

The South Nyack News

VOLUME XLIV

December 2013

An letter from the Mayor

Dear South Nyack Residents,

Well, here we are at the end of the year. Time does fly by. During the six months since becoming Mayor, the Village Board and I have been working hard to manage the welfare of our beautiful village. For starters, we were again able to stay within the 2% tax cap of our 2013-14 Budget while maintaining the needed services for our village. Funds received from FEMA allowed us to repair roads and sewers damaged during Hurricane Sandy. (We still await funding to repair the Gesner Avenue Park.) A much needed vacuum street sweeper has been purchased to replace a failing 1993 sweeper. And in response to villagers' requests, the board recently adopted a new law allowing cars traveling east on Clinton Ave to turn right on red at Broadway, except between 5am and 9am on weekdays.

Regarding the new Tappan Zee Bridge, the South Nyack Task Force continues to meet regularly with TZ Constructors and Brian Conybeare, the Governor's Special Advisor on the TZB Project, regarding our vision for the redevelopment of Exit 10 and other sites in the village affected by the new TZ Bridge. We have also requested and received two additional noise monitors which are being placed at the Bradford Mews Apartments and on Berachah Avenue. The protection of our village is of utmost importance to your board. Thank you for the trust and confidence you have placed in us.

Sending wishes for a happy and healthy new year!!!

PS: Please know that I can be reached at (845) 358-0287 or via email at Bonnie.Christian@SouthNyack.ny.gov

Bonnie



SNGV Police Department Update



The South Nyack-Grand View Police Department announces the following promotion and new hires:

Police Officer Daniel Wilson was appointed to the permanent position of Sergeant following a promotional exam earlier this year. Sergeant Wilson is a former Town of Orangetown and New York City Police Officer who has worked in law

enforcement for eight years and has been with the SNGVPD since June of 2011.

Two men were hired in September to fill the positions held by retired Chief Robert Van Cura and Officer Joseph Powers:

Conor Fitzgerald, a South Nyack resident, was born and raised in Orangetown and attended the University of West Virginia. He is a member of the Nanuet Ambulance Corps and is a certified Emergency Medical Technician.

Sergei Tchertkoff, also a South Nyack resident is a Nyack Fire Department member and a graduate of Nyack High School. Serge studied at Rockland Community College and is a certified Outdoor Emergency Care Technician for the Ski Patrol at Hunter Mountain.

Candidates Fitzgerald and Tchertkoff are scheduled to graduate from the Orange County Police Chief's Academy in February of 2014.

We would also like to announce and congratulate SN-GV **Police Officers Andrew Young, Brian Lyons and Michael Viohl**, who were recently awarded the Exceptional Merit Award by the Rockland County Patrolmen's Benevolent Association.

Brent P. Newbury, Chief of Police

VILLAGE ELECTION – MARCH 18, 2014

With the November elections behind us, (although as of this printing, the winner of the Orangetown Supervisor race is still undecided), an election of Village officials is just around the corner. On March 18th, registered voters in South Nyack will vote for Village Justice and two Village Trustees.

Village government is as local as local government gets. Be a part of it. The Board of Trustees meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm. The meeting times of other boards are listed on page 2 and on the monthly calendar at www.southnyack.ny.gov. All meetings are open to the public. You are welcome and encouraged to attend .

***The Village of
South Nyack***

Mayor

Bonnie R. Christian

Trustees

Patricia (Tish) DuBow
Alain Leinbach
Catherine McCue
Thomas E. Neff

**282 South Broadway
South Nyack, NY 10960**

Village Hall	358-0287
Fax	358-0630
Police	358-0206
Fax	358-2714
Building Dep't	358-0244
Fax	358-0630
Dep't Public Works	358-0227
Fax	358-5563
Justice Court	358-5078
Fax	358-2714

The Village Hall is open
Mon-Fri, 9am to 5pm

***South Nyack
Monthly Meeting
Schedule***

*Held at the Village Hall
unless noted otherwise*

Board of Trustees

2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 7:30 pm

Zoning Board of Appeals

1st Tuesday at 7:30 pm

Planning Board

3rd Wednesday at 7:30 pm

Justice Court

Held at the Firehouse

90 Depot Place

1st and 2nd Monday at 5:30 pm

**South Nyack-Grand View
Police Administration Board**

*See the Monthly Calendar for
Dates & Time*

More information available
on the South Nyack
Website

@

SouthNyack.ny.gov

Remember the Days? Erie Railroad...

