

SUMMER 2019

Mayor Nancy Kaboolian

Deputy Mayor/Trustee Andy DiJusto

Trustee Joann D'Emilio

Trustee Steven Edelstein

Trustee Evan Yager

Village Manager Meredith S. Robson

Village Treasurer Leslie Tillotson



ARDSLEY VILLAGER

Upcoming Events. . .

August 21st

Ardsey Parks and Recreation

Senior Breakfast at Community Center

September 6th

Ardsey Parks and Recreation

Movie in the Park at Pascone Park

September 11th

Fire Department

911 Memorial at Firefighter Park

September 15th

Multicultural, Diversity, and Inclusion

Committee event

Basant (kite flying festival)

Softball field, Pascone Park

September 24 - 29th

Fire Department

Carnival at Pascone Park

Contact the Village...

Village Hall

507 Ashford Avenue, Ardsley, NY 10502

(914) 693-1550

Ardsey Highway & Sanitation Department

(914) 693-0117

Ardsey Community Center

18 Center Street, Ardsley, NY 10502

(914) 693-8012

Ardsey Justice Court

507 Ashford Avenue, Ardsley, NY 10502

(914) 693-1703

Ardsey Public Library

9 American Legion Drive

Ardsey, NY 10502

(914) 693-6636

Ardsey Police Department

507 Ashford Avenue

Ardsey, NY 10502

(914) 693-1700

**this phone number is NOT for emergencies*

Ardsey Fire Department

505 Ashford Avenue

Ardsey, NY 10502

(914) 693-6581

**this phone number is NOT for emergencies*



Village of Ardsley Holiday Schedule 2019

Monday, Sep. 2 – Labor Day

Monday, Oct. 14 – Columbus Day (obs)

Monday, Nov. 11 – Veterans Day (obs)

Thursday, Nov. 28 – Thanksgiving Day

Friday, Nov. 29 – Day after Thanksgiving

Tuesday, Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve (1/2 day)

Wednesday, Dec. 25 – Christmas Day

Tuesday, Dec. 31 – New Year's Eve (1/2 day)

Wednesday, Jan. 1 – New Year's Day 2020

Stay In Touch . . .

Sign up for Village Alerts

via email at:

www.ardsleyvillage.com



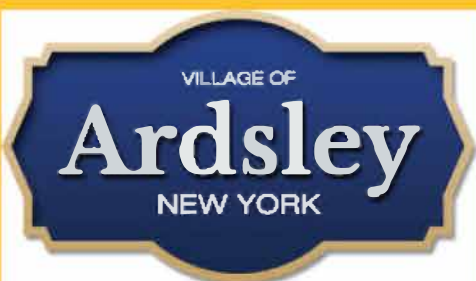
@villageofardsley



@ardsleyvillage



@villageofardsley



Ardsley's Conservation and Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC)

The Board voted earlier this month to revive Ardsley's Conservation and Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC) and designated Ms. Eda Kapsis as Chair. The CEAC will advise the Village on relevant issues and opportunities, and provide environmental education, information, and best practices to residents and businesses. If you would like to expand upon your experience or interests in sustainability or to learn how to get started, please send an email to: ceac@ardsleyvillage.org.

The Board is very happy that the Village has been designated as a Clean Energy Community and that we have revived the CEAC. We all will benefit from opportunities to be environmentally conscious and act on a local level to conserve and enhance our Village environment.

Message from the Mayor

Happy summer!

As we near the end of summer I would like to take this opportunity to tell you about some of the great things happening in the Village. But first I would like to thank our former Village Clerk Barbara Berardi for her hard work and dedication to the Village. Barbara retired at the end of June. On behalf of the entire Village I would like to wish Barbara good health and good times in her retirement. We are excited to welcome our new Village Clerk, Ann Marie Rocco.

For the past several years the Board has approved a capital spending plan. Our 10 year capital plan addresses the Village's priorities for improving and maintaining our equipment, infrastructure and parks. This year several important capital improvements have been completed or are underway. Road and pedestrian safety initiatives are underway. We have a new sidewalk on Heatherdell from Farm Road to Concord Road. The tennis court construction will start soon. Hopefully Route 9A will be repaved before school starts.

