



# The Village Report

Volume 18 Issue 2

Autumn/Winter

2018

## 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

Mailing address: 29 Voorheesville Ave.

### Mayor

Bob Conway 765-0036

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

### Deputy Mayor

Dick Berger 765-2674

### Trustees

Jack Stevens 765-4350

Rich Straut 765-2068

Sarita Winchell 765-2133

### Village Clerk/Treasurer

Linda Pasquali

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

### Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Karen Finnessey

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

### Building Inspector

Steve Mason 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 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 and the website calendar 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, Ballston Spa National Bank, and Stewarts

## From the Mayor

Hello Neighbors,

I am sitting here writing this as I look at the first snow of the season. With apologies to all the skiers out there but I have to say... too soon!

There is a lot of activity in our little village as we wind up the year. The sidewalk project along School Road to the library is finished up for the season with completion slated for next spring. The Department of Public Works did a fantastic job at a considerable cost savings to the Village. The sidewalk projects along Voorheesville Avenue, Altamont Road and Maple Avenue will begin in the spring and will certainly enhance the walkability of the village.

We continue working with our partners at the County and State to move the Quiet Zone project along. The cost of the project has been secured thanks to Senator Amedore and Assemblywoman Fahy and we are hopeful that actual construction activities will begin sometime in 2019.

As many of you are already aware there have been major changes to the Village's recycling program. Please refer to the recent flyer sent to every household or go to the village website to familiarize yourself with the changes. Your participation and cooperation will help to contain the costs associated with this service.

The Village's Comprehensive Plan has been adopted. This document reflects the hard work and dedication of not only the volunteer committee but of all the residents who contributed comments and suggestions either through the survey or participating in the community forums. To all of you I want to thank you for your interest in assuring that our village continues to reflect the character and spirit of the residents. The Board is currently working on an update to our Zoning Code, using the Comprehensive Plan as our guide. Look for information early in the new year on a Public Hearing date when the new Zoning Code will be presented to the public for review and comments.

Please join us at the Holiday tree lighting on November 25<sup>th</sup> in Hotaling Park as we celebrate the holiday season and count our blessings.

Hope to see you around the village!



## New Building Inspector Appointed

In August the Board appointed a new Building Inspector, Steve Mason. Steve fills the spot vacated by Glenn Hebert who, after nearly 10 years with the Village, accepted a full-time position with the Town of Waterford.

Steve Mason has been a village resident since 1997 and has had 2 children graduate from the Voorheesville school system. In addition to being a NYS Certified Codes Enforcement Officer, Steve has operated a home inspection business for 13 years and is the housing rehab specialist for Albany County Rural Housing Alliance, overseeing hundreds of home improvement projects facilitated by HUD and AHC grants. He has also worked extensively with local senior citizens organizations helping the aging with home safety and maintenance for which he has received Congressional and NYS Senate recognition for.

About his new position Steve says, "My goal is to help provide a safe and friendly environment for all who are, or wish to be, neighbors in this wonderful community".



# Building Department Notes

## ROOF REPLACEMENT GUIDE

### What should be included in the quote?

1. All existing roofing materials should be removed to allow for the proper installation of new materials and to allow for the inspection of roof sheathing.
2. The quote should include the price of sheathing replacement per square foot if needed.
3. A minimum of 6' of ice & water barrier should be installed at drip edges (2 courses of 36") to prevent ice damming damage. Any valleys or areas of possible water back-up should also have ice & water barrier installed under shingles. 30# felt paper or equal should be installed on remainder of roof.
4. The quote should include new drip edge and plumbing vent boots.
5. Exhaust and roof vents should be checked and replaced if necessary.
6. All flashings should be checked and repaired if necessary.
7. The quote should include new ridge vent. Adding ridge vents should only be done if there is proper venting at soffits.
8. New shingles should have a 30-year minimum warranty. Architectural type is standard. The contractor should register the shingles.
9. The contractor should give you a written warranty for labor costs. 5 years is offered by many reputable contractors. This allows the roof to go through most weather conditions.
10. The price should include any permits required by the local authorities (required in the village). The contractor should be the one who applies for the permit. The local inspectors might have a history with the contractor. (good or bad)
11. Consider replacing any skylights at this time. If they are as old as the roof being replaced, there is a good chance they won't last the lifetime of the new roof.

### Things you should ask the contractor.

1. Request 3 references. Call the references.
2. Ask the contractor for a copy of his proof of liability insurance and worker's compensation. This is required to obtain a permit.
3. Ask the contractor how large of a crew he has. A crew of one or two can make a large job last too long and can increase the chance of an uncovered roof being exposed to weather changes.
4. Inquire about how the contractor is going to protect your (or your neighbor's) lawn, shrubs, and house during demolition. Small pieces of roofing and nails are difficult to remove from the ground if a tarp isn't used. The yard should be kept neat and safe daily.
5. If the contractor is having a dumpster delivered, make sure they protect your driveway and/or lawn.

