

The Piermont Newsletter

VOLUME LI NO. 3

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FALL 2022

Piermont Celebrates its Heritage

At 5pm on September 17th, at the corner of Ash Street and Piermont Avenue, eight panels celebrating the Village of Piermont will be unveiled. The panels, placed at either side of the beautiful cast bronze Gair Memorial, are the final addition to the park, designed in 2020 by Piermont Parks Commissioner, Dan Sherman. Funding for the park was provided by the Village of Piermont and two private donors.

The groundwork for the park involved the laying decorative paving, setting in plantings, tables and chairs, and then removing and replacing the dying trees with a pair of healthy swamp white oaks.

Now the finishing touch - The panels were brought to fruition by a committee of dedicated Piermonters after a commit-

ment was made by the Historical Society, the Chamber of Commerce and the Village Board.

The committee, led by Barbara Scheulen, included Kate Buggeln, Betsy Franco-Feeney, Margaret Grace, Steve Kulovits and Dan Sherman.

The eight Piermont panels were funded by the Village of Piermont, the Piermont Historical Society, M&T Bank, The Chamber of Commerce, and community donors.

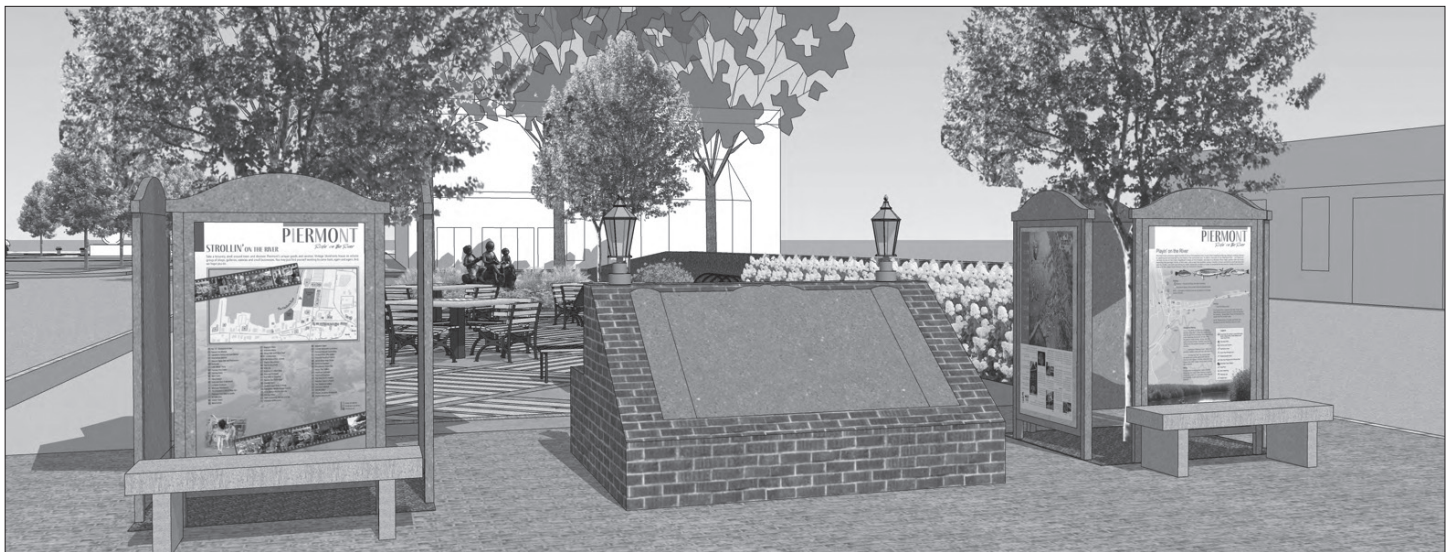
The display tells the story of Piermont as a river village, a railroad town, and a special place of historic interest. Now both residents and visitors can easily learn about Piermont's past while they enjoy the village as a vibrant destination for shopping, dining, and exploring the

remarkable natural features of this stretch of the magnificent Hudson River.

The committee dug into the Historical Society's archives and worked with fellow Piermonters who contributed photographs, researched information, and assisted in the writing and editing of the panels. The graphic design work was done by True Color Design and BFF Photography and Art.

