



The Village Report

Volume 18 Issue 1

Spring/Summer 2018

Contact Information

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 518-765-0036
Mayorconway@albany.twcbc.com

Deputy Mayor

Dick Berger 518-765-2674

Trustees

Jack Stevens 518-765-4350

Rich Straut 518-765-2068

Sarita Winchell 518-765-2133

Village Clerk/Treasurer

Linda Pasquali
clerk@villageofvoorheesville.com

Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Karen Finnessey
deputyclerk@villageofvoorheesville.com

Codes Enforcement Officer

Glenn Hebert 518-765-2698
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Superintendent, Public Works

Brett Hotaling 518-765-4512
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 Village Hall

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

From the Mayor

Hello Neighbors,

Well we are finally heading into a long-awaited, well-deserved spring/summer. Please take a moment to read your newsletter to catch up on the different projects and activities around the village.

The village comprehensive plan is quickly coming to a conclusion with a final public hearing scheduled for June 7th. Please try to attend or at least send your comments on this very important project that will help guide village development and zoning going into the future.

There will be a presentation on the various sidewalk projects that will begin this summer. Please read the newsletter for additional information.

The Quiet/Safety Zone project for the train noise is also moving ahead. We are grateful to our County and State officials for shepherding this through the rather complex state funding process. Our special thanks to Senator Amedore for his full support in helping to see this project to its conclusion.

Finally, our annual Memorial Day activities will soon be here. This is always a great time to celebrate everything that makes our country and village such a special place and to remember those who sacrificed so much to allow us this way of life. Please come out and see you neighbors, visit friends and partake of all the planned events. I would also ask you to support the Jim Nichols Fund for their sponsorship of our great fireworks display.

Hope to see you around the village!



Village Comprehensive Plan 2nd Public Hearing

The Voorheesville Board of Trustees will hold a second Public Hearing on the proposed Comprehensive Plan on **June 7th, 7 P.M., at the Firehouse**. The updated Plan will be posted on the Village website by May 30th. A copy will be available in the Village Office, and in the Voorheesville Public Library. This Hearing is for residents and business owners of the Village of Voorheesville so that they may make final comment before the Board officially adopts the Comprehensive Plan. Once the Plan is adopted by the Trustees it will be sent to County Planning for their review. The environmental SEQRA process will need to be completed.

The Comprehensive Plan is a road map for the Village that identifies steps and actions that the Village may take over time to enhance its quality of life. It is not regulations or laws. The Plan sets the considerations that will inform discussions and decision-making at many different levels in the Village. The Plan was developed as follows:

- A draft of the Plan was developed by a committee of eleven Village of Voorheesville residents and business owners. Nan Stolzenburg of Community Planning and Environmental Associates was the consultant to the committee. A hearing on this draft Plan was held in November 2017.
- The Board of Trustees held its own hearing on the Plan in January 2018.
- An editing process of the Plan began which included adding several of the resident and business owner recommendations.
- The Trustees added an additional appendix to the Plan to better outline recommended zoning changes.
- In April 2018 the Trustees held a public meeting on the Plan. Residents and business owners, who may be impacted by possible zoning recommendations in the Plan, were sent written invitations. After that meeting several of their recommendations were added to the Plan.
- May 9, 2018 the Board of Trustees reviewed changes
- May 22, 2018 the Board of Trustees will approve the Comprehensive Plan to be presented at the Public Hearing June 7, 2018.

Memorial Day Celebration, May 26, 2018

Honoring the United States Marine Corps

- 10:00 AM** Annual parade begins at the corner of Rte. 85A and Circle Drive.
- 11:00 AM** (approximately) At the conclusion of the parade the American Legion Ceremonies will begin at Nichols Park, followed by the Kiwanis children's races, and other children's activities
- 12:15 PM** The 43rd Annual Voorheesville 15K (9.3 miles) Race begins – entry form available at Village Hall and on our website.
- 12:25 PM** The 43rd Annual Voorheesville 3.2K (2 miles) Race & Fun Walk begins - entry form available at Village Hall and on our website.
- Please Note:** This year's races will be sponsored by Brickhouse Fitness. The first 125 finishers of each race receive a t-shirt.
- 2:00 PM** Kiwanis Dinosaur Chicken Bar-B-Q begins at Reilly & Son Funeral Home; dinners served until 6:00PM or SOLD OUT! Cost is \$12/dinner.
- 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 Rod & 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.

