

The Ardsley Villager

A Publication of the Ardsley Village Board of Trustees

Visit us at www.ardsleyvillage.com	<i>Ex Ardsley semper aliquid novi!</i>	Always call 911 for emergencies
<p>MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR</p> <p>Now that the long, hot summer is over, it's a good time to look back, look ahead, and summarize what's going on in our little Village of Ardsley...</p> <p>First and foremost, a reminder that Ardsley Day is Sunday, September 26th. We have a lot of great activities scheduled, particularly the first "Ardsley Day Eve" festivities at Ashford Park, with the great musician and Ardsleyan Gil Parris and his band performing from 5-8pm, followed by an exciting laser show!</p> <p>We currently have about 300 addresses signed up for the Ardsley Email Distribution list, which we are using for disseminating important information, news and emergency information to our residents. Considering we have about 4,800 residents, we'd like to do a lot better than that. If you (or your friends and family) haven't already, please sign up your email address by navigating to our web site's home page, www.ardsleyvillage.com.</p> <p>We're sad to report that the village lost four prominent long-time residents this summer:</p> <p>Herb Engel – Co-president of the Ardsley Historical Society Lydia Dallis – Former Village Trustee and president of the Ardsley Library Board Marie Stimpfl – Former Village Mayor, Zoning Board member, and ASVAC volunteer Louis Pascone – Highway Foreman for the past 61 years</p>	<p>*****</p> <p>ARDSLEY REMEMBERS</p> <p>LOUIS PASCONE 1929 - 2010</p> <p>MARIE STIMPFL 1935 - 2010</p> <p>LYDIA DALLIS 1940 - 2010</p> <p>HERB ENGEL 1927 - 2010</p> <p>These are four wonderful and inspiring examples of lives well spent. Our heartfelt condolences are extended to the Engel, Dallis, Stimpfl, and Pascone families. They will be sorely missed.</p> <p>In July the Greenburgh Town Board approved a contract of sale of the Waterwheel property (Revolutionary and Route 9A) to a group</p>	<p>that plans to construct a housing development, for which some of the units we hope to earmark for firefighters and emergency services volunteers. The developers are expected to submit their permit applications soon and public hearings will no doubt occur later in the Fall. For a review of some of the particulars concerning prospective plans for the property, refer to my article in the December 2009 edition of the Ardsley Villager, available on the village web site.</p> <p>There was some excitement in the village last month when there was a fire at the Rite Aid Pharmacy in the Towne Plaza Shopping Center. Our Fire Department, led by their intrepid Chief Vincent Coulehan, did a fantastic job of putting out the fire, with the mutual aid of the departments of many surrounding communities, plus ASVAC and the Police Department. Our thanks and admiration is conveyed to all who were involved.</p> <p>Recently, our Cable Television Committee chairman Steve Greenbaum stepped down after many years of dedicated service. We are very grateful to Steve for his many hours of work on behalf of the village. People reading this message would do Steve and the village an honor if you considered volunteering for the committee. The time commitment is minimal – usually only one or two nights a month – and your service will ensure that democracy is alive and well in the Village of Ardsley by assisting with the televising of the Village Board Meetings for all Cablevision and Verizon FIOS customers to see.</p>

And with that, I wish all of you a very productive and happy school year and fall season.

Jay Leon

Jay Leon
Mayor of Ardsley, NY

BRUNO VIANI HONORED

Recently, our Mayor wrote a letter to one of our residents, Bruno Viani, regarding an honor that was to be bestowed on him. The letter, reproduced below, is self-explanatory:

Dear Mr. Viani,

It has come to my attention that the Consul General of France in New York is bestowing upon you the medal of Chevalier of the French Legion of Honor. I am extremely pleased that you are being recognized for your service and sacrifice for your country.

It is my understanding that you were commissioned an officer during the Second World War and served in both the Pacific and European theaters. As Ardsley's highest elected official, it is my pleasure to offer you the village's congratulations upon receiving this honor.

On a personal note, I cannot express more sincerely my heartfelt appreciation and admiration for what you have accomplished on behalf of your country. Once again, congratulations and thank you for your service.

Most sincerely,
Jay Leon
Mayor of Ardsley, NY

2010 POLICE AWARDS

At the May 17th Village Board Meeting, Police Chief Emil Califano hosted the 2010 Ardsley Police Awards. In the presence of family and friends, awards were presented in the following categories:

Lifesaving Award

P.O. Bryan Watson
P.O. Edward Davis
P.O. Brian Roemer

All three Officers were involved in saving the life of a resident at 1017 Saw Mill River Road. The resident was choking on a food item. The three Officers were able to dislodge the item from the resident's throat. Each Officer played a vital role in the saving of this resident's life.

Excellent Police Duty

Officer Keith Gannon conducted a traffic stop on Saw Mill River Rd where he observed a male driver and female passenger traveling without seat belts. The male driver was issued a summons for a seat belt violation, but the female passenger was not issued due to her age of 15 years old. Minors cannot be issued Vehicle and Traffic summonses. Approximately 20 - 30 minutes later, Officer Gannon located the same vehicle parked in a local motel parking lot. Officers located the room the parties were in and through the security footage, verified both parties had entered the room. Officers gained access to the room where they found evidence that inappropriate sexual conduct had occurred, but further conduct was halted due to the arrival of the Officers.

