



Say Hello to RCCA. The Rensselaer County Conservation Alliance is a county-wide organization dedicated to conservation as applied to reforestation, propagation of fish and game, and development of suitable areas in the county for public park purposes. RCCA also serves as a vehicle to work in cooperation with the NYS DEC on issues that our residents have regarding policy, laws, public land access, and land management.

In July, RCCA installed bat boxes in Schermerhorn Park (next to the Brickyard). The Alliance constructs the boxes themselves and installs them in municipal properties across the County. The Village Board of Trustees recently voted to allow RCCA to install some duck boxes at our reservoir just outside the Village.



The Castletonian

February 2023

NEW VILLAGE ROAD AND PARK

The Village recently completed a land swap with the Castleton Fire Company for two parcels of land adjacent to the firehouse. The first parcel encompasses the road and land directly adjacent to the firehouse parallel to 1st Street. This section stretches from 1st Street to Green Ave. Being a Village road, residents who use it must now adhere to all traffic and parking restrictions stated in Village codes. The Village Board will name the new road in the coming months (send us suggestions !!).

Also, land behind the firehouse kiosk that abuts Green Ave is now an additional public green space. Residents have asked for more parks or green space to be made available. We listened, we worked through the details and now we have a new public space. The space, which housed a basketball court in the past, will now be a mini park. During public comment at recent Board meetings, the Board discussed proposals for a basketball court, splash pad or possibly a pickle ball court (send us your suggestions !!). Stay tuned, we hope to begin development sometime this year.



Village Elections

!!!!!! Don't forget to Vote - Tues, March 21 – Noon to 9pm Village Hall !!!!!

There are two Village Trustee slots to fill plus a ballot measure regarding an increase in LOSAP payments to Castleton Volunteer Firefighters.

VILLAGE TIDBITS

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony – we're planning a ribbon cutting ceremony at our newly upgraded Wastewater Treatment Plant this spring, and everyone is invited. Details will be available soon.

The Village Comprehensive Plan is finishing up after a year long effort by the comprehensive plan committee made up of Village residents. Look for a presentation to the public coming in the next few months.

The Town of Schodack/Village of Castleton jointly received a \$75,000 grant to update its Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan (LWRP), last updated in 1995. This is a great complement for the Village of Castleton-on-Hudson's comprehensive plan which is being drafted now.

Village Workers' Compensation 2023 site visit update – the Village is a member of PERMA which is an insurance organization that handles any workers comp claims. We haven't had a claim filed in over 3 years!! Thanks to all Village employees and volunteer firefighters for keeping an eye on safety.

New Fire Chief – welcome new Fire Dep't Chief – Matt Metzger

Anchor – the Anchor is running low on supplies, next food drive with the Fire Dep't is Saturday, March 25th.



For updates on happenings around the Village and to access the monthly calendars, please bookmark our website and visit frequently:

CASTLETON-ON-HUDSON.ORG

BLDG PERMITS

A reminder that building permits are required for most home alterations including (but not limited to): new roof shingles, new windows, adding a room of any kind, adding a garage or shed, adding solar panels, cutting trees (if your property is in the critical overlay), adding a fence or deck, demolishing a structure (garage, shed, or house). Not sure? Give Gary Zeigler a call. 518.605.2184

2023 – 2024 VILLAGE BUDGET

It is that time of year again when Village officials and department heads get together to hammer out our 202-2024 budget which begins June 1, 2023.

During our budget meetings the Board reviews each department budget requests. Those requests will be submitted to the treasurer in March. The board looks at projected income from taxes and fees, and balances that against expenses like: building maintenance, tree maintenance, vehicle purchases, gas price hikes, equipment purchases, salaries, you name it, we're reviewing it.

We do apply for grants but it can take a year or two before grants are awarded. We also receive state funds for road and bridge repair and we count on those funds to use for paving.

Check out Village Board meetings in March to learn all about budgeting.



WHICH NYS LEGISLATION HAS IMPACTED THE VILLAGE?

Below are some Legislative actions enacted (passed) in NYS for 2022-2023 that impact the Village (this is a sampling of items in no particular order):

AIM Funding – Aid and Incentives for Municipalities – this year the Village will receive \$13,422.