Additional beautification projects such as the ones at Silliman Park and Firefighter Park are in the planning stages. Silliman Park and Firefighter Park are a joy to see as the plants bloom and grow. We hope to have a draft of the Comprehensive Plan available soon. We all appreciate that this process has taken much longer than any of us anticipated.

The Village has been designated a Clean Energy Community by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, recognizing its leadership in reducing energy use, cutting costs and driving clean energy locally.

Please remember that our Fire Department and the Ambulance Corps are all volunteers. If you can, please consider volunteering for one of these organizations. Additionally, in an emergency, seconds count. Please take time to properly display your home address. Your house number should be at least four inches in height and should be made of reflective material or contrast with the background on which it is mounted. Please see the Village code for more details.

The Multicultural, Diversity and Inclusion Committee has hosted a number of educational and fun events including a Community Dinner, the Village's second annual Holi event, a lesson in making Hamentashen and a Lunar New Year celebration. This year's Ice Cream Social hosted by the PBA had the added excitement of having a County helicopter land in Pascone Park. The Village held its very first Food Truck Friday. The Historical Society hosted a number of interesting talks including a discussion with Mary Calvi on her book "Dear George, Dear Mary - A Novel of George Washington's First Love".

We have some fantastic events coming up in the fall, including the Multicultural, Diversity and Inclusion Committee's Basant (kite flying festival) on September 15th and another Food Truck OctoberFest on October 12th.

We have so many dedicated public servants and volunteers working each and every day to make our lives easier, educate us, entertain us, protect us and answer our call in our hour of need. Village Manager Meredith Robson, our department heads and all Village employees strive to provide the best possible service. Our Village employees deserve our thanks for a job well done.

Have a great rest of the summer.



Village Manager's Update

A variety of capital, planning and operational projects are underway in the Village! Please see update as of the end of July below:

Heatherdell Road Sidewalk Replacement (Farm Road to Concord Road): The contractor has been moving forward with the removal of old sidewalk, other site setup activities, and installation of the new sidewalk. The ESTIMATED completion time is in the middle of August.

HEATHERDELL ROAD SIDEWALK AND GUIDERAIL: The project engineer is preparing bid specifications and the project is expected to be bid late winter for a Spring start. This work involves the replacement of existing sidewalk and installation of new guide rail on Heatherdell Road between American Legion Drive and Revolutionary Road.

Road Improvements: The curbing contractor is nearly done with installation of curbing on the 2019 road projects and paving will begin shortly after full completion. It is estimated that this curbing work will be completed sometime the first week of August. These roads include Hillcrest Ave, Ridge Road, Shady Road (N), Augustine Ave, and Swanston Lane. Once we get a paving schedule from the contractor, we will notify residents with a time frame for the work, but residents should plan on this occurring within the next week – two weeks. Please be advised, however, that we are largely subject to the schedule imposed by the contractor and we often receive short notice.

TENNIS COURT IMPROVEMENTS: The contract for the Pascone Park tennis court project has been authorized and a pre-construction meeting has been held with the contractor. The work includes the removal of the old facility and installation of 4 new courts and new concrete benches. The electrical and lighting upgrades have not been approved and will not be done. The ESTIMATED project start time is the third week of August. The Village expects the project to be done within 2 months, although depending on weather conditions, the top court surface may need to be applied in early spring.

HIGHWAY GARAGE: The consultants are working through the initial scope of work on the garage, which includes such things as testing, identification of necessary approvals, geotechnical work, and conceptual design.

NEW FINANCIAL SOFTWARE: The Village has begun the process of installing a new financial software program to better accommodate our needs and provide for greater efficiency in operations. The full rollout of this software will take approximately 8-10 months to complete.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: The Village Board and staff acknowledge the significant length of time this project has taken. We are working diligently to have the draft plan revised to provide for a more user friendly, visionary document. Once the Board of Trustees is satisfied with a final draft, the document will be released for public review and comment.