Command Recognition Certificate

P.O. Keith Gannon
P.O. Michael Petruolo

Officers Keith Gannon and Michael Petruolo were dispatched to a private home on a report of suspicious activity. Upon arrival, they found a subject inside the residence in the process of burglarizing the home. The subject was arrested for burglary and was sentenced to 15 years in State Prison after a trial.

Civilian Awards

Mr. Matthew DePasquale
Resident and retired NYS Trooper

Mr. DePasquale observed a suspicious person enter a private home. He called the Ardsley Police Department and relayed vital information to the Desk Officer. Patrol arrived on scene and found a subject burglarizing the home.

Mr. Joseph Garrett
Resident

Mr. Garrett observed an individual who backed his vehicle into a parking meter in front of 12 Center St. After further investigation, it was found a burglary was attempted at the business at 12 Center St. Due to Mr. Garrett's awareness and memory of the suspect's license plate, an arrest was made.

Mr. Jesse Nelson
Resident and active ASVAC EMT

While on call for ASVAC, EMT Nelson responded to a private home for a party highly agitated from an overdose of medication. Upon his arrival, EMT Nelson saw P.O. Keith Gannon in a physical struggle with the individual. EMT Nelson immediately stepped in to aid Officer Gannon and assisted with subduing the patient.

An immense debt of gratitude is owed these brave officers and residents who assist in making the streets of our small community safe.

CALVI REMEMBERS DALLIS

Much has been said recently about the passing of Ardsley Library Board President Lydia Dallis. However, with all that's been said of her achievements I wish to make mention of two that for some reason have been overlooked.

Along with Fire Chief Vinnie Coulehan, the late Mayor Dick

Fontana, and the late Floyd Lichtenberg, Lydia was one of the Co-Chairpersons of the Village of Ardsley's centennial in 1996. This was an 11 month event commencing with a January 6th flag raising ceremony at Village Hall, and culminating in a Centennial Dinner Dance at the Greentree Country Club on November 10th with no less than 26 events in between including a four hour parade [or at least it seemed like 4 hours] which stepped off at the Concord Elementary School, moved down Heatherdell Road to Route 9A, and then up the full length of Ashford Avenue to Ashford Park which was hosted by the Ardsley Fire Department on September 21.

Mention should also be made that from 1994 to 1999 Lydia founded and spearheaded the Ardsley RELEAF program that was responsible for the planting of no less than 84 trees around the village in memory of various friends and relatives funded by donations including the successful planting of several American Elms along the north perimeter of Ashford Park which were experimental hybrids provided by Cornell Cooperative as an attempt to restore these gracious shade trees that had been devastated nationwide decades before by Dutch Elm disease. To Lydia's credit all the elms survived, and are still thriving, as should her memory for years to come.

I had the pleasure of working with Lydia when she served as Trustee on the Village Board. If I had to describe her role in one sentence, I would have to say "She was one tough cookie!" When Lydia made up her mind on something, there was no way to steer her otherwise. I admired the way she never shied away from making the tough decisions, or handled herself during some rather long and tortuous board meetings. Faced with potentially difficult obstacles, her favorite expression would often be, "We'll muddle through this somehow." She exhibited this same tenacity in practically any challenge presented to her. I will miss her courage, I will miss her sense of

humor, and most of all, I will miss her faith that no matter what the challenge, if we all work together and keep the lines of communication open, we can accomplish great things. Witness the Elmsford/Ardsley library services contract, the new Library Annex, the Centennial Event, the RELEAF program, thanks to Lydia, we accomplished great things! -- George F. Calvi, Village Manager

GROTH PROVIDES TENDER TRIBUTE TO DALLIS

Daughter, Wife, Mom, Grandma, Village Trustee, Library Board Member and President, Cornell Master Gardener, Library Advocate, Library Volunteer, Tree Champion, Dog Lover and Trainer, Closet-Cleaner-Outer, Straight Shooter, Boss. Friend. Lydia Dallis.

I remember the first time I met Lydia when she knocked on my door, running for Village Trustee. I remember the last time I spoke to Lydia when she told me not to expect her for a while on her Monday morning volunteer shift. I remember many, many other times in between.

"She touched so many lives in so many ways" is a line I've heard many times but now I can truly say I understand it. Although Lydia was a very strong presence in the room, there are many things she did that travelled below the radar. Like volunteering weekly at the women's prison where she shared her love of gardening, sweetening the inmates lives with sample sizes of lotions, shampoos and conditioners. Or the time when she went out and bought a new counter refrigerator for the library staff when she heard ours had broken down. Or the many weekends she acted as foster mom to a service-dog-in-training, when she took those dogs everywhere she went to acclimate them to being out in the public – and yes, they did visit the library with her too!

