



# The Village Report

Volume 17 Issue 1

Spring/Summer 2017

## Contact Information

[www.villageofvoorheesville.com](http://www.villageofvoorheesville.com)

### Village Office Hours

Monday - Friday  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Notary Services available

Phone: (518) 765-2692

Fax: (518) 765-2967

### Mayor

Bob Conway 765-0036

[Mayorconway@albany.twcbc.com](mailto:Mayorconway@albany.twcbc.com)

### Deputy Mayor

Dick Berger 765-2674

### Trustees

Florence Reddy

[floredy626@gmail.com](mailto:floredy626@gmail.com)

Jack Stevens 765-4350

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### Village Clerk/Treasurer

Linda Pasquali

[clerk@villageofvoorheesville.com](mailto:clerk@villageofvoorheesville.com)

### Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Karen Finnessey

[deputyclerk@villageofvoorheesville.com](mailto:deputyclerk@villageofvoorheesville.com)

### Codes Enforcement Officer

Glenn Hebert 765-2698

[building@villageofvoorheesville.com](mailto:building@villageofvoorheesville.com)

### Superintendent, Public Works

Brett Hotaling 765-4512

[DPW@villageofvoorheesville.com](mailto:DPW@villageofvoorheesville.com)

## Board Meetings

### Village Board:

4th Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM at Village Hall

### Zoning Board of Appeals:

1st Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM at Fire House

### Planning Commission:

2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM at Village Hall

ZBA and Planning meet only when applications have been submitted. Call the Village Office or check the Public Notices to confirm meetings. Public Notices for the Village of Voorheesville can be found in The Enterprise's advertisement section and are posted at: Village Hall; US Post Office, Key Bank, and Stewarts

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Hello Neighbors,

Lots of exciting things happening in our small village!

The committee formed to help develop the Village Comprehensive Plan has been hard at work gathering data and meeting with different focus groups. They have also begun the process of soliciting feedback from residents in order to have the final document be a reflection of the community's input. Please keep watching for ways to participate in this important study. You can keep up to date on the progress of the plan by visiting the Village website. Your comments are welcome.

The work continues on the rail trail pavilion and the trail itself. This year will see the final touches on the pavilion that will include seating and also painting to reflect the colors of the original train station. This project is a prime example of collaboration and support led by the Voorheesville Community and School Foundation and very dedicated and talented craftsmen. According to the original plan this is also the year that the paving project of the trail will be complete. In order to capitalize on the rail trail we are also pursuing opportunities to improve our downtown business corridor. Please come and enjoy this wonderful community asset.

As previously mentioned, the Village received over eight hundred thousand dollars in grant money to expand and improve our sidewalk system. The preliminary work for this project will begin this year. We are also hopeful that funding may soon be available to implement the safety/quiet zone at the Voorheesville Ave. and Main St. railroad crossings.

Finally, I can't let this opportunity pass without mentioning our annual Memorial Day Parade activities. Please come out and honor those who sacrificed so much so that we can enjoy life in our village. There will be plenty of activities throughout the day, capped off by the fantastic fireworks display sponsored by the Jim Nichols Foundation. Please show your financial support for this wonderful organization.

So, as you can see, lots of activity and hard work and dedication by fellow citizens to enhance our wonderful home. Enjoy our well-deserved spring weather and I hope to see you around the Village.



## Village Comprehensive Plan

The Village of Voorheesville is undertaking a Comprehensive Planning process to chart our Village's future. Fundamentally, this process asks the question, "what do we want our Village to be 15 - 20 years from now?", and identifies strategies and specific actions that we can implement to realize that vision. A committee of community volunteers including representatives from the Village's various neighborhoods, business owners and cultural groups began the planning process in December, 2016. The Village retained the services of professional planner Nan Stolzenburg of Community Planning and Environmental Associates to guide development of the Comprehensive Plan. The Board of Trustees has a goal of completing the Comprehensive Plan by the end of 2017.

About 135 village residents participated in our public Comprehensive Plan Workshop on April 5th at St. Matthew's Church, during which we gained very good insight into what Village residents see as strengths and opportunities for our community. Ideas covered topics such as strengthening and supporting our business community, improved streetscape aesthetics, land use, utility improvements, community events, and more.