Village Assigned Aa2 “Positive Outlook”

The Village has recently gone under another Moody's review in connection with our recent bond issue. The last review back in 2018 resulted in an upgrade to the rating bringing it to Aa2 and this review resulted in a “positive outlook” assignment. According to Moody's, “The Aa2 reflects the village's significantly improved financial position driven by solid management and conservative budgeting. Further, the rating incorporates a moderately sized tax base with strong resident wealth and incomes, slightly elevated debt burden, and manageable pension liabilities.” “The positive outlook” reflects the village's recent history of strong financial performance in line with its aggressive fund balance policy. A continued trend of stable to positive operating performance, in addition to sustained tax base growth, could lead to an upgrade.”

VILLAGE CLERK TRANSITION

Our beloved Village Clerk, Barbara Berardi, has retired as of the end of June. We are very grateful for her long and dedicated service and wish her many joyful and healthy years ahead! She will be sorely missed.

“Coming soon” in the middle of August is our new Village Clerk, Ann Marie Rocco. Ann Marie brings a wealth of experience to her position here in Ardsley. Please join us in welcoming her to our village!

Our thanks to Village staff, particularly Leslie Tillotson, Hafiz Akram and Theresa DelGrosso for taking on many of the parts and pieces of the Village Clerk’s job during the transition!



Congratulations Barbara! Best wishes for a wonderful retirement.

l-r: Ellen Hendrickx, Symra Brandon, Barbara Berardi, Mayor Nancy Kaboolian

A Clean Energy Community

Village of Ardsley is proud to announce it has been designated a Clean Energy Community by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), recognizing its leadership in reducing energy use, cutting costs and driving clean energy locally.

The Village of Ardsley’s designation ultimately will give the Village an opportunity to apply for funds toward additional clean energy projects, with no local cost share

To earn the Clean Energy Community designation, Village of Ardsley has completed the following high-impact clean energy actions:

Energy Code Enforcement Training

LED Street Lights

Community Choice Aggregation

Benchmarking

Recreation and Seniors

This Fall there are a number of planned activities for our senior citizens going on each Wednesday, including flower making, jewelry making, bingo and other activities.

We have invited speakers from various agencies to come and talk to the seniors about topics that they may find of interest. There is Zumba for seniors the last Wednesday of every month, as well as Mah Jongg every Tuesday at 1:00 PM.

Trips are always something to look forward to as well as a lunch outing.

There will be more trips planned for the coming months.



Each week there is also a card game that goes on with some of the members. All seniors are welcome to join us. Please call Nick Maranino, Senior Recreation Assistant, for any information at 693-8012.

A Message from the Chief of Police

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer. In the last fiscal year, the Ardsley Police department has expanded many of its programs and training in order to provide for the safety of its residents. These programs are as follows,

DARK HOUSE LIST: Residents who are going away can call the police department at 914-693-1700 and provide necessary contact information in order to have their house checked by officers while they are away.

KEY FILE: many of our residents keep a copy of their house key on file with us should they lock themselves out of the house. Many of our senior citizens do the same in order for officers to gain access to their homes in case of an emergency.

TAKE ME HOME PROJECT: anyone who has a vulnerable person in their household can register that person with our department in order to provide valuable information in case that person wanders away from home. Simply call the Ardsley police department and make an appointment with one of our detectives. This program has already helped with two of these cases.

COMMUNITY POLICING: Car seat installations are available by calling the Ardsley police department at 914-693-1700 and speaking with Officer Vacca or Officer Roemer to schedule an appointment.

Officer Vacca is our youth officer and is dedicated to the health and wellness of our youth. Many parents and students regularly converse with him concerning issues of concern.

Our department also has officers in various task forces such as the Greenburgh Alcohol and drug task force, the Greenburgh Swat team and the Westchester county RTC (real time crime center)

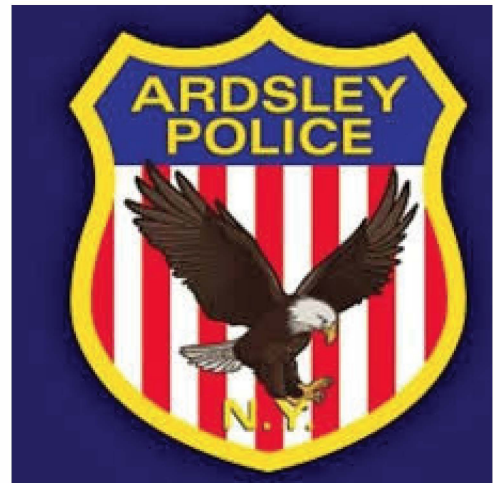
Over the past year, we have tried to disseminate information to our community as quickly as possible. One way we do this is by our Facebook page or on the village web site under police. Many of the ongoing scams are posted in order to educate the public so they don't fall prey to one of these scams. Frequent alerts such as road closures and community events are also posted.