When we began discussing an addition and renovation to the Library, she was practical, yet encouraging, and always had the "let's go for it!" attitude. Our new, beautiful space is a tribute to her vision and tenacity.

For the last 10 years I've been preparing for Mondays at 10AM, when I knew I would see Lydia for her Volunteer shift (unless she was visiting her grandchildren, of course!) We would catch up on what's been happening in the Library the previous week and life in general. My Mondays are different now. Something is missing: My Friend. Lydia. – Angela Groth, Library Director

DON MOSS SPORTS ILLUSTRATOR

This summer we learned of the death of Don Moss, a sports art illustrator who used to reside on Huntley Drive. I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Moss back in 1998 upon the opening of the new Ardsley Village Hall. During his visit, he immediately spied on the wall a copy of some artwork he had done years ago of the long gone Ardsley train station and told me, "I can't believe you don't have an original. I'll have to take care of that! Some months later, I took receipt of an original artwork of the train station complete with the inscription: "To the Village of Ardsley with fond memories – Sally and Don Moss." Moss lived in the Village from 1953 to 1969 in a house now occupied by my old friend, Howard Martin.

While working for the Herald Tribune, he utilized local Ardsley scenes in the Sunday color magazine section known as Today's Living. One of the covers from 1961 featured a McDowell Park Little League game in progress, another from 1959 featured children frolicking on the long gone McDowell Park ice skating rink that the late Matty Hertz and Larry Nardecchia so desperately tried to keep going for many years until it succumbed to a re-designed parking lot and basketball court. All three framed artworks can

be viewed in the Office of the Village Clerk. As reported in his May 31st obituary in the New York Times, graciously provided to me by Judge Walter Schwartz, "Mr. Moss also worked for Sports Illustrated, and produced Olympic logos, promotional materials for the U.S. Tennis Open, the New York City Marathon, and the Super Bowl. He designed eight commemorative postage stamps, including ones with Olympic and tennis themes." -- George F. Calvi, Village Manager

LOOKING BACK ON THE STIMPFL YEARS

It was the summer of 1984. The late Lowell Tooley, Village Manager of Scarsdale, thought it would be a good idea for me as part of my management internship to interview for the soon to be vacated position of Ardsley Village Manager. Having returned from Pittsburgh armed with my Masters degree only weeks before, I knew that I didn't have a prayer in getting the job. However, eager to gain the interviewing experience, I looked forward to the challenge.

When I arrived for the meeting, I entered a small room occupied by a dark haired middle-aged woman with piercing eyes and corduroy slacks, and an older gent with salt & pepper hair and a tired expression on his face who introduced himself as Vince Atalese. After some quick pleasantries with the gent, the woman immediately launched into a rapid interrogation. "Can you read plans? Do you know the difference between A Notice of Defect and a 90 Day Notice of Intent? What's your experience with grants? What about budgeting? Constituent complaints? Labor negotiations?" Fortunately, my internship the summer before with Scarsdale had served me well, and I sailed through all the questions. The woman seemed pleased, but I couldn't be certain. Perhaps she was just being polite. I didn't get the job. I was outclassed by the much more experienced New Rochelle Deputy City Manager Tim Idoni. However, I walked away

knowing that this relatively new Mayor, Marie Stimpfl, was everything I heard she was: tough, thorough, and well-versed in all-things Ardsley.

Six years later, in the spring of 1990, newly installed as the Village Manager of Ardsley, I received my first office visit from former Mayor Stimpfl. I happily shared with her my good news of the day that the County had just awarded us a \$26,000 CDBG grant for easement acquisition in connection with the flood control project. "What took Andy so long?" she said. Seems she had persuaded County Executive O'Rourke a few years prior to cover the final costs of the project. To secure funding for that purpose from a source normally limited to housing and business district development was an unconventional coup!

Adjectives like "unconventional" along with "effective" aptly described Marie's style quite well. As Ardsley's first (and only) female Mayor much happened under her watch, of course, with the assistance of many others. The chronic flooding of the business district became a thing of the past with construction of the flood control walls behind the Village Green. The largely outdated and inappropriately placed DPW garage was relocated to Elm Street, and replaced by the Ardsley Community Center after a large fund-raising drive. The recent conversion of the Ashford Avenue school into the Ashford Court condos begat the purchase of the overly large Quint or Ladder Fire Truck which begat the wider garage bay and annex for the now demolished old Village Hall. The signing of a cable franchise agreement with UA-Columbia caused the live broadcast meetings of the Ardsley Village Board of Trustees to become a viewing staple. The Ardsley Public Library found a home of its own when it relocated from a small storefront on Center Street to a brand-new building on American Legion Drive.

Like all Mayors, her tenure was not without its share of controversy. The great Town Pool debate would take on

a life of its own, as would the head-spinning "Fence-gate" affair. Towards the end of her tenure the exhausting hearings regarding the retro-fitting installation of fire sprinklers in commercial buildings was gestating and would become a thorny challenge for her successor Morty David to resolve.

