



# THE TIVOLI VILLAGE NEWS

WINTER 2012

Welcome back to our Village News!

This newsletter is meant to give you the latest and greatest information from around the Village.

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## FROM MAYOR CRANNA'S DESK

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In the mid 1930's, as a way to give back to the Village where, according to her autobiography, she spent her childhood and her fondest memories of, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt donated the necessary funds to improve Tivoli's water system. Much of that system that was installed over 70 years ago is still in use today. That being said, the aging system is in need of an update.



Recently, after a review and discussion of our water and sewer system with Trustee Susan Ezrati, I announced the formation of a Water System Review Taskforce. The members of this taskforce include Trustee Ezrati, Deputy Mayor Michael Leedy, Superintendent of Public Works James Simmons, Village Engineer Ronald Evangelista, and Former Tivoli Mayor Edward "Woody"

I relied upon my predecessor Former Mayor Thomas Cordier for his assistance on the Zoning Committee, I am honored to have the assistance of Mayor Neese on this most important project. His experience and knowledge will be most valuable.

Two years ago we made a commitment to improve the infrastructure of our Village. This included our water and sewer system. These improvements will not happen overnight however. Rather, it is necessary for us to make a detailed review of the current system and identify the history of water breaks and or leaks, condition of pipes, tree roots that may be damaging pipes, the demand in certain areas, and other valuable pieces of information. However, we can no longer simply band aid leaks and or breaks. We must prevent them from happening and strengthen our current system.

These necessary improvements will be part of a Capital Projects plan that the Board of Trustees and I need to develop. This plan includes the necessary improvements to Tivoli's Water Tower, roof repairs to Village Hall, possible expansion of Tivoli's Fire House, and other necessary projects. We can no longer simply get by with what we've had for years. These projects are necessary to ensure the safety and proper operations of our systems.

Together we are moving Tivoli forward. This means taking a good look at where we are, where we were, and

where we NEED to be. Thank you again for the honor you have bestowed upon me to serve as your Mayor. I am proud to serve this Village and proud of what we have done together.

Mayor Bryan F. Cranna

## **RESIDENT INFORMATION**

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### **Drop Mail Box at the Village Hall**

If you need to mail something to the Village, it might be easier (and less expensive) to drop it off at the Village Hall. There is a "Drop Box" located in the front door of the Village Hall at 86 Broadway. The box is checked daily by the Clerk's Office.

**Water/sewer bills are mailed on a quarterly basis on March 1, June 1, September 1 and December 1 and are due the last day of the month. When sending in your water/sewer payment, please include the payment stub with your check. If you cannot, please note the account number or service address on your check.** Remember, you may use the drop mail box for your payments!

Residents sometimes tell us that they did not receive their bill and ask us to waive the late fee. Unfortunately, villages are not authorized to "forgive" delinquent water and/or sewer charges, as this would constitute a gift of public funds, which is prohibited by the state constitution.

### **Holidays**

The Village Offices will be closed on December 25, 2012 (Christmas).

### **Holiday Trash and Christmas Tree Disposal**

All holiday wrapping material may be placed curbside in a plastic bag without a tag. Christmas trees may be placed curbside and will be collected during the month of January. Please remove all materials from trees. Tivoli Garden residents should place trees at the second condo entrance

### **Garbage tags**

May be purchased at the Clerk's office between the hours of 9:00 and 4:00. If these hours are not convenient, you may buy tags by sending us a self-addressed stamped envelope with your check to Village Clerk, PO Box 397, Tivoli, NY 12583 and we'll send you the tags.

### **Overnight Parking Regulations**

On street parking is prohibited from 1 am to 6 am from November 15 to April 1 in the Village. Overnight parking permits are required for all municipal lots and may be purchased in the Village Clerk's Office.

**The Village of Tivoli's website, [www.tivoliny.org](http://www.tivoliny.org)**

The website has village news, events, a community calendar, the village's code, agendas and minutes from all board meetings and contact information for village officials. Please contact Deputy Clerk Claire Roff, website administrator, if you have any questions or comments.



## **SNOW AND ICE AND SIDEWALKS**

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Sidewalks must be cleared within 24 hours of a snowfall (after snowfall). Snow cannot be thrown or left in a public right-of-way (i.e. streets, sidewalks, etc).