The panels describe the natural and inspirational history of the Hudson, and its importance to our young nation. Reading them, you'll learn about the role Piermont played in the American Revolution and Second World Wars, about our railroad heritage, and the factories that preceded Piermont Landing. The panels are

continued on p.2



Gair Memorial Park Design by Dan Sherman

Saturday, September 17th - Piermont Heritage Day

12 noon – Dedication of Thomas Pomplin Memorial in Flywheel Park

5pm - Unveiling of Piermont Panels at the Gair Memorial on Main Street

Piermont Reflections—

Slow Down!



If you have driven west on South Piermont Avenue early in the morning, you may have seen her. She's the gal who sometimes appears to be in her pajamas, holding up a sign asking you to SLOW DOWN!

Her name is Rondi, and I met her at a recent Village Board meeting, where she implored the Village Board to help her get people to stop using South Piermont Avenue as a speedway. Rondi reported that recently a driver toasted her with a bottle of beer he was drinking as he was barreling past her. She has clocked the Coach bus flying by at 45mph and has called in several complaints to their headquarters. In response, the Piermont police set up an electronic speed tracking sign. It helped, but not a lot. Chief Hurley reported that 75% of the speeding tickets given on that stretch of road are issued to Piermonters.

On the other side of the creek, along Ferdon Avenue, there are signs asking for drivers to slow down as well. The stop sign at Rockland Road has had some traffic-calming effect, but once past it, people are hitting the gas. Hudson Terrace is experiencing similar speeding dangers, in addition to the fury that exhibits itself at the Ash Street turn.

River Road in Grandview has lately been spared these problems because of the hellish condition of the roadway as the county lays in new pipes and drainage basins. But their time is coming, this winter, when the project wraps up.

I lived on South Piermont Avenue in the late 70's and was terrorized by guys in hot rods leaving the factory after their shift, tearing past my house. My cousin Tom from North Dakota was visiting me there and suggested I just put a cinder block in a cardboard box and set it out in the middle of the street. "That'll stop 'em", he insisted. I never did. And here we are. SLOW DOWN!—Margaret Grace

Piermont Celebrates continued from page 1

full of interesting historic photographs. Stand next to the panel featuring early businesses on Main Street, then look to the south toward today's Piermont Main Street - it's fascinating.

You can follow the Piermont Historical Society's walking tour using its panel as a beginning. Then download the QR code on the upper left corner to guide you on your way. All of the panels have QR codes, which act as links to additional resources for information about the topics depicted on the panels. If you are a visitor, you can rely on the map panels to locate shops, galleries, restaurants and parking. There are also maps to guide you to walking trails, playgrounds and fishing spots. There will be fundraising in the coming months to create a signage plan to identify parking and points of interest in the village.

With the addition of these panels at Main and Ash Street, The Piermont Historical Society has created a focal point, a centerpoint in Piermont's downtown – a place where Piermonters and visitors can share a fuller appreciation of this, our unique, historic village on the shores of the mighty Hudson River.—Margaret Grace



Richard and Lola Esnard were awarded a New York State Hudson Heritage Award by Senator Elijah Reichlin-Melnick for their dedication to preserving the history and heritage of Piermont.—Photo by Betsey Franco Feeney

This Newsletter is published three times a year by the Piermont Civic Association, Box 454, Piermont, NY 10968

Editor: Margaret Grace

Contributors to this issue: Steve Kulovits, Jackie White, Joan Gussow, Thomas Hughes, Marthe Schulwolf, Joanne Ottaviano, Alexis Stark, Betsy Franco Feeney, Barbara Scheulen, Lynn Manzione, Peggy Kurtz.

Advertising: Patricia Lukes 845-521-6005

This issue of *The Piermont Newsletter*, and many past issues, can be found online at

<http://www.piermont-ny.com/newsletter/>

Thanks to website manager Richie Stark.

The Happy Dog Gallery



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Meet Your Neighbor—Deputy Mayor Mark Blomquist

If you have occasionally (or regularly!) attended a Village board meeting in the last decade or so, you may have noticed that, while other trustees have come and gone, the trustee sitting to the right of the Mayor has never changed. That's Deputy Mayor Mark Blomquist, whose deep background in finance has made his continuing presence essential in a small village where the budget is always a serious issue. When Mark finishes his present term, he will have served for 14 years, which will tie him with former trustee Fred Devan as our longest serving trustee. He currently serves as the liaison to both our Police and Public Works Departments.

