

September, 2007 Number 97

# Corrosion Control Program to be Presented

The Village of Croton operates its own public water supply system. Its main source is a well field on the Croton River where three wells pump water directly into the distribution system. The distribution system includes water mains, four storage tanks, booster pump stations, valves and hydrants. This constitutes the Village's water-related infrastructure. The total potable water storage capacity is 2.3 million gallons. Water



pumped from the wells is disinfected with chlorine before it enters the distribution system where it is delivered to approximately 7,600 users through 2500 service connections.

The distribution system, which has been expanded over time, is comprised of a mixture of pipe materials of varying ages. The older mains are primarily unlined cast iron and the newer are cementlined ductile iron pipe. The unlined pipes are generally located in the older areas of the village. This is also the area that has the highest rate of "brown" water complaints. These unlined pipes were replaced in the last two years in a significant area of the village with the completion of the Harmon Water Main Replacement Project. More will be replaced in the future as well.

A study by Chazen Companies, authorized by the Village Board and completed in January 2007, recommended the implementation of a corrosion control program in addition to the pipe replacements to further reduce brown-water events and also reduce lead concentrations at the point of use. The 2005 annual Village Water report indicates that the 90th percentile lead concentration is nearing the allowable limit.

According to the Chazen report, the Village would benefit by being proactive

now regarding lead concentrations because in the event of lead exceedance in the future, the Village would then be required to implement a corrosion con-

trol system and perform expensive sampling on a more frequent basis than currently.

Chazen is recommending a corrosion control program

for the village which has been used in drinking water systems elsewhere for more than 50 years. The program would add a low concentration of a chemical additive to the water supply. The additives used are phosphates, silicates, or phosphate-silicate blends. The effect of the additive is to form a coating layer between the pipe surface and the water flowing through it thus reducing the corrosion and the brown-water resulting from it as well as the concentrations of lead in the water.

At the Village Board meeting of Sept. 17th, a presentation will be made on this recommendation by the Chazen consultants and questions from the public will be welcomed.

The costs of implementing the corrosion control system are not yet completely determined. Such a system would include the purchase and installation of flow-paced metering pumps and chemical storage units. Costs would also include the cost of the additive, electrical power, monitoring, preventive equipment maintenance and periodic repairs. Initially the chemical cost is estimated at \$30/day, but reducing to \$20/day after the initial coating of the pipe interiors has occurred. The Village included \$50,000 in the Water Fund Capital Budget for the 2007/2008 Fiscal Year for this program. Operational costs would be approximately equal to the chemical costs according to the Chazen report.

#### September Calendar

- 3 Labor Day
- 4 & 17 Village Board Mtg.
- Cons. Advisory Council
- 11 & 25 Planning Bd. Mtg.
- Recreation Adv. Comm.
- Zoning Bd. of Appeals
- Water Control Comm.
- Visual Environ. Bd.
- **Trails Committee** 26

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#### **Croton Landing Closed for a Year**

Work on the combined Croton Landing improvements and the County's River Walk extension began in August. The two projects were combined for cost efficiency purposes with Croton providing the coordination and over-



sight for both.

To facilitate construction vehicles and materials, provide a staging area for the projects, and also for users safety, public access to Croton Landing has been restricted. It will remain closed for approximately

one year.

The combined project is funded through \$1.5 million of County funds, \$250,000 in state grants and another \$1 million in Village funding. The new multi-use field at Croton Landing is expected to be available in Spring 2009.

#### **Seniors Annual Picnic**

The Croton Seniors Club will have their annual picnic on Sept. 7th at Senasqua Park (rain date - Sept. 10th). The picnic is being

sponsored by Shop-Rite. Members must pre-register and pay a small fee. Beverages will be provided by the Club. For more information call 271-5804.

#### **Ken Kraft Retires**



After 12 years as Superintendent of Croton's DPW, Ken Kraft retired in August. Ken says he has enjoyed the challenges of the job and will miss the people he works with whom he describes as "a great group of highly trained people." One of the things he liked

about his job was dealing with people and describes Croton residents as "special". He will continue to be dealing with people in his new career as a coffee house owner along with his wife, Janet. The "Krafted Kup" coffee house is located near Vassar in Poughkeepsie.

A highlight and cap to his career is his being named "Man of the Year" by the Westchester County Association of Municipal Public Works Administrators - an award he will receive in October. Ken is also a past President of the NY Metropolitan Chapter of the American Public Works Association.

#### **South Riverside Lines To Be Buried**

In conjunction with a federally funded project to benefit Van Cortlandt Manor, the overhead power lines on South Riverside Ave. approaching the entrance to the historic site will be buried. Con Ed be-



Lines to be removed on South Riverside

gan the work in early August. The work will take place just south of the John Deere site with overhead wires being replaced from there to the Croton River. Once the new underground installation is complete, the overhead poles will be re-

moved.

The project is primarily for the reconstruction of the old Route 9 entrance to the Historic Hudson Valley site but will also include a new entrance gate and parking improvements. This \$2-million project was earmarked by former Congresswoman Sue Kelly in the Transportation funding bill of 2005.

# **Oral Arguments Scheduled**

Oral arguments have been scheduled before the NYS Appellate Court on two appeals from decisions of NYS Supreme Court Judge Francis Nicolai pertaining to the former Metro Enviro site at IA Croton Point Ave.

