



THE VILLAGE GREEN

Village of Pomona
Winter Newsletter
2010

Mayor
Nicholas Sanderson

Deputy Mayor
Brett Yagel

Trustees
Ian Banks
Rita Louie
Alma Sanders-Roman



Dear Residents,

I sincerely hope that you all had a enjoyable holiday season, and I want to wish you a very healthy, safe and bountiful new year. We live in challenging times, but I can inform you that our lovely little village is holding its own. In spite of losses in projected revenue from various sources due to reductions in our

share of taxes and state funds together with the general state of the economy, we are managing to tighten our belts so that we can reduce spending, ensuring that our budgets are not compromised, but at the same time making sure that the services that you have been promised by the village are not curtailed.

One of the changes that we have made to reduce costs, which you may notice when you receive your next village tax bill, is that we have abolished the village as a separate assessment unit. We will now use each town's assessments, instead of having our own village tax assessor, thus substantially reducing our tax assessment costs. There should be no noticeable change in your actual village tax, which will continue to be billed from the village, however, if you have questions, concerns or wish to participate in the formal grievance process, you will now be directed to the Ramapo or Haverstraw town's tax assessor, depending in which town your home is in. This new procedure saves the village the unnecessary expense of having our own separate tax assessor, but at the same time not reducing services to our residents. Please review the article in this newsletter which contains further information. As always, please feel free to contact the staff at Village Hall if you have any questions, or come to Coffee with the Mayor for an informal discussion of any issues. Coffee with the Mayor is usually held on the second weekend of the month, alternating Saturdays and Sundays. Check the website for the specific date each month..

Winter is with us, and as usual presents us with the additional challenges of snow removal, ice prevention on the roads, garbage removal and other services that are made more difficult with the inclement weather. Hopefully the rest of the winter will be mild, but please, in the event of snow or ice events, allow our highway and garbage personnel to do their jobs by not parking

on the streets. Please monitor our website for any changes to the garbage pick-up schedule. Our website is updated as soon as any changes to any of the village schedules are made. Also, please sign up for email notifications if you wish. You can go to pomonavillage.com and on the opening page you can click on "feedback" or "general info" to leave your email address. You will then be added to our email notifications for events and other important information. And if you are even more computer savvy, you can use our RSS feed - instructions are posted on the opening page, top right corner.

While writing, I would like to thank all of you who donated gently used winter coats, used cell phones and printer cartridges and books. All of these items are benefiting the clients of the People to People organization and others right here in Rockland, and I can assure you that in this economic climate, the winter coats are all being used by people who truly need them. This is an on-going drive, so if you still have items you wish to donate, please bring them into village hall.

Our new drive comes from the tragedy that occurred in Haiti. We are collecting canes, crutches and walkers to donate to the Haitian people. These are items that people might have in their basement or garage that can be put to very good use in Haiti. Our friend and neighbor, who is a doctor here in America but is originally from Haiti, just got back from helping over there and will be going back in March. Because of all the amputations due to crushed limbs during the earthquake, she feels that these items are a dire necessity.

If you have questions on any of the above collection drives, please email Lesliesan@yahoo.com or call village hall at 354-0545 and leave a message for Leslie.

As usual, I want you to know that your feedback to us is very important. Please don't hesitate to contact us at Village Hall if you have any questions or comments.

Have a good winter, and I look forward to seeing you at either a Board Meeting, Cultural Center event or Coffee with the Mayor.

Nick Sanderson



The Pomona Cultural Center

Presents

Winter 2010 ~ Art Exhibition For the Love of Africa

February 7 – March 21, 2010

The Pomona Cultural Center presents the Winter 2010 Art Exhibit to celebrate Black History month and Valentine's Day with works of Daudi Karungi from Kampala, Uganda - painting and woodcuts hand painted fabric; Lee Springer – photography; Sanaa Gateja – barkcloth tapestry; Damba Ismael – woodcuts; Gloria Spevacek – stone and bronze sculptures; and a selection of artwork depicting the love and beauty of Africa.

Daudi is a renowned artist and his work has been collected by the Rockefeller Foundation, Christie's, and by art aficionados in Denmark, the United Kingdom and the United States. His work hangs in embassies, companies, and five-star hotels around Kampala. He owns the Afriart Gallery in Kampala which supports emerging young artists in exhibiting and selling their work.

Please read about the other artists participating in this exhibition at the village website, www.pomonavillage.com.

Opening Reception

Sunday, February 14 from 4:00 – 7:00 PM

The live music performance will feature Master Drummer, Jerry Kwashie Dzokoto of Chiku Awali Dance, Arts, & Culture, Inc. African rhythms will enhance the theme and spirit of the exhibition.

The Pomona Cultural Center is located in the historic Pig Knoll Schoolhouse at 584 Route 306, Pomona, N.Y. (Just north of Pomona Rd.) The Center represents a diverse selection of fine artists and performing artists at its events. Renowned for its seasonal fine art exhibitions and multi-cultural events, the Center brings an eclectic experience to the local and surrounding communities.

If you cannot make it to the opening exhibition, gallery hours are Friday – Sunday, from 2:00 – 6:00 P.M.

Abolishment of Village Tax Assessor

On May 27th, 2009, the Village Board adopted a local law whereby the Village of Pomona ceased to be a tax assessing unit and therefore the office of Village Tax Assessor was abolished. Village taxes will now be levied using the town assessments. Village residents will not be greatly affected by this change. One change, however, may affect some residents. Tax exemptions, including STAR exemptions, will now be filed directly with the towns, and although the town assessors should have your exemptions on file, we do, however, want to encourage any resident with a tax exemption to check with the town assessor that they do, in fact, have your exemption on file. Applications for exemptions must be filed by March 1st 2010. Also, the Village will no longer hear tax grievances. Instead grievances will be heard by your local township.

