

THE ARDSLEY VILLAGER

Winter 2016

MAYOR PETER R.
PORCINO

DEPUTY
MAYOR/TRUSTEE
NANCY KABOOLIAN

TRUSTEE JOANNE
D'EMILIO

TRUSTEE ANDY
DIJUSTO

TRUSTEE MOLLIE
MONTI

VILLAGE MANAGER
MEREDITH S.
ROBSON

VILLAGE TREASURER
MARION DEMAIO

VILLAGE CLERK
BARBARA BERARDI

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Tolerance and Respect for Our Neighbors and Guests

At the December 19, 2016, Village Trustees meeting, DEPUTY MAYOR NANCY KABOOLIAN spoke eloquently about what she sees as her obligation as an elected official not to remain silent in the face of escalating violence and discrimination in our country. She reminded people that we are not immune from these issues in our small village. I quote:

“As a member of the Board of Trustees for the Village of Ardsley I am committed, as are the Mayor and the other board members, to protecting the civil and human rights for all people regardless of race, religion, immigration status or sexual orientation. I believe that as a small village we must set an example to ensure that every person lives free and without fear. Understanding, tolerance and acceptance start at home and Ardsley is our home. So let’s look out for each other, take care of each other, accept each other, be tolerant and understanding and let’s be the example for others to follow.”

I will add that we live in perilous times. We must not let our institutions and our democracy be hijacked by those who spread intolerance and ignorance. I find the lack of respect for the truth to be most troubling. If we become unmoored from the truth, there can be no conversation, no resolution, no solutions. I urge everyone to look beyond the sound bite and the blaring headline, the social media blast, and seek to educate yourself. Do not think or act out of fear, but out of a respect for a firmly grounded understanding of the world and the lives of those who we would demonize because of unfounded “perceptions,” not reality. United we stand; divided we fall.

“We must not let our institutions and our democracy be hijacked by those who spread intolerance and ignorance.” – Mayor Porcino



New Trustee

At the December 5th reorganization meeting, long-time Village Trustee Gary Malone announced his resignation from his post. Gary served on the Board for a dozen years. Although most saw Gary’s taciturn side, he was in truth a wise and valued member of the Board, speaking out on the issues, providing clear-eyed guidance and surprising us with his trademark zingers with some regularity. Gary was always gracious and respectful. We will miss him.

Gary will be replaced by Joann D’Emilio, whom I have appointed in his place. She will serve until the next election, when she will run for election to the full term. Joann is known to many in the Village, primarily as co-President of the PTA. She and her husband, Joe Lessem, have lived in the Village for twenty years, and have raised two sons here. Her background suggests that she will be a dedicated and effective public servant. Join me in welcoming Joann to the Board.

New Member of the Westchester Senior Citizens Hall of Fame

Congratulations to Larry Nardecchia for his recent election to the Westchester County Senior Citizens Hall of Fame, personifying “the spirit of our work by recognizing and honoring those adults who embrace the opportunities that a long life offers. Those honored today are leaders in how to age successfully and examples for us all.”

Larry is a popular figure in the Village, having served as a Trustee for 12 years, and having volunteered on the Recreation Commission and the Ardsley Seniors Committee, offered extensive free engineering services to the Village and been a pillar of the volunteer community for most of his adult life.

Bridge Reconstruction Moves Forward

Many people have wondered if anyone is actually working on the bridge reconstruction since most of the work being done is invisible from the bridge itself. The truth is that the work is moving ahead on schedule, which is most evident by viewing the project from Elm Street, underneath the bridge. The supports for the ramp and the bridge are being installed. In addition, fabrication is taking place off site.

But there is now visual evidence. The southwest span of the bridge has been installed, so that one quarter of the bridge is now in place. The barrier in the middle of the bridge obscures the view, but the newly installed span can be observed from various points on the bridge.

Safe Driving and Enjoying the Holidays

As the holiday season approaches, we need to take care not to drive while impaired, not to forget the basic rules of the road if we are hurried or harassed, and to respect the other drivers and pedestrians with whom we share the road. Please do not speed or drive while impaired or distracted, and please observe traffic signs and signals.

