

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

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

www.auroranewyork.us

315 364-7293 (Office/Code Officer) 315 364-5239 (DPW)

villageclerk@auroranewyork.us

VILLAGE HOURS

THE VILLAGE OFFICE IS OPEN BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

(The Clerk, Treasurer and Code Enforcement Officer are available by office phone/email)

Message from the Mayor

After more than a year in lockdown, it's great to see so many of us have been vaccinated and are venturing out into a more normal social scene in the village. I was very glad that the Village was able to help residents with vaccine appointments, and that many of you benefitted from Clerk Ann Balloni's efficiency. School and church are operating more the way they should, and we – the residents, Wells College, the Inns of Aurora, and our local businesses - have been extraordinarily lucky. We are in a position to again make plans, and take steps for activities we've been denied for so long. I'm happy to announce that the village parks are open again, but with mask-wearing and physical distancing as appropriate. We're in the preliminary phases of putting together the summer swim program – dates and details still being worked out – but we are confident that the program will run this summer. Watch the website for details. The same goes for the annual Memorial Day ceremony and Reading of the Declaration of Independence on July 4th – we are planning that these events will be able to be held.

Speaking of the lake, it's good news that the Aurora Hydrilla Eradication Program conducted by the Army Corps of Engineers is funded again for this year, and waterfront residents will be receiving notification as usual. I also encourage you and your children to check out the opportunities for volunteering with the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network helping to monitor invasive species such as hydrilla, helping to clean up the lake, hand out educational materials, or just learning about our responsibilities in keeping this land and water as beautiful as it is.

In the same vein, and as you may be aware, there's a movement afoot to designate the Finger Lakes Region, which includes Cayuga County, as a National Heritage Area. The feasibility study began in 2019 to determine if the area is "worthy of national recognition, conservation, interpretation, and continued use", and is looking for demonstrated support of residents, businesses, nonprofits, and local, state, and federal agencies. You can see the draft results so far at park-planning.nps.gov/FingerLakes. The National Park Service will be giving a presentation to the Cayuga County Legislature on April 27 and can be viewed through a link on the County website. The 90-day comment period is open until June 1st and you can find out more about the study, as well as leave your comments at <https://arcg.is/0eCKrj>. The Park Service will assess the region's important and unique American stories and how the general public can experience them. I encourage you to check out the site and to leave your comments in support of the Finger Lakes.

Have a wonderful Spring, Bonnie

AURORA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Aurora Mobile Farmers' Market: Tuesday, April 20th

The monthly market at Patrick Tavern for April will take place on April 20th, with both indoor and (weather permitting) outdoor vendors. There is sure to be a delicious Spring menu of reheatable meals; watch for the full menu the week before! Carhop service provided.

As usual over the last couple of months, Patrick Tavern will be open from 4:00-5:00 p.m., with a strong emphasis on pre-order. So far, we are looking forward to breads, including bagels, English muffins, and more; both letterpress and photographic cards; grass-fed, organic ground beef (pre-order only); and a limited selection of fair-trade coffee and chocolate. Other farms and artisans are still planning their offerings.

And now for the "absolutely free" category. If your spring cleaning turns up some beloved books in need of help, bring them along for a consult with the Book Doctor, Rob LoMascolo. If the Wells College Seed Exchange still has free seeds (packets are going fast), Marian will return as well. To further support your garden planning, you can pick up a list of plant starts from Centurion Farm, too. If you'd like to be on the Market mailing list or for information on how to order, just email lschwab@wells.edu.

At the Aurora Historical Society

A new show will be coming to 371 Main St., and it will be a group collaboration drawing on the resources of the Village Archives, The Press of Robert LoMascolo, and the Aurora Masonic Center. Some exceptional treasures will be on display; more news, including Spring/Summer hours, coming soon.

Are you planning work on your home this year? If so, you should know that if it is your primary residence and in the National Historic District, you can apply for tax credit. Read more at <https://www.preservenys.org/tax-credits> Village Historian Linda Schwab (lschwab@wells.edu) is happy to help you document the relationship of your home to the National Historic District, but the application itself comes from you.

To close on a hopeful note: there was a recent scientific study in Germany that found that museums have only half the aerosol particles of a grocery store under comparable conditions. So a museum is one of the safest places you can be!

AURORA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

April 25 Chicken BBQ, 11:00-?

Please email your order to avfd@rochester.rr.com and specify dinners or halves.

DPW

Thank you to everyone who is emailing their water meter readings. We especially appreciate the meter pictures!

Leaf and Brush Pick-Up

The DPW will have the leaf truck available April 26-30 but, for the time being, please bag your leaves for collection.

Street Cleaning

The street sweeper is cleaning Wells Road, Dublin Hill, Cherry Ave, and Court St in the next couple weeks. Please look to the website and the bulletin boards for specific dates.

And remember, per the NYSDEC, NO BURNING March 15-May 15 and there is never ANY burning beyond small, personal use fire pits allowed within the Village.