



THE VILLAGE GREEN



Village of Pomona

April Newsletter
2008

Mayor
Nicholas Sanderson

Deputy Mayor
Ian Banks

Trustees
Rita Louie
Alma Sanders-Roman
Brett Yagel



Dear Pomona Village Residents,

It is a year since your “new administration” took office, and now it is budget time again. We are required to have a new budget for the next fiscal year in place by May 1st, and we fully expect to be able to comply with this requirement.

Our budget committee has been working diligently on the figures, and a tentative budget will be ready soon.

This year we find ourselves in the unenviable position of once again being forced to project a substantial increase in village taxes, much greater this year than last. We are sure that the vast majority of you know that we are faced with unprecedented legal expenses as a result of our defense of the lawsuit brought against the Village in federal court by the Congregation Rabbinical College of Tartikov. In simple terms, their lawsuit seeks to allow them to bypass our zoning and other laws, and build a facility complete with high density housing. Their lawsuit invokes the federal statute entitled The Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA) which they allege should allow them to develop their property without regard to the zoning laws of the village, which have been in existence since the village was formed in 1967. Your administration finds themselves on the other side of this argument, and has initiated a vigorous defense of our zoning and conduct in relation to this matter. We have a strong legal team in place to defend our village, and we are convinced that we have done everything possible to prevail in federal court. All this comes at a cost, however. We have exceeded this year’s budget for outside legal expenses, and we find

that we need to budget a considerably greater amount for the next fiscal year in order to maintain the defense that we believe the residents have given us the mandate to provide.

In addition to the dramatically increased legal expenses that the village will incur, we are also faced with having to enter into a new, multi-year, garbage removal contract effective September 1st 2008. In order to seek out the most attractive contract possible to the village and ensure that the new costs would be known before budget time, your board issued a request for proposals in January. The response was underwhelming, and our current carter’s bid was much higher than we are paying now, understandably based on their increased costs for fuel, labor and insurance.

While your board of trustees have to deal with these increases in expenses, be assured that we are also looking carefully at every single line item to find ways of mitigating the unfortunate increase in village tax with which we are faced. As usual, we seek input from any of our residents who may have a comment, idea, or useful advice. Our contact numbers and email addresses are published at pomonavillage.com, or you can contact any of us at village hall, 354-0545. We welcome any input from you and assure you that we will take any comment extremely seriously in this difficult budget process.

Mayor Nick Sanderson
Trustees Ian Banks, Rita Louie, Alma Sanders Roman,
Brett Yagel



April 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Village Hall Yoga class 9.00am Bulk Trash/Garbage Haverstraw	2 Recycling - paper	3 Bulk Trash/Garbage Ramapo	4 Village Hall Yoga class 9.00am Bulk Trash/Garbage Haverstraw	5
6	7 Bulk Trash/Garbage Ramapo	8 Village Hall Yoga class 9.00am Bulk Trash/Garbage Haverstraw	9 Recycling - bottle/cans	10 8.00 pm Village Hall Planning Board Regular Meeting Bulk Trash/Garbage Ramapo	11 Village Hall Yoga class 9.00am Cultural Center Open 2-6pm Bulk Trash/Garbage Haverstraw	12
13 Cultural Center Opening Reception Spring Exhibition 4 - 7 pm	14 7.30pm Village Hall Village Board Workshop meeting Bulk Trash/Garbage Ramapo	15 Village Hall Yoga class 9.00am Bulk Trash/Garbage Haverstraw	16 Recycling - paper	17 Bulk Trash/Garbage Ramapo	18 Village Hall Yoga class 9.00am Cultural Center Open 2-6pm Bulk Trash/Garbage Haverstraw	19 Cultural Center Open 2-6pm
20 Great American Cleanup Meet at Village Hall 11.00am Cultural Center Open 2-6pm	21 Bulk Trash/Garbage Ramapo	22 Village Hall Yoga class 9.00am Bulk Trash/Garbage Haverstraw	23 8.30 pm Village Hall ZBA Scheduled meeting Recycling - Bottles/cans	24 Bulk Trash/Garbage Ramapo	25 Village Hall Yoga class 9.00am Cultural Center Open 2-6pm Bulk Trash/Garbage Haverstraw	26 Cultural Center Open 2-6pm
27 Cultural Center Open 2-6pm	28 7.30pm Village Hall Village Board Regular meeting Bulk Trash/Garbage Ramapo	29 Village Hall Yoga class 9.00am Bulk Trash/Garbage Haverstraw	30 No recycling (5 th Wednesday)			

Please remember to check the village website as often as possible because it is the only place where we can announce up-to-the minute news or events. You will also find other important information there on a continuing basis - www.pomonavillage.com

The monthly "Coffee with the Mayor" is rescheduled for the month of April. Instead of the second weekend of the month, join Mayor Sanderson on April 20th for an abbreviated session from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Then join him and other residents of the Village in the Great American Clean-up at 11:00 a.m. at Village Hall. For more information about the Great American Clean-up, look for the article on page 4 of this newsletter.