In the past year we've taken steps to increase safety throughout the village as it relates to traffic. Crosswalks on Ashford Ave are being repainted and signage is being replaced in order to be more visible to motorists. On Saw Mill River Rd at Center Street we're installing a pedestrian controlled traffic system that will alert drivers when a pedestrian is crossing. Also at this location, an officer is posted from 2:45pm – 3:30pm on Fridays when school is in session to assist with student crossing. On Heatherdell Rd. a 20mph school zone was correctly marked and improved signage was installed.

Courtesy is contagious. As you drive around the village please be mindful of the many pedestrians around you. Be courteous to other drivers and they may pay it forward.

As your police chief I want to hear from you. Please feel free to email me with your concerns at apiccolino@ardsleyvillage.com.

Anthony Piccolini



Events and Happenings Around Ardsley

Holi



**Making
Hamantaschen**



**Food Truck
Festival**



Egg Hunt



***Lunar
New Year***



Movie in the Park



***Saw Mill River
Clean Up***



***Community
Dinner***



Ice Cream Social



Storm Water Update

The Silence of the ... Bees!

That patch of clover in your lawn should be a carpet of bees by now. But have you looked at it lately? See any bees? Maybe not. Bee and insect populations have been declining, with serious implications for plants and food crops. Widespread use of landscape chemicals may be at least partly to blame. Efforts are underway to help pollinator species survive. The Pollinator Pathway project spans from the Hudson in NY to the Housatonic in CT and aims to create a “highway” for bees and pollinators to travel.

<https://www.pollinator-pathway.org/>

“Healthy Yard” initiatives have started up, too. Participants pledge to use sustainable gardening practices and eliminate the use of landscape chemicals on their property. Weblinks to the Bedford and Rye “Healthy Yard” programs are shown below. Ardsley may soon have a “Healthy Yards” program too – stay tuned!

<https://www.healthyyards.org/>

<http://www.ryesustainability.com/rye-healthy-yard-program>

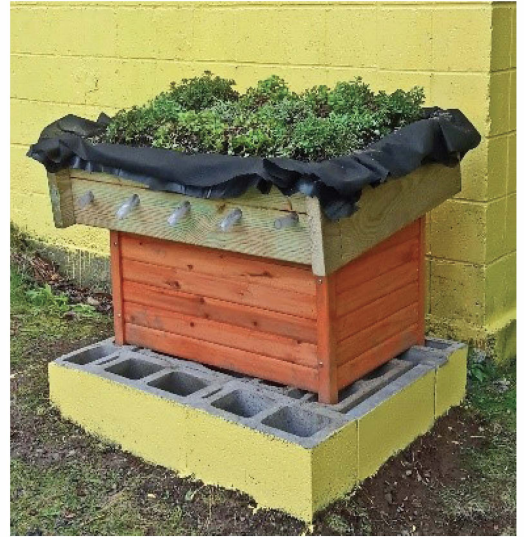
So, what does this have to do with stormwater? Simple, less chemicals on your property, less chemicals running off into our local waterways. Protecting children, pets and wildlife on your property protects aquatic life and water quality, too.

So, what does this have to do with stormwater? Simple, less chemicals on your property, less chemicals running off into our local waterways. Protecting children, pets and wildlife on your property protects aquatic life and water quality, too.