Remember the spirit of the holidays, not only as a time for revelry, but for reflection and renewal. As we embark on a New Year, let's try to be more respectful and accommodating, let's try to improve ourselves and our Village, and let's lend a helping hand to those in need.

Happy Holidays to All, and have a Happy and Healthy New Year!

~ Peter R. Porcino, Mayor

VILLAGE MANAGER'S NOTE

HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

As this year draws to a close and a new one begins, I'd like to wish you all the happiest of holidays and the very best in the New Year!

2016 certainly had its share of successes and challenges!

Road projects proved challenging, for sure, but will hopefully improve traffic flow and safety for everyone and improve the aesthetics of the road network throughout the Village.

The Village has received several grants to assist us in moving forward on a variety of improvements. We received, through Assemblyman Abinanti's Office, \$125,000 for the purchase of two heavy duty vehicles used in snow removal and other operations, which our crews will put to good use! We received a \$10,000 grant from the Hudson River Valley Greenway and a \$40,000 grant through the N.Y. Department of State to help fund updates to our Comprehensive Plan (vintage 1964) and the development of a new Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan. The Mayor and Board of Trustees are currently

in the process of selecting a planning consultant for this work and we expect this project to begin within the next month. We are hopeful that the community will take a very active part in this process to help determine the best plan for “downtown redevelopment”. More to come ...

The Village undertook a much needed and long overdue effort to maintain our flood control area behind the parking area and business on the west side of 9A. This is an ongoing obligation on the part of the Village to maintain the flood control project built by the Army Corp of Engineers approximately 20 years ago.

There are a number of efficiencies and improvements that we continue to work on internally to provide the greatest level of service possible. I am very proud of our staff for the effort they make every day on behalf of our residents, businesses and visitors. It is my pleasure to work with them to serve all of you.

May this holiday season and 2017 bring you all much joy and success!

~ *Meredith Robson, Village Manager*

NEWS FROM THE VILLAGE CLERK

Don't Forget at the End of the Year You Must Renew Your Alarm Permit

At the December 5, 2016 Board of Trustees meeting the board amended Chapter 42 Alarm Devices & Systems of the Ardsley Village Code to increase the alarm permit and false alarm fees as follows:

§A210-3(a)(1) Fees

Residential \$40.00; Non-residential \$75.00

Fees for responses to alarm activations deemed false shall be cumulative during each calendar year (January – December) per the following schedule:

Chapter 42-9(2) False Alarms

Number of False Alarms	Penalty
1	\$0
2	\$25
3	\$100
4	\$150
Each after 4	\$150

Chapter 42 of the Ardsley Village Code requires residents and businesses to file for an alarm permit annually. Many people believe that their alarm company files for the permit, and this is incorrect. It is the responsibility of the resident or business owner to file the permit application.

Non-compliance with the provisions of Chapter 42 of the Ardsley Village Code may expose you to fines starting at \$100 and upwards. Should you have any questions, please contact the Police Desk at 914-693-1700 or the Village Clerk at 914-693-1550 ext. 120.

~ *Barbara Berardi, Village Clerk*

THE TREASURER’S TREASURES

The 2nd half of the Village Tax is due before December 31, 2016. However, since the 31st falls on a Saturday, payment is extended to January 3, 2017 without penalty!



~ *Marion DeMaio, Village Treasurer*



To provide greater service to our residents the Village of Ardsley is now an authorized E-ZPASS Tag Retailer. Save time & money with E-ZPASS on-the-go. The cost is \$25.00.

A REMINDER FROM OUR POLICE CHIEF

On December 31, 2016, overnight parking permits expire. Please stop by the Police Desk for an overnight parking permit application or call 914-693-1700. ~ *Emil Califano, Police Chief*

The Board of Trustees adopted a new law at their meeting on July 5, 2016 reducing speed limits in the Village. The law now reads:

CHAPTER 190 Vehicles & Traffic – Subsection 190-5 Speed Limit

25 MPH is hereby established as the speed limit at which vehicles may proceed on public highways within the limits of the Village, subject to exceptions which may otherwise have been or will be set for specific streets by the Board of Trustees.

In accordance with the provisions of Subsection 190-5 above, speed limits are hereby established as indicated upon the following streets.