We Love Fireworks! Come on Help the Colors Burst!

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. The goal for this year is once again \$5000.00. Thank you for your generous support!

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Sidewalk Project Informational Meeting

On **Tuesday, May 22nd, 2018** there will be a public meeting to present the Voorheesville Pedestrian Connectivity Project, which includes pedestrian facility improvements along Altamont Road (NY 156), Maple Avenue (NY 85A), and Voorheesville Avenue (CR 306). The meeting will be part of the regular scheduled Board of Trustees workshop meeting located at the Voorheesville Village Hall, 29 Voorheesville Avenue, and will start at **6:30 pm**.

The presentation will include a brief overview of the project history, the existing conditions, and the preferred design alternative. The project proposes to add sidewalks, within the existing right-of-way, at the following locations: the south side of Altamont Road from Claremont Drive east to Sky Terrace, and the north side of Altamont Road from Sky Terrace to School Road, the south side of Maple Avenue from Altamont Road east to Stonington Hill Road, and the north side of Voorheesville Avenue beginning at Grove Street and continuing east approximately 1,700 feet. Conceptual Plans will be on display for review and comment by the public. Any suggestions and or comments made at the meeting will be considered by the project team as the project is progressed. Design Approval is expected in Summer of 2018 with an anticipated start of construction in Spring 2019.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Richard Straut, from the Village of Voorheesville, at (518) 765-2692 or Dan Reynolds, from Creighton Manning Engineering, at (518) 446-0396.

Summertime Music in the Park

Weekly Accordion Band Music

Squeezeplay, a local accordion band, invites you to join them for some summer jam sessions in the Hotaling Park gazebo Tuesday evenings from 6:30 – 8:30 beginning the Tuesday following Memorial Day through Labor Day (weather permitting).

Squeezeplay Accordion Band has been performing in the Capital District for several years and are composed of about 6 accordions (usually), a violin, a bass, and sometimes a drum. Band leader, Peggy, teaches at Old Songs in Voorheesville and other bandmembers got their start playing accordion at Old Songs.

Their repertoire includes a variety of musical genres – polkas, folk, country, Latin, patriotic, waltzes, Italian, Irish, and more. Squeezeplay perform at multiple events around the Capital District including fairs, parades, libraries, nursing homes, fund raisers, and parties. Additionally, they played at the NY State Fair and appeared on the Schenectady Today TV Show. You can learn more about them on our website: www.squeezeplayny.com.

Plan to join in on the fun as this band gets their practices in and entertains our residents at the same time!



70's Rock Cover Band

SAYONARA KID is a "cover band with a concept" - an accomplished, female-fronted, Capital District-based, four-piece group who have focused their energies and abilities on celebrating the artistry of Linda Ronstadt, Warren Zevon, Jackson Browne, J.D. Souther, Karla Bonoff, James Taylor, and Carly Simon. They have targeted their talents even tighter, choosing only the above-named artists' hits from 1970 to 1980 - that unique Southern California sound from that era.

If you want to relive those memories, thoughts, and emotions you had back in the 70's when you first heard these tunes OR simply want to listen to (or introduce your children to) good, solid rock and roll performed by seasoned pros, mark your calendar to attend a free concert by SAYONARA KID on Wednesday July 18, 2018 from 7 – 9 PM.

A Message from Code Enforcement....

As the weather gets warmer more and more people make additions to their homes or properties. The following is a list of projects that require a building permit prior to any work being done:

- Pools, both above ground and in-ground - any pools installed as of 2006 *must* have a pool alarm.
- Fences
- Wood stoves, inserts or fireplaces (wood or gas).
- Decks
- Gazebos
- Sheds
- Additions or renovations
- Attached or detached garages
- PODS

Give the Building Department a call at 518-765-2698 to see if your project needs a permit.

Stormwater Info...

Brush up on Paint Disposal

Placing wet paint in the garbage or pouring paint out into a storm drain is against the law and can harm the environment.

Properly dispose of paint one of the following ways.

- Donate leftover paint to a community organization
- Store the paint can in a safe location until the next Household Hazardous Waste Collection event.
- For water-based paint you can remove the lid and mix some cat litter into the paint. Once the paint is dry it can be placed in your trash with the cover OFF so we can make sure the paint is DRY. We cannot pick up liquid paint. Oil based paint *must* be disposed of at a household Hazardous Waste Collection event.



