



March Calendar

- 5 & 19** Village Board Mtg.
- 13 & 27** Planning Bd. Mtg.
- 20** **Village Election Day**
- 7** Cons. Advisory Council
- 13** Recreation Adv. Comm.
- 14** Zoning Bd. of Appeals
- 21** Water Control Comm.
- 21** Visual Environ. Bd.
- 21** Trails Committee

In this issue

- Ed Walsh Retires 2
- Traffic Circle Rules 2
- Spring Window painting 2
- Moody's Bond Rating 2
- Croton Seniors 2
- Employee Spotlight 3
- Village Elections 3
- Budget Work Sessions 3
- Bee-Line and MetroCard 3
- Got a Question? 4

NYPA Solar Power Grant

The New York Power Authority (NYPA) has granted seven Westchester communities including Croton \$75,000 in funding to install solar power demonstration projects.



In a presentation to the Village Board on Feb. 5th, Chuck Herman, an Engineer with NYPA, explained both the program goals and the

Croton project.

NYPA is the largest non-federal electric utility in the US. In their announcement, NYPA stated that their solar project is intended to demonstrate that solar power can be a practical and environmentally beneficial way to meet the electric needs of public buildings and reduce petroleum dependence.

Since 1995, NYPA has installed over 24 photovoltaic systems across the state. These recent grants are funded through Petroleum Overcharge Restitution (POCR) funds which resulted from a court settlement relating to oil company violations of federal price controls in the 1970s and 1980s.

In Croton, the photo-voltaic panels will be installed as a flat installation on the roof of the Harmon Engine House on Benedict Blvd. This method of installation maximizes generation during the summer and minimizes system weight and footprint. It also eliminates roof penetrations. It will be connected to a small (2' by 2') inside wall-mounted installation that provides two inverters to convert DC power from the solar panels to AC power. The power will be connected to the building through an AC circuit breaker.

Each project will also have a real-time display of the power being generated and data about the sunlight, temperature and amount of electricity produced.

NYPA will install the equipment and provide for its startup and documentation. The Village will then take over the ownership of the installation. Once installed it will provide power to the Harmon Engine House. It is expected to produce approximately 6 kilowatts of energy per year—enough power to supply about two average-sized homes.

Although Croton did not directly apply for this grant, the Village came to the attention of NYPA as a result of asking NYPA to perform an energy audit of its municipal power usage late last year.

Green Power Leadership

As Croton currently purchases 25% of its municipal power requirements from a "green" resource - wind-generated power - it had been identified as a Green Power Partner by the US EPA. Based on the Village's purchasing record, the EPA recently upgraded Croton to be a member of the EPA's Green Power Leadership Club. (See www.epa.gov/greenpower/partners/leadershipclub.htm).

Retaining this status will be a matter of discussion in upcoming budget discussions as the EPA has also increased the amount of

"green power" that must be purchased to retain this status. Our 25% current purchase of green power would have to increase to 60% at approximately \$0.10 per kilowatt hour. The Village's current municipal power usage is 2,131,000 kilowatts annually. The 2006/2007 Budget allocated \$288,000 for electric power.



Traffic Circle at Wells and Olcott

The Village has received a number of inquiries about the Wells Ave. traffic circle regarding vehicles that reportedly have been traversing the circle in the wrong direction. Residents are reminded that for this circle, and all traffic circles, traffic rules require vehicles to travel in a counterclockwise direction while maintaining a safe speed around the circle. Apparently some drivers are attempting to travel in a clockwise direction in order to make a quicker left-hand turn rather than traveling the full 3/4 distance around the circle. This could



Circle at Wells and Olcott

result in an accident between two cars or a car and a pedestrian.

Please show consideration for your neighbors by driving slowly in this area and that of other traffic circles by following the

posted one-way directional signage around the circle. Similar concerns have been expressed for Gotwald Circle at the intersection of Benedict Blvd. and Cleveland Dr. The Police Dept. has been informed of this safety issue and will be increasing enforcement of these rules.

Longtime DPW Ass't. Foreman Retires



After 33 years with the Village of Croton's DPW, Ed Walsh has retired from his position as Ass't. General Foreman.

