

Head of the Harbor

500 North Country Road | St. James, New York 11780 | www.HeadoftheHarboNY.gov
Fall 2015



Mayor Douglas A. Dahlgard

Dear Friends,

In the darkness of early Tuesday morning of August 4th a powerful pop up thunderstorm with high velocity winds upended our village. Trees fell, power lines went down and roads were blocked. Power was out in the entire Village and in all the communities in a 35 mile stretch of the north shore. The dawn revealed the amazing and unexpected devastation.

Our Village Hall generator tripped on and people started coming in, our Highway crew started their heavy equipment and an outside contractor was called to aide in assisting in the removal of downed trees. A Village police officer, starting his shift, came to work with his own chain saw.

Our police and highway crews alerted PSE&G to the location of downed power lines and a street map of problems in the village was created. Our phone was manned by our Village Clerk and our Highway Commissioner manned two-way radios and communicated the location and status of our crews. Conference calls involving Town and County

Public Safety covered the area response as PSE&G brought in tree crews and line men to help repair the power lines.

After two long days all roads were basically cleared and by day four most residents had power restored. Work continued on Farm and Hitherbrook Roads as damaged utility poles had to be replaced.

During all this activity someone said "Look up at the cell tower". The powerful winds had blown several pieces of the aluminum skin clear off the tower. A large piece even sailed across Lake Ave.

But, to everyone's happy surprise the Osprey nest remained on top of the tower.

Our Osprey family has been with us for two seasons and we have since learned that osprey migrations are tracked using very small solar powered satellite transmitters. Osprey's migrate south in the early fall funneling down the coast of Maryland to Florida. Cuba and Hispaniola are key migration hubs for Ospreys. Some of the birds hopscotch across the Caribbean eastward across Haiti and the Dominican Republic. From there they clear the rest of the Carib-

bean and wind up in South America. Our Ospreys might spend our winter in the warmth of French Guiana.

Ok, so we have an Osprey family, but several residents have seen Bald Eagles in Stony Harbor or nesting in trees, but are they sure? The NYS DEC knows where a few Eagle nests are on Long Island, but they have not confirmed a sighting in our Village.

Bald Eagles are similar to Osprey's but the Eagles are larger and heavy-bodied. Eagles' wings are broader and held flat in flight, not angled like the Osprey's. Ospreys are the only large raptors with extensive, unmarked white on the belly.

If you have sighted a Bald Eagle in the Village or off our shores, and have a picture, please share it.



ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor Douglas A. Dahlgard
Deputy Mayor Daniel W. White
Trustee Judith C. Ogden
Trustee L. Gordon Van Vechten
Trustee Jeffrey D. Fischer
Village Justice Ellen D. Fishkin

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Acting Justice Oliver Edwards
Hwy. Comm. Judith C. Ogden
Historian Leighton H. Coleman III

APPOINTED BOARD CHAIRS

Architectural Review Board:

Paul Athineos

Joint Coastal Commission:

Robin Herrnstein

Planning Board:

Harlan J. Fischer

Zoning Board of Appeals:

Joseph Bollhofer

Contacts:

Police Department:

DIAL 911

Ask for Head of the Harbor

Chief Martin J. Thompson

631-584-7891

Village Clerk:

631-584-5550x2

Margaret O'Keefe

Village Treasurer:

631-584-5596

Patricia Mulderig

Village Court:

631-584-2034

Christine Wood

Highway Department:

631-584-3701

John Precht

Building Department:

631-584-5602

Gerard Harris

Village Hall

Last summer an exhibit of Tony Frissell’s photographs and other items reflecting Village history was held at Village Hall starting with a packed, festive opening night and running for two weeks after. The event, curated by Village Historian Leighton Coleman III, received wide media attention as current and prior residents attended as well as others from across Long Island.

Our Village received great coverage from Newsday and praise from residents and non-residents about the quality of the presentation including books with stories and photographs relating to the Village history. It was wonderful seeing Village Hall filled and discussions are ongoing about an event in 2016.

Village Hall over the past year and a half has received a long overdue renovation including exterior repairs, cleaning and painting. Many times Village Hall is the first Village building a new comer sees, and we believe it’s important to make a good first impression. Our sincere thanks to resident Christopher Van Tuyl, Nassau Suffolk Lumber, for his generous support.

St. James Fire District

After months of negotiations, Trustees Gordon Van Vechten and Jeffrey Fischer reached an agreement with St. James Fire District for fire and ambulance services. The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the three-year contract.

SJFD includes a first class, fully manned, fully trained, and fully equipped fire department with an advanced life support ambulance service.

The SJFD has a heralded ISO (safety) rating of 3X for fire insurance purposes.