### Do's and Don'ts

1. DO get quotes from at least 3 contractors.
2. DO make sure you feel comfortable with the contractor. **It is okay to say no.**
3. DO have a start date and/or a completion date in writing on the contract.
4. DO take pictures of the house prior to, during and after the work is complete. Take pictures of any damage.
5. DON'T GIVE THE CONTRACTOR ANY MONEY AHEAD OF TIME. A good contractor has credit at the supplier and he shouldn't need your money to purchase materials. A small deposit (\$100) should suffice to hold your time slot if needed at all.
6. DO get all the manufacturer's warranty information prior to payment.

### Christmas safety hint:

Make sure all your exterior Christmas lights are plugged into a ground fault protected outlet or extension cord.

## Winter Parking Restrictions

**There is  
NO PARKING  
on any Village Street  
12 Midnight to 6:00AM  
NOVEMBER 15 - APRIL 15.**

This is for snow plowing purposes. This law is enforced regardless of a snow prediction. Please plan accordingly for the winter months and be sure to tell your guests!



## Holiday Office Hours

Village Hall will be closed for a variety of upcoming holidays

- Thursday, November 22 and Friday, November 23 for **Thanksgiving**
- Monday, December 24 and Tuesday, December 25 for **Christmas**
- Tuesday, January 1, 2019 for **New Year's Day**



## NOTIFY ME!

### Website Service Keeps Residents Informed

[www.villageofvoorheesville.com](http://www.villageofvoorheesville.com) is the place to go to sign up for text and/or email notifications on Village news and emergencies. Simply 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.

As always, notices on other Village happenings not covered by the NOTIFY ME system are posted on the website and on our Facebook page – The Village of Voorheesville. For those not connected to the internet, an old-fashioned phone call to Village Hall will help you get the information you need.



# MARK YOUR CALENDARS

## Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony

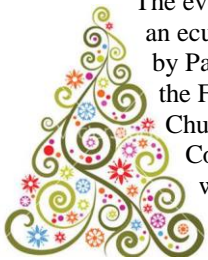
By Lois Gallager

The Helderview Garden Club will hold their Annual Community Tree Lighting and Carol Sing in Hotaling Park on Sunday, November 25th at 4:00PM.

All are invited to participate in this community event and help to perform the countdown for Mayor Robert Conway to turn on the holiday lights.

The event will also include an ecumenical prayer given by Pastor Gary Kubitz of the First United Methodist Church, and the Community Singers will lead us in song along with our Scout Troops. A performance by the Bell Ringers is also planned. Hot cider will be provided by the Methodist Church and cookies & candy canes will be available for the children, courtesy of the Garden Club.

We hope to see you all there!



## Voorheesville Family Bicycling Day June 2, 2019



Please join us for the 4th

Annual

**Voorheesville Family Bicycling Day (VFBD)** to be held on **Sunday, June 2nd from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m.!** VFBD

is a celebration of bicycling with something for the whole family including care-free riding, raffle with prizes totaling over \$1,000, bike clinics, ponies to ride, bouncy house, music, food, local exhibitors and much more

Contact Kevin Relyea at 655-0059 or [kbrelvea@gmail.com](mailto:kbrelvea@gmail.com) if you would like to be involved. And be sure to like their Facebook page (Voorheesville Family Bicycling Day) to keep up to date!

## DPW Reminders

**LEAVES:** Curbside leaf pick-up will continue as the weather allows. Please rake your leaves to the curb, *not into the roadway*, where they can restrict water flow along the roadway and block storm drains. Please take a minute to rake away leaves and debris you see atop or around storm drains. Also, keep rocks out of your leaf piles; they cause excessive wear & tear on the leaf vacuum causing additional repairs.

**BRUSH/STICKS:** Please do not put larger limbs and brush at the curb at this time; brush pick-up has ended for the season. Bundled sticks, no longer than 3 ft. in length, tied together, will be picked up.

**LAWN BAGS:** If you choose to bag your lawn debris and smaller sticks, we will continue to collect these bags until snow removal begins.

**SNOW REMOVAL:** When the time finally arrives, please **DO NOT** shovel or snow blow snow back into the street. This practice is dangerous for drivers who must drive through the snow.

**PORTABLE BASKETBALL HOOPS:** DPW will not be held liable for any damage done to these hoops if left on the street or within the right-of-way.

**VILLAGE RIGHT-OF-WAY:** Mailboxes, trees, shrubs or other items located within the Village's ROW that are damaged by snow and ice removal are not the responsibility of the Village. In most cases damage is caused by the force of the snow being pushed off the roadway and is beyond the control of the driver.

As always, if you have any questions about what we do at the DPW please do not hesitate to call us at 518-765-4512. Our normal business hours are Monday – Friday 7:00 am until 3:30 PM. If you have an emergency, we may be reached by pager at 518-342-2772 or by calling 911.



## Sewer District #1 Blockage Issues

Several blockages caused recent back-ups in the (Salem Hills) Sewer District #1 sending sewage onto the street. DPW had the system inspected and several “fatbergs” have been found.