Speaking of stormwater, thank you to Ms. Palucci and AHS Environmental Science Club for this year’s Outreach Project. A Green Roof Demo was installed at McDowell Park in May 2019. Green roofs retain rainwater and plants send moisture back to the atmosphere. This small demo is actually atop a doghouse which was purchased for the project. A box was constructed to hold the sedum plants, and the box was lined with waterproof pond liner, covered with a layer of filter fabric to hold back the soil and allow drainage. Special well-draining planting media was used. This a basic set-up. If you would like to install a green roof on any habitable building, including sheds and even your own doghouse, detailed structural information and professional engineering advice is needed. Additional information about the project can be found on the Village of Ardsley SW Facebook page. A Green Roof Demo project page will be posted on the Village SW website later this summer.

<https://www.facebook.com/Village-of-Ardsley-Stormwater-Management-340082942735285/>

With all the rain we’ve had this past spring, the Village is fortunate to have the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) Flood Control Project (FCP) wall on our western border. It is vital for flood protection of our entire downtown business district.



The FCP is inspected twice yearly by NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation, and every few years by ACE. The Village is responsible for maintenance of the project. In May 2019, invasive vegetation was cleared from the site just south of the Village Green Detention Basin. This was necessary to allow complete access to the wall for careful inspection. Clearance of vegetation from the Village Green Detention Basin to maintain adequate flood storage capacity is planned for fall 2019.

Thank you to Trustee Edelstein, Planning Board member Susan Jainchill, volunteers and Ardsley Highway Dept. for the lovely Silliman Park project and other parklet improvements around the Village. NYS DEC will be helping out in October 2019 with a Trees for Tribs project along the banks of the Bramble Brook near the Route 9A/Ashford Avenue intersection. To find out more later this summer and sign up to volunteer, visit the link below:

<https://www.ardsleyvillage.com/stormwater-project/webforms/trees-for-tribs-hre-volunteer-signup> Thanks for making our water cleaner –

Lorraine Kuhn, Stormwater Coordinator

Revision to Sanitation Code



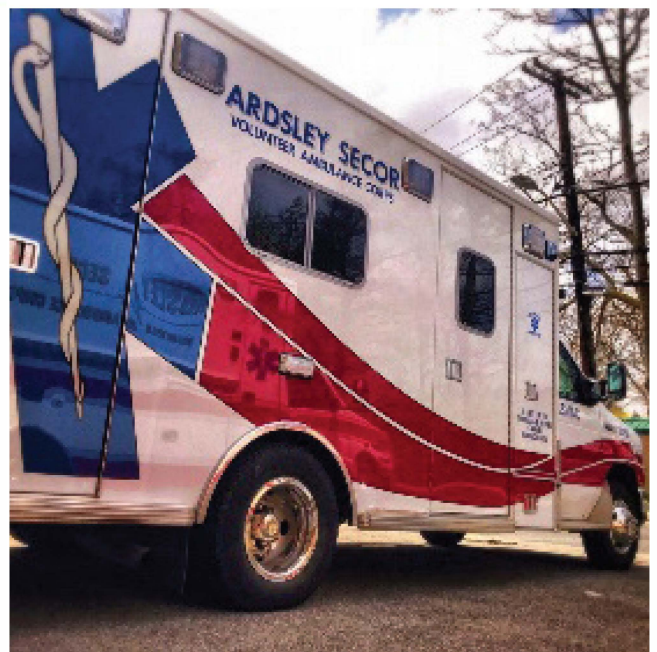
The Village Board recently amended the garbage, rubbish, and refuse section of the Village Code: Covered metal or rigid plastic containers only to be used: Except for leaf bags, no types of receptacles, other than metal or rigid plastic with covers as specified in § 122-4A, will be deemed satisfactory as refuse or waste receptacles. Except for dumpster type receptacles, no metal or rigid plastic container shall be used that exceeds 48 gallon capacity, and when filled, any such container shall not weigh more than 50 pounds. Village employees will not handle any containers which leak or are in dangerous condition. The Village will notify any person when, in its opinion, receptacles are in need of replacement, and failure to make such replacement will be deemed a violation of this article. The recyclable pick up has not changed and the grass cutting pick up remains the same as well.