Name of Street	Speed Limit (MPH)	Location
Ashford Avenue	30	Entire length
Heatherdell Road	30	Entire length, except School Zones
Saw Mill River Road	30	Entire length

THE ARDSLEY SAYF COALITION



Many teens will be experimenting with alcohol for the first time this holiday season, especially with its ease of availability at holiday gatherings.

Parents please take this opportunity to have a conversation with your children about the dangers of underage drinking, review your family rules about alcohol and remind them that drinking alcohol under the age of 21 is illegal, it's the law.

Some also find the emotional strain of the holidays overwhelming; if you know someone who is struggling please help them. For a list of resources please visit www.ArdsleyCoalition.com

Wishing everyone a happy and SAYF holiday!

December holidays are a wonderful time to reconnect, celebrate and spend time with family and friends. Enjoy the gatherings and the parties, and remember to be mindful of the prevalence and availability of alcoholic beverages around your underage children. It's very important to reinforce your rules about underage drinking and continue the conversation with your children, especially when there are so many celebrations:

- When you talk with your children about drinking, listen to them and respect what they say.
- Make clear your expectation that your children will not drink.
- Teach your children about the dangers of underage drinking.
- Discuss laws about underage drinking, including the age 21 law. (toosmarttostart.samhsa.gov)
- For family members who are over 21, discuss the importance of responsible alcohol consumption.

As part of our continuing effort to reduce underage drinking, the Ardsley SAYF Coalition has once again partnered with the Youth to Youth Club at Ardsley High School and Middle School to place prevention/awareness stickers on the pizza boxes at our local restaurants, and liquor store bags from businesses in our community. Keep an eye out for these during the holiday season!

As a reminder we are focusing on several different issues, including the dangers of alcohol and the dangers of drinking and driving. We also want to bring awareness to the stress of the holidays and remind you that not everyone experiences happiness during this season. This could be for many different reasons, and can lead to risky behavior as a way to cope with the stress of the holiday.

We wish you all the best during the holiday season, stay SAYF, and have a Happy New Year!

Who will be taking you home tonight?



Think Before You Drink!

A Message from the Ardsley SAYF Coalition
and the Middle School & High School
Youth to Youth Clubs



~ Theresa DelGrosso, Coalition Coordinator

FIRE PREVENTION & LIFE SAFETY TIPS

The men and women of the Ardsley Fire Department Fire Prevention are working to remind everyone that home fires are more prevalent in winter than in any other season. This is due in part to an increase in cooking and heating fires. Holiday decorations and winter storms that can interrupt electrical service and cause people to turn to alternative heating sources also contribute to the increased risk of fire in winter.

Kerosene Heaters

- > Be sure your heater is in good working condition; inspect parts for any carbon build-up. Make sure the heater has an emergency shut off in case the heater is tipped over.
- > Only use fuel recommended by the heater's manufacturer. NEVER use fuel that is not made for your unit.
- > Keep kerosene or other flammable liquids stored in approved metal containers, in well ventilated storage areas outside of the house.
- > NEVER fill the heater while it is operating or hot. Avoid overfilling your kerosene unit. Refueling should be done outdoors.
- > Keep all young children away from space heaters.

Furnace Heating

- > Be sure all furnace controls and emergency s-shutoffs are in proper working condition.
- > Leave furnace repairs to qualified specialists; do not attempt repairs yourself unless you are qualified.
- > Have your furnace inspected on an annual basis to ensure proper working condition.
- > Check the fuel pipes and pipe seams. Make sure they are well supported and free of holes and cracks. Soot around the seams may be an indicator of a leak.
- > Make sure the chimney is solid with no cracks or loose bricks. Unused flue openings should be sealed with solid masonry.
- > Keep trash and other combustibles away from the heating system.



Other Fire Safety Tips

Winter Fire Safety Tips

Winter fires can be prevented!