Holiday Garbage Pick Up

July 4th will fall on a Wednesday this year; therefore, there will be no garbage pickup that day. Pick up is scheduled for Thursday, July 5th.

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.

A reminder that it always a possibility that water restrictions may need to be imposed during summer months. If necessary, notification will be posted 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.

Your DPW department will begin work on installing a sidewalk along School Road from Altamont Road to the Library. Be on the lookout for the crew as you travel this road over the next few months. Remember – the speed limit has been reduced to 30 MPH.

As always, if you need to contact the Public Works Department we can be reached at 518-765-4512 Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM or by email at DPW@villageofvoorheesville.com



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.

TAXES - 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.

WATER - New rates for overage usage (gallons used in excess of the 20,000 allowed with the annual \$200 minimum fee) will take effect with this year's billing. These rates are: \$3.25/1000 gal. for usage over 20,000 gallons up to 70,000 gallons, \$3.50/1000 gal. for 70,001 to 145,000 gallons, \$3.75/1000 gal. for 145,001 to 220,000 gallons, \$4.00/1000 gal. for 220,001 to 370,000 gallons, and \$4.50/1000 gal. for 295,001 to 445,000 gallons.

Village water is tested daily and in compliance with all NYS Department of Health regulations. The annual water report will be available on the website and at Village Hall after June 1.

SEWER – As always, sewer fees can be paid in full at any time throughout the fiscal year. Bills are issued with quarterly payments as a convenience to our residents.

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 1st quarter sewer payments are due July 31st.

Unfortunately, we still do not have the capability to accept on-line payments. However, we are in the process of switching over to a new software company that will allow us to accept this type of payment in the future. Once we are fully functional with this new system, we will update residents via our website and Facebook page and future newsletters.

Summer Youth Recreation Program

July 10 – August 9, 2018 at Nichols Park

This year's program will be held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays 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. Registration forms will be sent home through the elementary school and will also be available at Village Hall and on the website.



3rd Annual Sunday, June 3rd 12-3pm

VFBD's Mission: to actively promote a safe bicycling environment in the Village of Voorheesville; increase driver-bicyclist awareness and cooperation; deliver a free, healthy and eco-friendly event; and to support the Village of Voorheesville's downtown development efforts.

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.

Voorheesville Family Bicycling Day is a fun, safe, free and family-friendly day of bicycling and fun for the whole family. Please save the date for Sunday, June 3rd from noon until 3PM! Learn more about the event at www.vvillebicycling.com.

Community Cares Days Successful Once Again

Community Cares Days was once again a great success – with nearly 200 people involved this year! Many of our roadways and parks were cleared of accumulated winter trash. The Vly Creek was cleared of fallen trees and debris and is running more smoothly. We shredded 6000 pounds of paper and personal documents! Over 2300 lbs. of scrap metal were collected to benefit the Voorheesville Lacrosse team. Over 40 bags of clothes were collected for the United Methodist Church's thrift shop. Additionally, 2 vanloads of books will benefit the Albany Book Project and shoe boxes, blankets and towels were collected for the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society. The Fire Department's Auxiliary benefitted from bag after bag of bottles and cans. Plus - volunteers helped at 16 different sites raking lawns, washing windows, making small home repairs, and even building a small porch for some of our elderly residents.

The Community Cares Days committee welcomes new members and project ideas. Contact Karen at Village Hall if you would like to be a part of caring for your community.

Solicitors

Those wishing to go door-to-door within the Village (other than religious organizations) must apply to the Board of Trustees for a Vendor's Permit. All vendors with approved permits are issued a card from the Village, which you should ask to see if a solicitor knocks on your door. 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.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

The annual Household Hazardous Waste collection day will be held on Saturday, May 19th 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.

Farmers' Market Set to Open

The Voorheesville Farmer's Market will open for its 10th season on Wednesday, June 20, 2018 from 3:30 - 6:30 PM. There will be NO market on Wed. July 4.

Most of our vendors will be returning this season as well as several new vendors. We try to have special vendors some weeks selling art, jewelry, music, yogurt, face painting. To keep up to date each week, see our Facebook page or website, voorheesvillefarmersmarket.com. Or get one of our flyers that we'll be handing out at the Memorial Day Parade or at the market.

There will be a drawing each week and one lucky person will win a \$10 coupon good to any of our vendors in celebration of our 10th season.

If you have questions about the market, please contact Dianne Luci at 518-765-4536 or vvillefarmersmkt@gmail.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.

