



February Calendar

- 6 & 21** Village Board Mtg.
- 14 & 28** Planning Bd. Mtg.
- 1** Cons. Advisory Council
- 8** Zoning Bd. of Appeals
- 15** Water Control Comm.
- 15** Visual Environ. Bd.
- 20** **Presidents Day**

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High Street Drainage Project

The 2003 Village-wide drainage analysis performed by Dvirka & Bartilucci Consulting Engineers (D&B) identified thirteen main drainage basins within the village. In the same analysis D&B recommended various improvements be made to improve the flow of water and reduce the potential for flooding as a result of major storm events. Four basins were given high priorities for improvements: Brook St. basin, High St. basin, Grand St. basin and Batten Road.

The Brook Street drainage basin has been addressed with the replacement of the outlet structure at Kaplan's Pond at its high point and the cleaning of the culverts in the lower area of Brook Street at its low end near the Hudson. These culverts had become clogged with sediment over many years. They were cleaned concurrently with the Yacht Club dredging project completed last year. Additional improvements are also being evaluated for this basin.

This year progress is being made on the High Street basin. A \$200,000 Water Quality Improvement grant from NYS has been received for improvements. The overall High Street improvement plan calls for the creation of a new detention pond on the uphill side of Old Post Rd. North near Mt. Green Rd. This property is owned by NYS and the Village is expecting approval in the near future. This pond would hold water back in times of major storm events. Water being released from the pond would flow downstream toward the Hudson River. The grant for this basin also includes improvements that will benefit downstream property owners including the Washington Fire House as a result of sediment reduction through installation of larger pipes. Ultimately water flowing through the High St. drainage basin goes under Route

9 to an area on property owned by Metro North known as the 'East Yard'. Some improvements may be made at that location as well.

In between these two proposed improvements, another storm water detention basin has been approved as part of a 3-lot subdivision approval on the south side of Old Post Rd. North between Prospect Ave. and High St. When this property is developed in accordance with its approval, the additional detention basin will provide a significant additional ability to reduce peak storm water flow rates in the High St. basin. As part of this project, new curbing along Old Post Rd. North and improved channeling will also benefit this basin.



View West Along High Street

Engineering design work for the improvements covered by the grant is being done by D&B as was the design work for the basin included in the approved subdivision. All work must be approved by the NYSDEC. The Village anticipates that bidding and contracts will be awarded by the summer or fall of 2006.

The storm water recommendations in the D&B report for all the drainage basins will ensure compliancy with the recent federally required Storm Water Phase 2 regulations which are far more stringent than in the past.

Sewer Concerns

Recently a sewer blockage on one of the Village streets resulted in a backup into one of the homes in the area. Using a "jetting" process the DPW was able to clear the line and observed that the blockage was diapers and/or rags.

Residents are reminded that large objects such as diapers, rags, soil or other such items should not be discharged through the sewer pipes. Also, commercial establishments must maintain a grease trap so as not to discharge large quantities of grease into the sanitary sewer system.

Gutters, down spouts and sump pumps are prohibited from being connected to the sanitary sewer system. The discharge of prohibited items into the sanitary sewer system may cause blockages and sewer backups and damage to pumps and other equipment. Blockages also increase the sewer maintenance costs such as "jetting" and pump replacements.

As the Village is not responsible for any damage caused by sewer backups, residents should consider purchasing a rider to their homeowners insurance that covers sewer backups.

Croton Seniors

A trip to Mohegan Sun Casino on Feb. 15th is one of the highlights of the Croton Seniors schedule of events for February. The bus trip, and a bonus package including a \$10. meal voucher and \$10. in pull tabs, are included in the \$2. cost. Registration is required by Feb. 3. A March 15th trip to see the show "The Light in the Piazza" at Lincoln Center and including lunch in NYC, is also available for registration now. The cost is \$59/71 (resident/non-resident) Seniors.



Two new "Creative Art Workshops" are also being added to the busy Senior schedule. They are being offered on Thurs., Feb. 2nd and Thurs., Mar. 2nd for 10:30-12:30 in the Community Room. The first workshop will focus on making scrapbooks and costs \$20. The second workshop is on making Greeting Cards and costs \$10. Workshops are limited to 15 participants and registration is required.

The February Film shown on Fri., Feb. 10th at 1:45 will be a romance film in anticipation of Valentines Day.

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- 1- Go to our Home page at www.crotononhudson-ny-gov
- 2- Click on 'Subscribe to News' box on lower left side.
- 3- In the pull down menu, select 'Subscribe'.
- 4- Select one of the three choices by checking its box:
Public Notices, Meeting Agendas, or Board Minutes
- 5- Provide your email address
- 6- Click on 'Send My Request'. You will receive a confirmation email message. Repeat 3 and 4 to subscribe to all three.

Public Hearing Pursuant to NYS

Eminent Domain Law

The Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing on February 8th at 8:00 p.m. at their regular meeting pursuant to NYS Eminent Domain Procedure Law. The purpose of the hearing is to determine the need for the 9.7+ acre parcel of property and improvements located at 1A Croton Point Ave. for a Public Works (DPW) facility and other public purposes, prior to acquisition of the property. The record owner of the property is Greentree Realty, LLC. No alternate sites are being considered for the DPW facility.

At the hearing, the Village will outline the need for and proposed use of the property and consider the impact on the environment and nearby residents.

Interested persons should attend the hearing to give oral and written statements and to submit other documents concerning the acquisition and public use of the property. Any property owner who may subsequently wish to challenge condemnation of the property may do so only on the basis of issues, facts, and objections raised at this hearing.

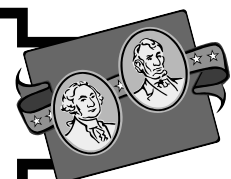
High Street Cont'd.

