

The Croton-on-Hudson **Village Newsletter**

September 2003

Number 53

September Calendar

- 1 Labor Day Holiday**
- 2 & 15 Village Board Mtg.**
- 9 & 23 Planning Bd. Mtg.**
- 17 Visual Environment Bd.**
- 3 Cons. Advisory Council**
- 10 Zoning Board**
- 17 Water Control Comm.**

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Waterfront Developments

Over the summer some significant steps occurred which will lead to improved access to our waterfront. On July 9th a ceremony at Discovery Cove at Half Moon Bay celebrated the construction of a segment of trail that will connect a County Trail to the south with a trail segment to be constructed along the new road to the north of the Half Moon Bay bridge. As part of the site plan approval of Discovery Cove and with the cooperation of Metro North, the trail is near completion from north to south along the development's eastern edge. The southern portion is on Discovery Cove's property and the northern portion is on Metro North's. The picture below shows the trail section near its north end on the Metro North side where it will eventually connect to the new road and trail continuing north to Senasqua Park and River Landing.



Preliminary work on the new road from Half Moon Bay north to Senasqua Park is beginning to take place. The land is being cleared and prepared for construction as shown below.



The costs of the new road, in excess of \$4 million, are being fully covered by funds from Metro North, and Federal ISTEA and TIP programs. When completed, the new access to our waterfront parks will include a pedestrian and bicycle path and a green esplanade with benches and landscaping, providing an unimpaired view of the Hudson River. The currently existing tunnel access to Senasqua will be converted to a pedestrian and bicycle access route and the railroad grade crossing at Brook St. will close. These two waterfront projects will add an additional mile to Croton's growing trail system.

Maple St. Continues Improvements

New curbing has been installed this summer on Maple Street on the east side between Van Cortlandt St. and Municipal Place. The work is part of the on-going improvements on Maple St., adding both sidewalks and curbing. Future improvements will be done in the section of Maple St. near Dobbs Park and the Maple/Grand intersection.



Stormwater Phase II Regulations



In the April 2003 Newsletter, the first two of the six minimum stormwater control measures required by the EPA were discussed: **Public Education & Outreach** and **Public Involvement**

& Participation. The federal regulations are aimed at cleaning up the water that is discharged from storm water sewer systems into our waterways, both small and large. The third minimum control measure is **Detection & Elimination of Illicit Connections** - this article's focus.

This measure is aimed at distinguishing between legitimate sources of dry weather discharges to storm sewers (e.g. residential car washing, foundation drains, basement sump pumps) and illicit discharges into catch basins (e.g. septic tank overflows, dumped motor oil, paint, chemicals or fertilizers). The Village's role is to investigate any reported illicit connections or improper disposal into the storm sewer system.

Illicit discharges enter the system through either direct connections (piping connected to storm drains—mistakenly or deliberately), or indirect connections (cracked sanitary sewer pipes, spills collected by drain outlets or deliberate dumping).

The result is untreated discharges that contribute high

levels of pollutants (heavy metals, toxins, oil, grease, solvents, nutrients, viruses and bacteria) into receiving water bodies. These pollutant levels have been shown to significantly degrade water quality and threaten aquatic, animal and human health.

Your help is needed with this issue. You can help by identifying illicit connections (for instance, a washing machine connected to a pipe leading to a storm water sewer), witnessing illegal dumping into the sewer system, or smelling or seeing something in a storm drain that you don't think should be there like paint, oil, soap suds or sewage. Please report such information to the Dept. Of Public Works at 271-3775.

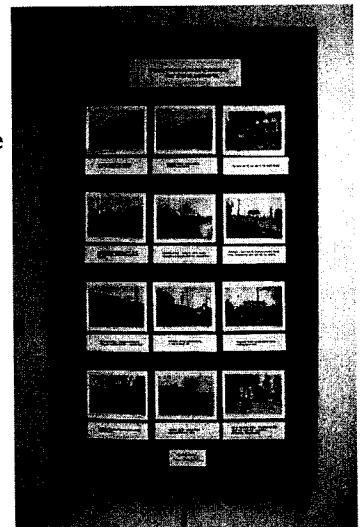
Reports will be investigated. Methods may include dye tests, smoke tests, random checks on homes, field sampling, field screening, review of maps and house plans, and notification for self-identification and self-elimination with a given grace period to be followed by fines. Please call the DPW with any questions you may have about illicit discharges or connections.



Historical Society News

The Croton-on-Hudson Historical Society was formed in 1972 and chartered under the NYS Board of Regents to collect and preserve historical materials relating to the Village and make them available to the public. Under Village Historian Joyce Finnerty, the Society's volunteers maintain the 1st floor History Room in the Municipal Building where they meet regularly on Mondays from 9-1 (Tuesdays, if Monday is a holiday). Anyone interested in viewing the materials there is welcome to come at that time. If more time is needed for research, an appointment can be made by calling 271-4574. The Society also has a museum in the Croton Free library which is free and open when the library is open. Exhibits change periodically.

Currently the Society is asking for help in establishing a collection of data about the houses in Croton. You can help them by providing the following material about your house: a picture of the house, year it was built and name of builder, type of construction, name of previous owner(s), location, interesting facts about the house. Send your information to the Village Historian, 1 Van Wyck St., Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520



Pictures of 1930's houses in Croton on the wall outside the History Room.

Reminder!

The Village Offices will be closed on Monday, September 1st for the National Labor Day Holiday!

