

## February Meeting Calendar

- 3 & 18** Village Bd. Mtg.
- 5** Cons. Adv. Council
- 10** Div. & Inc. Comm.
- 11 & 25** Planning Bd. Mtg.
- 11** Rec. Advisory Comm.
- 12** Zoning Bd. Mtg.
- 12** BOT Work Session
- 18** Bike/Ped Comm.
- 25** Fire Council

Please call the Village office at 271-4848 or check the Village website at [www.crotononhudson-ny.gov](http://www.crotononhudson-ny.gov) for times/locations of individual meetings.

## Grievance Day Information

Every year, the Board of Trustees meets as the Board of Assessors for the purpose of evaluating property owners requests for a change in their property assessment. This is known as Grievance Day. This year, the Board will meet on Tuesday, February 18th to review applications from 4 to 8 PM in the Municipal Building. Applications for a tax adjustment must be completed and filed with the Village Assessor, Thomas Waitkins, prior to 4 PM on Grievance Day.

To help you understand whether you should file a tax grievance to reduce your residential property assessment, perform the following calculation:

Divide your property's current assessed valuation by the 2020 Residential Assessment Ratio (RAR) which is .0334. The result will provide the estimated market value of the property.

For example, if your property is assessed at \$15,000, the 2020 RAR will yield a market value of \$449,101. This calculation may help you decide whether to file a grievance to try to lower the assessment. Commercial properties follow a different procedure.

More information can be found on the Village website or by calling the Engineering Dept. office at 271-4783.

## Census 2020 Information

Census Day is April 1, 2020 - are you prepared to be counted?

We have posted a wealth of information on our Census 2020 webpage - including a copy of the sample questionnaire, a video presentation from Norma Drummond, Westchester County Planning Commissioner and much more. The link to the webpage is: <https://www.crotononhudson-ny.gov/village-manager/pages/census-2020>.

It is vitally important that every resident of the Village take time to fill out the Census questionnaire - each resident not counted can cost the Village up to \$4,000 in funding!

If you have any questions regarding the 2020 Census, you are encouraged to reach out to the Village Manager's Office at 271-4848.



Have you joined the Village on Social Media yet?

Facebook: Search for the Village of Croton-on-Hudson, NY

Twitter: Search for VillageCroton

Instagram: Search for VillageofCroton

Sign up for Village emails by going to [crotononhudson-ny.gov](http://crotononhudson-ny.gov).

*Stay connected!*

## **Reminder: Sign Up for Paperless Billing**

The Village Treasurer's Office reminds all residents that paperless billing is available for both the quarterly utility bills and the annual Village property tax bills.

The Village is happy to offer this service to residents as it has been a frequent request over the years. Residents can opt in to receive utility bills via email and tax bills via email. It is important to note that residents will no longer receive bills via US Mail if they sign up for paperless billing.

Residents can sign up by going to [www.crotononhudson-ny.gov](http://www.crotononhudson-ny.gov), clicking "Online Forms" and then clicking "Utility/Tax Bill Email Form" under the Village Treasurer section.

As a reminder, bills can also be paid online at the above link. If you have any questions, please call the office at 862-1419.

## **2020 Veterans Banner Program**

The Village of Croton-on-Hudson will be sponsoring a veterans banner program in 2020. Designed to honor Village residents who have served in the armed forces, the banners will serve as a reminder throughout the year of their courage and sacrifice for all residents of our Village, state and country.

Banners will be hung on the various street poles throughout the Village from Memorial Day to Veterans Day. The cost of a banner is \$200. Once the banner is removed, it will be given to the family which purchased the banner as a keepsake.

To order a banner, please visit <https://croton.seamlessdocs.com/f/VeteranBanner> to complete the form and upload a photo. All orders should be submitted no later than April 30, 2020. If you have any questions, regarding this program, please contact Bryan Healy at 271-4848 or [bhealy@crotononhudson-ny.gov](mailto:bhealy@crotononhudson-ny.gov).

## **New York State Plastic Bag Ban**

The New York State plastic bag ban goes into effect on March 1, 2020. The legislation bans the provision of single-use, plastic carryout bags at any point of sale. Under the new law, garment bags, trash bags and any bags used to wrap or contain certain foods, such as fruits and sliced meats are exempt from the ban. New York joins California and Hawaii as the only states where single-use plastic bags are banned.

Here are some simple suggestions on how each of us can cut back our use of all plastics, not just bags:

1. Stop using plastic straws, even in restaurants. If a straw is a must, purchase a reusable stainless steel or glass straw.
2. Use reusable bags for all of your shopping: food, clothes, etc. (canvas is Eco friendly and lasts years).
3. Choose paper boxes or glass containers over plastic ones. Often, products like laundry detergent come in cardboard which is more easily recycled than plastic.
4. Reuse containers for storing leftovers.
5. Use a reusable bottle or mug for your beverages, even when ordering from a to-go shop.
6. Bring your own container for take-out or for your restaurant doggy-bag.
7. Pack your lunch in reusable containers and bags.
8. Use a razor with replaceable blades instead of a disposable razor.
9. Don't throw away those plastic bread bags—reuse them!