The Village will no longer be giving out any tax related applications or forms. These may be obtained from the applicable township and must be filed in that town. Below is the applicable contact information for the town's assessment offices, together with an Assessment Calendar.

Town of Haverstraw
Haverstraw Town Hall
One Rosman Road
Garnerville, NY 10923
Assessor: David G. Adams
Email: dgassessor@aol.com
Tel: 845-942-3718

Town of Ramapo
Ramapo Town Hall
237 Route 59
Suffern, NY 10901
Assessor: Scott Shedler
Email: Townassessor@ramapo-ny.gov
Tel: 845-357-5100

Assessment Calendar - 2010 Towns of Haverstraw and Ramapo

March 1 - taxable status date

Properties are valued according to the state or "status" of the property as of this date. All exemption forms for veterans, elderly and physically disabled persons must be filed. Also, School Tax Relief (STAR) and enhanced STAR for seniors who qualify. IMPORTANT - if you have previously filed any exemption for your village taxes please call your township to verify that they have this information. This must be done prior to March 1st.

May 1st - Tentative Roll Filed

A tentative listing of the new roll's assessments are compiled and published.

4th Tuesday in May - Grievance Day

Any party wishing to contest the tentative assessment may appear before the TOWN Board of Assessment Review on this date. (Village grievance, as well as School and County)


June 1st - All Village Tax Bills are mailed out to residents

All payments, as in prior years, are to be sent to Village Hall, or made in person at 100 Ladentown Rd, Pomona NY 10970. Tel 845-354-0545

If you are no longer associated with a mortgage company and want your village tax bill sent directly to your address, please inform village hall as soon as possible.

To download forms, visit www.orps.state.ny.us or contact your town's assessment office directly.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h2 style="text-align: center;">February 2010</h2>						
	1 Garbage All Village	2 Yoga class 7.00 pm Tai Chi class 8.00pm Village Hall	3 Recycling - paper 	4 Bulk trash/Garbage All Village	5 Yoga class 9.00am Village Hall	6
7 Cultural Center Winter Exhibition Open 2-6pm	8  7.30pm Village Hall Village Board Workshop Meeting Garbage All Village	9 Yoga class 7.00 pm Tai Chi class 8.00pm Village Hall	10 Recycling - bottles/cans 	11  8.00 pm Village Hall Planning Board Architectural Review Regular Meeting Bulk trash/Garbage All Village	12 Yoga class 9.00am Village Hall Cultural Center Open 2-6pm	13 Cultural Center Open 2-6pm
14 Cultural Center 4 pm Winter Exhibition OPENING RECEPTION	15 Garbage All Village	16 Yoga class 7.00 pm Tai Chi class 8.00pm Village Hall	17 Recycling - paper 	18 Bulk trash/Garbage All Village	19 Yoga class 9.00am Village Hall Cultural Center Open 2-6pm	20 Cultural Center Open 2-6pm
21 Cultural Center Open 2-6pm	22  7.30pm Village Hall Village Board Regular Meeting Garbage All Village	23 Yoga class 7.00 pm Tai Chi class 8.00pm Village Hall	24  8.00pm Village Hall ZBA Scheduled meeting Recycling - bottles/cans 	25 Bulk trash/Garbage All Village	26 Yoga class 9.00am Village Hall Cultural Center Open 2-6pm	27 Cultural Center Open 2-6pm
28 Coffee with the Mayor Village Hall 10.00am Cultural Center Open 2-6pm	<p>visit www.pomonavillage.com for all latest information</p> 					

From the Education Department

A group of village residents have applied for permission to organize a charter school in the East Ramapo Central School District. For further information, please contact Rockland Academy of Excellence Charter School. E-mail care4er@yahoo.com.

We're Getting the Word Out

Please send us your e-mail address and we will include you on our email blast list, or sign up for our RSS feed at www.pomonavillage.com. These are good ways for us to get information out to you quickly since there will be fewer newsletters in the new year. Your email address will not be used for any other purpose.

The 2010 Census

The U.S. Census counts every resident in the United States, and is required by the Constitution to take place every 10 years. The 2010 Census will help communities receive more than \$400 billion in federal funds each year for things like:

- Hospitals
- Job training centers
- Schools
- Senior centers
- Bridges, tunnels and other-public works projects
- Emergency services

The data collected by the census also help determine the number of seats your state has in the U.S. House of Representatives.

In March of 2010, census forms will be delivered to every residence in the United States and Puerto Rico. When you receive yours, just answer the 10 short questions and then mail the form back in the postage-paid envelope provided. If you don't mail the form back, you may receive a visit from a census taker, who will ask you the questions from the form. Any personal data you provide is protected under federal law.

There is a link to the Census 2010 website, excellent and informative, on our website, if you want to learn more about the census.

A Little Help from our Friends:

Boy Scout Justin Gedeon (Troop 79) is trying to obtain his Eagle Scout rank and has chosen the **Village of Pomona** as his project, i.e., to fund raise and build an outdoor display sign to be installed at village hall. This is a very important rank and not easy to achieve. Justin is seeking community support to help fund the project. If interested in making a donation, please send a check to Justin Gedeon, 15 Cherry Lane, Pomona, NY 10970. Make check payable to Boy Scout Troop 79.



GOOD LUCK JUSTIN! and thanks!



Upcoming COFFEE WITH THE MAYOR

Sunday
February 28th
Village Hall 10:00 am - 11:30 am

PLEASE VISIT www.pomonavillage.com

PRSRRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #70153
MONSEY, NY 10952

100 Ldentown Road
Pomona, NY 10970
845-354-0545

