

# **VILLAGE NEWSLETTER**

OCTOBER 2020

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 4

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

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

315-364-7293 (Office) 315-364-5239 (DPW) 315 729-3921 (Code Enforcement Officer)

[villageclerk@auroranewyork.us](mailto:villageclerk@auroranewyork.us)

## **VILLAGE HOURS**

**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

### **Village Election: Congratulations to Thea Miller and Janet Murphy!**

#### **Expanded Farmers' Market!**

This year, the Aurora Farmers' Market and the Village of Aurora are teaming up to provide a longer farmers' market season. After the last Saturday market at the Boathouse on Sept. 26th, the market moves to Tuesday, 4:00-5:00 pm, at the Patrick Tavern parking lot (corner of Main St. and Dublin Hill Rd, across from St. Patrick's Church).

The Mobile Market format emphasizes ordering ahead for pick-up. It's ideal for people who want to avoid crowded stores. There's easy parking and service right to your car if you wish. Check it out even if you forget to order; there will usually be extras available. See a complete list of vendors on the Aurora Historical Facebook page.

More of your favorite Saturday vendors will be making the switch to Tuesday, and some special events are in the works, so be sure to follow the news here and around town.

#### **Zoning and Building Permits**

Permits are required for construction, alteration, improvements, removal or demolition of any building or structure (including accessory buildings). Also, roofs, excavation, earth filling, interior work, conversions of buildings, and land from one use to another. Projects that can be seen from a public way, including from Cayuga Lake, or that alter the footprint of a structure require Community Preservation Panel/Planning Board review.

Applications for consideration before the Community Preservation Panel/Planning Board must be received in the Village Office **at least 10 days** prior to a meeting. Only when an application is declared complete by the Code Enforcement Officer, will it then move to the required Board(s) for review. Zoning Application Forms, required for all building permits, are available on the Permit/Applications page of the village website.

**The Community Preservation Panel meets the first Wednesday of each month and the Planning Board meets the fourth Wednesday of the month.**

Before you begin any project contact the Village Office at 364-7293 or the Village Code Enforcement Officer at 315 729-3921.

## From the Department of Public Works

**LEAF BLOWER** pickup dates: October 19 – December 18 (weather permitting).

### **Leaves/brush must be in bags for pickup prior to October 15.**

Please pile brush and leaves separately, no stones in piles, and help us keep catch basins free from leaves and grass clippings. Brush should be in four-foot lengths or smaller. If you have a large amount of brush or lawn debris, Mike White 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 daily, but sometimes they are called away to perform their other duties. Your patience is appreciated.

**KAYAK RACKS:** The DPW are putting the kayak racks away for the winter. If you have not already done so, please remove your kayak from the village racks ASAP. Thank you for your cooperation!

**DIG SAFELY** has provided the village with materials to help guide you through your project. If your project requires any type of excavation, please contact the village office or the Department of Public Works.

## News from the Aurora Historical Society

Yes, the Aurora Historical Society/Village History Center is open! To make an appointment, call or text (315)-246-1130. The show "Scoundrels and Scamps" was featured online, but some especially interesting items were omitted, so that you could have the pleasure of discovering them for yourself. Besides, the stories are great fun, and bear re-telling.

Speaking of stories, please visit the Village of Aurora Historical Society's Facebook page (<https://m.facebook.com/Village-of-Aurora-Historical-Society-369255793807012/>). The current series connects one of Aurora's freedom-seeker families to Civil-War-era events ranging from Lincoln's assassination to Emily Howland's work at Camp Todd, teaching "contrabands." Find out where the story goes next!

## Message from the Mayor

Dear Fellow Villagers,

Welcome to fall after a summer when almost nothing was the same - or even what we expected! Many of us sorely missed the Summer Swim Program and I am particularly sorry that we couldn't offer those jobs our local youth depend on for the summer. Our parks remain closed due to our inability to oversee the Covid-19 rules put in place by New York State, and the Village Office will continue to operate by appointment rather than regular office hours. But, on the bright side, even with all our summer visitors, we have remained free of a virus outbreak and Wells College and Southern Cayuga School have been able to open. The Inns report that they have had their best summer ever, proving to be a prime and safe getaway for those escaping from larger population centers. I'm sure you know by now that they have purchased the former Pumpkin Hill restaurant, and the spa is scheduled to open in the beginning of next year.

Village business has been moving somewhat slower due to the effects of Covid-19. We were able to move forward with the repaving of Wells Road and Cherry Ave because we have been putting money in reserves for it for several years, but the reduction in sales tax revenue will have a significant effect on our finances, as it will in all municipalities in the state. The major study of the impact on the Village of the Inns' development, the Generic Environmental Impact Study or GEIS, was halted in March, but the consulting firms involved have resumed work and a second public hearing will occur this fall. The results of this study will give us a basis for the revision of our current Comprehensive Plan and lead to amending the zoning code. On the water front, we are still waiting for New York State to open the grant application round for this year, but I think you all know that it may be a very long wait; in the meantime Cayuga County Water and Sewer Authority, having received

funding from the County Legislature to pursue planning for a Cayuga County Water District, which would include Aurora, is preparing the required Map, Plan and Report on the district and hopes to take the project to the voters next spring. On the election front, after a six-month postponement we were finally able to hold our village election. Congratulations to Janet Murphy and Thea Miller for their election as Village Trustees. For those of you who wish to keep up with village business, I remind you of the village website, [auroranewyork.us](http://auroranewyork.us), which is updated nearly daily.

Lastly – and reluctantly, just a reminder to make sure to get your car off the street if snow is expected. It helps us plow the streets more efficiently and not have snow piles that restrict parking. Remember that sidewalk snow and ice removal is the property owner's responsibility, but, if possible, we will help keep sidewalks clear with the small plow after the streets are taken care of.

Thanks to all of you for doing your part, Bonnie

## Village Government Officials

See the Village website and bulletin boards for information on meeting times and location.

### Community Preservation Panel – 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday

Jim Burkett – Chair

Jeff Blum

Chris MacCormick

Claire Morehouse

Julia Rossmann

### Village Board of Trustees – 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday

Bonnie Apgar Bennett – Mayor

Grace Bates

Matt Bianconi

Thea Miller

Janet Murphy

### Zoning Board of Appeals – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday

(as needed)

Karen Hindenlang – Chair

Alexis Boyce

Laura Holland

Jeri Vargo

Vacancy

### Planning Board – 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday

Pat Bianconi - Chair

Pat Foser

Michele Murphy

Pam Sheradin

Frank Zimdahl