Though out of office by the time I arrived, Marie still carried much sway in the community. Strong-willed as ever, she and I had our fair share of disagreements. However, as time marched on I came to rely on her as a dependable source of local lore. Armed with a memory like a steel trap, she could recite who voted for what and when many years after the fact. If a document went missing, Marie knew where to find it or get a reliable draft. If someone misstated a fact at a village board meeting the night before, Marie called the next day to set the record straight. If someone inquired why a certain law was enacted, Marie volunteered the back story. Every year for the last two decades she obtained a copy of the Manager's proposed budget, and questioned the need for various line items. In plain English, "the lady knew her stuff!" Her husband, Bob, shared with me that Marie never missed a broadcast meeting of the Village Board of Trustees. Now, if that isn't dedication to the workings of this community, I don't know what is.

Like our late Highway Foreman Louie Pascone, and the late Library Board Presidents Lydia Dallis and Floyd Lichtenberg, in my humble opinion the name of Marie Stimpfl shall remain etched in the mind of many an Ardsley resident for many years to come! -- George F. Calvi, Village Manager

NEW FIRE AND BUILDING CODE ARRIVES

The New York State Codes Division recently announced the release of the 2010 version of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code. The new version is expected to

become effective in December 2010 or January 2011. There is normally a grace period where the old and new versions of the code can be used, but any plans for building permits submitted after the grace period ends must comply with the 2010 version of the code.

If you are planning a project that requires a building permit, please ensure that your design professional is using the correct version of the code. Do keep in mind that this time frame may change as the Codes Division deems necessary to ensure a smooth transition. You can contact me at avinspector@optonline.net if you have any questions. – Larry Tomasso, Building Inspector

AN OVERVIEW OF THE ARDSLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Village of Ardsley Volunteer Fire Department provides emergency services to the residents of the Village of Ardsley as well as to the residents of our Fire Protection Districts - South Ardsley and Chauncey. The Fire Department also provides protection on the New York State Thruway between the Yonkers toll booth and the I-287 / I-87 interchange. On average the Fire Department responds to over 225 emergencies throughout the year.

The Ardsley Fire Department utilizes three front line fire apparatus; one 75' ladder with a 1500 gpm pump, and 2 pumpers each carrying over 1100' of 5" hose, and can each pump at 1750 gallons per minute. The Fire Department also has three Chief Command vehicles used to command and direct Fire and emergency operations.

The backbone of the department is with the members of Volunteer Engine Company No.1. Presently, the Ardsley Fire Department has 45 Active Members and 16 members in the youth explorer post. To be a Firefighter one has to complete:

Fire Fighter I – 89 hours
Fire Fighter Survival 8 hours
Fire Fighter II - 27 Hours
Accident Victim Extrication Training – 24 Hours
Truck Company Operations – 24 Hours
A total of 172 hours

Once this training is complete, a Firefighter can respond with the tools and knowledge on how to handle many emergencies. However, the Training does not stop here. On average the Fire Department spends three Thursdays out of four conducting hands on training. This training is done throughout the year – in the Village and at the County training facility in Valhalla. While this is a daunting task, the rewards are priceless when one looks at the service our members dedicate themselves to.

If you are interested in joining the Ardsley Fire Department please contact the Office of the Fire Chief at: (914) 693-6581.

One last reminder – Please Check your smoke detector batteries and function monthly. Have the batteries changed in the fall when the clocks are set back to Eastern Standard Time [EST]. – Vincent Coulehan, Fire Chief

[Editor's Note: Since January, five new members have joined the department: Emil Antonvici, Lisa Feldman, Michael Murray, Max Breindel, and Joel Shuart. We welcome them all, and thank them for their service to the community. – gfc]

SCHOOL'S OPEN / DRIVE CAREFULLY

Public and private schools in Ardsley are now in session for the new school year. We ask you, particularly motorists, to bear in mind the following safety precautions:

Drive carefully and watch for children crossing streets, waiting for buses, and walking to and from school.

Obey the Crossing Guards as they safely cross children at intersections.

Remember it's against the law and very dangerous to pass a stopped school bus.

Drive at or below the posted speed limits in the school zones

Please obey all traffic laws every day to help keep Ardsley a safe place to live, work, and attend school

WATERWHEEL PROGRESS

On July 14th, the Town of Greenburgh passed a resolution to enter into a contract to sell the Waterwheel property (located at the intersection of Saw Mill River Road and Revolutionary Road, across the street from Macy Park) to Ardsley Waterwheel Properties - a group consisting of Ariston Properties, Community Housing Innovation, and Architectura, Inc.

The current plan is for the development of a community of 22 units, consisting of 17 affordable housing units and 5 workforce units. It is important to point out that NONE of these units are earmarked for low income housing. They are all for working people with incomes according to the following guidelines, as defined in the Ardsley Village code (available online):

Affordable Units - For individuals or families with a Household Income within 50%-80% of the county median (the settlement may compel us to expand this to 30%-80% of the county median).

