



### November Calendar

- 7 & 21** Village Board Mtg.
- 8 & 22** Planning Bd. Mtg.
- 9** Zoning Board
- 3** Cons. Advisory Comm.
- 8** Rec. Advisory Comm.
- 11** **Veterans Day**
- 16** Visual Environ. Bd.
- 24** **Thanksgiving Day**
- 30** Trails Committee

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## Police Cadet Program Introduced



Croton's Police Dept. will begin a Police Cadet program this month. The Cadet program is intended for men and women, ages 13 to 18, who have an interest in Law Enforcement. It is open to all Village residents. Outreach is being conducted to let students know of the program.

The Cadet program will be under the direction and supervision of Detective Cliff Gabrielson. Participation in the program will help cadets learn about the police function in the Village and will expose them to all aspects of law enforcement though basic training. Cadets will begin meeting every other Tuesday for about two hours.

Cadets will learn about first aid, radio communications, report writing, criminal law, courts, service calls and careers in law enforcement. There will also be field trips to such places as local courts,

the County jail, K-9 and aviation units, and Fire Departments. The program will also feature occasional guest speakers such as judges and representatives from the Secret Service, DEA and District Attorney's offices.

The Croton Police Cadet program is affiliated with the Northeast Regional Law Enforcement Educational Association, Inc. (NERLEEA). NERLEEA networks law enforcement youth programs throughout the northeast of the United States to provide training, competitions and social events to its participants.

It is anticipated that local cadets in the program will have the opportunity to assist the Croton Police Department with community events such as parades, fairs and other activities. They will be provided with a cadet uniform shirt featuring the Croton Police Dept. Indian logo. For more information contact the Police Department at 271-5177.

## Village Water Forum Meeting



The Village water supply and the issues it faces will be the subject of an information presentation and discussion at the Croton Water Forum, on

Wed., November 2 at 7:30 pm in the Municipal Building.

The Village is in the process of developing a Master Plan for needed water system infrastructure improvements in the coming years. The Forum will have two parts: an information presentation followed by a public input session.

The presentation will describe the components of Croton's water system including holding tanks, wells, distribution lines, rate structure, customers, trends

and expenses. It will also cover some of the issues the system faces. These issues include aging water lines, raising the well field treatment controls to meet FEMA's new 100-year flood plain level, meeting mandatory water capacity requirements, increasing chlorine contact time, and reducing brown water conditions where they persist.

The information session will be followed by a public input session where the public will be able to ask questions and make suggestions. If you are one of the approximately 2500 residents or commercial establishments who are serviced by Croton's water supply, you are encouraged to attend this informative session. The session will also be televised over Channel 78.



## **November Election Polling Places**

Tuesday, November 8 is Election Day. The polls are open from 6 am to 9 pm. Voters in Croton’s election districts will vote in the following locations:

- District 6 Grand St. Firehouse
- District 7 Municipal Building (Community Room)
- District 8 Grand St. Firehouse
- District 9 Municipal Building (Community Room)
- District 10 Harmon Engine Firehouse
- District 25 Our Savior Lutheran Church
- District 31 Sky View Nursing Home
- District 39 Municipal Building (Community Room)

Voting will be with the new optical scanning machines. It is a three-step process: 1) sign in and receive paper ballots and marker, 2) go to the privacy booth and mark your ballot, and 3) take your ballot to the machine and feed it in. The machine will read your ballot and drop the ballot into a secure box. There will also be a Ballot Marking Device at each location for physically impaired voters. Upon request, the Election Inspector will activate it and provide guidance on using it.



### **Bullet Proof Vests Grant**

A grant from the U. S. Dept. of Justice will pay for half the cost of eleven bullet-proof vests for police officers in Croton’s Police Dept. The grant covers \$4,375 of the \$8,751 cost.

All Croton police officers wear bullet-proof vests while on duty as is required by federal OSHA requirements. These vests have a useful lifetime after which they must be replaced. This grant will help in the replacement costs for vests that are currently reaching the end of their useful life.

### **Field Closings**

Village playing fields will be closed for the winter season in mid-November. Signs will be posted at the fields and the fields will be covered with “blankets”. During this period, no one is allowed on the fields. The fields will re-open in late March weather permitting. Closing and covering the fields ensures a better playing surface during the warm months.

