



## VILLAGE OF AURORA NEWSLETTER

July 2022  
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The Village Office is open by appointment only. To meet with the mayor, please call (315) 364-6857. For the clerk, treasurer, or code enforcement officer, please call (315) 364-7293 or contact us via email:

Mayor (Jim Orman) – [mayor@auroranewyork.us](mailto:mayor@auroranewyork.us)

Clerk (Ann Balloni) – [villageclerk@auroranewyork.us](mailto:villageclerk@auroranewyork.us)

Deputy Clerk (Deborah Brooks) – [deputyclerk@auroranewyork.us](mailto:deputyclerk@auroranewyork.us)

Code Enforcement Officer (Dan Green) – [dgreen13026@outlook.com](mailto:dgreen13026@outlook.com)

To contact Adam Van Horn or Mike White at the DPW, please call (315) 364-5239

**Covid Test Kits are available in the Village Office. Call or email the village clerk if you need any.**

Greetings to all from the Mayor.

I hope you are enjoying summer so far. The first three months of my term have been quite busy. I have been meeting with concerned residents, county, town and village officials, village attorney, consultant, engineer, Wells College and Inns of Aurora. All of those required follow-up with most of it on-going.

And I would like to gratefully acknowledge all the support and assistance that former Mayor Bonnie Bennett has continued to provide me during the transition to Mayor. Her experience and knowledge from her twelve years as Mayor has been invaluable. Thanks, Bonnie.

We also hosted the Cayuga County Association of Villages dinner on May 24<sup>th</sup> at the Wells Golf Club. Their dinners are held nine times a year and each of the nine villages hosts one a year. Ours was the highest number of attendees to date. This may have been because of our beautiful setting and the amazing job that Kevin Fitzgerald and his staff at the golf club did. If you haven't visited the golf club yet it is our newest business venture here and is doing a great job providing excellent food, drinks and friendly service to our community and visitors. Please stop up and say "Hi" to them.

Also as I walk around the Village and look at it (now) through my administrative eyes I continue to feel so blessed to be part of such a beautiful setting that we have to call home. While I have been here all my life I have never lost the appreciation for calling Aurora home.

I have also come to truly appreciate the dedicated and professional staff that this Village is so fortunate to have. From our Clerk, Ann Balloni and Treasurer Debbie Brooks to our DPW crew of Adam Van Horn, Mike White and Kurt Wilmot to our IT guru, Jon Gans, they provide the services to keep our Village functioning. And they do it with a high degree of customer service and caring. Please acknowledge that as you interact with them during the year.

On behalf of our Board of Trustees and myself please enjoy the summer with your families and friends,

Jim Orman

### Memorial Playground

Adam and Mike would like to thank the Zabriskie family for the wonderful job they did cleaning up the Village Memorial Playground. We are all grateful for their dedication.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**July 1 – Blessing of the Boats behind United Ministry at 6:00 p.m.**

**July 4 – Reading of the Declaration of Independence on the porch of the Fargo at 11:00 a.m.**

**July 27 – REV Theatre Company production of the Fisherman & His Wife at the Wells College Golf Club at 7:00 p.m.** (sponsored by the Aurora Free Library and the Village of Aurora)

### MEETING CHANGE

Beginning in July, the Planning Board meetings will be held on the SECOND Wednesday of the month and the ZBA (Zoning Board of Appeals) will move to the FOURTH Wednesday, as needed. We hope this will help streamline the application process by having the Planning Board meet the week following the CPP (Community Preservation Panel), instead of three weeks later. Remember, completed applications must be submitted at least 10 days prior to a meeting for review consideration. Please contact the Code Enforcement Officer before beginning ANY project.

And welcome to three new board members! Mayor Orman appointed Tee-Ann Hunter to the Village Planning Board and Brad Brokaw to the ZBA, as well as Frank Losurdo as an alternate member to the ZBA. We look forward to working with all of you!

### HABs and Hydrilla

All of you should have received a letter and brochure from the US Army Corps of Engineers regarding the Hydrilla treatment schedule this summer. Treatment for this invasive weed begins on June 29 and runs weekly through August 17. Usually, the treatment will occur on Wednesdays, but it is weather dependent. The Cayuga County Health Department is monitoring all treatments and posts the results at <https://www.cayugacounty.us/1540/eradication-project-in-aurora>  
As in past years, Wells College Water Treatment Plant will cease pumping during the treatment process and resume 24 hours post treatment.

