Hello from the Village of Tivoli Board of Trustees,

We hope you had a lovely autumn and a nice Thanksgiving!

Surely the big news for many residents is the reopening of the County Bridge on Broadway and the end of the Montgomery St. detour and parking restrictions. Some people have asked if this is the look of our new bridge? No! The County will install historic lamp posts, re-clad the parapets in stone, and reincorporate the "Madalin Village" stone. But with winter here, the Dutchess County Department of Public works has informed us that the masonry work will have to wait for spring's higher temperatures. The aesthetics of the completed bridge will be very, very similar to the 1929 bridge which was replaced.

For our part, in September, the Village replaced another 220' of sidewalk along Broadway between the pizzeria and the bridge. Expanding on sidewalk work executed in 2013, there is now a clear and open walk from the bridge into town. In the coming year we hope to continue sidewalk replacement eastward towards Clay Hill Road and possibly along Pine Street (more below).

We were also able to repave the north half of Friendship St., recently rated by a NYS road audit as the Village Street in the poorest condition. The new paving has improved the drainage and emergency access to this area.

Some smaller but significant street work done this fall included repainting of the stamped brick crosswalks at Pine St. and Katherine Lane. Asphalt patching was completed on North Road. The rough, pot-holed exit from the municipal parking lot onto Pine St. now has a smooth new apron.

Improvements to our park continued this season as well. The 35 year old steel basketball backboards have been replaced with 6' wide glass and the court itself has been resurfaced.

The Green Committee and a handful of committed resident volunteers had fun planting another 1,000 daffodil bulbs in several locations on Broadway, Pine St. and Montgomery St. Thank you to everyone who came out to help, especially the children of Montgomery Street!

In October, the Village Board applied for another Community Development Block Grant for Pine Street Improvements Phase II. With the new bus lane and drainage completed on the west end under Phase I, Phase II would allow for drainage improvements and sidewalk replacement all the way from the community garden eastward to North Road. Let's all keep our fingers crossed that we win the funding!
As we enter winter, the Village Board, with a lot of hard leg-work by the Zoning Review Committee, is looking at a number of code updates. These include: a new solid waste code which will enable proper enforcement on garbage cans which are left out all week, new rules governing alterations in the Historic Overlay to protect our architectural resources, code governing accessory apartments, and rules to govern the keeping of hens in the Village. As these code updates are drafted into legislation and are put before the Village Board to become law, there are mandatory public hearings. Watch for these hearings over the next few months, and if any of these topics are of concern to you, please come speak with us!

For the third winter in a row now, renovations of our Historic Watts dePeyster Hall will continue. The zoning office and hallways throughout the building will be patched and painted.

On Tuesday, December 12, at Village Hall, the Dutchess County Department of Emergency Response and the Tivoli Free Library invite all residents to participate in Citizens Preparedness Training. Doors for this free event open at 5:30 PM and the program begins at 6:00 PM. Acquire the tools and knowledge to better prepare for any type of disaster.

The biggest news as always continues to be the ongoing discussion of Tivoli's Water and Wastewater. About 45 residents came, spoke, and listened at a forum with the Village Board on November 16th which went well over two hours. It was a civil and serious discussion of the reality before this community and the choices we face in order to move forward. The November 16th forum was recorded and can be viewed on the PANDA23 website. It will also be posted to the Village website. Please watch this meeting to hear what your fellow Tivolians believe is the best path forward to ensure the repairs and proper maintenance of our water and wastewater systems.

We wish everyone safe and happy holidays! Tivoli's annual Winterfest will take place on Saturday, December 9 from 2:30-4:30 pm. This family event unfolds at the Firehouse with crafts, music, food, wagon-rides and more. Immediately after the tree-lighting we have a further treat this year! At 5:00 pm a theatrical treatment of A Christmas Carol, Charles Dickens' classic story about generosity and sharing, will be performed upstairs at Murray's Restaurant, 73 Broadway. This interactive family show is produced by Red Hook's Theater on the Road, is free and co-sponsored by Historic Red Hook, the Tivoli Free Library, Murray's, and the Village of Tivoli. Thanks to Deputy Mayor Major for spearheading this event and all the businesses and individuals who made donations. We hope to see you there!

Please follow what your Village government is doing every month. We have to make decisions which affect all of us and we'd rather make them in concert with as many residents as possible. Our monthly board meetings are on 3rd Wednesdays at 7pm and meeting minutes and other announcements can be found at http://tivolyny.org. Remember, if you have a concern, problem, or great idea about life in the Village, please contact us!