Mark's essential, if undramatic role on the village Board is in striking contrast to another role he plays in village life. He is one of those truly heroic members of Piermont's Fire Department who serve on Empire Hose's Underwater Rescue unit, one of the men and women who plunge into the Hudson's cold dark waters to find whatever has fallen or jumped into them. Piermont's dive team is admired up and down the river, conducting underwater searches from the George Washington Bridge to the Bear Mountain Bridge.

Actually, Mark's involvement in diving long preceded his career in finance. Born in Santa Monica, he was moved across the country and back until he was 11 by his father's changing employment. It was then, when the family settled in Baldwin, Long Island that he began to dive. By the time he was 16 he was a certified diver, his fascination with going underwater at least partially linked to the excitement of being able to look over a famous (or infamous) wreck at the bottom of the ocean, what is called "wreck" diving.

In 1979, Mark began attending SUNY Albany from which he graduated in 1983 with a degree in History. Following college, he took a job in Manhattan designing investments for high-net-worth individuals and earned an MBA in International Finance at St. John's University, graduating as Valedictorian. When he was advised that he might be laid off because the '87 crash threatened his job, he seized the opportunity and departed for a 3-month trip to explore reefs and



Amy and Mark Blomquist. Photo courtesy of Mark Blomquist

wrecks in the South Pacific. There he experienced the thrill of diving into crystal-clear waters where both the visibility and the variety of fellow organisms often seemed infinite.

Returning to the U.S., he spent three years at Tulane Law School, and another year in New Orleans, practicing law and taking long, long drives east to dive on wrecks off the Florida coast. Returning to New York in 1992, he joined Landmark Financial Corporation, where after 30 years he is currently a Managing Director. He also took a diving honeymoon with his new bride Amy Samiljan, whom he had first met at SUNY Albany.

He and Amy, who was then working in advertising, lived three years in Manhattan and two more in Jersey City before moving to Piermont in 1997. Long active in politics, Mark soon became co-chair of the Piermont Democratic Committee. In 2007, he was induced to run for the Village Board by Chris Sanders who was then running for Mayor. They both won.

Mark has also been with Piermont's Fire Department since 2006 when Chief Danny Goswick, learning that Mark was a diver, unrelentingly set out to recruit him for the dive

team. Mark's protests that at 45 he was too old were futile. Because he wasn't, and sixteen years later, he still isn't. He also became an EMT in 2017.

But diving in the Hudson is nothing like vacation pleasure-diving on wrecks; taking on our river meant learning a whole new set of skills. You don't dive into the Hudson to "look" for anything because there is no visibility, and you can only feel. And of course, Mark is not the first to note that people have been dropping trash into the river since Henry Hudson arrived in 1609. This means a gloved diver must feel his way along the bottom, trying to find among the trash whatever it is he is looking for, guided either by a tether held by a person on shore, or using a grapnel system, which is a two-diver line stretched between two grappling hooks, the hooks being successively moved to ensure the area being searched is thoroughly covered. And if that doesn't sound like something you'd like, Mark insists that while he was scared at first, he now really enjoys it, and currently serves as one of the Department's Dive Chiefs.

Meanwhile, Amy has become a marketing executive for the Vitamin Shop and was also recruited into the Fire Department in 2016 as an EMT by Danny Goswick who, she says, shamed her into it! Both of their sons, Timothy and James, joined the fire department when they were 16. And, of course, the whole family has regularly continued to spend vacations far from the murky Hudson, diving on wrecks in much clearer waters.

—Joan Gussow

Warm Wishes for a Lovely Fall

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Yard Waste Polluting Our Waterways

Our waterways are among our most precious resources. Yet our stewardship of these marvelous creeks, streams, and rivers leaves a lot to be desired.

Most of us are aware of the problems caused by plastic and other pollutants and would not dream of dumping toxic waste into our waterways. Yet many still believe that it is okay to deposit grass, leaves, and other yard waste into bodies of water. Or that it is okay to leave yard waste by the curb, where it can wash into the storm drains and end up in our waterways. We assume this is okay because we are dealing with organic matter. This could not be more mistaken.