For more information on the upcoming plastic bag ban, residents should visit the New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation website at: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/50034.html>.

**Reminder! Village offices will be closed on February 17th in observance of Presidents Day.**

## Recreation Happenings for February

A full schedule of events for middle school students are planned for this Winter. All trips and drop-ins are on Friday evenings. There will be bowling at Jefferson Valley Lanes on February 7th and drop-in at the Rec on February 28th. Call 914-271-4668 to make your reservation today!

There are also many youth activities available this Winter! Join the fun during the winter break and sign up for Mini Robotics on Thursday, February 20th, from 9 AM to 2:30 PM, at the Municipal Building.

Adult programs beginning in February include Gentle Yoga II on February 26th and Yoga: Strengthen, Relax and Renew on February 27th. Registration is ongoing for these classes.

Fun and exciting programs are being planned for the Croton Seniors! Sign up today for Acrylic Painting beginning February 5th. Senior shopping to the JV Mall is scheduled for February 13th. Call 271-3006 to register!

The Winter 2020 Brochure, listing all recreation programs for youth, adults and seniors, is available on the Village website and in the Recreation Office. You may also call 271-3006 for more information.

If you have not signed up to receive the recreation email blasts, please do so by visiting the Village website and clicking on "Subscribe to News".

The Village of Croton-on-Hudson & Croton 100  
are proud to sponsor

### THE FACTS ON CLIMATE CHANGE



Presented by Robert Whittaker of the Climate Education Project

**Thursday, February 13, 2020 at 7:30pm**  
Georgianna Grant Meeting Room  
Stanley H. Kellerhouse Municipal Building  
1 Van Wyck Street, Croton-on-Hudson

An educational discussion of the essential facts we need to know to understand global warming and climate change, including:

- The role humans play compared to nature
- The current and future consequences and the projected timeline
- Viable clean energy alternatives
- Specific actions that we can take to mitigate the damage and protect future generations

THE CROTON-ON-HUDSON  
DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE  
INVITES YOU TO ATTEND:

## People Not Property

AN INTERACTIVE DOCUMENTARY  
PRESENTED BY  
HISTORIC HUDSON VALLEY

*Expanding the way in which we  
approach the history of slavery.*

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24  
FROM 7 - 9 P.M.**

CROTON FREE LIBRARY  
OTTINGER ROOM  
171 CLEVELAND DRIVE  
CROTON-ON-HUDSON, NY 10520

Questions? Email [COH.DI.Committee@gmail.com](mailto:COH.DI.Committee@gmail.com).



In Recognition  
of Black  
History Month



## February 2020 Newsletter

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
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1 Van Wyck Street  
Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520

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

Brian Pugh, Mayor  
Ann Gallelli, Trustee  
John Habib, Trustee  
Sherry Horowitz, Trustee  
Andy Simmons, Trustee

Janine King, Village Manager  
Bryan Healy, Newsletter Editor

[www.crotononhudson-ny.gov](http://www.crotononhudson-ny.gov)

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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### **Hudson River Eaglefest**

Join Teatown as they celebrate Hudson River Eaglefest on Saturday, February 8th, at Eagle Headquarters in Croton Point Park! Festivities include live bird shows, food trucks, children's activities, and more - all in heated tents! The snow date for the event is Sunday, February 9th.

For more information, including how to purchase tickets, please visit [www.teatown.org/eaglefest](http://www.teatown.org/eaglefest).

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#### **Snowman Contest Returns!**

Have your family build a snowman anytime this winter, take a picture of the snowman and its builder and send a photo to the Croton Recreation Department by noon on March 6th. Categories are: a) "Typical Snowman" and b) "Snow Sculpture" (animal, etc.).

Be sure to include name, address and phone number when sending the photo. Prizes will be awarded for both categories. Village & school district residents may participate. Send the photo to Debra Lopano, Recreation Assistant, at [dlopano@crotononhudson-ny.gov](mailto:dlopano@crotononhudson-ny.gov).

#### **Ice Skating at Duck Pond**

Weather permitting, there will be UNSUPERVISED ice skating on the Duck Pond, Bungalow Road. The Recreation Department requires 6" (six inches) of ice for skating.

A GREEN FLAG indicates the ice is safe. A RED FLAG indicates it is unsafe and skating is not permitted. Even when the ice is safe, for your own protection, never go skating by yourself.