Fatbergs form from cooking oil that has been poured down drains. It may be liquified when sent down the drain but once it hits the colder water of the sewer system, the fat solidifies. Add to those globs of grease a bunch of wet wipes. And, “Ta Da!” these culprits stick together and cling to the walls of the sewer pipes, collecting additional material as it passes by and building up over time. Wet wipes are often labeled as flushable, but most are made from a mix of natural and made-made (AKA plastic) fibers that do not decompose.

The recent blockages have been removed. Households on our Village sewer systems take note - to help prevent future blockages please do not dispose of grease or greasy liquids down your drain and do not flush anything other than toilet paper. Your efforts are appreciated.



## Updated Recycling Brochure Available

We have updated our recycling flyer with the changes that were outlined in the letter sent to all residents during the month of October. The brochure is in a more easily readable format and is available as a PDF document on our website – [www.villageofvoorheesville.com](http://www.villageofvoorheesville.com) – and our Facebook page – The Village of Voorheesville. Hard copies are also available through Village Hall.

## Support Our Troops Drive



The Operation August Action drive for our troops was a rousing success. Let's join together once again to show our appreciation to service

men and women serving our Country abroad. Look for information for our February Support Our Troops Drive – **Operation Share the Love.**

We will once again publish a list of items and drop-off locations.

The cost to ship a box runs between \$60-\$65 per box. We shipped out 14 boxes in August; donations towards shipping are also greatly appreciated.

If you have a family member who will be on deployment in the early part of 2019 please call Village Hall with information as we would like to, whenever possible, target service members with a tie to our community.



The Voorheesville Volunteer Fire Department's Annual  
**Hungry Man's Breakfast with Santa**

Sunday, December 2, 2018  
from 7 – 11 AM  
at the Fire House  
12 Altamont Road

Menu: eggs & toast, pancakes & sausage  
French toast, coffee, tea & juice

## Stormwater Issues

Even though we are entering the winter season, it's still important to consider storm water pollution and work to keep it at bay. Fertilizers, pet waste and automotive fluids can get caught up in the snow, accumulating until thawing carries them into the storm water system. Contaminants eventually end up, untreated, in streams and larger bodies of water that are used for drinking, swimming or fishing. Remember – the Village is held responsible for pollutants within the waters of the Vly Creek that flow through our borders.

Consider these few items to help reduce harmful pollutants entering our storm drains this winter season:

- Winterize your vehicles — Check that your car is not leaking oil or other fluids. It only takes a small amount of motor oil to pollute thousands of gallons of water; much of the Village is located within Aquifer Protection Area, with some residents living very nearby our well heads. Dispose of drained fluids properly; do not dump these items down the storm drains. They should be recycled properly.
- Washing vehicles — You may be tempted to take advantage of that unusually warm winter day and decide to give your car a scrub-down in your driveway. Look to see where that dirty, salty runoff is going. Does it wash down the driveway and into the storm drain? If so, all the soapy, salty, dirty water will eventually end up in a stream or pond. Use a car wash facility instead. It may cost a few dollars more, but the water will be treated (or recycled) before being released into the watershed.
- De-icing driveways and sidewalks — Many of us would never consider dumping a bucket of salt on our lawn in the summer. But the salt run off from sidewalks and/or driveways has the same result by seeping into the surrounding soil. Consider more environmentally-friendly de-icing products found at most auto parts and home improvement stores

### Cutoff Date for Fertilizing Lawns is December 1

Did you know that it is against New York State law to fertilize lawns between December 1 and April 1 (does not apply to agricultural fertilizer or fertilizer for gardens)? Also, you should be sure to select a fertilizer with no phosphorus, a leading cause of algae overgrowth in lakes and ponds. Check out NYSDEC's Lawn Fertilizer webpage (<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/67239.html>) for more information.



## New Businesses in the Ville

Earlier this year we had several new businesses open in The Village.

Out of the Park Softball Training Center LLC was opened by Kara Faraone and is located at 1 Countryside Lane near the Library. Kara brings many years of softball experience to this exciting venture.

Katie Kind relocated her Slingerlands dance studio, Kind Performing Arts, LLC to 11 Drywall Lane last March, offering a variety of dance, music & yoga classes in the fully equipped studio.

Additionally, several other businesses will soon be opened in The Village.

A wood reclamation company received approval to set up shop at 28 South Main Street (formerly Voorheesville Carpet). Owner Donn Luthanen reclaims/resells old barn wood. While the warehouse portion of the building will be used for this aspect of his business, Mr. Luthanen plans to use the showroom area of the building to feature wood goods created by some of his customers.

Gracie's Kitchen received approval for their sign for the new eatery to open at 39 Voorheesville Avenue. Owner, Grace Thompson is busy, busy, busy getting the new restaurant ready for hungry residents. Be on the lookout for that "Opening Soon" sign!

Ami Lahoff has rented space at 34 South Main Street for her business Star & Splendor Skin Care. A seasoned veteran of an Etsy based shop, Ami brings her homemade goat's milk soap and skin care items to the Village and should be opened for business in time for the Christmas Shopping Season.