Workforce Units - For individuals or families with a Household Income within 80%-120% of the county median. These units will be designated for Ardsley Fire Department and Ambulance Corps (ASVAC) volunteers first. If there are remaining units after the eligible volunteers are accommodated, the village will consider eligible

municipal/school district workers and senior citizens.

This is an important step for the Village. If Ardsley ever needs to move toward a paid fire department or ambulance service, it would result in a large increase in local property taxes. This development should therefore be viewed in part as a major tax-reduction effort.

It is important as well to encourage our young volunteers to remain in the village. Many of them cannot afford to live independently here. These are some of the best, most civic-minded residents we have, and we want them to stay for the good of the community.

The affordable units are necessary because:

a) the Federal Housing settlement with the county identifies Ardsley as one of the 31 municipalities that must cooperate with its stipulations. If the affordable units are not constructed on this property, sooner or later we will be compelled to have them constructed somewhere else. It is in the interest of the village to cooperate with the settlement, because we believe it will encourage the Federal Monitor to agree to other aspects of the project that do not fall under the settlement guidelines (such as the volunteer units).

b) we have been told by multiple developers and real estate agents that there is no commercial financing available currently for market rate housing, due to the state of the economy. That leaves only public financing for affordable units. The Town found through four different auctions or RFP requests that developers cannot include market rate housing in their bids due to the financing problems.

c) it's the right thing to do. When I'm not the Mayor, I work for a Fortune 500 company that has committed itself to the idea that diversity breeds vibrancy and new, fresh ideas due to the unique range of thinking that

different cultures, backgrounds or experiences bring. Ardsley can benefit from this too, but it's hard to achieve if we've priced ourselves into homogeneity.

The architectural plans for the development are very attractive and in keeping with the character of the neighborhood. The developer's architect did a very clever and visually pleasing job in this regard. Most everyone on our Affordable Housing Committee and land use boards who saw a presentation of the development indicated they felt this way, including the residents of Stonegate who were kind enough to represent their community throughout many meetings.

I have been asked about whether this community will receive any property tax relief due to its affordable / workforce status. The property will not be granted any special status or PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) program. However, the units will be assessed for tax purposes at their legally assessed value. Assuming the sales price of the units is lower than market rate, their assessed amounts will be valued accordingly.

The next step is for the developer to apply for the required building permits through the village. There will be a series of discussions, public hearings and environmental review with the Ardsley Village Board and the Planning Board (and if necessary, the Zoning Board). Residents will have a chance to comment publicly at some of the meetings, or in print via letter or email.

While there is much that needs to be done, this step represents the first big hurdle toward making the development a reality. I would like to thank the following people for helping us move forward with the development:

--- The Greenburgh Town Board and the Ardsley/Waterwheel Properties for entering into the contract of sale, and for their persistence and patience during a long negotiation.

--- The Ardsley Village Board, particularly Trustee Beverly Levine, who attended many meetings with the Town Board (especially those in which I was unable to personally attend), and of course our vigilant Village Manager George Calvi.

--- The members of the Ardsley Affordable Housing Committee who participated in the original RFP process, who also displayed much patience during the process. These individuals include (and please excuse me if I missed anyone): Jim Chin, George Weingarten, Paul Bialowas, Jim Mulvey, Adam Novich, Patricia Hoffman, Steve Wittenberg, Steve Kaskowitz, Troy Roberts, Rick Thompson, and anyone else I may have missed who attended a meeting in conjunction with affordable housing and the Greenburgh RFP review.

--- The representatives of Stonegate who came to many of our Affordable Housing meetings over the past two years to safeguard the interests of their community: Clark Hung and Cheryl Mathew.

I hope that readers of this message recognize (or come to recognize) that this is an important and necessary step in the future of the Village of Ardsley. Thank you for your consideration of this matter. Please feel free to forward this message to friends and family who have not yet signed up for this email distribution list. – Jay Leon, Mayor

[Editor's note: The contents of the above report from Mayor Leon should be familiar to current subscribers of the community-wide email announcements on Constant Contact. However, for the benefit of non-subscribers, it has been reproduced here in its entirety. - gfc]

FALL / WINTER RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Listed below is the Fall/Winter schedule of activities brought to you by the Ardsley Village Parks & Recreation Department:

Ardsley Day takes place on Sunday Sept. 26 from 12-5

Red Bull Miniwee Soccer starts Sept. 26 on Sundays at Ashford Park

Chess will be held on Tuesdays starting Sept. 28 (two classes - Beginners and Advanced)

Skate park lessons on Saturdays starting Sept. 25

Tennis Clinic held on Saturdays and Sundays starting Sept. 25 and 26

Red Cross Babysitting course for 12 -16 year olds at the Community Center TBA

Annual Garage Sale will be held on Oct. 16 at Ashford Park (Raindate is October 23.)