Discharging ANYTHING other than storm water into waterways is detrimental and generally illegal.

Why does dumping leaves, grass and yard debris cause harm?

1) Nutrients in yard waste, including nitrogen and phosphorous, are released into the water during decomposition. Algae feed on these nutrients, leading to harmful algae blooms and fish kills. No one wants to see a sign that says "BEACH CLOSED - TOXIC ALGAE BLOOM."

2) The debris settles and smothers the bottom of the waterway, creating a muck known as "black mayonnaise." This layer of mulch smothers the normal vegetation and destroys the aquatic habitat for insect larvae, shellfish, and bottom fish. It leads to a decline in survival of juvenile fish.

3) The Hudson River is one of the two principal spawning grounds for fish on the East Coast and its quality as a fish habitat is deteriorating.

4) The lack of normal vegetation and the rising sediment creates increased erosion at the banks and greater flood potential. It also makes harbors difficult to navigate.

What can you do to help this situation?

- Never put yard debris near a storm drain and never discard anything into a waterway. NO LEAVES, NO GRASS, NO HEDGE TRIMMINGS, NO TREE LIMBS!

- Don't blow clippings or leaves into waterways or storm drains. You can leave your grass clippings on the lawn, where they will act as fertilizer. You can get a shredding blade for your mower and use it to shred your leaves, which can act as mulch or fertilizer. You can compost all your yard debris. All of this

organic matter can feed your landscape, where it is a positive. But, in our waterways, it is a negative. For more guidance on mulching and composting, go to Cornell Cooperative Extension or the NYSDEC.

- If you don't want to use your leaves as mulch or compost, our wonderful DPW provides composting bags and picks up yard waste throughout the season. For more information, check the Village of Piermont website.

- Make sure your lawn service is properly disposing of all your yard waste.

- Create a buffer between your lawn and any waterway by planting native plants.

Cleaner, healthier waterways start with us. Make a difference! Now go out and enjoy the water.—*Thomas Hughes*

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The Turning Point and John Mcavoy

We Piermonters (and all area music lovers) are truly blessed to have a music destination that has seen forty-seven members of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame play on its stage. Of course, I am talking about The Turning Point. The Piermont Newsletter sat down with owner John McAvoy for an update.

John first opened a music venue in 1976, in the location that housed Xavier's Restaurant (now Saba Sushi). He came to Piermont because he could afford it. The owner told him "Clean it up and when you open, you can start paying me rent". It was a restaurant that according to John "let its hair down" later in the evening and welcomed local musical talent. The original restaurant held thirty-three seats. The cook and buyer (Sara and Alan Kravitz) would later open Piermont Community Market. On Sundays, they would have a musician who played the lute. A Grandview resident came in to eat and listen. He also just happened to work for New York Magazine and when he ran an article, things took off quickly.

In 1978, John purchased the building that houses The Turning Point today. There had been several previous incarnations; The Dug Out, Hurban's, DiMayo's, Ding Dong and at the time John purchased it, The Piermont Pub. It took three years to get the upstairs open (1981) and another 4 years (1985) to open the lower section that we all know today. Originally, it was a place for local musicians to come and play. The hat was passed for tips to pay them as there was no fee at that time. Things changed in 1984 when the sailing vessel Clearwater came to Piermont. Pete Seeger and the crew were looking for a place to spend the afternoon and ended up at the Turning Point. A volunteer on the vessel at that time happened to be Tom Wolke, a booking agent. Wolke was able to bring talent who were playing NYC, like The Bottom Line, and then moving on to Boston. In between, they would stop at the Turning Point. With this, The Turning Point became a true music venue. People came to see the acts. John ran the restaurant until 2009. He admits he was not a great restaurateur. Ultimately, one of his staff took over the restaurant and Tequilla Sal y Limon was born.

I asked John to share some of his favorite performers and Turning Point moments. He has so many stories and memo-



John Mcavoy with Melanie and her son. —Photo courtesy of John Mcavoy

ries. Here are a few.