Downtown Revitalization Initiative and NY Forward – \$100 million available, 10 communities each receive \$10 million. The Village applied for this grant with help from COHMSA in 2022 and we had a site visit from NY Forward.

Extension and Enhancement of Brownfield Programs – This program encourages redevelopment of contaminated properties that are blighting communities. The program has been extended by ten years to 2032. What was formerly Fort Orange Paper Co., located in the Village across from the wastewater treatment plant, is a brownfield property.

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Federal Investment - \$300 million to improve public water systems – the Village has some very old water lines that we would like to replace.

Videoconferencing by Public Bodies – amendments to the Open Meetings Law which now allows expanded use of videoconferencing by public bodies as long as there is a quorum of members gathered at a physical location open to the public. The Village Board voted on new guidelines for videoconferencing .

25 MPH City or Village Speed Limit – authorizes Cities and Villages to impose a speed limit as low as 25 mph on any or all City or Village roads. The Village Board is reviewing this.



WE SAID GOODBYE TO...

Bonnie J. Evans (67) - passed on Dec 6th. She was an active member of Sacred Heart Church and volunteered at the Anchor Food Pantry.

Arline D. Taylor - passed on Dec. 25th. A lifelong resident moving to the Village in 1935 with her parents. She worked for Fort Orange Paper for 38 years and was a lifetime member of Emmanuel Reformed Church.

Lillian R. Shortsleeve (96) - passed on December 29th. She worked at the Fort Orange Paper Company for 30 years before retiring in 1988.

Donald F. Ham -passed on January 22nd. Don worked as a car salesman for most of his life, most notably at Armory Garage.

Mariday A. Buck (99) - passed on January 23rd. She was a member of St. Paul's United Methodist Church and was a volunteer at the Castleton Public Library.



CASTLETON FIRE DEPARTMENT

Looking for space to book a party or event? Our meeting hall is available to rent. Please call 518-732-4342.

Please Join us for Breakfast!! Upcoming dates for the Fire House Breakfasts: March 5th, April 5th and May 7th (Moms eat for free)

The next Anchor Food Drive will be on Saturday, March 25th.

Help wanted!!! Join us Today!!! Stop in Tuesday nights or call: 518-732-4342.

CASTLETON AMBULANCE

The ambulance hall is now available for rental. Please leave a message on the answering machine at 518-732-2563. We are honored to be able to serve our Community and will continue to do so.

We welcome any new members and could use your help. **Looking to be part of the Ambulance crew?** We need drivers, EMTs, Attendants and Associates. Flexible hours and we'll train you. Call today for an application — (518) 732-2563.

CASTLETON KIWANIS

The next Kiwanis Chicken BBQ will take place on Sunday, March 26th at the Castleton Fire Company from noon until 4:00 pm. The cost of the meal will be \$12.00. We recommend that you reserve your dinners in advance. Email us at castletonkiwanis@gmail.com or call 518-732-4228 up to March 24th to pre-order dinners.



DPW NEWS

Biodegradable bag pick-up will begin on Monday, **April 3rd** and will be continued on every Monday through Dec 1st, 2023, weather permitting. 25 lbs. max.

Spring Clean-up Day is **May 6, 2023**, at the Brickyard.

The Brickyard will be open from 9:00 AM - Noon.

Small charge depending on quantity.

All electronics will be accepted for recycling.



PARK DETAILS

Info: (518) 732-0187

Pavilion Information

Schodack Island has four pavilions. Prices range from \$50 to \$125 and can hold 25 to 125 people. Reserve at ReserveAmerica.com

Seasons/Hours: The park is open year round, dawn to dusk.

Camping open from April - November

Vehicle Entrance Fee

Mid-April to mid-October: Cars \$6 on weekends and holidays

Campsites

\$15-27/per night*\$5 nightly fee for non-NYS residents

Dry Slip Boat Permit

\$175 for the season from - May 1st to Columbus Day

\$ 75 per month if available.

