

SUFFERN VILLAGE NEWS

Message from Mayor Markunas

I am pleased to introduce the first edition of "Suffern Village News". Our newsletter was designed to highlight important Village initiatives, provide resources and news to spotlight our community, as well as to inform you of our upcoming events and holiday season celebrations. Suffern's community spirit and strong civic consciousness is exhibited by our outstanding Police and Volunteer Fire Department, dedicated Village Staff, visionary Suffern Museum Board, active Chamber of Commerce, and devoted community groups. Rooted in our community's talents, dedication, and hard work, it is with a sense of pride, that I present the first edition of "Suffern Village News".



Do Not Knock Program– Sign Up Now!

The Village of Suffern's Do Not Knock Program is part of the Suffern Code Initiative. Suffern's Do Not Knock Program is designed to prevent unwanted canvassers, peddlers, and solicitors from disturbing residents. Those wishing to not be disturbed in their homes by unwanted canvassers, peddlers, and solicitors can add their names by completing a form which can be found at the Village of Suffern Website at <https://suffernny.gov/village-of-suffern-code-initiative/register-do-not-knock-program>.

Residents can also call the Office of the Village Clerk at 357-2600 to add names to the Village's Do Not Knock list. "While other local communities continue to struggle with code enforcement issues, the Village Board and I remain determined to minimize and ultimately eliminate any such issues in Suffern", Mayor Markunas explained. "We have seen how lack of enforcement can change and harm a community. By enforcing the Do Not Knock Program, we can help ensure the

privacy to which our residents are entitled". Residents who have questions about the Suffern Code Enforcement Initiative and Suffern's "Do Not Knock Program" are encouraged to call the Office of the Village Clerk at 357-2600 or visit www.suffernny.gov for a full list of the Village regulations and policies.



Suffern Senior Parking Program

Suffern Seniors make a day-to-day mark in our Village touching the lives of all Village residents. At the October 1st Village Board Meeting, in recognition of and thanks to Suffern Senior Citizens, Village Trustees Gina Bertolino, Frank Hagen, Moira Hertzman, and Joseph Russo along with Mayor Markunas adopted a Resolution authorizing free daily permits at Suffern Municipal Parking Lots to Suffern Village Seniors Over Age 65. Pro-

grams such as the Village's Health and Well Being programs, which includes exercise, nutritional, and recreational activities for Seniors, are also Village of Suffern opportunities to recognize and give back to our Seniors. Nancy Roswell of Bon Aire was excited to be the first Senior in our Village to participate in the program. Making parking more affordable in our municipal parking

lots is a way for the Village to recognize and thank our Seniors for their valuable contributions as they enjoy activities in and around our Village", explained Trustee Gina Bertolino who helped develop the Senior Parking Program. Trustee Bertolino is also currently seeking further opportunities to recognize Suffern Seniors.



Filming in the Village of Suffern- Who Will Be On Location Next?



The Village of Suffern has developed its reputation as one of the top filming locations in our region. Since the inception of the 2017 Filming Program, Suffern has received nearly \$120,000 in filming permit revenue. Beyond our iconic downtown and unique residential neighborhoods which is captivating to film scouts, what sets Suffern apart is that dedi-

cated Village Staff that seeks out and develops filming projects the benefit the Village, residents and our merchants. Each filming project is a concerted team effort on behalf of the Village Clerk's Office, DPW, Police, Fire Department, Recreation and Building Department. The reputation gained through the hard work and dedication of the Village staff is evi-

denced in the type of complexity of the production projects Suffern has experienced. The Irishman, CBS TV Instincts Season 2, 8th Grade, Friends -Grace Vander Wall, as well as Independent Films such as To the Moon and All Talk, have found success conducting filming activities in Suffern. Who will be on location next?!