Favorite performers

- Bill Monroe – (the grandfather of blue grass)
- Les Paul
- Pete Seeger
- Johnny Johnson – (a piano player who hired Chuck Berry to be his guitarist)
- Levon Helm, Rick Danko, and Garth Hudson (all members of The Band)
- Eric Burdon (The Animals, War)
- Dave Davies (The Kinks)
- Mitch Ryder
- Dave Mason (Traffic)
- Roger McGuinn (The Byrds)
- Peter Tork (The Monkees)

Favorite Turning Point Moments

- Levon Helm and Rick Danko of The Band came to John's house to see if they could get an advance on their upcoming Turning Point date so they could travel to New York City.
- Kris Kristofferson played several years around Labor Day. One year, his guitar player's father passed away and couldn't perform with Kris. Kris hadn't done a solo show in 20 years and almost backed out

but decided to perform solo anyway.

- Arlo Guthrie made the Turning Point a stop on his 25th anniversary of Alice's Restaurant tour.
- Richie Havens was looking for a photograph to use on one of his album jackets. He was looking for a wishing well. John took him for a ride around Piermont and Richie ended up with a photo of the Mine Hole that he used on one of his albums.
- John Entwistle, bass player of the Who, came to TP for a solo show. He showed up with the same rack of equipment that he would use in an arena. It was so loud that all the liquor bottles on the bar shelves were rattling and nearly falling off their perches.

Fortunately, The Turning Point survived the Covid 19 pandemic even though it closed for fifteen months. A fundraiser and a grant from the Small Business Administration certainly helped. Since the grant requires a 3-year commitment to stay in business, John expects the Turning Point to continue offering great music into the near future. He's been doing this for 46 years and says that he would very much like to hit the 50-year mark. I know that many of us share in that desire as well!

Thank you for all the great music, John! —Steve Kuloviits

Calling All Citizen Scientists!

Let's be honest. Piermont is all about the river. The town's allure, beauty and charm revolve around it rolling placidly along or churning angrily during a storm. Then there's the everything in between. The ebb and flow that are difficult, if not impossible to appreciate in real time. Until now. Because there's a terrific project going on in Parelli Park and you, YES YOU, can help make it happen. All it takes is twenty seconds of your time and a cellphone. It's called Chronolog and it creates a crowd sourced timelapse of changes in the river. No apps, no accounts, nothing to download. Simply place your phone in the Chronolog bracket to ensure proper alignment, take a picture, and uploaded it to the Chronolog website. Your photo is then added to the time-lapse video that reveals secrets the river keeps, right in plain sight.

The project is spearheaded by Mark



The Chronolog in Parelli Park is located behind the parking lot across from the Fire House, on the dock near the Rowing Club's boats.

—Staff photo

Silberstein, Commissioner of Education & Outreach at the Piermont Waterfront Resiliency Commission. His goal is to monitor changes in the water level and shoreline erosion over days, weeks, months, and, if the project is successful, even years. As an Earth Science teacher for 25 years, Silberstein is championing the project because, he says, science is about collecting data. Numbers and pictures are compiled and analyzed until one recognizes patterns and draws conclusions. Through the data compiled by the Chronolog, he hopes to bring awareness to the daily and seasonal interplay between the weather, tides, and climate change. He positioned the Chronolog to capture the shoreline so that participants could watch the river 'breathe.' The tide, he enthused, goes up and down almost like a chest breathing. It's amazing, he continued, when sheets of

continued on p.12

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Piermont's Train Station - Closed But Not Forgotten

Although our beautiful Station has been closed since Hurricane Ida destroyed our floors and compromised its stability, the Village and the Piermont Historical Society have been working on finding both short term and long term solutions.

There are several reasons for the disastrous effects on the Station. First, the water from the mountain hits the Erie Trail and rushes down the path. The culverts are not able to divert enough of the water from heading south toward Ash Street and the Station. Recent changes to the landscapes

west of the trail add to the problem.

Additionally, Orangetown runs a large sewer pipe under the path from Nyack. This wastewater heads to the treatment plants in Orangetown but because of the force of the water, the manhole just north of the station often becomes a geyser, adding to the stream that makes it way to Ash Street and to the Station. There are discussions with Orangetown, Rockland County and New York State about how to alleviate this ongoing, unsanitary, issue.

The Village has been working with FEMA to produce a short term solu-

tion. This will include replacing floors, adding support at the foundation and providing some flood mitigation by grading the land around the Station and providing landscaping to keep the water away from the building. As of this writing, thanks to the work of the Mayor's office, we anticipate that FEMA will approve funding very soon.