## **Seasonal Parking Permits**

When snowfall accumulates to 2 inches or more, Village law prohibits on-street parking so that streets can be properly plowed. Seasonal Overnight Parking Permits may be obtained by some residents who can demonstrate they have no on-site parking. Starting this winter, vehicles with such permits must be removed from the street no later than 12 hours after the snow ends. This time frame also applies to cars parked in the parking lots at Asbury Methodist Church, behind Holy Name of Mary, west end of Benedict Blvd. and the Municipal Building. Parking is also restricted on certain streets as follows:

- north side of Grand St. between Old Post Rd. North and Riverside Ave.,
- both sides of Benedict Blvd., Maple St. and Croton Point Ave.,
- east side of Riverside between Brook St. and High St.,
- east side of Old Post Rd. South (high school side) between Maple and Cleveland.

### **New Method of Tax Payment**

The Village has entered into an agreement with Unibank to provide taxpayers with the ability to pay their taxes and utility bills utilizing Unibank’s UNIPAYDIRECT credit card acceptance system. Many taxpayers have asked for this in the past as a convenience for them. The Unibank payment system gives options to taxpayers to pay these bills by either credit or debit cards or by an electronic ACH transaction directly from their bank.



Unibank was selected for this service because of their system’s compatibility with the Village’s MUNIS and Virtual Town Hall software making it easier to integrate this new function.

Customers paying with a credit/debit card will incur fees based on the amount of money involved. ACH transfers will not have any fees. In both cases, the Village will not incur any fees for any of these transactions.

It is anticipated that this service will begin in the coming months and taxpayers will be notified of its implementation. Although initially it will be used for property tax bills and water/sewer bills, it is expected that Building Dept. fees and Recreation Dept. fees will also be included in the future.



### **Reminder!**

**Village Offices will be closed Fri., Nov. 11 for Veterans Day and**

**Thurs./Fri. Nov. 24 & 25 for Thanksgiving Day!**



## Yacht Club Bulkhead Repairs

Bulkhead repairs at the Yacht Club are needed to prevent their further undermining. The existing bulkheads were initially put in place in 1957. Since then the Yacht Club members have been diligent in repairing and maintaining them as needed. However, in recent years sinkholes have developed at the site where undermining continues to occur. The Yacht Club land is owned by the Village and leased to the Yacht Club.

In Sept. of 2010, the Village engaged Ocean & Coastal Consultants (OCC) to provide an engineering design for the repair of the bulkheads. OCC's report and recommendations were recently reviewed by the board. Their recommendation is that 433 feet of the 500 feet of steel bulkhead installed in 1957 needs to be replaced. The proposal would use a method of ground anchors around most of the perimeter of the site.

Before any work can be done, the Village must receive permits from the NYSDEC and the Army Corps of Engineers. OCC has been authorized by the Village



**Yacht Club from Senasqua Park**

Board to proceed with these permit applications. It is estimated that the approximate cost of doing the required work will be over \$3 million dollars. To help fund this project, the Village has recently applied for a federal grant through the Dept. of Commerce that is focused on waterfront facilities that support boating. The amount of the grant request is \$1 million.



## Daylight Savings Time Ends

Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour on Saturday night, November 5 as Eastern Standard Time begins on Sunday, November 6. The good news is that you can get an extra hour of sleep. The bad news is that the sun will set at 4:47 pm on that day.

Daylight Savings Time will resume on March, 11, 2012.

## Farmer's Market Season Ends

The last day for this year's Farmer's Market will be Wed., Nov. 23rd.



## Veterans Day Events

On Veterans Day, Friday, November 11, Croton's Central Veterans Committee will be holding a ceremony at 11 am. The ceremony will take place at the Veterans Memorial plot at Veterans Corners (Five



Corners). All are welcome to this annual ceremony which has been growing in participation in recent years. In the case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held in the Municipal Building Community Room.

Also on Veterans Day, the members of the Croton Yacht Club will host a luncheon which will be free of charge for all village veterans and active military. It is suggested that non-veteran attendees donate \$10 per adult to offset the luncheon expenses. Any net proceeds will be donated to Croton-Harmon VFW Post 5197.

If you want to attend, please contact Kenny Schulze, Commodore, by email at [luspatriot@optonline.net](mailto:luspatriot@optonline.net) or by phone at 914-261-6806 or Dennis Kooney, Director, at [dennis@kooney.com](mailto:dennis@kooney.com) or 907-3622 no later than November 8. Please identify in your response whether you are a veteran or non-military.