One appeal is by Greentree LLC from Judge Nicolai's decision that an operator of a transfer station at the site needs a special permit from the Village. The other is an appeal by the Village from Judge Nicolai's decision to stay the one-year clock on ending the non-conforming use of a transfer station while a new application is being processed.

Briefs were filed by both sides in January and April. The oral arguments are now scheduled to be held separately but on the same day on Sept. 4th.

## Millennium Pipeline

The final bills for the Village's successful legal battle against the proposed route of the Millennium Pipeline through Croton have been paid. Village Manager Herbek announced that Croton's final tab, covering several years of litigation costs, totaled \$828,535.24. Other municipalities also participated in the fight at their own costs.



Reminder!

Village Offices will be closed

Monday, September 3 for Labor Day Observance!

# Spotlight on Paula DiSanto

Croton's new Village Clerk began her career with our village in June of this year. Paula DiSanto comes to the Village after serving as Deputy Village Clerk for the Village of Briarcliff Manor and, before that, the Village of Tuckahoe.

In addition to being Village Clerk, Paula also serves as the Secretary to the Village Manager for whom she handles correspondence and schedules. In the position of Village Clerk, Paula manages all the Village insurance and human resources programs which includes Civil Service compliance and personnel benefits. She also handles contact with the press, fields questions and interacts regularly with Croton residents. A key responsibility, that recurs every Spring over

three to four months is the While starting a new managing of the Village elec- job in a new location tions. The latter is a task that Paula looks forward to as a major new challenge. For Paula, the big difference in her new job is that now she is responsible for these decisions, rather than being the assistant.

Paula grew up in Tuckahoe and graduated from Eastchester High School. After graduating from the Berkeley Business School, Paula worked as a travel agent for 20 years. When her job as a corporate agent required her to move to New Jersey, she decided to move to a new field. After studying Medical Billing, she got an unexpected opportunity to work for the Village of Tuckahoe which led her to a new career in local government.

with new people to get to know is alchallenging, ways Paula says everyone has been very welcoming and helpful to her. She has

been welcomed also by many residents who come in who, she says, typify the "homey" feel that exists in Croton.

Paula, her fiancé, Billy, and her two sons live in Cortlandt Manor. Justin, 17, and Brandon, 15, attend Walter Panas High School. Brandon enjoys playing baseball and Justin is involved in arts.

Paula enjoys spending free time with friends and family, having a barbeque and relaxing in her pool.



"It is a pleasure to come to work and I look forward to it every day."

Paula DiSanto

#### **Last Call on Water Meter Remotes!**

Out of approximately 2500 water meter connections in the village, only 60 customers have not responded to the Village's request to have a remote water meter reader installed.

The program which has been ongoing for many years, is now almost fully implemented. Reading water meters remotely from the street by water employees saves months of man hours each year and has proved very successful. It has also enable users to get an accurate reading every billing period and helps to spotlight any leaks they may have.

Now in its final phase, the 60 users who have not responded have received their 2nd certified letter setting a September 30th deadline for setting an appointment for installation. After that time, a fine of \$250 will be imposed.

#### **Environmental Laws updated**

The Village Board recently adopted a new Wetlands Law and a Stormwater Management and Sediment and Erosion Control Law. The two environmental laws update previous Village laws to address compliance with State requirements and provide more control by the Village.

#### **New Display Location for Historical Society**

In an agreement with the Croton Free Library, the Croton Historical Society had moved its display area out of the room it occupied in the library and has relocated the display area "closer to home" in the Municipal Building. Now the many display cases are located on the first floor of the Municipal Building where the Historical Society offices and

archives are also located.



The area now in use, part of which is shown in the picture to the left, is a wide area of corridor and vestibule with room for many display cases and wall hangings. It's proximity to the Historical Society offices

permits more frequent changes in the displays than when they were located in the library. It also allows members of the Society to answer questions from those viewing the displays.

Another project of the Historical Society has been the production of a DVD on the history of Croton, "Speaking of Croton". The 58 minute historical documentary of the Village includes videos, photographs and recorded reminiscences. It is available for \$20 in both the Village and the Historical Society offices

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

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# Got a Question?

I have heard that the Recreation Dept. has planned a new program for high school students. Can you tell me what is planned?

You are right! High School age students in Croton can look forward to a new program designed just for them by Recreation Supervisor John Miller.

On Mon., Sept. 17th at 7:30pm an open house in the newly renovated teen room in the Municipal Building will include FREE PIZZA, billiards, ping pong, video games and Monday Night Football on the HD flat screen. During the school year there will also be trips for high school students. If you wish to

receive email updates on these activities, email jmiller@crotononhudson-ny.gov to add your name to the list.

During the winter months, the Recreation Dept. will run snowboard-

ing trips to Mountain Creek for high school students. Tickets will be available for both single trips and by

season pass. Discounted meal vouchers may also be purchased. Registration and payment for season passes and meal vouchers must be received by Friday, October 12th. Further information about this program can be obtained in the Recreation office or by calling 271-3006.

## **Curbs Being Installed**

As the final step in the Harmon Water Main Improvement Project, new curbing is being installed along Benedict Blvd. Framework for the concrete curbing is shown to the right. The concrete curb-



ing will extend along the sidewalk sides of Benedict Blvd.



Granite curbing will be placed around the center medians of the boulevard (shown to the left). Some medians now have little or no curbing remaining after years of repaving along the street. After curb installation, the road will be repaved.