For the long term, the Mayor, the Village Board and the PHS Board, will be considering raising the Station at the same site.

Join us when we open again!
—Barbara Scheulen

Update on Rockland Community Power Program

The Village is planning to join the next round of the Rockland Community Power program, which will make clean energy for electricity available to residents and small businesses at competitive, fixed rates. Due to the historic volatility of the energy market, we are looking to start the program

in the spring of 2023. The program administrator is working to ensure a start date that will maximize the benefits for all. In the meantime, the program has saved customers in the current program \$6.5 million and avoided more than 42,135 metric tons of CO2 emissions. —Peggy Kurtz



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You've Got Mail

Dear Neighbor:

Your House is in a Flood Zone.

Respectfully,

Nathan Mitchell, Chair, Piermont Waterfront Resiliency Commission*

* Gist of letter sent to many residents in Piermont's uphill flood zone. *Not the actual letter.* *

Hey Nate!

1. Is my house going to flood?
2. How long before it floods?
3. What are you going to do to fix it?

Thnx,

Everyone in Piermont**

**Top three questions Nate gets regarding flooding. *Not an actual letter, either.* *

Is my house going to flood? *Very Likely.* Think you're safe up there on the hillside? Storm surge from Super-Storm Sandy didn't affect you? Well, it's been ten years since Sandy and the climate's changing. Rain events are longer and stronger. Water careening down the hill overwhelms drainage ditches and causes erosion and mudslides. New paths are carved. After every storm the channels change. During the next storm the drainage will be different. Didn't get flooded today? Tomorrow you just may be holding the short straw.

How long before it floods? *Don't know.* Much of Piermont's hillside is in the 500-year flood zone, homes closer to the river, in the 100-year flood zone. Climate change has revised those numbers to a once in 5-year and a once yearly risk of flooding, respectively. Mitchell's letter was intended to alert homeowners in the 500-year zone of the increased risk. Residents in the 100-year zone were, presumably, already aware of the danger.

What are you going to do to fix it? This question has two parts: **What are you going to do to fix it, Nate?** This one is out of your control. **What are you going to do to fix it, homeowner?** Within your control, so let's start there. First admit, and many out there don't, that there's a prob-

lem. Second, get flood insurance. Your homeowner's policy does not cover floods. Water damage (burst pipe/appliance leak) is not 'flood' damage. Only flood insurance covers flood damage. The following is from the FEMA website. (Perhaps you ought to sit for this.) *When just one inch of water in a home can cost more than \$25,000 in damage, flood insurance can be the difference between recovery and financial devastation.* Planning on disaster relief? *Federal disaster assistance is only made available when there is a Presidential disaster declaration, and most flood events do not result in a declaration.* Disaster assistance typically comes in the form of loans that must be repaid – with interest! Disaster relief is never enough to restore your home to pre-disaster conditions nor replace household items.

If your home is in a designated flood zone, you qualify for FEMA insurance. The coverage limits are \$250,000 per building and \$100,000 for contents. Not in a designated flood zone or desire higher coverage? Contact your home or auto insurance agent. For renters, there is contents-only-flood-insurance.

What is the Village doing to fix it? Quite a lot, actually. During the last week of October there will be an informational community meeting on the topic at Village Hall. In the meantime, you've been led to the proverbial water. Buy Flood Insurance today. A major hurricane is coming. It really is. And next time, you just may be in its path.—*Jackie White*

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What a great summer of music in Flywheel Park!



The Piermont Civic Association's 2022

Bob Samuels Summer Concert Series



Summer moon over concert in the park.—Photo by Barbara Scheulen



Photo by Lynn Manzione



Photo by Jack Miller



A lawn of revelers.—Photo by Lynn Manzione

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**It takes a Village—
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From The Library

As summer turns to fall, the Piermont Library has a new season of programs and events for the community!

We are so happy that our monthly art shows are once again happening in person. For September, we have Nyack artist Beth Riso's oil paintings of the Hudson Valley and Cape Cod on display- perfect for these golden end of summer days. For October, Piermont artist Cecilia Lotse will share her watercolor paintings of local scenes. November will bring the elegant photographs of Blauvelt artist, Michael Garber. It is wonderful to once again have a new exhibition bringing our beautiful gallery spaces to life each month. Stop in anytime to enjoy the art.