In this position, Ed dealt with sanitation, streets, signs, trees, and sewers

on a daily basis. In his retirement, Ed is hoping to devote more time to an embroidery business he and his wife, Noreen, started a few years ago. They design and embroider caps, tee shirts, and other articles of clothing for teams and businesses.

At his retirement party at Washington Engine Co. where he is a volunteer fireman, Ed was feted by all the staff of the Village. He said his first act as a retiree was to throw out the alarm clock. Enjoy your retirement Ed!!

Spring Recreation - Special Events

Spring Window Decorating. This family fun event is just that - it's not a contest. Store windows around the Village will be assigned to participants by the Recreation Dept. The first day for painting is April 2. They must be completed by April 6. Watch for flyers distributed in the schools later this month for enrollment details for this fun event. There is no charge to sign up.



Lunch with the Bunny. All Village and School District children are invited to have lunch with the spring bunny on Saturday, March 31 at 11:30 AM. The lunch will be in the C.E.T. Multi-purpose room and costs \$5.00 per family. Space is limited and each family must be pre-registered. The deadline for sign-up is March 27th.



Moody's Assigns A1 Bond Rating

Moody's Investor Service has assigned an A1 rating to Croton's \$1.4 million Public Improvement Serial Bonds. The report cites the Village's well-managed financial operations "with ample reserves; wealthy, moderately sized economic base marked by recent reductions in taxable value and an affordable debt position."

Croton /Seniors Club

Croton Seniors are looking ahead to the annual St. Patrick's Day luncheon on Friday, March 16th. Remember, you must be a member to take part in this event.

In preparation for its 50th Anniversary celebration in October, the Club is gathering pictures and other remembrances of its highlights over the years. According to Yvonne Beldotti, the Senior Coordinator of the club, its first meeting in October 1957, was attended by 12 people—10 women and 2 men. Today the club has 162 active members.

In February, Superintendent of Schools, Marjorie Castro, gave the Seniors an overview of programs in the schools including special education, wellness and computer programs. The school district provides "Golden Passes" for Seniors which were distributed during her talk. The passes enable Seniors to attend School District events at no cost.



Reminder to Vote!

Tuesday, March 20th is Village Election Day!



Spotlight on Paul Camillieri

Paul Camillieri has been a Croton Police Officer for eight years, since 1998. He came to Croton after two years with the North Tarrytown Police Dept.

As a Croton patrolman, Paul alternates between desk duty and being in one of Croton's police cars that are always on patrol in the Village.

While on patrol, Paul and his fellow police officers respond to a large variety of calls ranging from vehicle and traffic violations, fires, domestic disputes, suspicious activity and breaking and entering. Additionally, they are often called on to deal with wild animals, residents being locked out of their homes and other types of household emergencies—especially in severe weather situations.

While on desk duty, Paul receives all 911 calls, dispatches fire and medical aid services and, when needed, exchanges alerts with neighboring police jurisdictions. There is also a great deal of accompanying paperwork that accompanies every call taken and incident attended. Paul describes his job as being a very busy one especially during severe weather emergencies. To help in his job, he is currently studying Spanish.

Paul grew up in North Tarrytown and graduated from Sleepy Hollow High School. He received his Bachelor's degree from Pace University in Accounting. Although he worked in accounting jobs during college, after graduation he turned to police work as his desired career.

Paul is now a Village resident, moving here four years ago with his wife, Ilene, and their children. They are the parents of a daughter, Madeleine-7, two sons, Carmelo-6, and Gabriel-2. Another child is expected in April.

Paul finds that his schedule of shifts works well with his young family—allowing him to be home often during the daytime.

One of his favorite pursuits is wine-making with his brother and brother-in-law. They make both red and white every Fall—a family tradition. He has also enjoyed traveling in Europe, especially many family trips to Italy and a trip to Ireland. He and Ilene also love the beach.



"I enjoy being a police officer in Croton. We are a 'one-call', do everything shop, whether it is exactly police work or not. We help out."

Paul Camillieri

Village Elections

On Tuesday, March 20, the annual Village Election will take place. This year the Mayoral seat and two Trustee seats will be up for election. All voting will take place from 6 am to 9 pm in the Community Room in the basement of the Municipal Building.



Mayor Gregory Schmidt and Trustee Thomas Brennan are running for reelection, along with Susan Konig, on the Alliance line.