Tivoli Code Section states: 171-5. Village to perform work in certain cases.

"In an effort for the Village of Tivoli to comply with predetermined guidelines for the homeowner concerning public health and safety, it may become necessary for the property owner to perform work. When the property owner is unable to unwilling to perform the needed work, the village will perform it and bill the property owner."

Tivoli Code Section states: 171-6. Fees.

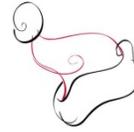
- A. "Fees for snow and/or ice removal, sidewalk clearing and/or repair, lawn mowing and any other work that is determined to be necessary by the Board shall be as set forth, from time to time, by resolution of the Board of Trustees."
- B. "The fees above be billed to the property owner for work done on their behalf by the village and be placed as a lien on the property taxes if not paid within 30 days of due date."



## **GREEN COMMITTEE NEWS**

Last spring a NYSDEC grant allowed the Village of Tivoli to purchase and distribute 60 composting bins free to Village residents. The Green Committee recently conducted a follow-up survey to find out how folks were getting along with their bins and composting. The survey found that residents reported a significant reduction in the trash they produced. Some said it cut their waste by as much as 50%! Recipients said they were pleased to be composting for environmental reasons and were also looking forward to some rich garden compost next spring. Most residents were actively using their bins, a few had passed them on to neighbors, and about half said they had composted previously. Several reported that they would not have started composting had the bins not been available.

The Green Committee meets monthly and new members are always welcome! Upcoming projects include establishing a car-pool network to go grocery shopping in Red Hook and organizing a second season of the Community Garden on Pine Street. We have recently received permission for the NYSDEC for the Tivoli Bays bike path project to proceed and look forward to partnering with the Red Hook Trails Committee and Bard College to make that a reality.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### Winterfest will be held on December 8.

The celebration is held from 3 to 5 pm outside of Village Hall and in the Firehouse. This year the festivities will include a hand bell choir, carolers, arts and crafts, a bonfire, refreshments, the tree lighting and a visit from Santa

## RECENT MEDIA RELEASES

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### ROUTE 9G STUDY

Mayor Cranna has sent a letter to Town of Red Hook Supervisor, Sue Crane, supporting the Town's recent request to the New York State Department of Transportation to conduct a traffic study of Route 9G, with hopes to reduce the speed limit from 55 MPH to 45 MPH.

In his letter, Cranna stated, "You and the Town Board are correct to cite the increased traffic due to the establishment of the Two Boots restaurant, the Bard Alumni Building, and the Fisher Center as a need to reduce the speed limit.

As Mayor, I have a responsibility to ensure the safety and welfare of those I represent. Since most of the residents access and exit the Village via 9G, I strongly support the traffic study and am hopeful that the State will consider the Town's logical request."

Cranna also cited his continued frustration and disappointment with the NYS's DOT refusal to conduct traffic study of the New York State Route 9G and Dutchess County Route 78 intersection.

Over the last year, the Mayor has sent two requests for a traffic study of this intersection with the hopes of having a flashing caution light installed at the intersection. In his most recent letter, Cranna cited increased traffic due to the establishment of five new businesses in Tivoli over the last year, as well as the anticipation of Tivoli's Waterfront Park, all of which increase the traffic in and out of the Village.

Cranna stated, "This is an important issue to our Village. I will continue to call upon the State until this issue is appropriately addressed."



### NYSERDA REBATE

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Mayor Cranna announced that the Village was approved to participate in a NYSERDA (New York State Energy Research and Development Authority) rebate program which has allowed the Village to purchase two new Energy Efficient Air Conditioners. The program provided a 75% rebate on the purchase price of two new air conditioning units.

Mayor Cranna stated, "I am grateful to NYSERDA for allowing Tivoli to participate in this program and their continued support of our Village." Cranna continued, "Tivoli made a commitment last year that we would work to improve our environment. This includes Village Hall."

He continued, "The air conditioning units that were in Village Hall when I became Mayor were older units that utilized a great deal of energy and were not cost efficient. The new units will not only be better for our environment, but financially will help to reduce cost."