Spotlight on Richie Lent

Richie Lent is a very familiar face around the Village. Most residents encounter Richie reading their water meters, but his job encompasses many other aspects.

As a Water Maintenance Man—Grade 1, Richie works at the Village's well fields, performs maintenance on the Village's water pumps and repairs water main breaks if they occur anywhere in the Village.

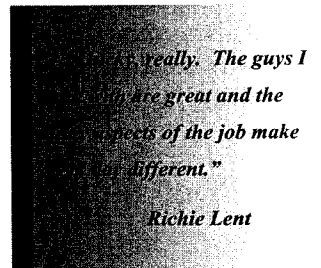
Richie has been employed by the Village for 13 years in the Water Department since 1990, after spending a very brief period at the Village

garage. Prior to that time, he worked for Harper Construction doing masonry work.

When Richie started his employment in the Water Department, all the work was done manually. The pumps had to be physically turned on and off at the appropriate times every day throughout the week. Now they go on and off automatically for the most part and are only manually operated as an exception. Water meter reading was also done manually, but now is gradually becoming automated as a result of the ongoing Village program to install transmitters

on each meter which will be able to be read by a receiver from a vehicle in the street. Richie is busy installing these water meter transmitters throughout the Village these days. The project is about one third complete.

Originally from the Fishkill area, Richie lived in Croton for awhile and then moved back after marrying. Along with his wife and two daughters, ages 10 and 8, Richie enjoys working around his house and going to the Jersey shore in the good months, particularly the Spring Lake area.



Advertise Your Event on Our Website

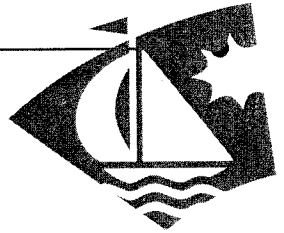


Non-profit, non-political Croton-on-Hudson organizations wishing to publicize an event may email their information to janking@bestweb.net. The information will be put on the Events Calendar of the Village website as deemed appropriate.

Other Website reminders: Information about meetings, the minutes of meetings previously held, the complete Village Code, the newly adopted Comprehensive Plan, upcoming events and public announcements can all be found at our website. Some information can also be emailed to you directly as it is posted to the website if you sign up to receive it.

To sign up for automatic receipt of this information, click on the "EMAIL Subscriber" box at the lower right-hand corner of the Home Page. The next screen has two boxes to fill in. The first allows you to subscribe or unsubscribe. The second (Mail List) asks you to specify what information you want to receive: Public Notices, Public Meeting Agendas, or Board of Trustees Minutes. If you wish to receive all three types of information, you will need to fill out this page once for each type.

Senior News



After a busy summer of activities and meetings at Senasqua Park, Croton's Seniors are getting ready for a full September schedule. Two special meetings will be held this month in addition to the regular meetings on Sept. 5th and 12th which will continue to be at Senasqua. A Cookout will be held at Senasqua to say goodbye to the summer on Sept. 19th and the Fun Friday meeting will be at the Yacht Club on Sept. 26th. As usual, meetings start at 12:30 preceded by coffee, buns and rolls at 11:30am.

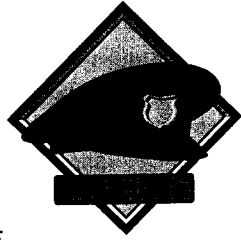
In addition, the Charlie Prose Show and lunch at Hunterdon Playhouse on Sept. 18th is a big seller. To put yourself on the waiting list, call Marie Weigman, Senior Coordinator, at 271-5804, Mon./Wed./ or Fri.

We're on the Web. Visit us at [Http://village-croton-on-hudson.ny.us/](http://village-croton-on-hudson.ny.us/)

Got a Question?



What is the relationship between the Police Dept., the Village Board and the Village Manager?



Croton's Police Department is established under provisions of NYS Village Law. The Chief of Police is the chief executive officer in the Department, to whom all other officers report.

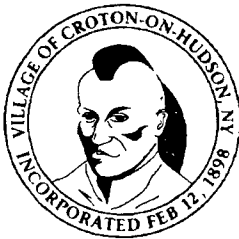
The Chief of Police is directly responsible to the Village Manager. The day-to-day operation of the Department, within the guidelines established by the Board of Trustees, is the Police Chief's responsibility. The Chief may issue further instructions for the guidance of the members of the Department which make up the Chief's Manual for Police. The Chief has authority to add, delete or revise the

material in this manual of instructions. These instructions have the effect of orders and commands for each member of the department. Under NYS Village Law, any member of the Police force shall continue in office unless suspended or dismissed. The Board of Trustees has the power to adopt and make rules and regulations for the examination, hearing, investigation and determination of charges made against any member of the department. Upon a written and signed complaint about any officer, the Board of Trustees sit as Police Commissioners in this process and have the power to convict and determine any penalties. Police officers are entitled to a public hearing and trial and to be represented by counsel in such a situation.



A new **Stormwater Bulletin Board** has been established on the second floor of the Municipal Building as part of the Public Education and Outreach required by the federal Stormwater Regulations. (See story on page 2). Information, pictures and flyers are available to be picked up at this bulletin board. Please help yourself.

September 2003



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

Robert W. Elliott, Mayor
Georgianna K. Grant, Trustee
Deborah Y. McCarthy, Trustee
Gregory J. Schmidt, Trustee
Leo A. W. Wiegman, Trustee

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

Postal Patron

Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520

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Carrier Route
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New York 10520