\$1.5 MILLION IN GRANT FUNDING

An Essential Key to Maintaining Fiscal Responsibility

“Grants are essential in maintaining fiscal responsibility in the Village,” Markunas said. “My staff and I have worked diligently to ensure fiscal responsibility, improve the Village’s credit rating, and minimize tax increases for Village residents. Pursuing and securing grants goes a long way toward achieving these goals. Grants have provided a substantial source of funding”, said Mayor Markunas.



Fred Rella, Village of Suffern Grant Writer, has been instrumental in securing nearly \$1.5 million in grants, which have been awarded over the last three years. “There are large, multi-million-dollar infrastructure projects currently underway like the water treatment plant and the sewer plant. By pursuing grants, the administration offset the cost of the projects and ease the taxpayer’s burden” Rella said.

Here are recent examples of recent grant funding:

- \$285,720 Community Development Block Grant that the Village was awarded in 2016-2017 for the Wayne
- \$250,000 award from the State and Municipal Facilities program is earmarked for the purchase of a new multi-

purpose vehicle for the Village Department of Public Works.

- \$15,000 for a Justice Court Magnetometer, computer system upgrades and security cameras
- \$100,000 for Orange Avenue sidewalks in 2015
- \$250,000 for the Digester Boiler Replacement Project
- \$180,378 for the Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project
- \$13,000 from the Department of Criminal Justice Services for Suffern Police Department computer equipment and a \$5,000 grant from the Department of Criminal Justice Services for the DARE Program

“I am proud of my administration’s hard work in seeking out and securing grants that help move our Village forward”, Markunas said. “As a team, through responsible measures such as grant funding, we are continuing to secure the Village of Suffern’s standing as the premier place to live, work, and raise a family”.

Suffern Long-Term Parking Strategy

West Point Cadets Need Your Help

Village of Suffern is a community with unparalleled access to a variety of transportation options. As a result, Suffern is experiencing growth through transit-oriented development. West Point Cadets from the Department of Systems Engineering are collaborating with the Village, shaping our future by helping to improve our transportation and parking facilities. As transit-oriented growth is expected to increase the demand for park-

ing resources, the Cadets working on this project are requesting you to participate in a parking survey, which they have developed, so that you can assist in formulating solutions. Your input, which is requested on or before November 15, is critical in the success of this program. To participate, the survey can be found online at our Website at the link highlighted below. If you prefer to participate by completing a hard copy of the survey, please contact the Village Clerk’s

Office at 357-2600 to have a copy sent to you by mail. We appreciate your assistance in the development of our long-term parking strategy as we work to optimize Suffern’s vital resources.



Village of Suffern Parking Survey: <https://suffernny.gov/suffern-residents-survey/>

To Participate, please complete the survey and submit your feedback by November 15.

New Connections to Westchester County with Hudson

A new, premier bus service called Hudson Link will begin service on October 29 and provide new connections between Rockland and Westchester Counties. It will loosely take over the Tappan Zee Express service (green and white buses). The new buses are equipped with real-time information, wifi and USB ports at every seat. Single fares are \$2.75 and available for purchase via cash/

coins in exact change; the Hudson Link GoMobile app or Hudson Link ticket vending machine. All buses are ADA accessible. Go to www.ridehudsonlink.com for more information and check out the new schedule, as there will be more off-peak and weekend services buses.



Smart Watt Energy Program Means Savings for the Village of Suffern

The Village of Suffern participated in the Smartt Watt Energy program for the purchase and installation of energy efficient Light Emitting Diode (LED) lights

through the Orange & Rockland Direct Install Business Program. The total cost to the Village of replacing various incandescent and fluorescent lights

with LEDs in the Village Hall Project was \$13,303. This will result in a monthly saving for the Village of in the amount \$1,354 with a ten-month payback period.

Suffern Police Department– A Century of Service

The Village of Suffern is proud to be named one of the **50 safest areas in New York State!** Our Village was also listed as the safest municipality in Rockland County.