- > Never discard hot ashes inside or near the home. Place them in a metal container well away from the house.
- > Never use a range or an oven as a supplementary heating device. It is a fire hazard and it can release toxic fumes.
- > If you use an electric heater, be sure not to overload the Circuit. Only use extension cords that have the necessary rating to carry the amp load.
- > Avoid using electric space heaters in bathrooms or other areas where they may come in contact with a water source.
- > Never thaw frozen pipes in your home with a blow torch or open flame. Use hot water or a UL labeled device such as a hand held dryer for thawing.
- > If there is a fire hydrant near your home, you can assist the fire department by keeping the hydrant clear of snow so it can be located easily.
- > Be sure every level of your home has a working smoke alarm, and be sure to check and clean it on a monthly basis.



Change your smoke and carbon monoxide detector batteries.

Smoke alarms are still the most effective way of preventing fire deaths in the home. Unfortunately, far too many people fail to replace the batteries to guarantee their continued operation. Replace any smoke alarm older than 10 years and any CO detectors older than five years.



~ TJ Knoesel, Fire Chief

The New York State Codes Division recently announced the release of the latest version of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code. Unlike previous code cycles where New York printed its own code books, in this cycle, the Codes Council directly adopted the 2015 International Codes and published a separate document containing the amendments to that code.

A transition period began on April 6, 2016, where anyone who had submitted a building permit application may have complied with either the current Uniform Code or the newly adopted Uniform Code. The transition period lasted from April 6, 2016 until October 3, 2016. On October 3rd, the newly adopted Uniform Code became fully effective. There is no transition period for the Energy Code. The new version became effective on October 3, 2016.

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. You can contact the Building Inspector at tomasso@ardsleyvillage.com if you have any questions.

SNOW REMOVAL REMINDER

Since we are in the season of snow plowing, shoveling, and salting, we would like to remind everyone about the Code requirements (below) relative to snow removal. Our crews are out for many hours before, during and after snowstorms trying to clear snow from roads and public walkways as quickly as possible. Our police force is dealing with a variety of storm related traffic and mobility issues. They all do a wonderful job, but we need your help! Please be aware of and heed the following restrictions during this winter season in order to allow our employees to ensure safe passage for you, your family members, your neighbors, and friends. Thank you for your cooperation.

§ 190-34 General restrictions.

A.

No owner or operator of a motor vehicle shall allow the same to remain on any affected street or municipally operated parking lot during an emergency due to flood, fire or other extraordinary condition affecting the normal flow of traffic.

B.

For the purpose of not interfering with the operations of the snow removal equipment, all vehicles on all streets and highways in the Village and all municipally operated parking lots shall be removed not later than 12 hours after the inception of a snowstorm.

C.

No vehicle shall be parked or allowed to remain upon any street in any of the following circumstances:

(1)

When it is in a disabled condition so as to be incapable of operation.

(2)

When its position on a street is at such an hour or in such a location as to constitute a potential hazard or obstruction to the normal flow of traffic.

(3)

When it has been left unattended for a period of more than 48 hours after the owner or operator has been notified to remove it, or for a period of more than 48 hours after efforts to notify the owner or operator have proved futile.

§ 156-2 Exterior maintenance.

In the case of commercial premises, steps, walks, driveways, parking spaces and similar paved areas shall be maintained so as to afford safe passage under normal use and weather conditions. Within 12 hours after the cessation of snowfall, snow shall be plowed or shoveled from all steps, walks, driveways and parking areas up to the curb.

D.

No snow removed from driveways, walks or other areas shall be deposited upon the public streets or highways.

Also, please remember that you can report power interruptions, view service restoration information and the Con Edison outage map on line at www.coned.com or by calling 1-800-75-coned.

GREETINGS FROM THE LIBRARY!

Spotlight on our Children's Department

We have just completed our 8 week Bedtime Math Crazy Eights Club, where our youngest patrons (5 to 8 years old) explored math concepts in new and exciting ways. It was educational and fun, all rolled up in one!

Come into the Library at any time and you'll find the imaginary Lego worlds created by the kids in our Lego Club. (We welcome any Lego donations!!)

Look for more innovative makerspace and STEM programs coming to the Library in 2017!

Believe it or not, plans are underway for the 2017 Summer Reading Program, **Build a Better World**, which will kick-off on June 24th.

In the Children's Room, as well as throughout the Library, you will find the newly published and released books, DVDs and audiobooks, all sharing the shelves with the proven classics and well-loved treasures. ...All waiting for you to take them home!

