12

POUND! A FUN WORKOUT
Act.# 2036 Sec. 1
Dates: Wednesdays, beginning January 18
Time: 7:00 - 7:45 PM
Location: Municipal Building Community Room
Fee: $65.00 Village residents for 8 sessions
$80.00 School dist/non-residents
Registration Deadline: January 11
POUND is a 45-minute group fitness class that combines cardio, strength training and Pilates with drumming to achieve a full-body workout. Please bring a yoga mat or towel to work on.

YOGA CLASSES
Section l: Gentle Yoga l
Section 2: Gentle Yoga ll
Section 3: Yoga and Meditation lll
Section 4: Gentle Yoga lll
Please see the full Recreation Brochure for dates, fees, descriptions, and more.

Senior Activities

LOCAL EXPLORERS:
Jacob Burns Film Center/Movie Matinee
Wednesday, January 25
The Westchester Mall
Thursday, February 16
Westchester Broadway Theatre-"Mama Mia"
Thursday, March 30

CHARTER BUS TRIPS and TRAVEL:
Mohegan Sun Casino Thursday, March 16

MAH JONGG Act.# 2089 Sec. 3
Dates: Tuesdays, beginning January 17
Time: 10:30– 12:30 PM
Location: Recreation Conference Room
Fee: $65.00 Village residents for 8 sessions
$78.00 School dist/non-residents
Registration Deadline: January 10

CURRENT EVENTS Act.# 2125 Sec. 2
Dates: Thursdays, beginning January 26
Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Location: Recreation Conference Room
Fee: $48.00 Village residents for 8 sessions
$58.00 School dist/non-residents
Registration Deadline: January 19

SENIOR SING Act.# 2118 Sec. 1
Date: Tuesdays, beginning January 24
Time: 2:00 – 3:00 PM
Location: The Bennett Conservatory
Fee: $65.00 Village residents for 8 sessions
$75.00 School dist/non-residents
Registration Deadline: January 18

FITNESS FOR BALANCE
Mondays Act.# 2111 Sec. 1
Dates: Beginning January 23
Wednesdays Act.# 2111 Sec. 4
Dates: Beginning January 25
Time: 1:00 – 2:00 PM
Location: Recreation Conference Room
Fee: $65.00 Village residents for 8 sessions
$78.00 School dist/non-residents
Registration Deadline: January 16

INTERMEDIATE BALANCE
Act.# 2112 Sec.2
Dates: Wednesdays, beginning January 25
Time: 2:15 – 3:15 PM
Location: Municipal Building Community Room
Fee: $65.00 Village residents for 8 sessions
$78.00 School dist/non-residents
Registration Deadline: January 18

PAINTING WITH WATERCOLORS
Act.# 2100 Sec. 2
Dates: Mondays, beginning January 23
Time: 1:00 – 3:00 PM
Location: Municipal Building Community Room
Fee: $80.00 Village residents for 8 sessions
$95.00 School dist/non-residents
Registration Deadline: December 27

PAINTING WITH ACRYLICS
Act.# 2102 Sec. 1
Dates: Thursdays, beginning January 26
Time: 12:30 – 2:30 PM
Location: Municipal Building Community Room
Fee: $80.00 Village residents for 8 sessions
$95.00 School dist/non-residents
Registration Deadline: January 19

CHAIR YOGA Act.# 2110 Sec. 3
Dates: Mondays, beginning January 9

Village of Croton-on-Hudson
Recreation Department
Mail-in Registration Form/Release Form

Please print and use a separate form for each person. When mailing a form, please send separate checks for each program.

To register on line, please visit:
https://croton.seamlessdocs.com/f/registration

Participant's
Name_____ Date of Birth _____ Grade_____

Address_____

Parent's Name (if under 18)_____

Home Phone_____Work Phone_____

E-Mail_____

Emergency Name & Phone_____

Activity #	Section #	Program	Day	Fee
_____	_____	_____	_____	____
_____	_____	_____	_____	____
_____	_____	_____	_____	____

Total Due_____

I am enrolling myself/my child in programs offered by the Croton Recreation Department/ Village of Croton-on-Hudson. In so doing, I hereby waive, release and discharge the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, its employees and agents from any liability for injury to person or property that may arise from my/my child participating in these programs. I hereby also state that I will have health insurance for myself/my child in effect during the time I am engaging in any activities offered by the Croton Recreation Department, its agents or employees. I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Village of Croton-on-Hudson for any damages or injuries resulting from my or my child's intentional or negligent conduct.

_____ _____
Participant's Signature (parent or guardian if under 18) Date

Registration may be done using this "Mail-in Registration Form." Please be sure to complete all information, sign and enclose check(s) for the proper amount made payable to: **"Village of Croton" and mail to Municipal Building, One Van Wyck Street, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520.**

Village of **Croton-on-Hudson** New York

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

Gregory Schmidt, Mayor
Robert Anderson, Trustee
Ann Gallelli, Trustee
Brian Pugh, Trustee
Ken Walsh, Trustee

Janine King, Village Manager

www.crotononhudson-ny.gov

Presorted Standard
US Postage Paid
White Plains NY
Permit No 111