Halloween Parade will take place on Oct 31 starting at the Gazebo in Ashford Park at 12:45pm

Defensive driving course will be held on Oct. 13 & 14 at the Community Center from 6-9 pm

Youth Basketball for 3-6 grade boys and girls. Practices start in November

Adult basketball Monday nights at the Middle School gym from 8-10 pm starting Nov.29

Christmas Tree Lighting will be on Saturday Dec. 4th at 6pm

Please pose all questions to the Parks & Recreation staff at 693-8012 or ardsleyrec@optonline.net. - Trish Lacey, Park Supervisor and Lori Hunter, Recreation Assistant

FIFTH ANNUAL MENORAH LIGHTING

The Village Board has approved a request by Chabad of the Rivertowns,

represented by Rabbi Benjy Silverman, to construct a Menorah display in Legion Park for the Chanukah season from December 1 through December 8. The lighting of the Shamash candle will take place at 6:30 pm on December 2nd.

STORMWATER UPDATE: DRIVEWAY DOWNSPOUTS

This past summer, we all had our “eco-awareness” heightened by the massive Gulf of Mexico oil spill. But, do you realize that if your downspouts empty onto your driveway, you have a “mini” oil spill every time it rains? Around our Village, many homes have roof and property drains emptying out onto driveways, washing all the little oil drips from your car into local waterways. It would be great to move those drains back just a couple of feet so that they could empty into a rain garden located at the edge of your property. Installation of the garden could be a fun family DIY activity this fall. Just get some design advice from an engineer or landscape architect before you start so it is done properly, and make sure you are draining downhill at least ten feet away from your home’s foundation.

Speaking of rain gardens (RG’s), thank you to Kazuki Nakatani and fellow Boy Scouts for installing the new RG at Ashford Park, as part of the Bronx River Watershed Initiative (BRWI) grant project. Also, check out the Bus Shelter RG at the intersection of 9A and Ashford Ave., installed thanks to the efforts of the Ardsley Garden Club, the Rivertowns Lions Club, and the Saw Mill River Coalition/Groundwork Hudson Valley. Back at the BRWI site in Ashford Park, look for the new sustainable, native garden beds next to the old Legion / McCartney Building to be planted this fall by Saumik Rahman and Boy Scouts. Lastly, as of this writing, BRWI porous driveway and walkway projects will be underway and you may visit these new installations at the Ashford Park site.

By the way, porous driveway would be a great option for your home too!

See you at Ardsley Day and thanks for keeping our water clean! - - Lorraine Kuhn, Stormwater Management

AUTUMN TREE PLANTING

This has been one of the hottest summers in memory. For most of us living in our green villages, our many shade trees have been a reliable source in cooling down our yards and homes. In addition to providing shade, trees purify the air, reduce storm-water runoff, help protect our water quality and provide habitats for birds and other wildlife. Planning for trees today, near village streets, in parks and in our yards, will provide benefits for us now and for future generations.

Trees are always growing, changing in scale and habits as they mature. As you think of a tree to plant in your yard, it is important consider the tree’s specific needs, its strengths and features. Visualizing its colors, scale, shape, and berries, will also help you in your selection.

Autumn is a time when our native trees burst with vibrant red, orange, and gold. You may decide that you like a Red Maple, *Acer rubrum*, but is it really suitable to where you would like to plant it?

Below are a few considerations to help you with your choices:

- Check the Village ordinances for tree planting and/or removal.
- Is the tree a fast or slow grower? What may be its height and branching habits at maturity?
- What are its sun, shade, and soil and other requirements?
- Is your proposed tree location appropriate for the tree you are considering?
- What function will the tree provide: Shade, seasonal color, flowers, or fruit?

- What are planting preparations, maintenance and extra-care during and after planting?
- Suitability and safety considerations regarding its proposed location. Con Edison in its "Tree Maintenance Guide" recommends dialing 811 to arrange mark-up of underground facilities and lines (at no cost to you).

Consider selecting native trees! They are not invasive, tend to be tougher and have adapted to summer drought, cold and many environmental challenges in our region. They generally need less water and maintenance and provide food and shelter for local wildlife.

Now, where does one turn for inspiration and guidance? Some resources in our area to help guide you in your selection of a tree:

Certified arborists, tree care companies, landscape architects and design professionals, local garden centers are valuable resources to help you with the process of tree evaluation, selection, location and care.

Visit the **Demonstration Garden** at the Greenburgh Public Library. See small scale and ornamental trees through their seasonal changes. Serviceberry, Kousa Dogwood, Eastern Redbud among others were planted last spring by the Department of Community Development and Conservation-Town of Greenburgh.

Contact the **Native Plant Center** at Westchester Community College, for information on native plants and gardening as well as educational programs by telephoning 606-7870 or visiting www.nativeplantcenter.org

Phone **Cornell Cooperative Extension** at 914 285-4640 for horticultural information and lecture

series, or visit the website at www.cornell.edu

Visit the **Greenburgh Nature Center** in Scarsdale which is a 33-acre woodlands preserve with more than 100 species of trees and shrubs. On display until October 3rd is the exhibit "Trees: Heroes of Our Planet" celebrating trees and their benefits to the environment. Tel. 723-3470 www.greenburghnaturecenter.org

Planting a tree can be a considerable and costly activity but also a fulfilling experience. The benefits to us living in the Village of Ardsley and to our wildlife and environment are many. Planting the right tree for the right place this fall could be just the challenge you have been looking for! -
- Eti Katoni, ASLA, Member of the Ardsley Environmental Advisory Committee

LEVINE REMEMBERS ENGEL

We mourn the passing of our president, Herbert Engel in June. Herb lived in Ardsley since 1950, where he and his late wife, "Your Show of Shows" writer Lucille Kallen, raised two children. An engineer by trade, he worked for Sumitomo, a manufacturer of railroad cars, for over 30 years. After retirement, he became involved in a number of community activities.