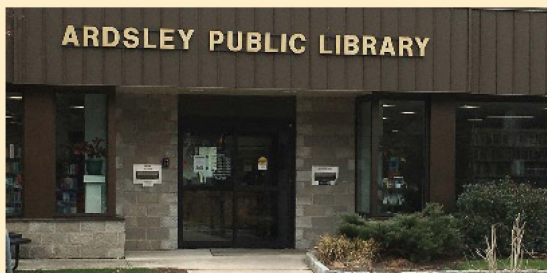
Ardsley Secor Volunteer Ambulance Corps

The Ardsley-Secor Volunteer Ambulance Corps, or ASVAC, stands ready to service the emergency healthcare needs of our community 24 hours a day/7 days a week. Our 100% volunteer organization responds day and night to the Ardsley Village and School District; provides mutual aid to surrounding communities; and assists motorists on several local highways including the NY State Thruway. Our membership is made up of your neighbors, all living or working in our community. Our volunteers range in age from high school students to seniors, some whom have offered their time and knowledge for more than 25 years. Many of our volunteers can be seen responding to emergencies with a green flashing courtesy light in their window. If you see them, we would appreciate it if you would yield the roadway so they can pass.

ASVAC is always looking for new members. No prior experience is required, as we will provide the training. Please check our website at WWW.ASVAC.ORG for more information.



Ardsley Public Library



Greetings from the Library

It's August. We made it through the month of June & July which saw the end of school, kick-off of the Summer Reading Club (SRC) and the passing of the longest day of the year! It's all a slip and slide ride from here. We all try to cram the most into our summer days that are, yes, getting shorter by the minute. We try to educate families about the "summer slide" that will occur if our kids don't keep up with their reading. (Reading anything will help with that, even comics and cereal boxes!) Our Librarians run themselves ragged, offering programs to get the kids into the library in order to entice them with all the new and exciting books that have been ordered. That's why during the SRC we raffle approximately 50 books every week as prizes and rewards for reading!

Flash forward 20 years plus and these same kids will now come in as adults and take out armfuls of books or their summer reading enjoyment. See how this will work?

So just remember, if you come by on Thursday evenings during the months of July and August and can't find a parking space, rest assured it for a good cause – we are building the leaders of tomorrow!

Once the fall comes around, check back at the Library –or its website (ardsleylibrary.org) to see what new and enlightening programs will be starting again.

We look forward to seeing you at the library

Angela and Staff

Ardsley Historical Society



On April 7 Patrick Raftery, librarian for the Westchester Historical Society, presented a program entitled "An Historical Tour of Westchester via Postcards." Over 35 people attended this program and they found it to be very informative and entertaining.

On April 27 Mary Calvi, the Emmy award winning TV anchor, presented a program based on her first novel, "Dear George, Dear Mary: A Novel of George Washington's First Love." Over 30 people were in attendance and they thoroughly enjoyed Mary's entertaining presentation. Many of them had Mary autograph their copy of her book.

Our Facebook page has been enhanced by Erich Hartmann who has been adding pictures from our recent programs. Coming soon will be a new section, "Then and Now" where you will see photos from the past compared with pictures of their current locations. Don't miss it!

Our summer intern, Elizabeth Fontaine, has been busy scanning our old photos and uploading them to our Cloud site. This will not only preserve these old pictures but also make them much easier to access.

At the beginning of July we mailed out our latest newsletter to every Village resident. We hope you enjoyed reading the articles and viewing the photos. A membership application was enclosed for anyone who wishes to become a member.

On October 6 our Fall program, "Westchester Railroads," will be presented by Kent Patterson at the Ardsley Public Library. Add this event to your calendar so you don't miss what should be a very enjoyable presentation.

The Historical Society currently has openings for our Board of Directors. If you are interested please contact Pete Marcus at 914-393-3222 for more information. We are always interested in having new members join our organization. You can download an application from our website: ardsleyhistoricalsociety.org

American Legion Post Update



Ardasley Resident and Friends:

The members of Ardsley American Legion Post #458 would like to thank all who attended our Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony at Pascone Park. It was a beautiful day for both. Your support to the Veteran community is outstanding.

We wish to thank Mayor Nancy Kaboolian and the Trustees who were able to attend. Our special thanks to the Ex-Fire Chiefs Association for having the Veterans to the Firehouse for Breakfast. Also the Ardsley Police for keeping us safe. The Fire Department and ASVAC for being there for us and marching alongside of us. Rick Thompson was everywhere, thank you and the DPW for all the work you did for us and the village.