Come Check Us Out!

~Angela Z. Groth - Director

Ardsley Public Library

STORMWATER UPDATE

“... You get what you need”



Back as recently as the '70's, you might have needed a rowboat to navigate downtown Ardsley following big rainstorms. Ardsley needed flood control and was fortunate to have the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) install our Flood Control Project (FCP) in 1989. The Village of Ardsley must care for the project. In September 2016, we removed vegetation so the Village Green detention basin could have more capacity to temporarily hold water. ACE and NYSDEC inspectors performed our 5 year inspection of the FCP on November 14, 2016, and the Village was well prepared thanks to the great efforts of Ardsley DPW.

We need to work together for Stormwater Management success. Not long ago, there was a leaky dumpster in the Village, fouling a runoff stream. The situation was explained to the property owner, who fully remedied the problem. The stream is once again clean and clear, and things were resolved in a friendly and amicable manner.

You can do water-friendly things, too. Use less salt for deicing this winter. Too much salt is bad for pets, plants and our local freshwater waterbodies, the Saw Mill River and the Sprain Brook/Bronx River. Give gardening tools and planting kits with seeds as holiday gifts, especially to children, so they can start gardens this coming spring. Winter is a good time to plan and dream about a garden, maybe replace at least some of your high maintenance lawn with a corner of native perennials. Less lawn chemicals means cleaner runoff.

Thank you to Mr. Ryan and AMS Earth Science students for hosting VofA SW Outreach presentations in October. Thanks also to “Ardsley Cares” for their fall Village cleanup, which keeps our water cleaner, too.

We are looking forward to digital data collection for storm drains, expected to begin this spring as part of work with the Sleepy Hollow Grant Consortium, funded by WQIP (NYSDEC Water Quality Improvement Program). NYSDEC also plans to issue a new MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) Permit in the spring. Stormwater Outreach Education and Public Participation remain crucial parts of permit compliance.

Drought Watch in NYS – Save Water

Despite recent rain and snow, all of New York State remains under a [drought](#) watch. You can do your part to save water. Plug up the sink or use a wash basin if washing dishes by hand. If you use a dishwasher, scrape plates instead of rinsing before loading into the dishwasher. Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator for cold water, and heat up water in the microwave or in a kettle on the stove for hot water, instead of running the tap for cold or hot water.

For more tips on conserving water, visit DEC's [Saving Water Makes Good Sense webpage](#).

Wishing you peace and clean water!

~ *Lorraine Kuhn, Stormwater Coordinator*

ARDSLEY GARDEN CLUB

This holiday season members made Christmas wreaths for the VA Hospital, Children's Village, Churches, and Village Public Buildings. Members also helped senior citizens make their own Christmas wreaths at the Community Center. For the senior holiday dinner, the Garden Club provided holiday table floral centerpieces.

Club President, Mary Keehan and her family made the holiday swags decorating the traffic meters around the Village. Have you also noticed more seasonal green and white banners flying over the Village? Just some more Garden Club beautification!!

~ Arline Weston, Vice President

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE RIVERTOWNS

The League of Women Voters began 95 years ago, is open to Men as well as Women and is non-partisan. The LWV Voter Guides are known nationally. We are members of National LWV, NY State LWV and Westchester County LWV.

The LWV of the Rivertowns covers Hasting to Cortland, including Ardsley. We are always open to new members. Make your voice heard.

We have several committees, very busy studying several issues – Health, Environment, Hot Topics, Membership, Legislation, Poverty, Newsletter, etc. Board meetings are open to members. Please join us.

Individual membership costs \$60/year Household; \$90/year for National, State and Local.

Please contact Dr. Christine Verber at (914) 693-9054 or email – selwynverber@gmail.com

LWVR address – P.O. Box 142, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706. Email – LWVRivertowns@aol.com

ARDSLEY AMERICAN LEGION POST 458



On December 7, 2016, which was the 75th Anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Ardsley American Legion Post 458 flew a special flag in Pascone Park. This flag flew over the USS Arizona on December 7, 2004 and is flown in memory of long time Ardsley resident Augie Giusti. He was assigned to the battleship USS West Virginia in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii and that morning was an eyewitness to America being thrust into World War II. Augie related stories about his ship being hit by numerous torpedoes and how he and others rescued their fellow sailors by helping them into lifeboats to be transported to the hospital ship in the harbor. Augie always reminded us of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association motto..."ETERNAL VIGILANCE IS THE PRICE OF FREEDOM"...words that still seem appropriate 75 years later.