On the Democratic and Croton Taxpayer ballot lines, Trustee Ann Gallelli is seeking the Mayoral spot, while Trustee Leo Wiegman and Sally Odland are seeking the Trustee positions.

Watch for the election results to be shown live on Channel 78 on election night about 9:30 pm.

Weekend Parking Pass Reminder

The Village has begun to enforce its new Weekend Parking passes that allow residents to park free at the railroad station on weekends and holidays. Without the pass, your car will be ticketed. They are obtainable at the Village office or calling 271-4781.

Budget Work Sessions

In preparation for adopting the Village Budget on April 23, the Village staff will begin meeting with the Board of Trustees in work sessions to discuss each department's budget. These sessions are open to all and are scheduled to occur on Mar. 22, Mar. 26, Mar. 28 and Mar. 31, April 11 and April 18. The public hearing on the budget will be April 9, at 8 pm.

Reduced Fare Metro Card for Seniors

Starting April 1, the Metro Card can be used by all riders on Westchester's Bee-Line buses. After that only coins or a MetroCard can be used - **but not dollar bills**. If you use coins, the bus fare for seniors 65 or older is still 85 cents and 10 cents for a transfer. With a Reduced Fare Metro Card, seniors pay \$1 per ride, which includes a transfer to any Bee-Line local bus or to a NYC subway or bus. Using a Reduced Fare MetroCard eliminates needing exact change, plus you can get bonuses and discounts. For instance, if you put \$10 or more on the "Pay-per-Ride" Reduced Fare Metro Card, you get a 20% bonus—12 trips for the price of 10.

A Reduced Fare MetroCard is a photo-id card that is available for seniors 65 or older. To get an application for the card, call MetroCard at 1-800-METROCARD, the Bee-Line at 914-813-7777 or go online at www.mta.info.

March, 2007

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
WHITE PLAINS, NY
PERMIT NO 111

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

Gregory J. Schmidt, Mayor
Thomas P. Brennan, Trustee
Ann H. Gallelli, Trustee
Charles A. Kane, Trustee
Leo A. W. Wiegman, Trustee

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

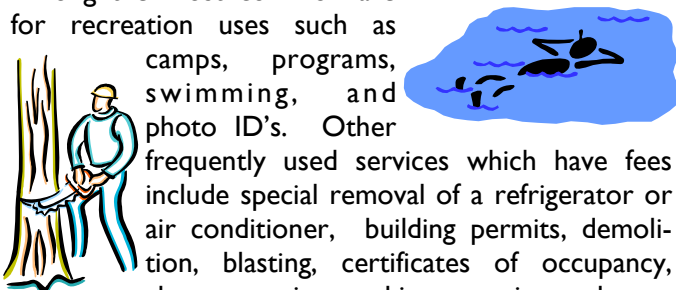
Got a Question?



I know many Village services require the payment of a fee. How can I find out what fees are in effect?

The Village charges fees for many services it provides. Among the most common are for recreation uses such as camps, programs, swimming, and photo ID's. Other frequently used services which have fees include special removal of a refrigerator or air conditioner, building permits, demolition, blasting, certificates of occupancy, alarm permits, parking permits and tree removal permits. The Village has a Master Fee Schedule that specifies the exact amounts for each.

The current fee schedule is available for viewing on the Village's website. Click on Fee Schedule under Quick Links on the Home page. The current Fee Schedule dates from June 1, 2006. From time to time, the Village Board, on the advice of the departments involved, approve changes to the schedule.



My family and I really enjoy walking in the woodlands on Croton's many trails. How are they maintained and can the average resident help?

Croton is fortunate to have an active Trails Committee under the leadership of resident Jan Wines. The committee regularly meets to work on new trail extensions as well as maintaining and clearing and re-blazing existing village trails. In this effort, they are frequently aided by the Village DPW and Parks staff as well as other entities such as Hudson National Golf Course. They also are planning for future links and in grant application development.

In 2006, the committee established a new segment of the Highland Trail between the golf course and the Saw Mill River Audubon Society Brinton Brook Sanctuary. With help from the Village Engineer, Dan O'Connor, they marked out a connecting link between Symphony Knoll and the River Landing Trail segment. Trail system maps are available in the Village Office. To join this effort, email Jan Wines at jwines@crotononhudson-ny.gov.