Herb enjoyed using the Ardsley Public Library for many years and especially liked discovering the history of our Village through his affiliation with The Ardsley Historical Society. He became co-president with me in 2007-2009, then president in 2000, a title he held until his death. We send our deepest sympathies to his family. He will be missed. - Trustee Beverly Levine

FRIENDLY ADVICE

From time to time some of my friends around the village will ask me to repeat some of the helpful suggestions which have appeared in previous editions of the Ardsley Villager and

other correspondence. Well, here goes:

Please bring in your empty trash cans and recycling bins. No one wishes to stare at them all weekend. And don't forget to place a lid on them when they are full!

Park your automobile in the right direction. It doesn't matter if you live on a small street. You're neighbors are not going to complain, but trust me, it's really eating away at them. And the police will leave a small gift on your windshield if they notice.

Bag those leaves! Nothing upsets your neighbors more than having your itinerant leaves blow over on to their nicely raked lawn. Again, failure to do so could cost you big time.

If you aren't eligible to park overnight on the street, don't do it. You will be fined. On the other hand, if your car is disabled, or Uncle Miltie imbibed more Cosmopolitans than he should have, notify the Police Desk and they will grant you absolution for the evening. But you have to make that call!

Don't place your house number on your front door. When that emergency happens, and it will, your open door will sabotage the emergency responders' efforts to find your home. Place the required six inch long numbers on a readily visible spot that can't be obscured by snow, branches, or, once again, open doors.

Last but not least, curb your dog. There is no sure-fire better way to lose friends in the neighborhood than by letting Fido soil their lawns and paths. Forget the excuses. It's not good for the soil or the grass, and definitely not for the run-off which makes its way eventually back to your drinking water. Collect it, bag it, toss it in the trash when you get home. And, please, don't forget to place the lid back on that trash can. - - George F. Calvi, Village Manager

WHAT WERE THEY THINKING?

On October 7, 1957, Village Clerk Margaret S. Hagy posted a notice that the Village Trustees had enacted an ordinance regulating indecent street attire of persons in the Village of Ardsley.

“No person sixteen years of age or over shall appear upon any of the streets, highways or other public places within the areas in the Village of Ardsley hereinafter described, in a bathing suit or swimming attire, or in a halter, shorts, knickers, pants, shirts, waist, sweater, swimsuit, playsuit or any other attire of like nature, which fails to conceal that portion of the wearer’s body and thighs extending away from armpits to a point midway between the hip joints and knee joints.”

The notice went on to describe in excruciating detail what streets in the business district it would be applicable to, and concluded with the listing of \$25 penalties for each offense.

In other words, this was a prohibition of bare skin between the armpit and the kneecap. Unquestionably of local origin, this action could have been a chapter straight out of the novel, Peyton Place, published only one year prior. Or perhaps it was prescient insight for the garish fashions of the next decade. Whatever you want to call it, a governmental action as intrusive as this would never fly today. I don’t have a record on how long this policy lasted or if it was ever challenged, but it was long gone by the time the Village Code was re-codified in 1988. Harbor no fears, Britney Spears, should you ever wish to visit Ardsley. And that’s all for now on that subject! – George F. Calvi, Village Manager

NOVEMBER ELECTIONS

The General Election will be held on November 2nd. The polls will be open from 6:00 am to 9:00 pm at the Ardsley Community Center and St.

Barnabas Episcopal Church. Appearing locally on the ballot will be selections for Two Village Trustees, Village Justice, and a proposition regarding raffle tickets. Additionally, there will be selections for State Senator, Assemblyman, Congressman, U.S. Senator, Attorney General, and Governor. Elections are now handled by the County of Westchester. Thus, should you have any questions regarding registration, absentee ballots, or accommodations, please call the Westchester County Board of Elections at 995-5700. – George F. Calvi, Village Manager.

RAFFLE TICKETS ON THE BALLOT

At the General Election on November 2, 2010, the Village of Ardsley will have a proposition on the ballot for residents to decide whether to permit raffles, as defined as a game of chance pursuant to section 186 of the New York State General Municipal Law, to be held within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Village of Ardsley. If this is passed authorized organizations may, upon obtaining a license from the Village Clerk, conduct games of chance within the Village of Ardsley. -- Barbara A. Berardi, Village Clerk

CABLE VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

We are desperately seeking volunteers to join the Cable Television Committee so that our meetings can continue to be broadcast. If you are interested, please contact Cable Committee Chairman Robert Wootten at The7Woodys@aol.com.