Other fun things include:

Playground

Comfort Station (potty)

Kayak Launch

Fishing

Boat Launch

Hiking

Birding

SCHODACK ISLAND STATE PARK

Planning a graduation party, birthday, retirement party? Schodack Island State Park is just around the corner and they have amazing pavilions available for rent (with a River view!!)

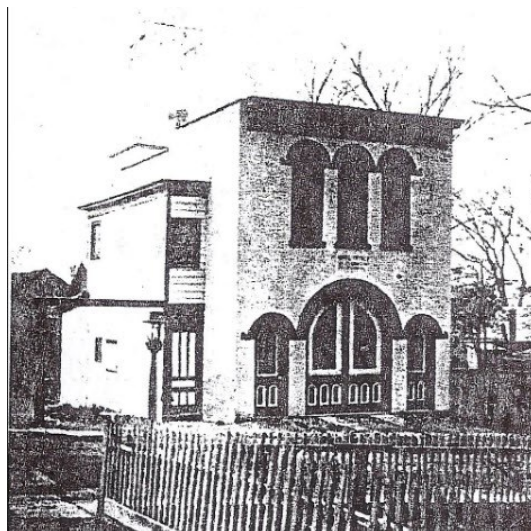


NOYES ENGINE HOUSE STABILIZATION

The stabilization of the Noyes Engine House will begin this March. After many, many years of neglect this former Fire House will be getting a much needed update. We are eternally grateful to State Sen. Jake Ashby for getting us a grant of \$50,000 for the project. And special thanks to Deputy Mayor Jen Pratico for

working with Sen. Ashby on all the paperwork. The Village was able to contract with a well regarded restoration mason from Ballston Spa who has worked on many historical projects including Mount Vernon in Washington DC. The long term goal is to

make this space into a community space. That will be phase 2 of the project. The Village was previously awarded a \$3,000 grant in 2019 from The Preservation League of New York State to prioritize repairs on the structure.



MAYOR
JOSEPH KEEGAN

TRUSTEES
JENIFER PRATICO, DEPUTY MAYOR
SHARON MARTIN
ERIK SAMARIJA
LISSA D'AQUANNI

CLERK TREASURER – PADRAIC ELLIS
DEPUTY CLERK-JAN BETTER



CASTLETON ON HUDSON, NEW YORK

We have a notary at Village hall.
There is no charge for this service to our residents.

85 South Main Street, Castleton, NY 12033
Phone: (518) 732-2211 Fax: (518) 732-1550
www.castleton-on-hudson.org
Office hours are 9:00 - 3:00 / Monday - Friday

IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP ...

Daylight Savings Time Begins – March 12th
First Day of Spring – March 20th
Village Elections – Tues, Mar. 21st – Village Hall Noon – 9pm
Fire Dep’t food drive – Sat, March 25th – leave bag at curb.
4th Qtr. Water, Refuse, Sewer bills due March 31st.
Biodegradable bag pickup starts - Mon, April 3rd (25 lbs max)
Brickyard Open – brush/leaves only. Sat April 15th 8am-Noon
Hazardous Waste Collection – April 29th – call us for details
Spring Clean up Day – Brickyard. Sat, May 6th. 9am – Noon

Street Sweeping – every Friday.
Main St. has parking signs for sweeping days and times.

Didn't get a water, sewer, refuse bill? Call Village clerk for a copy.
We accept *online* credit card payments. We cannot accept credit cards for *in-person* payments.

Interested in hearing about Village business? Board meeting are the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month.

We accept *online* credit card payments through the Village website.



HYDRANT FLUSHING

Hydrant flushing will take place every:
Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
starting **April 10, 2023 through May 10, 2023.**
Hydrant flushing occurs **between 9:00 AM – Noon.**
Hydrant flushing can stir up sediment in the pipes so water may be off color for a bit during and after hydrant flushing. Keep this in mind when doing laundry on these days.

TRANSFER STATION – 446 Poyneer Road Open: Tues-Sat

What's free to bring to the transfer station?:

Used motor oil	Batteries	keyboards, small TV
Anti Freeze	Small Electronics :fax machines, monitors,	Brush and small logs
Car Batteries		Magazines

DMV IN SCHODACK TOWN HALL

The satellite DMV office is back open.
Time: Tuesdays 9am – 3pm