Thanks to all who marched with us and participated in our Ceremony. Special thanks to our own MG Evo Riguzzi for his inspirational words and to the Girl Scouts for their Pledge of Allegiance.

And thank you all for supporting our Poppy Fundraiser on Saturday May 18th. You are so very generous when it comes to supporting our American Legion Post.

Any Veterans who wish to join or transfer to our Post please contact me.

See you next year.

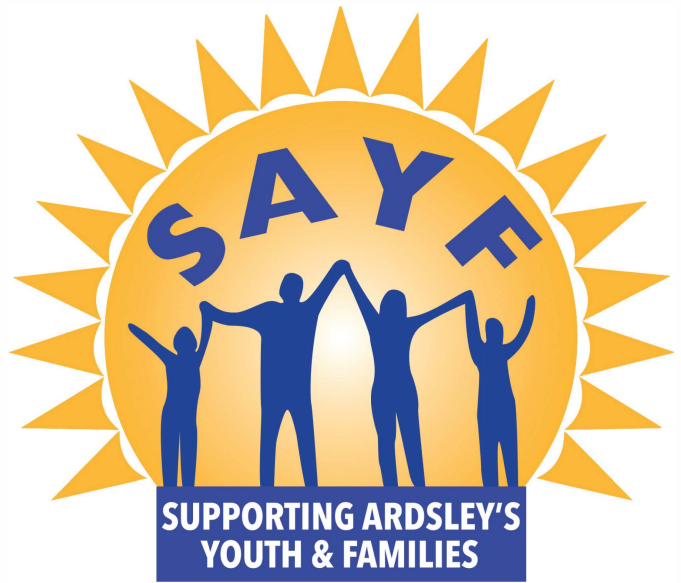
Efrain Hernandez, Post Commander
American Legion Post #458
Efrain101st@yahoo.com



Ardsley SAYF Coalition

The Ardsley SAYF Coalition (Supporting Ardsley's Youth and Families) is a committee of dedicated professionals and community members who share a single goal — to help our teens make healthy life choices. Our funding comes from two consecutive five-year federal grants that were awarded to the Village of Ardsley and we are currently in year eight of ten of the Drug Free Communities Support Program Grant (DFC). The DFC Program is based on the fundamental concept that local problems require local solutions which is why we engage multiple sectors of the community (including youth, parents, law enforcement, schools, businesses, media, youth-serving organizations, religious and fraternal organizations, civic and volunteer groups, healthcare professionals, state, local and tribal agencies with expertise in substance abuse, other organizations involved in reducing substance abuse, and local government) and employ a variety of strategies to address local substance use problems, targeting students in grades 7-12 and their parents.

This format allows us to tap into the knowledge, skills and experience of our many talented community members to provide substance prevention activities which take place in the middle and high schools. We provide educational speaker programs for youth and parents, hands-on demonstrations showing how substance use impairs abilities, and we also address the social norms associated with teen substance use. We work closely with the Ardsley Youth Officer, Tony Vacca, the Ardsley School District's High School Social Worker, Monique Johnson and Middle School's Student Assistance Counselor, Allison Mastrogiacomo, and Ardsley Village Manager, Meredith Robson. Our coalition members help to guide our prevention strategies and messages which are then implemented in the schools with the help of Monique Johnson, Allison Mastrogiacomo, as well as Youth Police Officer,



Tony Vacca, who are all active members of the Ardsley SAYF Coalition. Coalition members also help to plan and schedule our parent speaker presentations in the community.

If you are concerned about youth tobacco, Juul, marijuana, and alcohol use, this committee may be of interest to you. We meet once a month at 7:30 pm at the Ardsley Community Center. Our work is rewarding, knowing that we are making an impact in the lives of our future doctors, lawyers, musicians, artists, teachers, engineers and maybe even President of the United States!

If you would like to become a member of the Ardsley SAYF Coalition, please send an e-mail to ardsleycoalition@gmail.com and one of our coalition members will reach out to you.