### Summer Swim Program- **CANCELED**

Unfortunately, we are not able to have a swim program at the Wells College Dock this year due to a lack of lifeguards. We are hopeful that next year more local students will be interested in acquiring certification. We may be able to have swim lessons mid-late August at the Wells College pool, depending on their lifeguard availability. Check the website and bulletin boards for updates.

### Tax Collection

Village taxes are now overdue. If you did not receive a bill, please contact the village office as soon as possible to limit any additional late fees.

### **Leaf and Brush Pick-Up**

The DPW team thanks residents for bagging leaves and cutting brush to 4- foot lengths as requested. If you have a large amount of brush or lawn debris, Mike or Adam will drop off the Village's trailer for you to fill as you clean up your yard. Contact Mike at 364-5239. The DPW will do their best to pick up leaves and brush routinely. We are also asking residents to keep an eye on catch basins in front of their homes and remove any weeds and debris so that storm water flows unimpeded. **Please do not blow grass clippings into the road as they clog the storm drains.** Your help is greatly appreciated!

### **SCAT Van**

Need a ride to the grocery store or an appointment? The Village of Aurora contracts annually with the Human Services Coalition of Cayuga County to provide SCAT van service to the disabled and the elderly. Any person over 60 or any person under 60 with a disability that prevents them from using public transportation is eligible to use the service. Contact them at (315) 253-3548. There is a suggested donation of \$4.00 for each one-way trip.

### **Village Monthly Meeting Schedule and Board Members**

#### **Community Preservation Panel – First Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.**

Jim Burkett – Chairperson  
Jeff Blum  
Chris MacCormick  
Claire Morehouse  
Julia Rossmann  
Erin Weber (alternate)

#### **Planning Board – Second Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.**

Pat Bianconi – Chairperson  
Pat Foser  
Tee-Ann Hunter  
Michele Murphy  
Pam Sheradin

#### **Board of Trustees – Third Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.**

Jim Orman – Mayor  
Matt Bianconi  
John Miller  
Janet Murphy  
Frank Zimdahl

#### **Zoning Board of Appeals – Fourth Wednesday at 7:00 p.m., as needed**

Karen Hindenlang – Chairperson  
Alexis Boyce  
Brad Brokaw  
Laura Holland  
Jeri Vargo  
Frank Losurdo (alternate)

**Forwarded from Cayuga Lake Watershed Network:  
Ten Things You Can Do to Protect Your Lake  
Rick Nelson, Owasco Watershed Lake Association**

***Please use and share these guidelines for protecting our lake and our watershed:***

- 1. Trash Disposal: You Burn it, You Breathe It.** Open burning is potentially one of the largest sources of airborne toxic emissions in the United States. Burning trash in a burn barrel, incinerator or open fire releases toxic substances into the air. Please recycle, reuse or dispose of trash in an environmentally friendly manner.
- 2. Yard Debris:** Keep all leaves, grass clippings and yard debris out of roads, ditches, streams, and the lake. These items become mulch to the unwanted weeds growing in our lake. Alternatives include recycling grass by mulching or composting.
- 3. Lawn and Garden Fertilizers:** If you absolutely must use a fertilizer, do not use one that contains phosphorus or overfertilize. If you have a commercial lawn service, make sure it is environmentally friendly.
- 4. Pesticides and Household Chemicals:** Use pesticides only if absolutely necessary, only after identifying the best way to control the specific pest. Always apply pesticides carefully and under the appropriate weather conditions.
- 5. Hazardous Materials:** Never pour hazardous chemicals, paint, varnish, and other similar products into a storm drain, the ground, the lake or any water body that feeds into the lake.
- 6. Pets and Wildlife:** Never feed waterfowl or allow others to do so; this can make them sick and encourages them to remain in our area past their normal season. Do not wash pets in the lake.
- 7. Septic Systems:** Do not exceed the capacity of your septic system, and always maintain the system appropriately.
- 8. Medicines and other Chemicals:** Do not flush medicines or other hazardous chemicals down the sink or toilet. Dispose of these items at collection areas.
- 9. Buffers:** Plant bushes, trees, and grass (which act as buffers) near streams and the lake to prevent soil erosion and keep unwanted nutrients from entering the lake.
- 10. Soaps and Detergents:** Use low or no phosphate soaps, detergents and cleaning products. Phosphates promote weed growth in lakes and streams.

*Remember: "Never put anything into the lake that you wouldn't want in your child's next glass of water."*