LEST WE FORGET...

If you are interested in joining Ardsley American Legion Post 458, please contact: Efrain Hernandez at (914) 693-2475.

ARDSLEY SENIORS PROGRAM

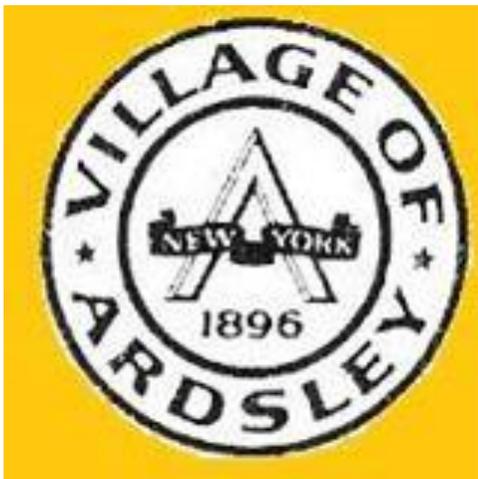
The Ardsley Senior Citizens are as active as ever. On each Wednesday we have planned activities for the seniors such as invited speakers who talk about various issues such as Medicare, Senior Wellness, and Elder Law as well as various Doctors who talk about different issues concerning seniors. Trips are always something to look forward to. In the Past year we have had Trips to Rory Dolan's Restaurant, Arthur Avenue for lunch and shopping. We have gone to the Cloisters Museum as well as lunch at the Sunset Cove Restaurant in Tarrytown. In December we had our Annual Holiday Dinner Party at the firehouse which was enjoyed by all. We also had lunch at the Ardsley High School in December and were treated to a concert from the schools Select Chorus and Band. The music was fantastic. For 2017 we will have more trips planned as well as activities already in place like free Haircuts and Nails provided by the Students from Saint Christopher's on the first Wednesday of every month until June. There is also Zumba for seniors the last Wednesday of every month. Each week there is also a card game that goes on with some of the members. We have welcomed some new Members who joined in 2016: Frusina Balamaci, Marge Baum, Mary Nolan, Margaret Peloso, Alyce Price and Norah Sweiss.

The Ardsley Seniors meet every Wednesday at the Ardsley Community Center at 18 Center Street at 12 p.m. All seniors are welcome. Coffee and cake are served.

Seniors Program Chairpersons: Mary Keehan & Madeline Piscitelli. Please call Nick Maranino, Senior Recreation Assistant for any information at 693-8012.



Wishing you, your family and friends, a very Happy Holiday and a Prosperous New Year.



The Village of Ardsley
507 Ashford Ave.
Ardsley, 10502
(914) 693-1550

*Be Sure to Sign-Up for Village Alerts and
Emails Through Our Website:*
www.ardsleyvillage.com

And Don't Forget to Follow Us On:
www.facebook.com/villageofardsley
www.twitter.com/ardsleyvillage

WINTER PROGRAMS

Beginning in December

Youth Basketball:

Open to 3rd - 6th grade Girls and Boys. Practices are held weeknights in the Ardsley School gyms. Games are held in various town-wide gyms beginning in January 2017. Fee is \$100 for all. All participants receive a T-shirt.

Adult Basketball:

Ages 18 – 39: Monday’s at the Ardsley Middle School gym

Ages 40 & Up: Tuesday’s at the Ardsley High School small gym

Beginners and Advanced Chess

There are spots still available. Please contact the Recreation Director, Patricia Lacy for more information.

Friday’s at the Recreation Center

Open to ALL until 5:30 p.m. (Unless there is an event scheduled, at which point the Center will be closed at 4:30 p.m.)

Look Out for Zumba in February!!

~ Patricia Lacy, Recreation Director

Recreation Department
18 Center St.
Ardsley, NY 10502
914-693-8012