The Suffern Police Department has been in the forefront of community policing. Suffern Police Officers know our residents and the residents know the officers on patrol – whether through school, sports, community groups or everyday contacts,” Chief Osborn said. The Suffern Police Department routinely dedicates officers to address specific

community and quality of life issues in a proactive manner through DARE, sports programs, community events, and community policing activities. Our Police Department also provides station tours to local children’s groups, as well as presentations on a variety of topics for community events, civic associations, and other interested community groups.

For more information about the Suffern Police Department including Community Policing, DARE, DARE Hockey, and Suffern Police Department events, visit our new website at <https://pd.suffernny.gov>.

Fire Hydrants

As we enter the snow and ice season, please help to keep fire hydrants in your neighborhood clear of snow. It is imperative that fire hydrants be immediately available in case of an emergency! We thank you for your help with this important task and for all the neighbors who help neighbors during the winter season!



Suffern Fire Department

We Are Staffed All Year 24/7/365 by VOLUNTEERS!

The Suffern Fire Department, organized in 1900, is an **all-volunteer organization** divided into two Companies: Suffern Hook & Ladder Co #1 and the Volunteer Hose Co #1.

The Suffern Hook and Ladder is located on Lafayette Avenue, directly across the street from Avon’s main parking lot. This facility was originally occupied by the Hook and Ladder in 1980, after being

expanded to accommodate the fire trucks and a meeting room. The Suffern Hose Company is located on Washington Avenue, at the intersection of Washington Avenue and Cross Street, which was constructed in 1995.

The Suffern Fire Department primary responsibility is to the approximately 12,000 residents of the Village of Suffern, New York. The Suffern Fire Department also responds to calls on a mutual aid basis to any depart-

ment in Rockland County or its close neighbors in Bergen and Orange Counties.

For more information about becoming a volunteer for the Suffern Fire Department, email Suffernfdchiefs@yahoo.com or visit the Chief’s Office at 35 Washington Avenue any Monday at 7:00 p.m.

WE NEED YOU!



The U.S. Military Academy Help Optimize Village of Suffern Municipal Telecommunications



Cadets from the West Point Department of Systems Engineering collaborated with the Village of Suffern to conduct a research project to optimize Village municipal telecommunications systems. The Cadet’s research focused on emergency communications systems, notifi-

cations to residents in the event of a disaster or emergency, the ability for residents to communicate with emergency responders during power outages, emerging telecommunication technology including fiber optics and upgrading speed/bandwidth,

and transitioning to a fiber-based telecommunications network compared to traditional analog systems. The results of this study will be used to implement future technology requirements for the Police Department, Fire Department, and the Village of Suffern.

Memory Trees Offer a Canopy in Downtown Suffern

They are more than trees, they are reminders of times and people in the past. The first Memory Tree was planted in Suffern in 2003 with eight others following in 2004. The Memory Tree Committee is a Village of Suffern volunteer program under the direction of Sheila Rees Foster and Sandy Stead. “We felt it would be nice if the community could be part of the revitalization of Suffern’s downtown” explained Foster.

Trees can be planted not just as memorials but also to commemorate important life events such as a birth of a child or in celebration of an anniversary. Village residents, former residents, and organizations are invited to contact the Suffern Memory Tree Committee if they would like to commemorate a person, or perhaps an event, with a tree.

“Memory Trees are a very personal way to share memories of important people and events in our lives” explained Sandy Stead. Sheila and Sandy encourage those interested in planting a Memory Tree to contact the Committee to discuss ideas and next steps.

To learn more contact the Village of Suffern at 845-357-2600.



Congratulations Bruce McClintock!

Recipient of the Andrew Haggerty Award for Outstanding Community Service



Volunteer Hose Company #1 Member Bruce McClintock was awarded the Andrew Haggerty award for outstanding community service. Bruce McClintock is a US Army Vietnam War Veteran. Bruce is an Ex-Chief of the Suffern Fire Department, Ex-Captain of Suffern Hose Company, and

has been a member serving the community for over 44 years. As a volunteer and leader in our community, Bruce serves as a role model to all members of the Suffern Volunteer Hose Company #1 as well as to his friends and neighbors in our community.