If you were unable to attend the public meeting, there will be another opportunity to provide input. This May, the Village will be asking residents to respond to a survey designed to help us better understand what people see as our strengths and things we could improve upon. Residents can participate in the survey either on-line or on paper. To provide your thoughts and ideas through on-line, please go to [www.surveymonkey.com/r/VoorheesvillePlan](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VoorheesvillePlan) where you can fill out and submit the survey electronically. If you prefer to have a paper survey mailed to you, please call or stop by the Village Office (phone # 765-2692) and either pick up a survey or request that one be mailed to you.

We want to hear from everyone who has ideas: What you love about the Village, what you see as opportunities to strengthen our community, how we can best honor the Village's wonderful history and plan for a vibrant future. We hope you will take some time to give us your insights!

# The Internet Helps Keep You Informed

[www.villageofvoorheesville.com](http://www.villageofvoorheesville.com) is the Village's website address and we have a Facebook page – The Village of Voorheesville. These are terrific tools to help keep you informed on what is happening in your Village. Additionally we have the NOTIFY ME system to which you can subscribe in order to receive emails or text messages (or both) about specific Village information and to receive this newsletter electronically.

Subscribing to NOTIFY ME is easy - log on to the website, click on the NOTIFY ME tab, and follow the instructions. Topics include (but are not limited to) water breaks, paving notices, public hearing notices, etc. Suggestions are always welcome.

For those not connected to the internet, an old-fashioned phone call to Village Hall will help you get the information you need.

To continue to receive a paper copy of the newsletters, please send in the request printed below, or give us a call at 765-2692.

Please add my name and address to your mailing list for the Village newsletter mailings.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

will begin at Nichols Park, followed by the Kiwanis children's races, and other children's activities

- 12:15 PM** The 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Voorheesville 15K (9.3 miles) Race begins – entry form available at Village Hall and on our website.
- 12:25 PM** The 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Voorheesville 3.2K (2 miles) Race & Fun Walk begins - entry form available at Village Hall and on our website.
- 2:00 PM** Kiwanis Giffy's Chicken Bar-B-Q begins at Reilly & Son Funeral Home; dinners served until 6:00PM or SOLD OUT!
- 6:00 PM** The Annual Village Party (fun for the whole family) will be held at the Voorheesville Fire House on Altamont Road. Thank you to Hannaford and the Voorheesville Road & Gun Club for their generous contributions towards this event. Come and enjoy live music featuring Joey Pucci and the American Longboards; food by the Volunteer Firemen; and fireworks at dark.



If your group or organization has not already received an invitation to march in the parade and you would like to do so, contact Jack at 861-5086, or call the Legion Hall (after 4:00 PM) at 765-4712.

## Whiz, Boom, Bang, Help Keep the Party Hopping!

Fireworks for the Memorial Day festivities are possible through the generous donations of individuals, civic groups, and businesses. The Jim Nichols Foundation commits each year to ensuring the show will go on regardless of fund raising results. Please consider making a donation at Village Hall. 100% of donations are used for fireworks or, if donations surpass expenses remaining funds go to support graduating Voorheesville students with college scholarships. Thank you for your generous support!

## DPW Notes

Spring is a busy time for your Village DPW as they work to get the Village in shape after winter wear and tear. Your help with the following items is appreciated.

- Loose debris must be in brown biodegradable bags and placed at the curb for pick-up. We require bagging at this time of year because of an increase in stones and rock and larger debris that can damage our chipper.
- Brush should be placed in piles at the curb (do not block sidewalks or place on roadway) with the cut side facing the street. REMINDER: If you hire a contractor to cut your limbs or a tree, the contractor is responsible for hauling away the debris.
- Moveable basketball hoops are an obstacle if placed in, or along the side of, any street or cul de sac. These hoops make it difficult to maneuver DPW equipment, emergency vehicles and the garbage/recycling trucks.

Be advised that DPW is aware that the season's snowplowing has caused damage to some lawns. Repair of these areas are on the schedule for the crew and will be taken care of as time allows.

