**VILLAGE NEWSLETTER**

***APRIL 2016 VOLUME 11, ISSUE 2***

Village of Aurora, 456 Main St. Aurora, NY 13026

[www.auroranewyork.us](http://www.auroranewyork.us/)

315-364-7293 (office) 315-364-6857 (fax) 315-364-5239 (DPW)

villageclerk@auroranewyork.us

**VILLAGE HOURS**

Monday: Clerk and Code/Zoning Enforcement Officer 4:00 – 6:00pm

Tuesday: Clerk – 1100am – 2:00pm

Thursday: Clerk – 11:00am – 2:00pm

 Treasurer – 9:00am – 1:00pm

**There are no public office hours on Wednesday or Friday**

Dear Fellow Villagers,

Although it’s pretty quiet around the village in the first three months of the year, and this year has been no different, it hasn’t been quiet in the village offices. As you probably know, Wells College is beginning a large project for a new dormitory, a project that will not only accommodate the anticipated increase in enrollment but will ultimately help to implement a more comprehensive plan for the campus in terms of a concentrated dormitory area and new sidewalks and traffic patterns. The Inns of Aurora is proposing to build a spa complex on the property to the north of Rowland House that will involve the demolition of two houses and a garage. The applications for both projects are available for review in the village office during regular public hours. The boards welcome your comments at public hearings - you can either attend and voice your opinions and concerns or submit them by letter. Watch for these dates.

On another matter, we have sent you letters with your water bill this past year concerning the quality of our water, and another one is included in this billing.  Please read it carefully, especially paragraph two, which explains the problem.  Water usage in the Village is down and, coupled with incomplete sampling by Wells College, has given testing results that exceed the Running Annual Average for a group of contaminants.  It is reassuring to know that the system is monitored closely by the Health Department, and that Wells College is working to correct the problem.

Although summer seems far away with snow on the ground as I write, the swim program is taking shape and will run at the Wells College dock from Monday, June 27th, to Sunday, August 21st from 1 pm to 5 pm. We will continue to have Family Friday late swims to 7 pm, and three weeks of swimming lessons with specific dates to be announced. Speaking of mid-summer, don’t forget the third annual Aurora Reading of the Declaration of Independence on July 4th in front of the Fargo. The Historical Society intends to use the grounds at Patrick Tavern this summer for at least a couple of programs, the first coinciding with New York Pass Through History Weekend and the Garden Club Tour in Aurora June 18th and 19th. Their exhibits are always fun and a great way to introduce kids to what makes Aurora special.

And speaking of kids, Cindy Wilcox tells me that the playground committee (Moms for Play) is still receiving and welcoming donations from individuals and, with a grant from the Cayuga Fund and the much-appreciated support of a community dinner at the Inn, they have hired Ken Delaney Excavation to complete installation of the playground equipment by mid-June. This has been a long haul by a few dedicated people but they have achieved their goal to make Aurora better through their hard work and your generosity. Thank you.

I’m looking forward to seeing us all back outside. Happy Spring, Bonnie

**Attention Students!**

Looking for a summer job? Spend your afternoons on the lake as a lifeguard with the Summer Swim Program. Stop in the village office for an application, or download it off the village website on the Summer Youth Program page, and submit it by May 1st.

**News from the Aurora Historical Society**

The Aurora Historical Society is pleased to have entered into an agreement with the Village of Aurora. This allows the Historical Society to oversee the Village Archives and to make necessary repairs to Patrick Tavern. We are in the process of applying for grants to cover repair costs.

Look for notices in the village bulletin boards (located on the north side of the post office and by the village office) on upcoming programs of historical signigicance to Aurora as well as the Town of Ledyard. Programs are usually held the first Monday of each month and we would love to have you join us! Interested in becoming a member? Contact Village Historian, Dr. Linda Schwab, at lschwab@wells.edu.

**Project Permits**

Please remember that the majority of the Village is part of the National Historic Register. Any projects, no matter how small, must go through the Village Code/Zoning Enforcement Office to ensure proper permits, appropriate Board review, etc. Permits are required for construction, alteration, removal or demolition of any building or structure, including accessory buildings, for excavation, earth filling, and interior work and for conversions of buildings and land from one use to another. When in doubt - ASK!

Before you begin your project, contact the Village Office at 364-7293, or drop by to meet with Code and Zoning Enforcement Officer, Patrick Doyle, on Monday afternoons from 4 to 6pm.

**Water Meter Readings**

The Village DPW alternates quarterly meter readings with village residents. If you have never submitted a water meter reading card or aren’t sure if the DPW has obtained a reading, please call them to schedule an appointment at 364-5239. Estimates are done if an actual read is not recorded and may not reflect actual use. Also, please contact the village office to schedule a final read whenever there is a change in ownership/responsibility for the account.

**Leaf and Brush Pick-Up**

**Monday, April 18th (for one day only, weather permitting) the DPW will have the leaf blower available**.

After May 1st, please bag your leaves for pick-up. Brush should be cut to four-foot lengths or smaller. If you have a large amount of brush or lawn debris, Adam will drop off the Village’s trailer for you to fill as you clean up your yard. Contact Adam at 364-5239. The DPW will do their best to pick up leaves and brush daily, but sometimes they are called away to perform other duties for the Village. Your patience is appreciated.