## Window Painting Winner



The Grand Prize winner of the Recreation Dept.'s Halloween Window Painting Contest is Jeannine Pecoraro. Jeannine is 8 years old and in 3rd grade. Jeannine's painting featured a bat and large yellow moon in an orange sky over a dark and mysterious skyline. She painted it on a window at Robbins Pharmacy. She will receive a \$50 US Savings Bond.

## New Coastal Navigation Programs Offered

Introduction to Coastal Navigation and Coastal Navigation Certification are two new courses offered through the Recreation Dept. The sign-up deadline is Nov. 4th for both. The first course (1-day, 12-5) teaches navigation techniques for sailing in coastal or inland water including piloting, dead reckoning and reading charts. The second (3-days, 12-5) teaches additional information such as correcting course for currents and leeway and also tide/tidal currents. It concludes with the American Sailing Association certification test. Sign up through the Croton Sailing School at 271-6868 or [discoversailing@crotonsailing.com](mailto:discoversailing@crotonsailing.com) or at [www.crotonsailing.com](http://www.crotonsailing.com)

## Published for the Residents of the Village of Croton-on-Hudson

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(914) 271-4781-2, [www.crotononhudson-ny.gov](http://www.crotononhudson-ny.gov)

### **New Senior Coordinator**

Valerie Nolan has been hired as the Village's Senior Coordinator. In this position, Ms. Nolan will be responsible for administering and enhancing the Village's support for its senior residents.



Valerie Nolan

Ms. Nolan works on Mon., Wed., and Fri. from the Recreation Office.

Prior to being hired by the Village, Ms. Nolan worked at the Hudson River Museum in Yonkers where she planned events for the museum.

Ms. Nolan is an 18-year school district resident and has two children in Croton schools - a daughter in PVC and a son at CHHS. She is also co-chair of the district's Destination Imagination program - a competitive problem-solving after-school activity for middle and high school students.

Ms. Nolan was introduced and warmly welcomed at the Senior Club's Autumnfest lunch on October 14th.

### **Blood Drive**

The 83rd Community Blood Drive will be held on Sunday, December 4th from 9 am to 3 pm at Croton-Harmon High School. The need for blood for transfusion remains on the critical list as more advanced surgical and medical procedures require massive blood transfusions.

Donors must be 16 years or more and at least 110 pounds and healthy. Donors over 76 require a Doctor's note and 16 year olds need parental permission. Appointments are needed so the medical staff can prepare. For appointments or more information, call 271-7645 or 271-8449 or

email [communityblooddrive@gmail.com](mailto:communityblooddrive@gmail.com).



### **GOT A QUESTION?**

**I heard that there is a cell phone recycling program in Westchester County that helps victims of domestic violence. Does Croton participate in this program?**

Yes, Croton participates in the Verizon Wireless Hopeline program. Since 2007 NYS has mandated recycling of old phones. Westchester County supports the recycling with drop-off locations throughout the County. Phones collected are donated to Verizon's Hopeline program for re-furbishing and re-use by victims of domestic violence.

Drop-off locations in Croton are at the Municipal Building and the Croton Free Library. It is suggested that used phones and their accessories be kept together in a plastic bag when dropping off. Phones can be from any service provider - not just Verizon. Verizon "cleans" all personal information from each phone. In September, Croton had 150 phones collected which were delivered to Verizon's program through the County. This is not the first collection of such phones since the program started. Verizon has donated over 106,000 phones to this program with more than 319 million free minutes so the domestic violence victims have a way to make emergency calls to support services, friends and family.

### **Croton EMS RFP**

The Village has put out a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Emergency Medical Technicians to supplement the services of Croton's Emergency Services. The requested proposal calls for the provision of a certified Emergency Technician to be available at the EMS headquarters at 44 Wayne Street on a 24 hour/ seven-day a week, 52 week basis.



Croton's EMS received approximately 850 calls last year with about 700 of them requiring transportation to a hospital. Due to personal and career commitments of the volunteers, the number of members who are available to respond has diminished. Having a paid

EMT on duty will help Croton's well-trained and capable volunteer responders meet all of the incoming calls.

It is anticipated that a proposal will be selected in early November to begin supplementing Croton's EMS volunteers. The ability of Croton EMS to bill for ambulance services, begun in the last two years, will provide funding for the paid EMS services. Croton EMS has also embarked on a recruitment program to attract new EMS volunteers to the program.