December will see a return of our popular annual holiday art show Gift of Art. This festive community event is a group show featuring small works by local artists who have previously exhibited at the library. Pieces are smaller and priced more affordably, perfect for holiday gift-giving. The show features a gala opening reception complete with sumptuous treats donated by local establishments as well as live music. A portion of all proceeds is donated to the library.

For adults in September, we will offer free health screenings by Nyack Montifiore Hospital in September. We have the latest in our popular Create and Sip Art Classes for Adults with Alexis Starke: Hundertwasser. These events include an illustrated introduction to an inspiring artist and a fun art project that could be enjoyed by all levels of experience. Wine and chocolates are included to enhance the experience. If you have been meaning to join a book club, our Adult Book Discussion Group is always welcoming new members to read and discuss an engaging variety of books.

October will bring Honoring Indigenous Futures with Storytelling: Oil & Water will be a documentary film showing and discussion. October will also offer a band fundraiser and a change to meet local author and Tappan resident Joe Badala-

mente for a talk and signing of his new book, "The King & Me," a coming-of-age story framed between our cultural obsessions with celebrity and conspiracies.

September and October will see another fun fundraising event for the library- our Library Book Sale! Come by to find a treasure trove and books and other media all affordably priced. Our last sale was a huge success and we're sure this one will be as well.

Fall will see the return of two favorite programs for kids with Ms. Nancy, our beloved children's librarian- story hour on Monday mornings and Preschool Story and Craft on Thursday afternoons. Ms. Nancy will also be offering book clubs for older children and Friday Night Library Bingo come October.

Our popular series of Art Classes for Kids will resume in September with Alexis Starke. These classes are offered on different days for students in grades 1 – 12. Our theme this fall is Art of the Pacific Islands. We will explore a range of materials and techniques and draw inspiration from a variety of sources from contemporary artists, art history, science, and the natural world. All materials are provided. — Alexis Starke

Learning Together with Wonder



Kindergarten Play Day

Saturday, October 15, 10am to 12pm

Four and five year olds are invited to visit Blue Rock School for a morning of storytelling, crafts, and play while their parents learn about our progressive approach to education infused with the arts, nature, and imagination.

Fall Info Session & Campus Tour

Saturday, November 19, 10am to 12pm

Contact us to register or schedule a private tour
admissions@bluerockschool.org or 845-535-3353

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Front Line Report

From the Piermont Police:

School is open!
Police Chief Hurley sends residents an urgent reminder to never pass a school bus in either direction that is stopped on the roadway to pick up students. The 10' area around the school bus is the most dangerous – be vigilant and save lives.

For parents with children walking to school - remind them to use sidewalks whenever available. If they must walk in the street, always walk facing traffic.

Piermont Police Athletic League (PAL) Fall Programs at the Community Center, located at 204 Hudson Terrace, include Boxing, Basketball, Pickleball, Aikido and Chess. To view the most up-to-date schedule, go to: piermont-ny.gov and click on PAL.

From the Piermont Department of Public Works

The DPW's Leaf Collection will start the week of October 24th and will run through to December 2nd. All loose-leaf piles should be placed at the edge of your property. All leaf pile should be clear of rocks, brush and any other debris which could either clog or cause damage to our collection unit. Leaves that are to be bagged should be placed

in biodegradable bags. The DPW supplies these bags to Village residents free of charge and can be obtained from the DPW garage during regular business hours while supplies last. The Department of Public works encourages the use of the biodegradable bags and will not collect leaves that are placed in plastic bags. Please do not block any sidewalks with loose or bagged leaves. This creates an unsafe condition by forcing pedestrians to walk in the roadway.

From The Piermont Fire Department

On September 17th, residents are invited to join the Piermont Fire Department as they honor Firefighter Thomas Pomplin, a Piermont resident and the first firefighter to die in the line of duty, in Rockland County in 1854 after responding to a fire call in Nyack. A memorial honoring Pomplin will be unveiled at Flywheel park at noon.

The Department is actively seeking volunteer fire department members and Emergency Medical Technician trainees for community ambulance calls. EMT training classes will start in February. Stop by the Piermont firehouse any Monday evening at 7pm for more information.