Snowflake Concert

Mr. Burr, renowned children's entertainer at Village Hall on January 27th



Mr. Burr has them up and dancing



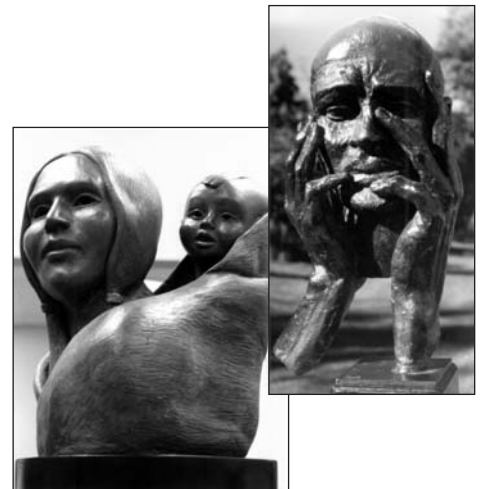
Children and parents alike enjoy Mr. Burr



Pomona Cultural Center Presents: Spring 2008 Exhibition Opening *Reflection through Nature and Humanity* Sunday, April 13, 2008

The Pomona Cultural Center announces the Spring exhibition, "REFLECTION THROUGH NATURE AND HUMANITY" April 13 – May 25, 2008. A mini retrospective pencil pen and ink watercolors on paper by award winning artist Vinson Hill and figurative sculptures by acclaimed sculptor Caroline Prieur Schulz.

The opening reception is on Sunday, April 13, from 4 – 7 p.m. The opening event will also feature a live music performance by DRULINC DUO, Dru Pluhowski -Vocal and Linc Millinman of Pomona - Bass, and a special Poetry Reading and Book signing "The Well String" by Noel Smith Fernandez of Pomona.



Vinson Hill... his emergence into the mainstream of the American watercolor scene has been swift, enthusiastic, and intense, producing a growing body of rhythmic, lyrical work. He is represented in public and private collections throughout the United States. Commissioned works of historical landmarks and private homes are now in progress.

Caroline Prieur Schulz... her work is figurative and expressionistic in style. Through this style of work, she strives to highlight powerful timeless themes of life and an affirmation of humanity. Caroline's work gives a new perspective to the drama of human dilemmas by creating new syntheses. She has exhibited throughout the United States and is represented in private collections throughout the world.

Also at our opening on April 13th, meet Noel (Smith) Fernandez, a long-time resident of the Village, who will read poetry from her recently published book, *The Well String*, a history in narrative poetry of a family living in southern Appalachia encompassing from 1885 to 2004. Noel told us... "It was inspired by my time spent there right after college as a social worker for a private health delivery organization. Some of the poems are events told to me by that family (the first section.) Some are real experiences I had, (much of the middle section and some of the last.) Some are conglomerates of different people and some is just made up..."



The Pomona Cultural Center is located in the historic stone Pig Knoll Schoolhouse at 584 Route 306, Pomona (just north of Pomona Rd.) Gallery hours (in case you can't make the opening and want to see the exhibit) are Friday – Sunday, from 2:00 – 6:00 P.M.

Summer Music Festival & Craft Fair

The second Pomona Summer Music Festival & Craft Fair is scheduled for Sunday, July 13th. Any musicians or crafters interested in participating in this event this year should e-mail Rita Louie at rita.louie@pomonavillage.com. If you would like to see pictures from last year's Fair, visit www.pomonavillage.com (and for further info)

Moms & Tots

Spring is coming and we are looking forward to getting our Moms and Tots playgroup together again at the playground at Burgess Meredith Park here in the village. Please let me know the best weekday time and day for you so we can coordinate. Call Leslie at 354-0843 or e-mail her at Lesliesan@yahoo.com. Thanks! (If you are interested but can only meet on a Saturday or Sunday, let me know that too).

AARP Driver Safety Program

Thanks to those of you who signed up and participated in the program which was held March 18 and 19. There seems to be enough interest to run the program again, so if you would like to sign up, please let Leslie know. (We need a minimum of 15 people) – This time we are thinking of holding the program on a Saturday for an 8 hour marathon (with one half hour for lunch), but if two consecutive nights for 4 hours each night sounds better, let us know your preference, and we will take the consensus. At only \$10 per person (the fee goes to AARP), it is a real bargain. To express interest in signing up next time, e-mail Leslie (Lesliesan@yahoo.com) or call her at 354-0843.

Great American Clean-up

Here is a great way to volunteer in your community (even on your own street, if you wish). Under the auspices of the Rockland County "Keep

America Beautiful" program, the Village of Pomona will be gathering once again at Village Hall on **Sunday, April 20th (11:00 a.m.)** to pick up trash on the side of the roadways in the Village. We will provide bottled water, garbage bags, and tee shirts for all participants; please bring your own gloves. By the way, In 2007, Great American Cleanup volunteers collected 200 million pounds of litter and debris; planted 4.6 million trees, flowers and bulbs; cleaned 178,000 miles of roads, streets and highways; and diverted more than 70.6 million plastic (PET) bottles and more than 2.2 million scrap tires from the waste stream – quite impressive!

Safety

- Please don't forget to change the batteries in your smoke detectors. We just changed the clocks which should be your signal to check your batteries!
- Fire officials remind us that house numbers must be visible from the road and must be a minimum of 4" high. In an emergency, it is a lot easier for officials to find you quickly if they can see the house number!
- If any of you walk or run before the sun comes up, or after it gets dark in the evening, we have free reflectors that you can wear. Just ask for yours at Village Hall.

Correction from last newsletter (Feb.)- Please note that under the Recycle article, there was an incorrect statement in the February newsletter. It read "Cardboard boxes, however, can also be flattened and put out on the second or fourth Wednesday of the month on paper recycling days." It should have read "Cardboard boxes, however, can also be flattened and put out on the first or third Wednesday of the month on paper recycling days."

PROGRAMS ARE SPONSORED BY THE MAYOR AND THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF POMONA.

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