Cost Sharing Agreement with O&R Provides Cost-Effective Solution for Road Repair & Paving

Cost sharing agreements with O&R will provide a cost-effective solution for both parties. For the first phase of the restoration project, O&R agreed to pay the Village \$220,829 to restore affected roadways to an appropriate condition.

“Boulevard was one of the largest impacted areas because a large gas main goes through that neighborhood,” Suffern DPW director Charles Sawicki said. “We have come up with a cost-sharing solution that will enable the Village to pave the entire road at a cost savings.” This work, which is the first of several projects, has resulted in a road restoration agreement between the Village of Suffern and Orange & Rockland to repair

and repave the affected roads. The result of the work, however, is beneficial to Village residents as O&R replaced decades-old gas lines with new, modern lines that are safer and more efficient.

“This is a cost-saving measure for the Village and it provides us with gas main safety. The new gas line will make the Village safer and provide better service for O&R’s customers”, Mayor Markunas said.

Work connected to future Agreements is expected to begin in 2019. Meanwhile, representatives from O&R

have spoken at Village of Suffern board meetings and will continue to do so in an effort to answer questions residents have about the utility upgrade project and subsequent road restorations.



Suffern Railroad Museum Showcases Rich Rail History

The Suffern Railroad Museum, organized in 1998, showcases Suffern’s rich rail history. Housed in the former Wells Fargo Express Building, Erie and Suffern Rail History are highlighted through captivating displays, objects, and documents. The museum is under the direction of curator, Daniel McInerney, of the Suffern Village Museum. Located in Parking Lot A, at the Corner of

Orange and Wayne Avenue, the museum is open to the public on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. May through October, except for holiday weekends. For more information or to inquire about scheduling a special tour, please contact the Village Clerk’s Office at (845) 357-2600.



Suffern Village Museum

The Suffern Village Museum, organized in 1980, brings together those who are dedicated to the preservation of Suffern’s rich history.



The Museum, located on the top floor of the Municipal Building at 61 Washington Avenue, is open to the public Sundays from 2:00 p.m.

to 4:00 p.m., except holiday weekends. The museum contains exhibits, artifacts, and documents highlighting the history of early settlers, businesses, and industries as well as social, economic, and historical activities that defines Suffern and the surrounding area. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** Individuals interested in supporting the Village Museum are invited to become members. Museum

Meetings are open to the public and are held monthly (except July and August) on the second Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the community room opposite the Museum. For more information or to schedule a special tour, please contact the Village Clerk’s Office at (845) 357-2600.

Fall Leaf & Brush Collection



Leaves are already falling! The Village of Suffern DPW will be collecting leaves curbside. Residents should avoid putting leaf piles around obstacles such as vehicles, mailboxes, pow-

er lines, guide wires, utility poles and sign posts. Brush and lawn clippings will continue to be picked up by the DPW curbside on Mondays and/or Tuesdays, weather permitting. Brush must be 4 feet or less in size and tied into bundles with a maximum weight of 50 pounds. Leaves can be also be placed

in paper lawn refuse bags for pick up which are available for pick-up at the DPW Street Garage at end of Ridge Avenue near the Ballfield during normal business hours.



Village of Suffern Recreation Fall & Winter Activities

Please contact the Recreation Department at 845-357-7943 or e-mail Cathym@suffernvillage.com for more information.

Village Halloween Parade Let's Get Spooky in Suffern!



The annual Halloween Parade will be held on Sunday, October 28 at 2 p.m. The parade starts at the corner of Orange and Lafayette Avenues. All are welcome to march, especially those dressed for the occasion! Costume judging and refreshments will follow at the Gazebo. In case of rain, the parade will be cancelled, but costume judging and refreshments will take place in the Community Center located at 41 Washington Avenue.