A reminder that it may be necessary to impose water restrictions this summer. If so, we will post the restriction on the Village bulletin board located on the corner of Maple Avenue and Pine Street, as well as on our website, Facebook and the NOTIFY ME system

As always, if you need to contact the Public Works Department we can be reached at 765-4512 Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM or by email at [DPW@villageofvoorheesville.com](mailto:DPW@villageofvoorheesville.com)



## Household Hazardous Waste Collection

The annual Household Hazardous Waste collection day will be held on Saturday, May 20th from 8:00am until 12 Noon at the Town of New Scotland highway garage, 2869 New Scotland Road.

Preregistration is required; registration coupons (and a list of acceptable items) are available at Village Hall.

# FREE SHREDDING EVENT!

**SATURDAY, APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup>**  
**From the Hooding**  
**VOORHEESVILLE FIRE**  
**Department**  
**HOUSE**

Open to the Town of New Scotland & Village of Voorheesville Residents

As per the NY State Property Maintenance Code, unlicensed vehicles are not to be parked in your driveway. The law states:  
Shred your outdated taxes, files, paper documents, checks, envelopes, file folders and bank statements. Fasteners and no paper clips, staples and rubber bands are acceptable.  
For more info call 773-0385 or email [tcampana@townofnewscotland.com](mailto:tcampana@townofnewscotland.com)  
The Village follows the uniform code of NYS. Please take note.

# Annual Village Billings

Annual Village property tax, water and sewer bills will be mailed out on June 1. Carefully check your envelope when it arrives; **tax bills** are **white**; **water bills** are **blue**; and **sewer bills** are **yellow**. **Please** contact Village Hall as soon as possible if an expected bill is missing.

Please report any changes to your mailing address to help us keep our records up to date. As per NYS law, failure to receive a bill does not excuse timely payment – *late penalties cannot be waived*. Timely payments of property taxes and user fees are the responsibility of the property owner. Village tax bills are due June 30th, water and the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter sewer payments are due July 31<sup>st</sup>.

If your mortgage has an escrow account and you receive your tax bill by mail, you should forward this bill to your mortgage holder as soon as possible. If you no longer have your tax payments held in escrow, contact Village Hall to let us know so we can change our records to have the tax bill sent directly to you.

The Village is currently reviewing several new financial software packages that will allow us to begin accepting payments via the internet. Unfortunately, we will not have made a purchase in time to utilize it with this year’s billing but we wanted to let you know that we are moving forward with this option, as has been requested by some residents in the past.



# Update to Water Rates

Beginning with the Jun<sup>t</sup> water bill the minimum rate and usage allowance will change. The new rate will be \$200 for the first 20,000 gallons used. Increases were also made to the rates for overage but these will not take effect until the 2018 billing cycle. For your information these rates will be: \$3.25 for usage over 20,000 gallons up to 70,000 gallons, \$3.50 for 70,001 to 145,000 gallons, \$3.75 for 145,001 to 220,000 gallons, \$4.00 for 220,001 to 370,000 gallons, and \$4.50 for 295,001 to 445,000 gallons.

The Village has hired a “leak detection service” that will help identify breaks in our water lines so repairs can take place before major breaks occur. As always, the Village water is tested daily and in compliance with all NYS Department of Health regulations.



# Summer Youth Recreation Program

July 5 – August 10, 2017 at Nichols Park

This year’s program will be held on Tuesdays, Wednesd and Thursdays from 9:00 am until 12 noon. Millette Smith will once again lead the program, which will combine arts and crafts and games. The participation fee of \$45/child for Village residents, \$60 for non-residents remains the same as for previous years for the 6-week program. Registration forms will be sent home through the elementary school and will also be available at Village Hall or on the website.



# Stormwater Tip

In keeping with the Village’s MCM (minimum control measure) of our Stormwater Management Program Plan, (SWMPP) it is recommended that when washing cars at your home residents should try to wash their vehicles on the grass, as this will help contain sediments on the grass and allow for the wash water to filter into the ground before going to the storm drain.

The Federal Stormwater management laws help to keep our waterways clean.

# Bicycle Block Party

## Bicycle Block Party Sunday, June 4th 12- 3pm

Planning for Voorheesville Family Bicycling Day 2017 is in full swing! This year we will have a true bicycle block party complete with music, food, fire trucks, a bounce house, a BMX demonstration and more! All on a closed bicycle loop!

