

# Head of the Harbor

500 North Country Road | St. James, New York 11780 | [www.villagehohny.org](http://www.villagehohny.org) | Fall 2014



## Mayor Douglas A. Dahlgard

### Dear Friends,

Our Village is blessed with amazing Fall color. But as we know Winter follows Fall and that means cold weather and snow.

Reviewing snow removal procedure, it was noted the village dispatched our snowplows two dozen times last year to clear the streets and apply salt and sand. We used our own Highway Department supplemented by an outside contractor. This year we will follow the same snow removal procedure.

Our Police Department was awarded a grant that provided a new four wheel drive Ford Explorer. Outfitted with the latest computer and communication equipment, the car has

the capabilities to respond to emergencies during bad weather conditions.

The Village Hall has been improved also. A court grant partially financed a 25 KW generator capable of running the entire building in a power outage.

Please be reminded, PSE&G will handle downed electric wires. But if a tree is down and electric wires are not an issue the Village Highway Dept. can move the tree from the road.

In October the Board of Trustees met with the St. James Fire Commissioners and toured both St. James fire houses and reviewed their fire & safety equipment and emergency procedures.

Finally, the Village Alert System will advise of storm and road conditions via text or email. Please sign up using the Village web site, [www.villagehohny.org](http://www.villagehohny.org).

As we go into this season of longer nights and colder temperatures I remember as a youngster walking under a canopy of a dark sky filled with brilliant stars and planets.

Sadly today, the increase of unshielded outdoor lighting has resulted in light pollution that has obliterated the view of the stars. Light pollution has a negative effect on the existence of creatures big and small.

We should all walk around our property after dark and look up. If we don't see the stars, ask why have they gone. And what can we do about 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

#### **Environment Conservation:**

Merle Neidell

#### **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

## Head of the Harbor's Lofty Residents



Some eagle-eyed residents may have spotted that the Village Hall cell phone tower is topped off with a large twiggy nest. This is the summer home of an osprey family from April to September, and, most importantly, it is a very good sign that we have an ecologically healthy harbor.

Ospreys are fish-eating birds of prey—they swoop down on Stony Brook Harbor and catch fish in their talons. NYS has two main osprey breeding populations found on the coastlines of

Long Island and the other is upstate in the Adirondack Mountains.

An adult osprey, plumed with dark brown feathers above and white feathers underneath, with a white head, and a dark crown, can measure up to 22-25 inches, and can have a wingspan of 4-6 feet. The females are somewhat larger. Ospreys live up to 20 years and a family of ospreys will use the same nest year after year.

Ospreys winter in Florida and as far away as South America. We look forward to our osprey family returning next Spring.

## Charles Smith, Daingerfield House—Leighton H. Coleman III, Village Historian

Head of the Harbor's beloved local landmark the 1775 "Charles Smith, Daingerfield" House on 34 Harbor Hill Road has just undergone an adaptive renovation.

McKim Daingerfield, who passed away in 2011 at age 97 was the house's previous owner. He was a beloved local figure, HOH Roadside Beautification Chair, HOH Architectural Review Board member, and a decorated WWII flight navigator.

This pre-revolutionary homestead was originally built for Charles Smith, by his father, Job Smith, a descendant of "The Bull Rider" & founder of Smithtown, Richard Smith.

Harbor Hill Road runs to the only part of Route 25A that lies on its original colonial era pathway which once served as the route for President Washington's 1790 tour.

Because of the proximity to Historic Route 25A, it is understood that George Washington, visited the house some time on or about Thursday, the 22nd of April, 1790, while traveling from Setauket to Smithtown on his documented Presidential tour of Long Island.

During this tour he personally thanked supporters and members of the 'Culper Spy Ring' for their help in winning the American Revolution. This was the recent subject of television's AMC channel's TURN: Washington's Spies Series.





### Village Roadsides Beautification Committee—John Lendino, Chairman

Projects this year included the painting of street signposts, village message boards, the stone walls, and the iron gates at both Gate Road and Wetherill Lane. The historic gate at Village Hall facing Route 25A was refurbished and rehung.

In early fall, the committee will be planting daffodil bulbs at various intersections throughout the village. Daffodils bloom in late winter and early spring breaking the spell of winter with their large blooms.

A heartfelt thank you to resident Alex Niven and Craig den Hartog for their kind and generous donations; together they donated 550 bulbs. Thanks to all of our dedicated volunteers: Paulette Lust, Theresa O'Brien, Dawn & John DePasquale, Alex Niven, Gordon Van Vechten, and Dorothy Lendino.



We welcome anyone who is interested in joining our committee, and/or if you would like to make a donation of daffodil bulbs, please contact me via email at :

**John Lendino**  
maximext02@yahoo.com



"I am so thankful to the Roadsides Committee for restoring the gate I had donated to Village Hall in honor of my grandparents Mr. & Mrs. Henry Cord (Johannah Murken) Wintjen. The gate was originally part of the Smith Estate on Harbor Hill Rd and embodies the rustic nature that Head of the Harbor stands for."

-Arta Wintjen

### Highway Department Activities—Judith C. Ogden, Highway Commissioner

This has been a very active season with the drainage repair on Moriches Rd, paving of Harbor Hill and Farm Rds. and the striping of the village roads and enhanced stop lines.

A **'DO NOT BLOCK THE BOX'** was added at the intersection of Edgewood and 50 Acre Rd. to improve the exit onto Edgewood Avenue.

This fall the Highway Dept. will focus on tree trimming and cobblestone curb repair.

As a safety precaution, vegetation will be cut back along the right-of-way (ROW) if it interferes with vehicular traffic or restricts visibility. If you have ornamental shrubs along the edge of the road, please prune well off the curb, or the Highway Department may need to do so.

Cobblestone repair has begun and will continue throughout the fall. Much of the damage occurs during winter plowing.

Please help to minimize damage to the cobblestone on our roads. Flag the entrance to your drive, make sure as snow is plowed out at the end of the drive the cobble across the street is not used as a plow stop.



**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.villagehohny.org](http://www.villagehohny.org)  
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.villagehohny.org](http://www.villagehohny.org)**

Mailing label

## **Head of the Harbor Village Calendar 2014/2015**

March 18, 2015 (Wednesday). **Village General Election** . Polls open from 12 noon until 9 PM at the Village Hall.  
April 18, 2015 (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)  
**Environmental Conservation Board** - 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM (no meeting in 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)

**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.