Celebrate the Holidays in Suffern Christmas Parade

On Saturday December 1, 2018 at 6:30 pm brightly decorated floats will light up Lafayette Avenue in this festive arrival of Santa! Come cheer on the Suf-



fern High School Band, local families and groups, floats, fire departments, police departments and so many more as they march up Lafayette Avenue, welcoming in the Holiday Season! The parade will proceed up Lafayette Avenue to the Gazebo where the Village Christmas tree will be lit. After the tree lighting, all are invited to the Suffern Community Center for kids to visit Santa, enjoy crafts, and share in refreshments! If you are interested in participating in this parade, please contact the Recreation office.

Mayor's Wellness Program

The Mayor's Wellness Program is designed to promote health and well-being to all Village residents by offering a variety of programs. We encourage you to join us as we journey toward health and wellness together. All programs take place at the Community Center, at 41 Washington Ave. unless otherwise noted. For additional information & programs e-mail nancy@suffernvillage.com.

Walking Club

Wednesdays October 3-24 at 10 am, meet at Village Hall for a 1.3 mile walk (weather permitting)

Nutrition Workshops

Daytime: First Tuesday of each month, 10:30-11:30 am, October 2 thru December 4. Village Hall Community Room

Drumming & Toning Fitness Class

Wednesday November 14 & 28 at 11 am

Yoga

Chair Yoga: Mondays at 2:30 pm, Fridays at 10:00 am

Yoga for Beginners: Mondays, 6:30 pm (October 1, 15, 22 November 5 & 19)



Honoring All Who Served Veterans Day Parade

The Village of Suffern will honor our Veterans on Sunday, November 11 at 3 pm. The Parade will begin on Lafayette Avenue and proceed to the Soldiers Monument on Washington Avenue. This year, we welcome the 42nd ID Band.



Pearl Harbor Commemoration

Join us Sunday, December 2, as we commemorate the 77th Anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor as survivor, Battalion Sergeant Major Armando "Chick" Galella recounts the incredibly harrowing events of that infamous day. The attack on Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941, endures as a symbol of American resilience and resolve. The annual commemoration of the attack on Pearl Harbor held in Suffern Village Auditorium fosters reflection, remembrance and understanding. All are invited to attend this wonderful tribute to Mr. Galella and our heroes that were lost in 1941.



Stay Fit Program

Mondays 11am- 1 pm
Thursdays 9am- 12 pm

Artytime

Thursday October 18 at 12 pm (registration required)

Zumba Fitness & Smoothies

Saturday October 27 at 10 am

Chair Exercise

Mondays at 10:30 am

Village of Suffern
61 Washington Avenue
Suffern, New York 10901

PRESRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MONSEY, NY
10952
PERMIT NO. 1197

Mayor:

Edward Markunas

Village Trustees:

Frank Hagen, Deputy Mayor

Gina Bertolino

Moira Hertzman

Joseph Russo

RESIDENT

Suffern, New York 10901

Welcome to the Village of Suffern Newsletter!

Help Protect the Health, Property & Quality of Life of Suffern Residents

The Village of Suffern Code Initiative, officially implemented in April by Mayor Markunas, has been vigorously enforced with success. The Suffern Code Initiative was created as a way to enhance the Village’s position as a premier place to live, work, and raise a family. It is designed to provide a safe, desirable living and working environment for all Suffern residents and businesses. The Code Initiative is a proactive approach to combatting code, housing, fire-safety, and property maintenance issues.

“I want all residents and guests to enjoy everything the Village has to offer in the best environment possible”, Mayor Markunas explains. “This is a very important issue for all Suffern residents. We have all seen how

lack of code enforcement can change and harm a community.

Protecting the health, property, and quality of life in our Village by fairly and impartially enforcing codes and other ordinances remains one of my primary objectives.”

Residents can confidentially register property maintenance or code violations concerns for further investigation by the Suffern Building Department by completing a form on the Village of Suffern Website at <https://suffernny.gov/village-of-suffern-code-initiative/report-here-property-maintenance-concerns/>. Residents can also call the Building Department

at 357-2603 to discuss any concerns they may have.

We must all do our part to help maintain the quality of life in our Village.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



Village of Suffern



suffernvillage



thevillageofsuffern