The Nyack & Northern Railroad opened its 5.01 mile track between Sparkill and Nyack in May, 1870. The Nyack station was on Depot Place just north of where the South Nyack firehouse stands today. The line was controlled by and leased to the Northern Railroad of New Jersey (NRNJ) which had built from Bergen Junction, NJ to Sparkill in 1859. The Erie Railroad in turn leased the NRNJ after having opened its own six foot gauge mainline from Piermont to Port Jervis in 1847, on the way to Lake Erie. (On a single day, June 22, 1880, the entire Erie system was converted to a standard gauge by moving one rail in 15.5 inches!) In 1852, the Erie acquired a direct line from Suffern to Jersey City and the original route from Piermont became a branch.

Of course, there was a high level of passenger service on these lines in the horse-and-buggy era. The NRNJ timetable shows 18 daily trains, except Sunday, between Nyack and New York (Jersey City.) By 1957, it was down to three trains and in 1965, the successor, Erie Lackawanna Railroad cut the service back to Sparkill, abandoning the segment from Nyack to Piermont. The Sparkill to Hoboken service died in the summer of 1966.

When Conrail took over the Erie Lackawanna in 1976, the spur to Piermont was still in, but later taken up. The remaining Northern Branch out of North Bergen is still operated for freight service, but is abandoned north of Tappan.

Today we have only remnants to remind us of the busy rail days in the Nyacks. The tracks are no longer here, but the Nyack line lasted long enough to force the Thruway to build a bridge for it west of the Tappan Zee. That right-of-way is now our walking trail (the Esposito Trail in South Nyack) that extends to Sparkill. Walking the trail one still sees the curbing and retaining wall at the Grand View station. A few old supports for power lines remain along the way. The station at Piermont-on-the-Hill still stands, and until the early 1990's, Thomas Kelly, who was born in the station, made it his home.

Enjoy the trail and as you do, take a few moments to think of days gone past. Maybe you will hear a train whistle.



**NEW FACES AT THE
VILLAGE HALL**

Allyson Pifko has been appointed an Alternate member of the South Nyack Planning Board. A 3 year resident of the village, Allyson is on the administrative staff of The Rogosin Institute, a kidney disease treatment, transplant and dialysis network. Outside of this work, Allyson enjoys her involvement with the community, including coaching her son's Little League Team.

Welcome Allyson!

Nyack Joint Fire District is a 100% volunteer organization that provides fire protection for the villages of the Nyacks and Upper Grandview. The district consists of 8 fire companies who are always looking for new members to insure their strong service to the community.

If you are 16 years of age or older, and interested in being a part of this important organization, please stop by one of the eight fire companies that make up the Nyack Fire District or call 358-5454 and ask about becoming a member. Regular drill nights are Tuesday or Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings.

Brookside Parking Lot

There are still spots available in the municipal parking lot on Brookside Avenue.

Spaces are \$150 per year, which are for regularly used vehicles, not for car storage.

If you are interested in renting a space, please call the Village Hall.

Wasting our tax dollars

-written by South Nyack residents, Andrew Goodwillie & Allyson Pifko



The Village of South Nyack currently spends about \$17,000 *every month* for trash collection. The items we discard are hauled away twice a week and dumped in landfills. In contrast, Village recycling services are a bargain: recycling incurs just one quarter of the cost of waste collection and generates a quarterly rebate for the Village.

Check out these simple ways to reduce how much money we throw away.

Food waste ... makes up a considerable portion of a typical trash bin (25%) and, across the nation, about 36 million tons of food is dumped in landfills each year. Most food waste can be composted in our backyards with minimal effort. The Village is investigating ways to bring back the program of free compost bins.



Cardboard and paper ... these make up a whopping 40% of the average garbage bin. Virtually all of it can be recycled. For cardboard, tie or tape flattened boxes together and place next to the recycle bin. Place shredded paper in a clear bag next to the recycle bin.

Recycling Bins ... use these for all of that cardboard, paper, junk mail, plastic bottles, plastic containers, glass, and aluminum cans and foil. Recycling generates income for the Village that partially offsets the cost of collection. Recycling bins are available for free at the Village Hall. Look out for details about next year's Village recycling competition!



Metal ... steel, brass, iron, tin and other metallic objects should be placed at curbside for collection by the DPW on regular garbage collection days, separate from household debris.



Televisions, computers, radios, batteries, etc. ... electronic waste contains heavy metals like mercury, lead and cadmium that are harmful to life. The Household Hazardous Waste center in Pomona properly recycles electronic waste, saving it from the landfill, and is open throughout the year. Visit <http://www.rocklandrecycles.com/> for hours of operation. The Village is exploring the possibility of providing a collection point in the Village for electronics during next April's Earth Day week.