This event is co-sponsored by the Voorheesville Community and School Foundation in partnership with the Village, the Albany County Sheriff's Dept., Voorheesville Public Library and the Voorheesville PTA.

Please save the date for Sunday, June 4th from noon until 3PM! Learn more about the event at

[www.vvillebicycling.com](http://www.vvillebicycling.com).



## Medication Drop Box Available 24-7

Clean out your medicine cabinets of all old, expired and no longer needed prescription medications, medicated ointments, inhalers, and over-the-counter medicines. A 24-hour, 7 day per week medication drop box is available at Troop G headquarters located at 760 Troy-Schenectady Road in Latham.

All items are to be placed in a plastic bag. This service is for medication only, no hazardous material, sharps/needles or household waste will be accepted.



## Solicitors

The Board has received several recent vendor permit applications from solar company employees looking to cold call our community. We will try to make residents aware when, and to whom, permits are issued.

All vendors with approved permits are issued a card from the Village, which you can ask to see. Vendors are also asked to conduct their business only between the hours of 10am and 8pm and to respect any NO SOLICITATION signs that may be posted.



## Attention Veterans

The Albany County Veterans Service Bureau offers a wide variety of services. Please contact them for more information:

162 Washington Ave. 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Albany, NY 12210  
(518)447-7710  
veterans@albanycounty.com



## Pooper Scooper & Leash Law

Please be kind and obey our Pooper Scooper and Leash laws. We get many complaints of dogs pooping on private property and sidewalks. The laws will be enforced by our animal control officers as formal complaints are filed with the Village.



## Community Cares Days

The Village of Voorheesville, The Kiwanis Club of New Scotland, and the Town of New Scotland have teamed up for Community Cares Days, an unprecedented volunteer endeavor for two Saturdays this Spring.

The first event, Green Clean, will take place Saturday April 29<sup>th</sup> from 9AM to 12PM and features a drop-off recycling event and environmental projects throughout the Village and Town. Volunteers can sign up to help with street, park, cemetery or Vly Creek clean-ups. Project coordination will be held at the Voorheesville firehouse. Drop-off recycling efforts will also be held at the Voorheesville firehouse and include clothing, books, returnable bottles & cans, scrap metal, plastic grocery bags, shoe boxes, newspapers, as well as small blankets and towels. The Town of New Scotland will also sponsor a shredding truck for residents.

The second event, Neighbors Helping Neighbors, will take place Saturday May 6<sup>th</sup> from 9AM to 12PM and includes a variety of projects to help our senior and disabled neighbors in need. Volunteers can sign up to help with yardwork and other light household chores or contact us to be involved with one of our more labor-intensive projects. Project coordination will take place at the New Scotland Town Hall. We are accepting requests for projects until April 20<sup>th</sup>. If you feel you might meet the criteria for assistance on May 6, please contact Susan Kidder, Senior Outreach Liaison, at 518-439-9038.

Who can volunteer? Anyone! Gather your family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, club members or teammates and join us for one or both rewarding mornings. All volunteers who help on April 29<sup>th</sup> and May 6<sup>th</sup> are invited to a barbecue at the New Scotland Town Hall on May 6<sup>th</sup> from 12 to 2PM. It's a wonderful time to come together and celebrate all the good work that was accomplished with your family, friends and neighbors.

Details are posted on the Village of Voorheesville, Town of New Scotland and New Scotland Kiwanis Facebook pages. Volunteers are asked to sign-up in advance via email at [communitycaresdays@gmail.com](mailto:communitycaresdays@gmail.com) or by calling Karen Finnessey, Village of Voorheesville, at 765-2692. This will help us coordinate efforts for the projects as well as help us keep you informed of details and updates.



## RECYCLING DROP-OFF COLLECTIONS

April 29 from 9 am – 12 noon  
at the FIREHOUSE on Altamont Road

### Clothing & Linens

(benefits Voorheesville Methodist Church and affiliates)

### Books

(benefits Albany Book Project)

### Shoe Boxes, Plastic Grocery Bags, Newspapers, Small Blankets, and Towels

(benefits Mohawk Hudson Humane Society)

### Returnable Bottles & Cans

(Fire Department's Ladies' Auxiliary)

### Scrap Metal

(benefits Voorheesville Lacrosse)