Having covered the Village for many decades, the SJFD knows every road, every house and every source of water. As many of us have experienced, a 911 fire or medical emergency alarm from a resident quickly brings SJFD first responders and Village police followed by whatever personnel and equipment is necessary to respond to the call. The response is impressive and reassuring.

Never delay to dial 911, the safety of our Village residents and their property is paramount.

We suggest you go to www.stjamesfd.org and click on the site’s safety menu about:

- Smoke Detectors - placement and maintenance
- Chimney maintenance
- BBQ and LP gas safety
- Clothes Dryer lint cleaning

Remember to keep hydrants free of snow and house numbers clearly visible from the street.



SJFD Hook & Ladder Truck

Police Matters

Officer Kitzen and family



Head of the Harbor Board of Trustees and its Police Benevolent Association commended and thanked PO A. Kitzen for his 24 years of dedicated service to the residents of Head of the Harbor.

Chief M. Thompson and Mayor D. Dahlgard both advise that with the holidays approaching residents should not leave possessions or keys in cars unattended, even in your own driveways. Crime is rare in the village, but today’s society demands we be careful and alert. In that note if you see something that doesn’t look right please call 911 and request a Head of the Harbor police car. Our police are fully trained and equipped to patrol and respond to your call. This is what they do. For all time sensitive matters dial **911**– do not hesitate.

Chief Martin Thompson announced that the Village will receive a second all wheel drive Ford Explorer police vehicle through a NYS grant. A nine year old Crown Victoria police car is set for replacement and will be sold. Our Village police are now obtaining lower cost gas for patrol cars from a new Town of Smithtown fuel station located in St. James.

Deer Management

Following the January 15, 2014 DEC presentation at Village Hall, the Board of Trustees has had periodic discussions about the deer situation in our village. These discussions resulted in a draft amendment to our Village Code that was the subject of a public hearing opened September 16, 2015. To address questions posed by those in attendance, a DEC representative was also present.

Subsequently, at the October 21, 2015 Trustees meeting, the Board voted to withdraw the proposed amendment and created an ad hoc committee of residents to review the matter and provide recommendations to the Trustees. Many thanks to volunteer Michael Utevsy, who will serve as Chairman. Deputy Mayor Daniel W. White will serve as Trustee liaison to the ad hoc committee.

Highway Department

In 2015, The Hunt and Highland Avenue were repaved. Curbing was repaired on many residential roads. Road repair projects are based on condition, traffic volume and of course availability of funding.

Surprisingly, our Village owns and maintains almost twenty miles of road. There are only two private roads in our Village. Pothole repair, repaving, snow plowing, sanding, sweeping, striping, signage, catch basins and drainage, and roadside maintenance of Village roads all fall under the Village Highway Department.

The Highway Department does some of the maintenance on our Village vehicles and to improve the capabilities Highway Commissioner Ogden plans to upgrade the Highway Yard facility.

In addition, joining with two other villages and the Town of Smithtown, the Village seeks to obtain the use of a high efficiency drain

cleaning truck. This piece of equipment is far too expensive for one or two villages to purchase, therefore a cost sharing arrangement, partially funded by a grant, is being sought.



The Hunt Fall 2015

For All Emergencies

CALL "911"

**FIRE
AMBULANCE
POLICE**

**Tell the dispatcher you reside in the
Head of the Harbor Police District**

**Emergency
Notification**

System

Sign up at:
www.HeadoftheHarborNY.gov
Click on:

Subscribe to our Emergency
Notification System



**500 North Country Rd.
St. James, NY 11780
Phone- 631-584-5550**

**Visit us on the web at:
www.HeadoftheHarborNY.gov**

Mailing label

Mayor's Final Draft 11/15

Head of the Harbor Village Calendar 2015/2016

March 15, 2016 (Tuesday). **Village General Election** . Polls open from 12 noon until 9 PM at the Village Hall.
April 16, 2016 (Saturday). **St. James Fire Department's Annual 5 Mile Race**

Monthly Meetings at Village Hall

Architectural Review Board- 1st Tuesday of each month at 7 PM
Board of Trustee- 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7 PM (no meeting July)
Joint Coastal Commission- 1st Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM (currently convening in Head of the Harbor)
Justice Court- 3rd Thursday of each month at 6 PM
Planning Board - 2nd Tuesday of each month at 5:30 PM (no meeting in July)
Zoning Board of Appeals- 3rd Monday of each month at 7:30 PM if a hearing is scheduled

Refuse/ Recyclables Collection Schedule is administered through the **Town of Smithtown (631) 360-7514**.
Pickup for refuse on Tue & Fri, recycle on Wed. Garbage carter is Garofalo Carting **(631) 231-0999**.
There are **NO** yard waste pickups available to incorporated villages.
The Village Highway Department does not pick up yard waste.