Plastic bags ... commonly seen tangled in bushes, floating in streams and littering our streets, plastic bags are a nuisance to humans and dangerous to wildlife. Derived from fossil fuel, they take thousands of years to break down. Avoid plastic bags when shopping by keeping a stash of canvas tote bags in your car. Plastic bags can be recycled at the supermarkets, Lowes and Home Depot.



Put a lid on it! We are proud of our beautiful river yet unsightly, damaging pollution does occur in it. Stormwater drains in the village are littered with bottles, cans, fast food containers, plastic bags and other rogue items. When it rains, the water run-off carries some of these items down to the river and then to the ocean. Clogged stormwater drains pose a risk for flooding and must be cleared manually by the Public Works staff. Please help keep all items out of the roadside drains by properly recycling or disposing them and putting lids on garbage cans and recycle bins. Thanks!

NYS BASIC STAR property tax exemption program registration deadline is Dec 31, 2012.

New state legislation requires all homeowners receiving a BASIC STAR property tax exemption in 2013 to register with the New York State Tax Department in order to receive the BASIC STAR property tax exemption in 2014 and subsequent years. This is part of a new initiative to protect New Yorkers against inappropriate or fraudulent STAR exemptions.

Most residents received a letter from the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance in September with instructions and a STAR code. Orangetown has been informed that there are about 1800 current STAR recipients who have not yet registered. After March 2014 local assessors will remove existing exemptions from unregistered properties.

A STAR exemption is available for an owner-occupied, primary residence where the combined income of the resident owner and spouse is \$500,000 or less. The average savings per year is about \$700.

Senior Citizens receiving the Enhanced STAR property tax exemption are not affected by this new requirement; they apply for their exemption every year.

To register or for more information, residents can go to www.tax.ny.gov or call 518-457-2036 .

Please add your address to our email list!

The South Nyack News is sent to residents and property owners to share information of village events, activities and news.

In an effort to be more environmentally conscience, sign up to receive your copy of the newsletter electronically.

It is a savings to the Village and enables us to send timely updates about happenings in the community.

Call 358-0244 or email your contact information to Denise.Mishkel@SouthNyack.ny.gov.

Commemorate your house with a Plaque from the Historical Society of the Nyacks

Display a 14"x 10" cast aluminum plaque with the date your house was built.

To order, please send a check for \$150 to the Historical Society, PO Box 850, Nyack, NY 10960, along with your contact information. (Shipping is free!) The Historical Society will help you determine the year your house was built and order your house plaque. For more information contact Betty Perry 358-0552 or Leontine Temsky 358-4235.

The South Nyack News

Village of South Nyack
282 South Broadway
South Nyack, New York 10960

PRESORTED
STANDARD
PAID
MONSEY NY
PERMIT NO. 6061

or Current Resident



Remember to Call "Dig Safe" Before Doing Any Digging on Your Property!

If you are planning any excavation on your property, always call Dig Safely New York (800-962-7962) 2 to 10 working days prior to your work. (Use of shovel, pickaxe, etc. included!). A representative will come to the site and mark out underground utilities, color coded as to the type of facilities they represent. If damage, disturbance or contact with any underground utility line occurs, contact that utility immediately. For more information, visit www.digsafelynewyork.com.

Reminders from the Department of Public Works..

Winter Snow Removal:

- Homeowners are required to have all sidewalks abutting their property cleared within 24 hours of the end of the snowfall.
- Snow is not to be plowed, shoveled or blown into the street.
- When clearing your driveway, stack the snow to the right of the direction of traffic flow so that the mound does not get pushed back into the driveway by the Village plow.
- So that roadways may be plowed, all vehicles, by law, must be off the street within 2 hours after a snow storm has started. (If snow is predicted, the police will not grant permission for over night parking.)
- If possible, wait to clear snow until after the storm has ended. It is the policy of the DPW to plow curb-to-curb. This clean-up takes a few hours after the snow has stopped.
- Parking cars on the public sidewalk is illegal and dangerous for pedestrians who have to walk in the street to pass. Cars parked on the sidewalk are in jeopardy of being towed at the owner's expense.
- Help your neighbors and the Fire Department by clearing the area around any fire hydrant near your home.

2014 South Nyack Recycle Schedule

January							April						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4			1	2	3	4	5
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28	29	30	31		27	28	29	30			
February							May						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1					1	2	3
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
23	24	25	26	27	28		25	26	27	28	29	30	31
March							June						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29	29	30					