Additionally, a recently received Westchester County Community Block Development Grant (CDBG) grant of \$250,000 for 2007 for the High Street area will result in infrastructure improvements to the sanitary sewer system and rehabilitation of cracked and aging sidewalks and curbs. Work will include installing a new sanitary sewer main, installation of manholes, and replacement of drainage inlets.



Reminder!

The Village Offices will be closed on Mon., February 20th for Presidents Day.



Spotlight on Dan Turner

Dan Turner has been a Croton police officer for 14 years. A Sergeant for more than four years, Dan joined the force as a Patrol officer in 1991 with 3 years of experience on the Mt. Vernon Police force.

As a Sergeant, Dan supervises the officers who are on patrol in the village while he is on duty. He also handles all the communications into and out of the department such as 911, fire dispatch and ambulance calls.

As a member of the department's 6-man emergency response team for 12 years, he has received specialized training in FBI courses on special weapons, defensive tactics, high-risk warrants and arresting techniques. He thinks training in use of "less than lethal" weapons has given them more options

in dealing with serious and potentially dangerous situations. Additionally, Dan is also coordinating a team of Sergeants and Croton's two Lieutenants in performing a complete review of department policies. This includes day-to-day operations and special operations such as emergencies like dealing with hostage situations and suspicious packages. The implementation of a new police computer system is also requiring some policy changes.

Until recently, Dan has been Vice President (6 years) and then President (4 years) of the Croton Police Association (CPA). In this capacity, along with three others, he has been involved in the negotiations for the last three police contracts. Dan feels the relationship between the

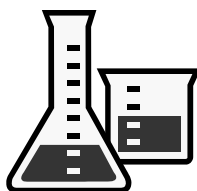
CPA and the Village has been a good one over the years.

Growing up in Yorktown, Dan graduated from Lakeland High School and received an Associate degree in Criminal Justice. He is currently working on his Bachelor's at Mercy. Dan lives in Wappingers Falls with his wife, Jodi, and his three daughters ages 6, 9, and 11. He says he goes to his 'fair share' of PTA meetings and enjoys watching his daughters in their gymnastic and dance endeavors. With his oldest daughter on her school ski team, Dan is looking forward to returning to the sport himself. He also enjoys bass fishing in his boat.



"I like having a positive impact on day-to-day operations. Passing on knowledge to new officers and seeing them develop and cultivate their own cases is something I enjoy."

Dan Turner



Chemical Magic

The Recreation Dept. is offering this fun learning experience on Tues. Feb. 21st during the school break. Students from Grades 1 to 5 will learn chemistry concepts in a fun and hands-on style. Learning concepts include atoms and bonding, exothermic and endothermic chemical reactions, chemiluminescence, acids and bases, polymer chemistry and much more. All students will have the opportunity to make green flubber, glow in the dark slime, mushroom monsters, silly putty, radial chromatography, gak bouncy ball, bubbling lava lamp-like blobs, and more. Plus there will be exciting chemical magic demonstrations that will knock your socks off!

The cost is \$45/\$54 (resident/non-resident). The Chemical Magic experience will be from 9:00 am to 2:45 pm in the Municipal Building Community Room. Students must bring a non-perishable lunch as they will not be permitted to leave during the day. The registration deadline is February 15.

Sanitation Collection Calendar

A color-coded calendar was recently sent to all household. The complete year's collection schedule is shown along with a list of all Village holidays on which there will be no collections. Please save it for reference.

CHN Land Transferred to Village

The Village Board accepted a transfer of 3.5 acres of land from the Croton Housing Network (CHN) at its Jan. 17th meeting. The land was previously part of the 8-acre Mount Airy Woods parcel. At the same time, the Village merged the 3.5-acre parcel with a .6-acre parcel owned by the Village, known as the McClure property, to form a 4.09-acre parcel. The Board also authorized the Village Manager to convey this new parcel to Westchester County for the purpose of creating new affordable housing units. The CHN intends to develop an 11-unit, 3-story building to help meet the need for affordable housing for Seniors. The project is known as Symphony Knoll in recognition of the late Levina McClure.

The Village Board is the Lead agency for the environmental review of this project. Under NYS SEQRA law.

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February, 2006

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

Got a Question?



I received a letter telling me that my property assessment has changed. I do not agree with the new amount. What can I do about it?



Each year the Village Treasurer's office sends letters to property owners whose property assessment has changed notifying them of their new assessment. This is usu-

ally as a result of an improvement to their property. If you received such a letter and disagree with your assessment, you may "grieve" it at a once-a-year meeting known as Grievance Day.

In the Village of Croton, the Board of Trustees also act as the Board of Assessors. They are required by law to meet once a year to consider the applications of property owners who feel their assessment is incorrect. This year, Grievance Day is February 21. The Board will be available from 4 pm to 8 pm to review the applications.

Applications for grievances must be completed and

filed with the Assessor prior to 4 pm on the day of the hearing. Applications are available at the Assessor's office, located in the Village Engineer's office, as is a publication containing procedures for contesting an assessment. You may call the Assessor's office at 271-4783 if you have any questions regarding filing a grievance.



Where can I obtain a license for my dog?

NYS Law requires every dog to be licensed. Licenses are valid only for as long as the dog's rabies vaccination so it is wise to coordinate both. Licenses may be obtained at the Village Office in the Municipal Building upon presenting a current rabies certificate. Dogs should be licensed at the age of 4 months. The fees range from \$7.50 to \$15.50. Part of the fee is used by NYS to offset spay/neutering clinics.

Service dogs such as seeing-eye dogs, therapy dogs and detection dogs used by the police are exempt from the fee with appropriate documentation.