VILLAGE MANAGER REFLECTS ON THE CAREER OF OUR LONG-SERVING HIGHWAY FOREMAN LOUIS PASCONE

Just before his 50th anniversary in serving the Village of Ardsley, I was asked about my thoughts regarding our Highway Foreman. Reprinted below are my remarks from the

December 1998 edition of the Rivertowns Enterprise:

“What can you say about a guy:

- who has more knowledge about public works in his pinkie than I have been able to absorb in my entire career?

- who took his first vacation day in thirty years just two weeks ago, and then advised me he’d seen enough of the outside world?

- who is able to accomplish certain public works tasks that a barrel full of Mayors, Trustees, and Village Managers could never accomplish in a hundred years?

- who stops by his office and even answers telephone calls on holidays and weekends because he knows some resident will have need of his services?

- who knows where all the sewer and water connections are located at the drop of a hat probably because he was on the job when the lines were first installed 40 and 50 years ago?

- who is known by ¾ of the Village’s residents on a first name basis?

Louie Pascone is one of the most resourceful men that I have known in any field. No matter how tight funding gets from time to time he always manages to squeeze the most out of what he is allotted, and gets the job done. Louie is one of the last of a dying breed of dedicated municipal workers who strive to complete a task, and do it well, despite the fact that the clock indicates it’s getting late. Louie is also one of Ardsley’s unsung diplomats. Often when there is a dispute between neighbors or someone is feeling displeased about a Village service, and I send Louie to address the problem, nine times out of ten Louie reports back, “Hey George, you know that problem with so and so, it’s all taken care of. Everyone’s happy!” And that seems to be the secret of Louie’s success, he’s does his darnedest to try and make everyone happy. And everyone loves him in return.

On the question of retirement: From time to time Louie hints that he may retire, and I always abruptly cut him off self-servingly advising him that he isn't allowed to retire . . . at least until I'm out of here! After so many years with the Village, would Louie survive retirement? Of course, I already told you he's very resourceful! The bigger question is, would Ardsley survive Louie's retirement? That remains to be seen! No doubt the Village will continue to exist, but will it be the same? Oft times I've heard that, with rare exception, no one's irreplaceable. I dare say, however, that rare exception may be Louie Pascone, and God bless his successor who has to fill some very big shoes."

A few short years ago in preparation for his 60th anniversary with the Village, I was in contact with the New York Conference of Mayors which wanted to prepare Louie a public service certificate. NYCOM needed a short bio on Louie which Deputy Highway Foreman Rick Thompson assembled. Reproduced in the next column are some of the details.

**VILLAGE OF ARDSLEY
507 ASHFORD AVENUE
ARDSLEY, NEW YORK 10502
914 693-1550**

**MAYOR JAY LEON
DEP. MAYOR PETER PORCINO
TRUSTEE LARRY J. NARDECCHIA
TRUSTEE GARY MALONE
TRUSTEE BEVERLY LEVINE**

**VILLAGE MANAGER GEORGE CALVI
VILLAGE TREASURER MARION DEMAIO
VILLAGE CLERK BARBARA BERARDI
EDIT/DESIGN: GEORGE CALVI**

THIS MONTH'S CONTRIBUTORS: JAY LEON, ETI KATONI, BEVERLY LEVINE, ANGELA GROTH, LORRAINE KUHN, BARBARA BERARDI, LARRY TOMASSO, TRISH LACY, LORI HUNTER, VINCENT COULEHAN, EMIL CALIFANO, & GEORGE CALVI

Louie Pascone was hired by the Village of Ardsley in January 1949. He was promoted to Deputy Foreman in 1961, and again promoted in 1977 to Highway Foreman. He had been a resident of the Village his entire life with the exception of a brief stint in the U.S. Air Force in the early 1950s. His responsibilities included the overseeing of all operations for the Department of Public Works which include: Sanitation, Recycling, Sanitary and Storm Sewer Maintenance, Street Lighting, Snow Removal and De-Icing, Parks Maintenance, Traffic Island and Planter Maintenance, Tree Maintenance, Street Signs and Traffic Signage, and the Maintenance of all Municipal Buildings. Upon receipt of the plaque Mayor Jay Leon awarded it to Louie at a Village Board meeting.

In breaking the news of Louie Pascone's death on the Constant Contact forum, our Mayor remarked,

"Louie was an employee of the village for over 60 years. He was a war veteran who exemplified public

service. For years he and his department has done a fantastic job with all public works responsibilities. He was always willing to help anyone who asked for assistance, in an affable and warm-hearted manner.

- On a personal note, Louie and I spoke about DPW matters regularly, every week or two. I thoroughly enjoyed working with him, talking about sports, and discussing most anything. He was a remarkable person, and I am absolutely heartbroken to hear this news."

In my humble opinion the Mayor has captured the entire essence of our feelings. We are all absolutely heartbroken to hear this news. May God bless Louie Pascone. - George F. Calvi, Village Manager

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SHOW, GIL PARRIS CONCERT,
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