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Citizen Scientists continued from page 6

ice break up into little pieces. There is always a show going on. Silberstein’s excitement and passion for the river are palatable. His enthusiasm so contagious I (almost) regret not taking Earth Science in high-school.

Nathan Mitchell, Chair of the Piermont Waterfront Resiliency Commission, hopes the Chronolog project will interface with local schools. The goal is to engage both kids and adults to view the riverfront in a new, interactive way. Ideally the Chronolog will raise awareness about resiliency issues in Piermont, as the ongoing history of conditions are documented and archived.

The Piermont Waterfront Resiliency Commission has funded the project for one year. If enough people participate and funding is continued, the chronology may assist in demonstrating the reality of rising sea levels. Since such changes happen gradually, they are often difficult to appreciate. Collecting and monitoring long term data is both costly and complex. But Chronolog solves those problems. It is inexpensive and self-sustaining. The photos can be used for data research, to apply for grant money, and as educational materials for teachers. So, if you find yourself near Parelli Park, take 20 seconds and join your neighbors as citizen scientists, stewards of our precious waterfront!

View the Piermont Chronolog at <https://www.chronolog.io/site/PNY101>. Then have fun exploring other Chronolog sites from around the country.—*Jackie White*

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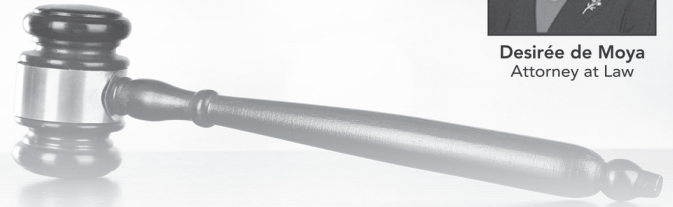
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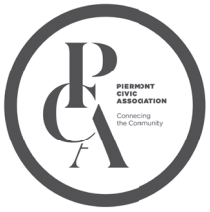


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Scarecrow Contest

Saturday, October 15th 11am-noon

Rain Date Sunday, October 16th 11am-noon



We supply the stakes and you supply your imagination and everything else you want to use (Fabric, masks, hats, gloves, etc.) to decorate your scarecrow! Where? The Piermont Library's side yard at Ash Street

Cost - \$10. Per scarecrow

We have 15 Scarecrow posts to create
Judging will be in three categories: scariest, funniest, and most creative, by our guest judges!

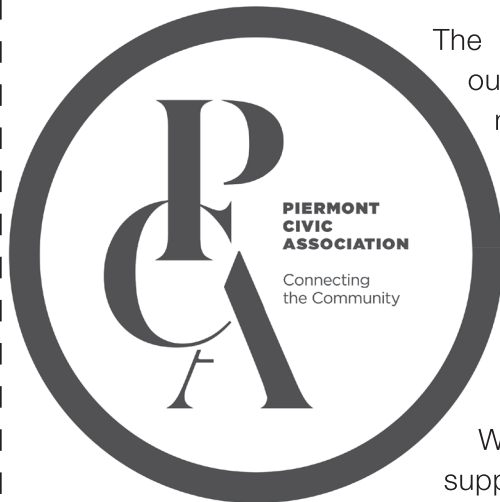
Clean-up your scarecrows the DAY AFTER Halloween
Sign-up now at the Piermont Public Library Desk, pay cash the day of

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Thank you, Piermont Public Library



Support the PCA



The Piermont Civic Association's Piermont Newsletter has chronicled our community's history for 54 years. It is delivered free to every Piermont household and is available online. The PCA gave us trees on Main Street, the Gazebo at Kane Park, and established a "Piermont Provides" food pantry during our difficult pandemic months. The Piermont Newsletter, as well as the PCA's Summer Concerts in Flywheel Park and numerous other community events are possible because of a dedicated group of volunteers and the contributions of Piermonters like you. All funds stay in the Village to support our community - 100% of our revenue goes to our efforts. We are grateful for your donations. We ask for your continued financial support. Please contribute \$25, \$50. or more. Please do it now!

You can mail a check made payable to Piermont Civic Association, PO Box 454, Piermont NY, 10968, or donate online: <https://piermont-civic-association.snbll.com/giving-portal>